

space availability for study groups as of 01/18/2017 01:15PM

Go to <http://www.esc.edu/myesc> to register

Online Study Groups

Adirondack History 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail 15 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully

** Online Study Group **

This study will examine the history of the Adirondacks through the lens of a critical paradox: how can humans preserve our natural beauty while allowing public access to these places? The study will first investigate the pull factors and industries of the Adirondacks and the effects on the conservation movements. Students will read William H.H. Murray's writings and explore historical promotional images of the Adirondacks. This class will first investigate the pull factors and industries of the Adirondacks, and the effects on the conservation movements. Murray, as well as other writers wrote of the beauty, solitude and intimacy of the nature and Adirondacks. We will examine these writings, to explore how and why this "tourist propaganda" facilitated in the creation of the "American Vacation." In our study we will examine the lure of simplicity and the illusion of "roughing it" in the Adirondacks. We will read William H.H. Murray's writings, and explore historical promotional images of the Adirondacks. The study will explore the future of conservation and the Adirondacks.

American History from 1865 to Present Day 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully

** Online Study Group **

We will carefully examine our American culture and what makes us precisely unique. We will connect themes, ideas and main concepts that weave our diverse American tapestry. Specifically, the study will look at the American dream and how these goals are still relevant today. We will intensively investigate the Industrial Revolution in the United States during the 1880's and connect to the Information Revolution of the 2000's. Will the United States always be innovators? Where is our future going? The goals of this study are to connect the past and future and examine American History through a critical lens.

Communication for Peace: Graffiti 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden

spaces avail 12 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in The Arts - fully

** Online Study Group **

Spanning the centuries, graffiti's existence on walls and objects throughout the world has prompted the understanding of language, lifestyle, and culture. Graffiti is both an anonymous and public voice, accomplished at times when no one is looking yet surfaces for all to see. It can be etched, carved, painted, stenciled, knitted, chalked, or even projected onto a surface. This study will focus on a set verve expressed by this art form, which has incited rebellion, sparked social criticism, and cultivated change/peace. We will explore various topics and issues to include its historical context; aesthetics; legalities; collaborated efforts to promote peace; a set influence on other creative fields such as music, film, graphic design, and advertising; and individual artists – i.e. Banksy (Great Britain), Os Gêmeos (Brazil), Daim (Germany), Shepard Fairey (United States); as no other art movement has had such a profound impact on the physical face of the modern world. And considering that this is an art study, introductory exercises in graffiti will surely add to your knowledge of this medium.

Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Aging 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully
Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

This study will introduce the field of social gerontology which includes the processes and theories of aging (physical, psychological, physiological, & social) and senescence. It will survey demographic trends globally and country-specific and focus on a comparative examination of how different cultures interpret and deal with aging as a stage in the developmental life cycle. Increases in life expectancy, subsequent size of the population of the elderly, and their impact on all sectors of society will be analyzed across cultures. The study aims to heighten students' critical awareness of how aging is experienced and perceived across cultures. Issues of formal and informal services and caregiving, ageism, roles, health care, end-of-life beliefs, among others, will be examined in the study.

Ecological Economics 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail 12 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Ecological economics is an emerging field that incorporates fundamental resource constraints and environmental problems into the logic and analysis of approaches for thinking about the economy, markets and public policy. Much of the focus is on systems, global perspectives, and long run concerns. Several topics in the area of ecological economics will be investigated in depth including market failures, globalization, fairness, and sustainable development. Specific problems and possible remedies in areas such as climate change, water and air quality, energy consumption, transportation, biodiversity, or recycling will be examined. Students will gain a better understanding of appropriate roles for government as it relates to natural resources and the environment and the tradeoffs that alternative policy choices entail. A few of the questions we will explore include: Is growth good? Are there better ways to measure progress than GDP? What is sustainable development and what does it look like in terms of everyday practice? Will businesses find it profitable to pursue "green" strategies? This is an advanced level study. This study is designed to meet the SUNY general education Social Sciences requirement and the college's economics expectation for degrees in the Business, Management and Economics area of study.

