

NU-Q Fall 2014 Course Descriptions

Communication/MIT Courses

Journalism Courses

Liberal Arts Courses

Communication/ MIT Courses

MIT 205-0 Theories of Persuasion

This course introduces the student to the major social scientific approaches to the study of persuasive communication. Persuasion is studied throughout the social sciences—in communication, social psychology, advertising and marketing, and political science—so we will encounter diverse areas of persuasion research. The course is divided into three sections. In the first section foundational aspects of persuasion will be introduced. In the second section, the theoretical accounts of the processes underlying persuasion will be explored. In the third section, factors influencing persuasive effects will be discussed, including an exploration of source, message, and receiver factors.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

MIT 206-0 Argumentation

This course provides a general introduction to the fundamental principles and practices of critical reasoning and public argument. Students learn the basic elements of arguing about definitions, facts, values, and policies. Students are also introduced to rules of evidence and reasoning and the basic features of debate over issues in the academic, commercial, social, cultural, and political realms.

Instructor(s): Allwyn Tellis

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

MIT 212-0 Exploring Global Media

Exploring Global Media investigates the past, present, and future of global media issues, theories, industries and technologies. We will explore global media through a combination of lectures, discussions, readings, film and video screenings, computer-based materials, and assignments.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Satisfying Contemporary Media Sequence & Media and Politics minor course requirements

MIT 220-0 Analyzing Media Texts

This course is an introduction to the study and structure of film and other moving-image media. We will define and examine the expressive and aesthetic power of the basic elements of the moving image. Specifically, the course will investigate—across a variety of different media, modes, and historical periods—the fundamentals of cinematography, especially the shot and its composition; editing; set design and acting styles; sound; and control of space, time, and imagery. We will also discuss narrative, genre, and media specificity. The goals of the course are 1) to acquaint students with a vocabulary specific to film and other temporal media, and 2) to provide students with the critical tools required for analysis of the moving image. We will watch, analyze, and discuss a wide variety of films, from silent classics to contemporary digital blockbusters. The text for the course is *Film Art: An Introduction*, Tenth Edition, by David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson. There are no prerequisites for this course. It is required for all Communication majors.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: None

- Required for MIT freshmen
- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Satisfying Contemporary Media Sequence course requirements

MIT 260-0 Screenwriting

This course is designed to provide students with a working knowledge of the fundamentals of screenwriting with emphasis on character development and structure. Through the practice of screenwriting, students will learn how to represent in words not only story, but also sound design, editing, visual design, and other parameters of media making. They will discover how core concepts of character, structure, plot, theme and tone interact within existing and emerging media and explore how to utilize these concepts to express their personal vision. This course is designed to supply students with tools to expand and enrich their appreciation of all aspects of filmmaking and screenwriting in particular. Students will prepare for eventual entry into the professional world, learning how outside forces can influence the decisions a screenwriter makes. The primary assignment is writing and revising a short film screenplay (15 - 30 screenplay pages).

Instructor(s): Susan Pak

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

MIT 298-0/398-0 Alternative Media in the Middle East

Alternative media in the Middle East is a seminar course examining the diversity of ethnic, political, social, economic and cultural contexts that often produce media through pirate radio, underground press, independent film, Internet, mobile technologies and other forms.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: Completed one of the following courses: MIT 212-0, MIT 270-0, JOUR 202-0 or GSFS students already in the Media & Politics Minor

- MIT 298-0: open to sophomores; and MIT 398-0: open to juniors and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Satisfying Media and Politics minor and Middle East Studies Certificate course requirements

MIT 325-0 Girls' Media Culture

Although media made for girls has long been derided as silly and undeserving of close attention, to the millions of preteen and teen girls who consume it, it is anything but insignificant. From Nancy Drew novels in the 1930s to beach party movies in the 1960s, from 1970s sitcoms such as *The Brady Bunch* and *Good Times* to contemporary films and TV shows such as *Mean Girls*, *Whip It*, and *Hannah Montana*, girls' media forms have functioned as important historical sites for the negotiation of cultural politics and youthful feminine ideals. In order to shed light on the oft-overlooked history of girls' media in both the U.S. and abroad, this course offers a critical investigation and cultural history of popular girls' media from the 1930s to the present, including novels, films, TV shows, advertisements, music videos, teen magazines, and toys. We will investigate girls' media artifacts as commercial and aesthetic texts through which girls have interfaced with lessons about gender, sexuality, race, class, and generation at different historical moments in both Western and non-Western contexts. We will also consider how the landscape of girls' media production has changed, and resisted change, over time. Finally, we will examine the expansion of female youth culture beyond consumer-oriented activities to those involving girls' cultural production as we consider the possibilities and limits of girl-made and adult-made girls' media.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Satisfying Contemporary Media Sequence course requirements

