

Portal Classes Fall 2016

BIOL 188GS - General Studies Portal: Extreme Biology

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Biology contains many examples that dramatically demonstrate mechanisms and concepts in the field. By highlighting these examples, it is possible to learn about biology in an engaging way. Focusing on examples also allows the interdependence of fields of biology and other sciences to be shown. By focusing on the "-est" (to borrow from the feature of this name in Science News) the frontiers of biology will be examined as opposed to attempting to broadly learn the discipline.

CJUS 188GS – General Studies Portal: Native Americans and Justice

This course is designed to provide information related to Native Americans and culture as an avenue to explore your understanding of culture, develop your ability to read and analyze information and formulate a statement of the issues and topics identified. This course will explore the meaning of justice related to Native American people through an examination of current and historical governmental policy, educational opportunity, provision of health care, economic challenges, cultural genocide and prejudice. This course will provide an opportunity to read, write, and express your thoughts related to the information that you will be digesting.

CJUS 188GS - General Studies Portal: Terrorism

This course is designed to introduce the students to the overall theories behind the use of terrorism to obtain a political objective and an overview of the major terrorist organizations. Emphasis will be placed on the cultural diversity of the United States and other countries. Specifically, it will show the actions of different ethnic, culture, and religious groups that have resorted to the use of terrorism because of government actions. This class will also discuss the primary methods of operation and counter actions taken by police and government agencies.

CSIT 188GS – General Studies Portal: Cyber Crime

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Arguably one of the most important challenges of the 21st century, with billions lost each year, cyber-crime has evolved from a minor nuisance to a major concern involving well-organized actors and highly sophisticated organizations. This course will examine computer-related crime and what individuals and businesses can do to protect themselves. This class will discuss specific examples of criminal activities involving computers. Sample topics will include ID Theft, spam, phishing and pharming, fraud, protecting personal privacy, passwords and encryption, organized crime, and dangers to avoid. Students will be shown how they can use software to safeguard their identity, data and computers, as well as how to avoid various on-line scams. The rights and responsibilities of software developers will be discussed. This course will also examine the effect of cyber-crimes on the global economy and individual freedoms and rights around the world, and discuss future issues with respect to cyber crime

CSP 188GS – General Studies Portal: Culture and Ethnic Identity

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course addresses the impact of culture on the development of personal identity and cross-cultural interactions. Topics addressed include becoming aware of one's own assumptions, worldview values, and biases; understanding types of racism and their relationship to identity development; understanding the impact of majority or minority status on identity development and cross-cultural interactions; and promoting understanding among culturally diverse groups.

ENG188GS – General Studies Portal: Old Norse Mythology in History and Popular Culture

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Ancient and medieval mythologies have long held a prominent place in our culture, as shown by the wide range of editions of the original texts, the retellings in more accessible forms, and the adaptations that place the characters and events in new contexts. In this course, we will concentrate specifically on Old Norse legends and mythology and analyze both the original stories and how those stories have been adapted and reimagined in current popular culture. We will focus on three specific narratives: the story of Beowulf, tales of the Old Norse Vikings, and legends of the gods and their ultimate destruction at Ragnarok. We will read original versions of all of these stories and then examine the different ways that they have been transformed in a variety of media for many different audiences. Texts will include novels such as *Eaters of the Dead* by Michael Crichton and *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman; graphic novels such as Alexis E. Fajardo's *Kid Beowulf and the Bloodbound Oath*; and recent blockbusters such as *Thor*. Comparing these texts to the originals will allow us to examine what about these myths make them so enduring and what about our culture makes us adapt them in the ways that we do.

FIN 188GS – General Studies Portal: Philosophy of Business and Market Economics

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Philosophy of Business and Market Economics will introduce the student to the cultural, historical and philosophical thought surrounding the issues of business and free-market activity throughout the ages. By examining the words of great authors, students will develop a sense of the timeless nature of business activity and commercial enterprise and make the observation that the issues currently facing individuals and business have their origins in philosophical writing, thought and speculation centuries and even millennia old. A brief historical trace will be made to connect us to those market players who pursued many of the same goals and objectives as we do today, albeit with limited resources and inefficient political and economic tools with which to do so.

FSID 188GS – General Studies Portal: Intimate Relationships

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This introductory course is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary course about human intimate relationships. It includes a review of theory and empirical research along with an exploration of the fundamental human experiences of intimate relationships.

HIST 188GS – General Studies Portal: History of Warfare

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course is a survey of military technology, tactics and strategies in a global perspective. Students will investigate questions such as: What are the tactics and strategies of war making? How has military technology evolved over time? How do different cultures adapt to and utilize military systems and technologies?