Gendering the Global Refugee Crisis Cases & Controversies 4 cr with Karen Garner

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Western Civilization - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study will focus on inter-sectional identities and the changing nature (as well as the ongoing themes) in regard to bias and prejudice in the 21st century in global refugee policy (as determined at UN) and US refugee policy (as determined by Congress and US immigration law). Various historic cases from the 1930s and 1940s will be examined, to provide historical context and perspective on the current global refugee crisis and contemporary humanitarian initiatives and public policy debates. This study examines distinctive features of the history, institutions, cultural values and laws of Western Civilization, as they impact women and men of the non-Western world, in gendered and racialized ways. It develops understanding of historical processes that shape contemporary responses (of individuals, organizations, and governments) to current world affairs.

Genocide: A Global Perspective 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail **14** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Western Civilization - fully
Other World Civilizations - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study will examine the concept of genocide as it is defined by the UN charter. We will investigate the climate building up to each global genocide and patterns that emerge in all parts of the world. We will read and analyze primary documents and answer the questions: What constitutes genocide? How do these events occur? How and why do ordinary citizens participate? Who is to blame and who should be held accountable? Most importantly, how can we prevent genocide? We will study: the Holocaust, Genocide in Rwanda, Cambodia, Armenia, Famine – Genocide of Ukraine and the recent events in Darfur.

Global Governance in the 20th & 21st Centuries 4 cr with Karen Garner

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Western Civilization - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This on-line study group explores global governance associated with the League of Nations (1919-1945), and (primarily) the United Nations (1945 – 2010), as they have responded to global economic, social and political issues. The study covers the theoretical foundations of global governance as well as the practical roles and real-world impact of intergovernmental bodies, their agencies, treaties and conventions on global populations from 1919 - 2010. This study is designed to provide learning in Social and Theoretical Perspectives for students seeking degrees in the Social Science Area of Study; or to provide learning in Theoretical and Philosophical Concepts and Historical and Comparative Concepts for students seeking degrees in the Public Affairs Area of Study. It fulfills the SUNY General Education requirement for Western Civilization and covers the development of distinctive features of the history and institutions of Western Civilization and relates these developments of Western Civilization to other regions of the world across the 20th century and into the 21st century.

Global Women Leaders 4 cr with Karen Garner

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - partially

**** Online Study Group ****

This on-line study group addresses the following questions: at the global level of political leadership, how have women defined their role as women leaders from the 1980s to the present? What, if anything, distinguishes female leaders from male leaders? We will address these questions through five specific biographical case studies: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Mary Robinson, Michelle Bachelet, Angela Merkel and a woman leader of each student's choice, and will apply feminist theories of women's leadership to deepen our critical analysis of these women's words and deeds. Who are these women, in terms of their social, cultural, racial and political backgrounds? What was the historical context in which they rose to leadership positions? Have these women used gender expectations that their particular society's constructed for women to their advantage? Have these women used their leadership roles to challenge unequal gender power relations and to promote progressive social change? This study focuses on theoretical concepts, comparative models and issues in the fields of Women's and Gender Studies, International Studies, and Public Affairs and will develop competencies in Critical Thinking and Information Management.

Healthcare Policy 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail **13** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

In this study students will learn about the process of making health care policy and some of the institutions responsible for creating health care policy at the federal and state levels. Student will gain an understanding of the complexities and tradeoffs inherent in the development and implementation of health care policy. Public policy is the study of how societies make decisions regarding the appropriate level of government involvement in the market. Students should find this study of benefit in understanding and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the government sector and market mechanisms in making production and distribution decisions in the health sector. Students will study the major public insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, and consider various proposals for reform of the health care system in the U.S., including the 2010 Affordable Care Act (ACA). Students will examine the functions and effects of public health insurance on access, cost and market efficiency, and quality of health care. Students will investigate several topics in health care policy in some detail; these may include the uninsured, long term care, pharmaceuticals and patents, medical malpractice, and international comparisons of health care policy.

