

Interdisciplinary Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies 490 and 498 are for the student completing an individually planned major (for information on the individually planned major see “Major Study Requirements” in the *Academics* section of this catalog).

100 Special Topics in Health Care and Professions

1-4 credits

Offerings under this designation will include both academic and activity courses for students interested in understanding health care systems and in preparing for future careers in the professions. These courses will be graded on a credit/no credit basis, and cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements in any area. Any current offerings follow.

100A ST: Introduction to Health Care and its Professions

Spring

K. Mueller

1 credit

This course is designed to introduce students to the broad scope of health care and the academic and personal competencies necessary for the health professions. The history and evolving roles of the professions; professionalism and ethics in health care; and health care access, delivery, costs, and disparities in the US and around the world. Graded credit/no credit.

100B ST: Health Professions I

Fall

K. Mueller

1 credit

Designed for first and second-year students who are pondering a career in a health profession. Students will explore course and major selection across the liberal arts. The role of shadowing, observation, and volunteer work for discerning a career path in the professions will be presented with an emphasis on universal precautions, air-borne and blood-borne pathogens and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Upon successful course completion, students will have met the requirements to participate in shadowing experiences at local Walla Walla clinics and hospital. Activity credit limitation applies. Graded credit/no credit. Open to first and second-year students or consent of instructor.

100C ST: Health Professions II

Fall

K. Mueller

1 credit

This course is designed for students preparing for applications to a post baccalaureate program in the health professions. The course will also direct students in the application process, including preparation for admissions testing, writing of personal statements, obtaining letters of evaluation, interviewing, and financing. Activity credit limitation applies. Graded credit/no credit. Open to third and fourth-year students.

150-151 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies

1-4 credits

Any current offerings follow.

200 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies

1 credit

Offerings under this designation will be short-term classes and/or seminars of an interdisciplinary nature. These courses will be graded on a credit/no credit basis, and cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements in any area. May be repeated for a maximum of four credits. Any current offerings follow.

210 Global Returns: Critical Engagements after Study Abroad

Fall

Bobrow-Strain

2 credits

This course is designed for students returning from Whitman Off-Campus Study programs outside the United States, or after other extended international study. It provides students with the tools, perspectives, and a set of targeted assignments to make sense of and communicate with others about their transformative experiences abroad. When

students return from study abroad, too often their time away becomes adjunct or ancillary to the rest of their studies. When this happens, opportunities to situate their international experiences within a larger, critical liberal arts framework are diminished or lost altogether. This course offers students an opportunity to return to their global experiences through critical interrogation and reflection on what it means to live in another culture. Students will analyze their off-campus study through the lens of other forms of global encounter, including colonialism, othering, and cosmopolitanism. Students will also assess different ways study abroad has transformed them, including psychologically and politically. In addition to readings and discussions, students will carry out a group project addressing how global issues in the media are framed and presented differently depending on international location. Graded credit/no credit. Distribution area: none. *Prerequisite:* Off-Campus Studies program participation or consent of instructor.

220 Fire and Ice: Canadian Issues and Identity

Not offered 2021-22

2 credits

This team-taught course will begin by providing a basic understanding of Canadian geography, history, politics and culture. Building on that broad foundation, we will study an array of current issues (across disciplinary boundaries) that help to shape Canadian identity today. These may include environmental issues, such as the tar sands; economic issues, such as Canada's apparent insulation from the 2007-2009 global financial crisis; border issues, such as fishing rights and terrorism; and national issues, such as Quebec sovereignty. This rich survey of a range of sociopolitical issues will end with an in-depth study of one specific issue that is crucial to Canadian identity, cultural plurality. We will explore the angst surrounding Canada's multicultural policy and explore a variety of cultural responses ranging from literature to religion and sports. Two meetings per week. Assignments will include a range of quizzes, short written assignments, and a poster presentation.

230 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies

2 credits

Any current offerings follow.

240 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies

3-4 credits

Any current offerings follow.

240 ST: Introduction to Global Studies

Fall

Lemma

4 credits

Despite the recent challenges to globalization (the rise of populist nativist nationalism and protectionism, the borderless nature of the ongoing public health emergency and resulting economic crisis, climate change, etc.), the global nature of the solutions required to meet these challenges demonstrates the interconnectedness and interdependence of the world we live in. This course seeks to help students develop the knowledge and skills needed to make sense of and prepare for an increasingly integrated and globalized system by providing an interdisciplinary framework for understanding the major global forces and trends that unite and separate nations and citizens of the world. This course will use a multidisciplinary approach to explore the historical, political, social, economic, and legal forces that have shaped the current world system. The course will specifically examine the discovery of the New World, colonization and slave trade; WWI and the rise of communism, fascism, and Nazism; WWII, the rise of the USA and the USSR as global powers, and the emergence of the "bipolar" global system in the post-WWII era; the collapse of the USSR and the Eastern bloc and the rise of the US-led, Western-dominated unipolar global order; the reemergence of China and Russia as global powers and the challenge it poses to the Western liberal democratic world order; the Chinese model vs. the Indian model of national development and international relations; Israel and the Middle East; the political economy of Africa; climate change and environmental pollution; and transnational terrorism and migration. May be applied toward the Global Politics requirement of the Politics-Environmental Studies major. Distribution area: cultural pluralism.

300 Special Topics in International or Global Studies

1-4 credits

A course which examines a specific topic within the area of international studies. Any current offerings follow.

400 O'Donnell Endowment: Special Topics in Applied International Studies

1-2 credits

The Ashton and Virginia O'Donnell Endowment exists to bring to campus individuals who are expert practitioners in global affairs. O'Donnell Visiting Educators will have expertise in international business, diplomacy, social movements, environmental regulation, immigration, engineering, medicine, development, the arts or other areas involving international study. Offerings under this designation will be short-term classes and/or seminars led by the O'Donnell Visiting Educator. Graded credit/no credit. May be repeated for a maximum of four credits. Distribution area: none. Any current offerings follow.

490 Senior Project

Fall, Spring

Staff

1-4 credits

Interdisciplinary project, reading or research undertaken as part of an approved individually planned major or combined major. *Prerequisite:* approved individually planned major, or combined major. Distribution area: none.

498 Honors Thesis

Fall, Spring

Staff

1-4 credits

Designed to further independent research projects leading to the preparation of an undergraduate thesis or a project report in an approved individually planned major or combined major. Required of and limited to senior honors candidates. Distribution area: none.