

First Year Seminar Topics - Spring 2010

CRN 30344 IS-1111.01 Meets: TR 9:30AM-10:45AM

Instructor: L. Lindley

Are we living in a society where sport is part of culture or have we become a society consumed?

This course will explore the phenomenon of sport and how it both impacts and reflects society. Is there a difference between a societal appreciation of sport and a society that identifies itself through its sport culture? Issues including globalization, politics, history, culture, race, gender and current issues of sport will be discussed.

CRN 30775 IS-1111.02 Meets: TR 12:30PM-1:45PM

Instructor: M. Spradley

Our Water Planet

What do you see in a drop of water? What do you think a drop of water is worth? How would you like to ride atop a drop of water through one complete earth cycle? What do you think you would learn? Will issues surrounding the provenance of water finally propel us together as one species, working in tandem for the benefit of the earth as a living organism which sustains all life? Or will the issues of ownership of water rights spark wars the likes of which are to date, unknown to humankind? These are some of the many questions we will consider during this seminar. Instruction will include hands-on investigations, in-depth observations, experimentation and discovery-based learning. In addition, higher order problem-solving techniques, Socratic discussion groups, children's literature, videos, reflection and assessment will offer multiple lenses through which we will construct knowledge about water, its natural place in the scheme of the world and the philosophical dilemmas of water as a limited resource upon which all living organisms rely.

CRN 30951 IS-1111.03 Meets: MWF 11:15AM-12:05PM

Instructor: W. Palmquist

Disney: Magic Kingdom or Evil Empire?

We all have grown up with Disney as a part of our lives. From TV to movies to theme parks to merchandise what started as a little animation company has become a cultural phenomenon, and a major media conglomerate. There are those who have raised questions about the impact of the Disney phenomenon on the lives of children, the primary target of many of the Disney operations. We will examine Disney and its impact on the children, adults, even the wider world and try come to our own conclusions about this impact.

CRN 31105 IS-1111.04 Meets: TR 2:15PM-3:30PM

Instructor: F. Rancourt

Do we need to be "Green"

Are the world resources really becoming depleted? Or is it all part of another plan? What role is America playing compared to other countries? Through many generations we have made various attempts to conserve energy to support various causes. Was it really necessary to conserve resources? Then? Now? In this class, students will examine this topic from a critical thinking perspective. Reading will be geared toward taking a closer and deeper look at the world's efforts concerning this topic

CRN 31275 IS-1111.F1 Meets: R 5:00PM-6:15PM

Instructor: F. Rancourt

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