History of Social Welfare 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 10 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

The study provides an historical background of social welfare institutions and practices from medieval European times to the passage of the Elizabethan Poor Laws (1601) in England. The study principally will examine salient events in the evolution of social welfare institutions in the United States from Colonial times to the present. This includes in-depth analyses of watershed events such as the Great Depression, The New Deal, as well as dominant philosophies and social values, and sociopolitical events that influenced the development, or lack thereof, of social welfare policy and institutions in the United States.

History of Women in America 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail 11 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study will carefully examine the history of women in America. We will study women through the colonial period to modern day in the United States. We will examine the role of women, and how that role has evolved, changed or stayed the same throughout our history. As a class, we will connect themes, ideas and main concepts of women's history and women's Studies. We will look at individuals as well as events that shaped women's history. Students will explore the history of women in the United States through listening, reading and viewing. Students will be required to analyze primary documents, music and videos from the different historical periods and connect to the modern times. We will also analyze current day women's issues from today's "mom" to what influences our younger women.

Introduction to Human Services 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 12 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study will explore the concept and broad meaning of Human Services, a range of informal and formal human services, the origins, functions, and models of service delivery. It also will include pertinent aspects of social welfare policy, professional ethics, and major intervention strategies.

Legal and Ethical Foundations of Public Affairs 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Public sector professionals face a host of challenging issues everyday as they seek to effectively deliver services amidst new and emerging trends in American society. Despite the multi-layered demands placed on the public sector, questions of the legal responsibility of government and the values that anchor or define public administrators' duties persist. This study is designed to examine the underlying legal structure of American government and its ethical implications for public administration. Accordingly, the study will consider the formation and implementation of public policy within the nation's constitutional framework and explore how legal and ethical issues have affected decision-making in the public sector.

Meteorology 4 cr with Linda Jones

spaces avail 13 Adv./Liberal

**** Online Study Group ****

In this study, students will explore meteorological processes and phenomena as they build upon their basic knowledge of atmospheric science: physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the atmosphere, air masses, cloud formation, weather patterns, severe weather, global climates, and geological/historical patterns of climate change. Students will study flows of energy and moisture which drive global, regional, and local weather patterns. They will explore ways weather is forecasted—the methods and technologies behind the analysis of atmospheric conditions and weather prediction. They will analyze patterns and dynamics of severe weather including: tornadoes, hurricanes, typhoons, flooding, drought, heat waves, and blizzards. Particular emphasis will be placed on recent trends in weather patterns -- including trends towards the extremes and increased frequency of severe weather events and the impacts of severe weather events on water and food security.

National Parks of the US: Geology, Ecology, & History 4 cr with Linda Jones

spaces avail 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Natural Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

In 1916, the US government established the National Park Service in an effort to conserve unique and breathtaking landforms and ecosystems for the enjoyment of future generations. In this study, students explore North American geology, physical geography, and ecology through their examination of the national parks. Students will compare approaches to the conservation and management of natural environments. They will consider possible answers to the paradox: How do conservationists and park managers preserve natural areas which are constantly changing? They will also explore answers to the questions: What were the geologic forces at work that formed the Grand Canyon? How can a rainforest exist in the Pacific Northwest? Why are park visitors able to walk up to a lava flow in Hawaii? Why are the South Dakota Badlands one of the richest repositories of vertebrate fossils in North America?

Natural Disasters 4 cr with Linda Jones

spaces avail 4

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

Natural Sciences - fully
Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Natural Hazards, Natural Disasters, Ecological Disturbance. Whatever the name, it is emerging as one of the fastest growing fields in Environmental Science. As human populations continue to increase, the probability of human encounters with natural hazards such as hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, mud slides, tornadoes, forest fires, blizzards, and tsunamis, also increases. This study explores the scientific processes behind natural disasters and examines the way disasters have impacted human populations—environmentally, culturally, economically, and politically—throughout history. The study will heighten students' awareness of the impacts the natural environment can have on current human populations around the world and will also highlight many ways human activities have actually rendered human populations more vulnerable to natural disasters.

