

# HONR OFFERINGS FALL SEMESTER 2007

University Honors Program (UHP) is pleased to announce HONR Offerings for Fall Semester 2007. **Please note the HONR 199 courses are for first and second-year students only. HONR 299 courses are for second-year and above students.** UHP students receive priority in registering for these courses. If space remains, other honors/high ability first and second year students may enroll in courses upon receiving academic advisor approval. If college/school offers honors program, “other” students should meet honors eligibility requirements of college/school. If college/school does not offer honors program, academic advisor must exercise discretion in registering student in HONR courses based upon academic record.

## HONR 199D, “Human Genetics: New Hopes & Dilemmas”

Instructor: Dr. Anna Berkovitz  
# of Credit Hours: 3  
Days and Times: T/TH 10:30-11:45



### Brief Course Description:

The study of human genetics has recently undergone a dramatic metamorphosis. This field, which until recently was limited to the statistical study of pedigrees and to the cataloging of diseases, has turned into a science with a powerful technology that already has a great impact on scientific research, medicine and society.

We are now almost continuously exposed to reports of new genetic discoveries, new therapy possibilities and to new reproduction options. Few of us are able to appreciate the scientific validity of the claims in the popular press, nor can we foresee the potential ethical and moral issues that may arise from the unwise applications of the new technologies.

This is a human genetics course which purpose is to enable students from all disciplines to critically evaluate what they read about genetics in the popular press, to be able to distinguish scientific validity from hype, and to bring attention to the ethical and moral dilemmas created by the application of these new technologies. There will be appreciable elementary science content in the course.

In addition to numerous class discussions on current topics in the news, each student is required to write a major research paper on such a topic of interest.

*CLA students: fulfills “science-non lab” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “natural science-non lab” in Mgmt, Acct, Econ*

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## HONR 199F, “The McDonaldization of Society”

Instructor: Dr. Mick LaLopa  
<http://cfs123-018.cfs.purdue.edu/HTM/pages/academics/directory/lalopa.html>



# of Credit Hours: 2  
Days and Times: T/TH 1:30-2:20

### Brief Course Description:

This course is based on a concept known as McDonaldization, which is defined as the process by which the principles of the fast-food restaurant- Mc Donald’s- are coming to dominate more and more sectors of American Society as well as the rest of the world. Students will explore and discuss the dimensions of McDonaldization which are efficiency, calculability, predictability, and control to see how they apply to their lives and the lives of those around them in both positive and negative ways.

*CLA students: fulfills “elective” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” in Mgmt, Acct, IM, & Econ*

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# HONR 199I, “The City”

Instructor: Dr. Emily Allen

<http://tholian.sla.purdue.edu/english/directory/?personid=72>

# of Credit Hours: 3

Days and Times: T/TH 10:30-11:45

## Brief Course Description:

This course will address the development of modern human identity and experience as it is constructed by and played out within urban space. We will focus on the three great European capitals of the nineteenth century - London, Paris, and Rome and three twentieth century American cities - New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. Reading theories of architecture and urbanism alongside sociology, cultural geography, and cultural history, we will consider various historical, cartographical, literary, and visual representations of the city space. If people make cities, it is equally true that cities make people, and our main interest will be in how the development of an urban sphere produces certain types of human subjectivity and community.

By taking an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the city, this course introduces students not only to a variety of disciplines, but also to the basic practices of cultural critique. Perhaps most importantly, it asks them to think analytically about the physical world that they inhabit, about the complex ways that “culture” is produced, and about the mutually constitutive relationship between reality and representation. The idea of the city is ultimately as potent as the thing itself, and we will track this idea as it develops over time and (urban) space.

*CLA students: fulfills “global perspectives” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” in Mgmt, Acct, IM, & Econ;  
fulfills “literature elective” in Mgmt, Acct & IM*

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# HONR 199S, “AIDS: Biomedical, Social, and Ethical Issues”

Instructor: Dr. Ralph Meyer

# of Credit Hours: 3

Days and Times: T/TH 12:00-1:15

## Brief Course Description:

This course will provide a multidisciplinary approach to the AIDS pandemic. The topics that will be covered include the following:

- The history of plagues, including AIDS
- The origin of new diseases
- AIDS in Africa and Asia
- The biology of HIV
- Medical aspects of HIV/AIDS
- Psycho-social issues of HIV/AIDS
- Sexuality in the time of AIDS
- AIDS and the Arts
- The AIDS quilt
- AIDS and literature
- AIDS and the law
- The politics of AIDS
- AIDS and the church
- AIDS and the rationing of health care
- Death and dying
- Euthanasia
- Is there life after death?
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While there will be a few lectures to present background material, the course will be primarily a discussion course, using videos, DVDs, films, and readings as the basis of the discussion. We will have three or four “Pizza and a Movie” nights where we will show films where HIV/AIDS is a major theme. There will be some outside speakers, including people living with AIDS. Each student will participate in one of several formal debates. Students will have one long paper and several short writing assignments. There are no exams in this course.