HIST 188GS – General Studies Portal: The Viking World

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course analyzes the multi-cultural nature of the Viking world. Topics explored include the nature of Viking society; the motivations behind Viking migrations; Viking contact with and settlement in Europe, the Byzantine Empire, Central Asia, the North Atlantic, and North America; and the impact of Viking migrations.

HIST 188GS – General Studies Portal: The Great War: History, Film, Modern Memory

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This discussion-oriented seminar, which is paired with a World War One Film Series, will focus on the sources for the interpretation of the Great War and the way in which those sources have been adapted for entertainment and anti-war propaganda in films of the 20th and 21st centuries. Readings will begin with the selections from the some of the poetry, reflections, and memoir sources for the Great War and continue on to examine the Great War in film and modern memory.

ITEC 188GS – General Studies Portal: Career Decisions: Achieving Success in Today's Global Economy

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course will provide the student with insight into making career decisions in light of today's ever increasing global economic environment. No longer can a student think only domestically. Regardless of what career field a student chooses, they are sure to be impacted by the global nature of business in today's ever changing fast-paced economic environment. To be successful tomorrow will require the student to think and act "Globally." Globalization is a reality.

ITEC 188GS – General Studies Portal: Energy Gone Green

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

The environmental, social, political, and economic impact of current and proposed energy policies and practices will be explored in a broad context along with a detailed examination of the choices for the consumption/conservation of energy on a local, regional, and global scale.

MGT 188GS – General Studies Portal: Healthcare Management: Building Clinical and Institutional Trust

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Students interested in careers in health care are introduced to the concepts and principles underlying trust in clinical settings. We will explore the development of trust that promotes patient activation and adherence to therapeutic regimens. Emphasis is also placed on understanding how trust in medical institutions is fostered. Students will examine these aspects of trust by comparing and contrasting medical practices in different countries.

MKT 188GS – General Studies Portal: Popular Culture & Marketing in a Global Society

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course is designed to emphasize critical thinking in marketing sports, fashion, music, television, movies, videogames, religion, social media, and celebrities as brands in a global context as they play integral roles in all aspects of life. Students will interact with marketers involved in activities related to popular culture, understand the global reach of popular culture, develop and critique customized resumes, and create plans to market themselves and build their own brands.

PE 188GS – General Studies Portal: The New World Religion

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course is designed to emphasize critical thinking about sport in a global context and how it has become more than a national pastime. Students will be engaged in looking at sport as a religion, religious experiences in sport, religion in sport and sport, religion and ethics.

PE 188GS – General Studies Portal: The World is Fat

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course is designed to emphasize critical thinking about the fads, trends, policies and products that are fattening the human race. Nutrition, lifestyle, fitness issues and health information sources in America and the World will be discussed.

PHIL 188GS – General Studies Portal: The Meaning of Life

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

The purpose of this course is to think about the most important things with the best of individuals. What are the most important things? That's one of the questions.

PSCI 188GS – General Studies Portal: Contemporary Political Issues: Health Policy

Prereq: freshmen or sophomore standing

Teaches students to analyze a contemporary political issue, to evaluate arguments on multiple sides of the issue, and to construct a written argument to support and defend their own political viewpoint.

PSY 188GS – General Studies Portal: Death, Society and the Human Experience

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

Death and dying are studied from other cultures' world views as well as our own. Topics include mourning, burial, ritual, remembrance, as well as palliative care and euthanasia.

SCM 188GS – General Studies Portal: Dare to be Different: Building Career Capital for a Global Market

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

This course will assist students in developing their personal “career capital” (knowing of “how”, “whom”, and “why” of their career capabilities), realize the value of unique perspectives in the global “sandbox”, and develop an understanding of how global business issues may influence future career opportunities.

SPCH 188GS – General Studies Portal: Speeches that Changed the World

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

In this course students will learn about the different functions speeches play in society and the impacts speeches have on the world. They will be introduced to rhetorical history and rhetorical concepts, read and critique famous speeches, learn about the relationship between history and the speeches that took place at pivotal historical moments, and examine the impact speeches had on public issues. Students will research historical figures and events (Luther, the Reformation, Galileo, the Enlightenment, Lincoln, the American Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, etc.). They will write papers critiquing famous speeches. They will develop and deliver presentations examining the role specific speeches played in political and social movements.

TE 188GS – General Studies Portal: Diversity, Democracy, and the American Dream

Prereq: freshman or sophomore standing

The purpose of this course is to provide students with new perspectives on the aspects of diversity impacting American communities with a focus on the following four areas: (1) immigrants, migrants, & mobility; (2) first languages, second languages, and who speaks American; (3) social status, poverty, & equity in education; and (4) learning strategies for building democracy in local communities. Students will participate in four modules for each of the areas above. Modules will consist of background readings, guest speakers, at least one field visit to a local school/community, and online discussions. Particular emphasis will be placed to teaching students specific strategies for promoting civil discourse and community collaborations.