Political Deception & Discontent: Understanding Contemporary American Political At 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail 22

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

American History - partially
Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Did you know that only about 50% of eligible voters vote in presidential elections (and far fewer in congressional races), while trust in government has plummeted since the 1960's? Or that civic participation in the U.S. has declined over the same period that inequalities of wealth and income have risen dramatically? All the while public opinion surveys consistently show that many Americans know very little about their system of government and political process. Why are we so disenchanting with yet so poorly informed about politics? Why do so many citizens appear to support policies and leaders that may not be in their best interest? In this study we will examine some of the forces that may explain these paradoxes, including: the psychological roots of (political) self-deception; the shaping of public opinion in the media and in political messaging; the obstacles to being an "informed citizen" in modern society; and the impact of "new media" (such as talk radio and the Internet) on people's political attitudes and beliefs. We will also consider what, if any, solutions there are to these dilemmas. Advanced level critical thinking and writing skills are required.

Professional Ethics in Human Services 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 8

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study will examine the philosophical bases and functions of professional ethics in the administration and delivery of human services. Major issues that the study will cover include: philosophical sources of professional ethics such as dominant social values and laws; codification and ratification of professional codes of ethics; ethical obligations and requirements of professional practitioners; requisite training, personal values, beliefs and attributes of the practitioner; analyses of selected ethical principles such as inherent dignity of the consumer, integrity and competence of the practitioner, confidentiality and privacy, self-determination, conflict of interest, and social justice; selected models and strategies of ethical decision-making and for resolving ethical dilemmas.

Rock and Roll History 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail 10

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

American History - fully
The Arts - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

We will carefully examine American culture through the lens of Rock and Roll. We will examine Rock and Roll as a part of culture and how it changed perceptions and norms. We will look at what makes rock and roll precisely unique. We will connect themes, ideas and main concepts that weave our diverse American tapestry. Specifically, this study will examine Rock and Roll and revolution fit together and how these ideas are still relevant today. As a class we will examine the lives of places, events, and people, it will be your job to find your own sense of historical belonging. Why should we care about Rock and Roll? Students will explore the History of Rock and Roll in the United States through listening, reading and viewing. Students will be required to analyze primary documents, music and videos from the different time periods and connect the historical themes.

Sex, History & Art 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 6

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

Western Civilization - fully
The Arts - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Perhaps one of the most controversial topics in history, sex is as much a necessity for survival as is food, clothing, and shelter, and we can all say we are here because of it. Discussions and depictions of sex can be both taboo and tolerable at the same time with unpredictable swings of opinion throughout time. As part of the biological and cultural evolution of humanity, it is more than mere procreation. Sex is a powerful force in the development of religion, politics, and art. It has played a role in warfare, moral and legal codes, and sometimes it just drives us crazy. Beginning with a bit of pre-history, we will follow-up with the Greeks and continue through the Renaissance as we examine the symbolism and narratives of sex across a range of topics that include: sexuality, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, rape, prostitution, gender roles, love, and marriage. This study fully meets two Gen Ed requirements: Western Civilization and The Arts.

The Art of Memoir 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail *CLOSED*

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

Humanities - fully

Basic Communications - fully

** Online Study Group **

In this study, we will read memoirs written by a variety of writers and have the opportunity to write their own. When reading memoirs we will look at how writers have edited their lives, what they have included and omitted, and from a literary point of view, the ways they constructed their stories. We will also get advice about what to pay attention to when writing memoirs. Students will use the assigned memoirs as models to begin writing their own memoirs. This study will develop the students' critical thinking, reading and writing skills, and hopefully provide them with new insights and records of their lives. This study fulfills the general education requirement for Humanities OR Basic Communication, not both. This study will meet the Cultural Studies guideline for "Distinguish among and apply different forms and approaches in the field. As well, it meets the Creative Writing concentration guidelines for "practice" and the Literature concentration guideline for "knowledge of different literary genres."

