COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR NEW AND TOPICS COURSES – SPRING 2009

ART350A: Interactive Web Design
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: ART125, ART132, and one of the following: Any Introductory Studio Art course, ART213 or COM222
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: none
This course is an introduction to web design. Students will explore the current software and underlying code used to create, design, and manage web sites for use on the Internet. Students will also learn how to create a well-designed and organized web site using their creative and artistic skills. By the end of the semester, students are expected to envision and implement their own web site design.

BUS450A: Investment Management II
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: BUS319
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: BA major – 400-level Business elective; BA minor - 400-level Business elective
This course continues the study of investment concepts and decision-making by the investing of real dollars in the form of a student-managed investment fund. Student teams will analyze and present investment opportunities to an oversight board as well as initiate approved financial transactions. Guest speakers and visits to various types of financial institutions are normally offered as part of this course.

COM350A/WRT350A: Writing for Public Relations
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: WRT105 and WRT/COM205
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: COM major – 300 level Print and Writing Specialization course; WRT minor – 300 level course.
‘Writing for Public Relations’ targets students motivated in further developing their writing skills in Communication, Writing, Marketing, Business, and Advertising. Utilizing the P.I.E. (Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation) method, students progress from developing various PR skills to ‘real world’ campaign development scenarios which evolve from one to multiple layered, complex role-playing scenarios competing to win a pre-conceived account. Diverse writing assignments, group dynamics, presentations, speech writing, strong interpersonal and individual skills, critical thinking skills, accountability and creativity are some of the student outcomes.

ENG250A: 19th Century Russian Literature
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: Literature
Major/Minor Requirements: English major – Interdisciplinary/Cultural course; English minor
Russian literature of the 19th and early 20th century confronts many of the crucial concerns of human existence – morality and religion; class and social responsibility; ambition and greed; the individual in society; love, friendship and adultery. Focusing on the key works of the period, we will proceed chronologically through works of Pushkin, Lermontov, Gogol, Turgenev, Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Chekhov, and Pasternak. Our study of each author will begin with a lecture on relevant literary and cultural history as well as the author’s career. Students will learn to identify and analyze the basic elements of fiction, such as plot, character, setting, point of view, language, imagery, theme, irony, and symbol. We will also analyze the differences between the genres (narrative poem, novel, and short story). A range of theoretical and critical texts will inform our discussions, as will film adaptations of certain works. Students will develop critical reading and writing skills through a number of writing assignments, including a research paper, as well as through the active exchange of ideas in class discussions and presentations.
ENG250B: Gothic Literature
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: Literature
Major/Minor Requirements: none
Students will read from a variety of American and British texts, ranging from the 17th century to the present. They will investigate the influence of the Enlightenment and Romanticism on early Gothic texts and understand how 19th century ideas about psychology and gender impacted this literary movement.

ESS150A: Exercise and Sport Sciences Seminar
Credits: 1
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: none
The Exercise and Sport Sciences Seminar will consist of presentations, discussions, and readings associated with current issues and research in exercise and sport sciences (ESS).

ESS250A: Global Sport
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: Global Perspectives
Major/Minor Requirements: none
This course explores global sport from political, socio-economic, historical, cultural, ethnic, gender and racial perspectives. The course will encompass the identification and study of popular amateur and professional sports internationally. The course will focus on the framework of sport from the perspective of newly introduced grassroots sports to recognized international sport organizations and governing agencies.