*CLA students: fulfills “social ethics” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” in Mgmt, Acct, IM, & Econ*

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## HONR 199W, “Natural Disasters”

Instructor: Dr. Suzanne Zurn-Birkhimer

UHP regrets to announce that HONR 199W, Natural Disasters has been cancelled for fall semester '07. Course has been cancelled due to changes in Dr. Zurn-Birkhimer's fall '07 schedule. If you have any questions, please contact the UHP office at 4-2929.



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## HONR 199Z, “Introduction to Science-Based Dating”

Instructor: Dr. Paul Muzikar

<http://www.physics.purdue.edu/people/faculty/paul.shtml>

# of Credit Hours: 3

Days and Times: MWF 10:30-11:20

### Brief Course Description:

This course will cover all the important science-based dating methods, ranging from tree rings and radiocarbon to luminescence and potassium-argon. The basis of each method will be explained, along with the particular problems and uncertainties of each method. We hope to convey how science actually works through these examples. The students will learn about the vast range of time scales involved in the history of humanity, life and the earth; these scales ranges from thousands to millions to billions of years. Thus, the students should develop an understanding of the overall time frame for earth history. Finally, the course will cover, in a self-contained manner, the physics, chemistry, and geology needed to understand the dating methods. Important topics such as nuclear isotopes and decay can be explained in an interesting and accessible format. The students will be expected to do a reasonable amount of reading, in both the textbook and other sources. There will be several in-class exams, as well as a written paper.

*CLA students: fulfills “science-non lab” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” in Mgmt, Acct, IM, & Econ;*

*fulfills “science non-lab” for Mgmt, Acct & Econ*

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# HONR 299A, “Towards Sustainability with Economic Tools: You Can Help Change the World”

Instructor: Dr. Edna Loehman

<http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/details.asp?username=loehman>

# of Credit Hours: 3

Days and Times: T/TH 1:30-2:45



## Brief Course Description:

Our “ecological footprint” ([www.footprintnetwork.org](http://www.footprintnetwork.org)) relative to the sustainable capacity of the earth indicates an imbalance between human actions and natural systems, particularly in the developed world. How can we move toward balance? There are multiple paths. Human ingenuity can create many worthwhile technological (supply-side) solutions, and business can choose to develop and market such solutions. At the same time, households can make different consumption (demand-side) choices to help reduce pressure on the environment. Governing institutions can promote such choices through social directives, incentives, and grants. New forms of governance such as bio-regionalism can emerge along more geographic and natural lines.

Critiques of business/ corporations, government, and consumers with respect to unsustainable behaviors are abundant in various literatures. Instead of blame, we seek positive solutions. The organization for this class suggests a paradigm for change: first comes appreciation for natural systems, then recognition of the impacts of our choices, next developing the social will to make changes, and finally crafting instruments and institutions to promote better choices by all components of society. Within this paradigm, economic methods can help in communicating the need and direction for change, and economic incentives can help move individual choices in the socially desired directions.

The course will consist of readings, practice in environmental and economics literacy through discussion and debate, and participation in a class project.

*CLA students: fulfills “social ethics” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” for Mgmt, Acct, IM & Econ*

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## HONR 299I, “Insects in Literature and Art”

Instructor: Dr. Tom Turpin

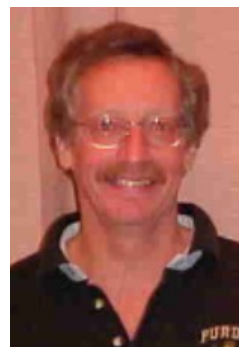
<http://www.cast-science.org/cast/biotech/bios/turpin.htm>

# of Credit Hours: 3

Days and Times: T/TH 10:30-11:45

### Brief Course Description:

As one of the most successful life forms on earth the creatures called insects have crawled into all aspects of human activity, including literature and art. This course will explore the use of insects in prose, poetry, music, art, cartoons, design and theater. The biological attributes of the insects included in the works will be elucidated. Students will be required to create a literary or artistic work using insects and write a paper on the life of a person describing how the individual incorporated insects in their work.



*CLA students: fulfills “aesthetic awareness” in core requirements*

*MANAGEMENT students: fulfills “free elective” in Mgmt, Acct, IM, & Econ*

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