The Hudson River & its Valley: A Highway of Ideas & Commerce 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 15

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

The Arts - fully

American History - fully

** Online Study Group **

In his search for the imagined Northwest Passage to China, Henry Hudson sailed up the river that now bears his name. The immense wealth that would have followed from such a discovery was an irresistible lure for intrepid explorers and European nations. Realizing that he could navigate no further than present-day Albany, Hudson turned back, but over the next four centuries, immense wealth has steadily flowed from the waterway that the Indians called "Muh-he-kun-ne-tuk" (river that flows two ways). We will look at the River and its valley from a multitude of perspectives as we examine its role in the development of the original colonies, transportation, commerce, warfare, literature, the art of the Hudson River School, environmental concerns, and American Identity. Additionally, we will consider the notion of local history. In that context, even though the River is in the eastern part of New York State, the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 stretched its influence across the state. Few things have transformed a state so completely, and in this study, we will explore the many connections between culture and history.

The Literature of Aging 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail *CLOSED*

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

Using fiction, drama, poetry, memoir and films we will explore the experience of aging and ask the questions what does it mean to age? What purpose and meaning can it have both for the aged and those around them? These questions have new immediacy as people live longer and consequently have the opportunity to question the moral and spiritual dimensions of their life in "the third age." As a lamp and a mirror literature takes on the complex dilemmas of being human---and aging is the vibrant literary topic that will be investigated in this study. This study will expose students to a wide range of literature and will be useful for anyone considering a career in some aspect of gerontology or working with senior citizens, such as student pursuing a Community and Human Services degree.

Wild Thoughts: Writing about Nature 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail *CLOSED*

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in

The Arts - partially

Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

Nature writing begins with close observation of the natural world and recording what we see. Writing down our observations becomes a tool to explore our perceptions and reactions to what we are observing. Nature writing is exploratory and reflective; it teaches us how to look deeply. As part of the natural world, the writer must also observe him or herself and draw the reader into that world, too. In this study, we will use nature writing to learn not just about nature, but from nature and about the interconnection, the interrelationships that form our world and give meaning to our existence. All reading and writing assignments will be housed on a Moodle site that students will be able to access one week before the beginning of the term. The course is structured in 5 modules: Module 1: The Nature Journal and Nature Writing

Albany Study Groups

Tuesdays

Cultural Diversity Competence 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail **10** Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Albany 424 Tuesdays 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. 1/17, 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25

This study in human diversity enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. The study gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. Upon completion of this study, students would be expected to demonstrate the ability to evaluate and apply informed perspectives on the social, cultural and political influences that commonly impact individuals and communities in contemporary societies.

Economics: Micro & Macro 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail **13** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Albany 423 Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

The goals of this study are twofold: to introduce some of the ways in which economists view the world, and then, to apply these approaches to some current economic issues. We will not try to cover all of the concepts and tools of macroeconomics and microeconomics, but we will pick and choose the more central and interesting ones. Throughout, we will pay serious attention to the broader context in which markets operate and the appropriate roles for government involvement in markets. In macroeconomics, we will focus on the determination of aggregate income and how monetary and fiscal policy might influence the level of economic activity in both the short and long run. We will engage in the Keynesian -- monetarist -- supply side debate concerning the appropriateness of public policies aimed at restraining inflation and promoting economic growth. In microeconomics, we will be primarily concerned with how markets work. On the demand side we will examine consumer behavior and the concept of elasticity. On the supply side of the market, topics will include cost minimization and profit maximization. The economic behavior of firms, such as pricing strategies and investment decisions, will be considered in the context of market structure. The study will conclude with an examination of the theory of international trade and finance. This study group will meet for seven evening sessions during the term, on alternating Tuesdays.