HON250A-HN: Health, Sickness and Healing in Africa
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Member of Wesson Honors Program
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: none
This course is geared toward giving students from diverse backgrounds an overview of the experience of health, sickness and healing within African settings. Examples will be taken primarily from Kenya to illustrate these experiences. However, in some cases readings will also be drawn from other parts of Africa to illustrate specific issues. The topics will be grouped into four broad sections. The first part will introduce concepts about health, sickness and healing from an African perspective. The second part will focus on indigenous concepts of disease causation, diagnosis and strategies to reverse the ill condition. These will help students to understand the disease avoiding behaviors as well as the health-seeking behaviors of people. In rural and urban settings patients are in a constant struggle between use of modern vs. traditional health care. In part three students shall focus on the role played by each of the sectors in health care provision with specific emphasis on the women’s role in fertility regulation and in cultural practices – e.g. FGM – that have a direct impact on their reproductive health. In the last part, an attempt will be made to link the first three parts with specific health problems. The main focus will be on high burden diseases – malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

HON350A-HN: From Here to Eternity
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Member of Wesson Honors Program
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: none
Where is here? How did we get here? Where are we going? This course will examine the location of the earth relative to other heavenly bodies, and will explore the birth and expansion of the universe according to accepted cosmological theory. Students will also research creation from a variety of religious perspectives. We will then turn our attention to the development and evolution of life, especially human life, on this planet. We will then
brainstorm and select several of the greatest accomplishments of the human race to study in more detail. This class will continue with an exploration of the emerging technologies that promise to have a marked impact on the future of our species on this planet, and will conclude with an examination of the fate of the universe from a cosmological perspective.

**HUM150A: Independent Language Study**

Credits: 1 (Pass/Fail)
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: none
Using the Rosetta Stone software, students may study one of 14 languages, assisted by a language lab coordinator. This is a pilot of the software for use as a stand alone and course integrated academic offering. Faculty and staff will also be piloting the software with the students. Languages offered are: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Dutch, English (British), English (American), French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian (Farsi), Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, Spanish (Latin America), Spanish, (Spain), and Swedish.

**PHI350A: Economic Philosophy**

Credits: 3
Prerequisites: Any 100- or 200-level PHI course
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: PHI minor – 300-level course
Speaking of the recent financial crisis in the United States and around the world, French President Nicolas Sarkozy argued that “Laissez-faire is finished, the all-powerful market that is always right, that’s finished.” He was referring to a move away from the economic philosophy sometimes called “market fundamentalism”. Sarkozy makes clear, with his statement, the abiding connection between economics, politics, and philosophy, and how a change in the prevailing economic philosophy can change our economic situation.

This course is an introduction to economic philosophy. We will begin by reading about – and sections from – major Western economic thinkers, including Adam Smith, Karl Marx, Alfred Marshall, John Maynard Keynes, and others. We will examine their economic ideas and how those ideas have affected the world. Then we will examine money and its role in the economy. Finally, we will discuss critiques of our capitalist economic system. Our questions may include: What is an economy? What is capitalism? What is money? How do financial disasters happen? Are there good alternatives to our economic system?

**PSY350A: Drugs and Behavior**

Credits: 3
Prerequisites: PSY101
Exploration Area: none
Major/Minor Requirements: PSY major – 300-level PSY focus course; PSY minor – 300 level PSY course; CD major – 300-level PSY course
This course is an exploration of the effects of drugs on human physiology and behavior.

**SCI250A: Introduction to Physical Geology**

Credits: 4
Prerequisites: none
Exploration Area: Science
Major/Minor Requirements: ENV SCIENCE/TERR and AQU – Geology requirement; ENV STUDY – ENV elective; ENV minor - elective
Physical Geology will provide a deep understanding of the geo-sphere and its interactions between and among the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere. Physical aspects including the Earth’s formation and the processes that continue to shape and reform the planet will be emphasized from a systems approach. Key interfaces, such as soils, will be highlighted throughout the semester. Biological and chemical concepts will also be explored to provide greater understanding of the environment. The local landscape will be incorporated to provide insight and tangible experiences for students.
SOC250A: International Sociology

Credits: 3
Prerequisites: SOC101
Exploration Area: Global Perspectives
Major/Minor Requirements: PSY major – focus course; SOC minor
This course allows students to examine non-American societies and cultures using a sociological framework. Students will have the opportunity for in-depth study of concepts such as family structure, value systems, economies, and religious practices.

WRT350A/COM350A: Writing for Public Relations
See COM350A.