Economics: Micro & Macro 6 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail **14** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Albany 423 Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

The goals of this study are twofold: to introduce some of the ways in which economists view the world, and then, to apply these approaches to some current economic issues. We will not try to cover all of the concepts and tools of macroeconomics and microeconomics, but we will pick and choose the more central and interesting ones. Throughout, we will pay serious attention to the broader context in which markets operate and the appropriate roles for government involvement in markets. In macroeconomics, we will focus on the determination of aggregate income and how monetary and fiscal policy might influence the level of economic activity in both the short and long run. We will engage in the Keynesian -- monetarist -- supply side debate concerning the appropriateness of public policies aimed at restraining inflation and promoting economic growth. In microeconomics, we will be primarily concerned with how markets work. On the demand side we will examine consumer behavior and the concept of elasticity. On the supply side of the market, topics will include cost minimization and profit maximization. The economic behavior of firms, such as pricing strategies and investment decisions, will be considered in the context of market structure. The study will conclude with an examination of the theory of international trade and finance. This study group will meet for seven evening sessions during the term, on alternating Tuesdays.

Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail **7** Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Albany 424 Tuesdays 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

This study is designed to provide students with a substantial understanding of social policies and the social welfare system in the United States. Rational and political frameworks for policy analysis are developed across multiple areas of social welfare policy including poverty, disability, welfare, hunger, healthcare, education, employment, services for children and elderly, and policies surrounding mental illness and substance use. The study will explore issues of diversity in terms of social welfare policies directed at achieving racial equality, civil rights and gay rights. Students will examine ethical issues of policy making and policy implementation. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the role of politics and policy in the delivery and sustenance of human rights and social and economic justice.

Wednesdays

No Ordinary Time: America in the Depression Years (1929-1941) 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail **15** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully
Social Sciences - partially

Albany 109 Wednesdays 5:45 - 8:15 p.m. 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 3/29, 4/12, 4/19

This study will offer a comprehensive overview of one of the most trying and transformative decades in American history: the 1930's. Key social, cultural, economic, and political events and developments during the era will be explored. Topics to be addressed include the collapse of the economy and emergence of a new "school" of economics; the immediate impact and lasting legacies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal; protest movements; how the Great Depression challenged and to some degree reshaped core American values and beliefs; the emergence of a "golden age" in American popular culture during a time of terrible hardship; and why this period still matters today. Students will be encouraged to choose a topic of special interest for their primary research assignment.

American Art: The New World to the Modern World 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in The Arts - fully
American History - fully

Albany 102 Thursdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27

American Art: The New World to the Modern World is an exploration of America from its founding in 1607 through the 1960's by looking at art. We will predominantly center our focus on paintings, which are more than images of people, places, and things (and sometimes not even those) – they represent an artist's and/or a society's values. How artists gradually found a place in American culture and how art became a profession in an evolving nation are key themes we will examine in order to understand how art both reflected and directed particular periods in history. Architecture and Sculpture will round-out our study. From very humble beginnings in the 17th century, American art ultimately displaced Paris as the center of the art world in the post – WWII era. Throughout those years, there were incredible successes, raging controversies, and numerous struggles for dominance, as artists, patrons, critics, and the public made and remade their place in American society. Students do not need any specialized knowledge in order to take this study, and in fact anyone can learn how to look at art and grasp its many meanings. The essential task is learning how to think about art. This study fulfills the general education requirement for the Arts, and because historical context is so important, it also fulfills the general education requirement for American History.

Quantitative Reasoning 4 cr with Amy Salvati

spaces avail 8 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Mathematics - fully

Albany 444 Thursdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/23, 4/6, 4/20

This introductory level study will develop the ability to interpret and reason with information that involves mathematical ideas or numbers. As students explore issues that directly affect their lives, they will gain an appreciation of mathematics and its importance in a technological world. Topics will be chosen from statistical reasoning, symmetry and proportion, mathematical modeling, probability, and geometry. These topics will cover the required general education competencies of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, data analysis, and quantitative reasoning. Applications of mathematics to the social sciences, environmental issues, business, art, and music will be featured.

Western Civilization 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Western Civilization - fully

Albany 102 Thursdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 4/6, 4/20

Western Civilization 1 is designed to introduce the student to the emergence of the first civilizations and the trajectory of their development into Western society. We will examine the contributions of Greece and Rome and how they expanded their empires; how ideas are conceived, put into practice, and have social consequences; how and why empires collapsed; how people and societies existed during the Middle Ages; how numerous cultures developed values and coexisted/clashed with others; and how a broken Europe, after several starts, reinvigorated itself with the Renaissance, and split again in the Reformation. Throughout the study, culture and the role of ideas will be emphasized as a means of analyzing and connecting the people and events that make up the trajectory of history.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Academic Reading, Research and Thinking 4 cr with Lisa D'Adamo-Weinstein

spaces avail 14 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Critical Thinking - fully
Basic Communications - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

The purpose of this study is to sharpen students' abilities to read, research, think and communicate in academic contexts through written and other formats (debate, presentation & public speaking). The study pushes students to enhance their academic skills beyond what would be expected of students in their first or second year of undergraduate study. The focus of the study is on effective and critical application of strategies in order to expand upon academic research and writing skills. It also includes work on critical academic reading and information literacy research strategies applied to a term long project. Movement from basic to more advanced development of both the mind-set and skills needed to think critically and engage in sophisticated analysis of issues are the key desired learner outcomes of the study. Students will complete a term long academic research project on a topic of their choice. The project will focus on an academic area that is specific for the student's individual needs and interests. Skills such as critical thinking, writing, time management, public speaking, academic research, peer collaboration and portfolio compilation will be incorporated into the project through various assignments.

Human Development 4 cr with Efrat Levy

spaces avail 15 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

This study group will provide an overview of the current theories and research findings about human development. Participants will be introduced to the major conceptualizations and methods of understanding development. Students will study expected developmental achievements and variations, both group and individual, as well as the factors, biological and environmental that influence development across the lifespan. In addition to texts, the study group will make use of literature and other media.

Management Principles 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy

spaces avail 15 Intro/Non-Liberal

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

This study is an introduction to the study of management through which a modern business organization can be understood as a functioning system. The focus is on learning practical applications of management concepts in the work environment. The study will cover the role of the manager in modern business and the functions that define the scope of managing including decision-making, planning, organizing, staffing, leading, motivating and controlling.

Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

Contemporary Food Writing 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail **10** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Basic Communications - fully
Humanities - fully

Saratoga Mondays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

Food is the great common denominator in life: we all need it to survive and we spend considerable time growing it, shopping for it, preparing it, consuming it and thinking about it. In this study we will both read and write about food. By breaking food writing down into the genres of: essays/blogs, memoir, fiction, cookbook writing and food criticism we will examine how food is written about and what attitudes, values and symbolism are inherent in our relationship with food and what that can teach us about our culture. Written assignments will ask students to write in most of the genres noted above.

Unsolved Crimes: Forensic Science in Historic Cases 4 cr with Thomas Jones

spaces avail **10** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Saratoga Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. 1/23, 2/6, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

This study examines cases that have captivated observers for years, including Jack the Ripper, the Jon Benet Ramsey murder, the Black Dahlia, Dr. Sarr Sheppard (the case that inspired The Fugitive), the Zodiac Killer, O.J. Simpson, the Cleveland Torso Killer (was this connected with the Black Dahlia?), and others. Rather than simply using conjecture, as is common in popular books on these cases, we will utilize methodologies and theories from forensic science to develop new ideas and test hypotheses put forth by others who have looked at the same cases. In some cases, we will attempt to determine how methods that were not available at the time might be used to re-examine evidence that may have been missed -- could modern methods help determine if Jack the Ripper was right- or left-handed and perhaps how tall he (or perhaps she) was, or the shape of the weapon/item used in the murders? Could pollen analysis have provided definitive proof of guilt or innocence in the O.J. Simpson case? Might there have been hidden DNA evidence in the Zodiac cases that has since degraded as items sit in boxes? In other cases, we will try to determine how mistakes were made and how evidence can be re-evaluated once it has been weakened by errors -- the Jon Benet Ramsey murder and the Dr. Sheppard case were famously mishandled, even though evidence was found.

Tuesdays

War Stories: Reading & Writing about the Impact of War 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Humanities - fully

Saratoga Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. 1/17, 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11

This study invites students to explore our growing awareness of the cultural and psychological -- even cognitive -- effects of war by reading stories, essays, articles and poems and viewing films. We will be looking at how men and women have used stories to give meaning to experiences of war, whether or not they have experienced war firsthand. Reading, writing and viewing films about many different wars will allow us to delve into how we are affected by war as a society and as individuals. This study is dedicated to looking at war as a rich and complex subject for study, a subject both deeply emotional and politically fraught; however, the intention is for all political views to be respected and for no view to be honored over another. Designed to provide a safe, supportive environment, this study is an opportunity for students to read deeply and write honestly about their reactions to the material used in the study, and if appropriate and they choose, about their own experiences. Reading and writing will be used as tools to develop our critical thinking skills, to clarify or rethink and reshape both experience and beliefs about war. Students will need to attend seven study group sessions held every other week in Saratoga Springs. This is an especially useful course for students in Cultural Studies and Community and Human Services.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Organizational Behavior 4 cr with Kathy Tarrant

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

Authors Kreitner and Kinicki define organizational behavior as an "interdisciplinary field dedicated to better understanding and managing people at work". A cornerstone study for all managers and an integral aspect of supervision and leadership positions, this course will provide an understanding of individual behavior, group and social processes as well as organizational processes within a variety of organizations large, small, public and private. Topics covered include organizational culture, personalities, values and attitudes, foundations of motivation, group dynamics and decision making, teams and teamwork, leadership, and managing change and stress. Supplemented with case studies, journal articles and web resources, this course will provide a contemporary examination of organizational behavior and practices in today's organizations. This study fully satisfies the Business, Management and Economics guideline for understanding people in an organizational context.

Rock & Roll as Cultural History 4 cr with Connelly Akstens

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully
The Arts - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

Rock and Roll provides us with very rich possibilities to consider historic contentions that "cultural artifacts exist in time, and . . . are bound up with personal and institutional conflicts, negotiations and appropriations" (Stephen Greenblatt). From Jackie Brenston's "Rocket 88" in 1951 to Punk and Grunge in the 80's, Rock is a chronicle of race, sex, war, drugs, materialism, adolescence, generational conflict, the role and status of women, ideals of beauty, constructions of masculinity, fashion, regionalism, suburbanism, the car culture and escapism. We will study the ways in which Rock and Roll, as a material cultural artifact, was a product of both roots music forms and cultural turmoil at a time of radical transformations within American society. We will also examine the ways in which Rock had a reciprocal impact on the culture that produced and sustained it. Basic readings will include The Rolling Stone History of Rock and Roll and David Shumway's "Rock and Roll as a Cultural Practice." Listening will be based on an extensive list of titles that are available as downloads.

The Harlem Renaissance: Politics & Art 4 cr with MaryNell Morgan

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully
Humanities - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

Students will examine the political and cultural expressions and experiences of African Americans before, during, and after the era of The Harlem Renaissance, with emphasis on the period initially called the age of "The New Negro." In addition to the literature, art, music, and performing arts of the period, students will learn about significant and enduring political, social, and economic issues. This study fully meets the general education requirements in American History OR Humanities, not both.