MIT 330-0 Special Topics-Principles of Style

Communicating the play to an audience is the essential objective of any theatrical production. The goal of this course is to examine, develop, and create the framework through which an actor communicates the playwright's drama. It is possible for an actor to create a vibrant character along with the dramatic depths of a particular scene, and still leave an audience confused or untouched. The work that you will undertake this semester is part of your responsibility as an actor, and ultimately what defines you as a true creative artist. The focus of all your classwork is presented from the perspective of "actor as communicator." As always, in preparation for scene work, you are expected to research the world of the play and playwright, build your character, and develop the dramatic content of the scene OUTSIDE OF CLASS. When that work has been addressed, you will then make choices regarding style and technique, which is what we will focus on in class. The key principle of style is choice – selecting and arranging dramatic elements in a way that is most effective to communicate each playwright's particular writing to an audience. You will learn to do this by studying and using the primary tools of orchestration and choreography – in other words, the visual and audio components of a scene. This aspect of the actor's process is referred to as developing technique, not just "comic" technique – artistic technique – for technique is required of actors in ALL plays. This course builds on the foundation laid out in *Principles of Characterization* and continued through *Analysis and Performance of Drama*. Along with research and scene preparation, you will present

several scenes, repeating them at least once after further development by incorporating class comments and criticism. Depending on the interests of the class, we may also pursue a group project to be presented sometime during the semester. Through this class, you will learn technique that creates effective communication with an audience, whether onstage or offstage.

Instructor(s): Ann Woodworth

Prerequisites: MIT 298-0 (Undergrad Seminar – Principles of Characterization or MIT 330-0 Special Topics - Analysis and Performance of Drama)

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 349-0 Internship Seminar

This course provides academic structure and guidance for professional internships being completed by students in the Program in Communication. Organizational communication and behavior topics including organizational cultural, working in teams, managing generational differences, effective workplace strategies, leadership and mentoring, work-life balance, ethics and soft skills, feedback and motivation, technology in the workplace, networking-social and otherwise, and starting life as young professional are covered. In this seminar style class, we discuss the readings and their relationship to events in the job sites and students share their progress reports, questions and concerns about the work they are completing in various media-related jobs. Students are encouraged to explore the links and gaps between what they have learned in the classroom and what they are learning in the workplace, developing their professional skills while deepening their academic experiences. Students are evaluated on their weekly written responses to the readings, which should show a clear understanding of the readings as well as thoughtful application to the work site, a written final project and presentation and by their work site supervisor.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above with instructor permission
- Students may register for 1-4 units with the instructor's permission
- MIT majors only

MIT 351-0 National Cinema: Cinemas of the Middle East

This course will introduce students to selected feature films, and some documentaries, from the cinemas of Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Algeria, Israel, Iran and Turkey. Some will be historical classics from earlier periods, others more recent. A number of them may be provocative. The films will be set in their national and social contexts, with a schedule of required readings to assist with that task. All films will be sub-titled in English. The classes will consist of a mixture of lectures and discussions. Assessment will take the form of a single-spaced one-page paper on the film turned in each week, and a final essay of 8-10 double-spaced pages.

Instructor(s): John D. H. Downing

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 380-0 Cinematography

This class demonstrates advanced lighting and camera techniques, including a thorough understanding of the newest lighting kits and digital camera technology. Students will gain an appreciation for the aesthetics of cinematography across several eras and styles. Additionally, students will learn to use cinematography to bring the story to life, explore cinematic techniques for independent filmmaking and be exposed to alternative styles of cinematography.

Instructor(s): Anne Sobel

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 382-0 Sound Production

Sound Production students will study the fundamental basics of audio design and creation to learn effective storytelling through sound. The course will focus on recording equipment, location recording techniques, voiceover and Foley. In class we will discuss preparation for an effective shoot: script breakdown, building cue sheets and recording logs. Further, we will delve into the history of sound in cinema and analyze a range of films and theory. Students will gain practical knowledge of recording techniques through exercises, in-class recording assignments and the final project in which they will design, record and edit the audio for a short film.

Instructor(s): Elizabeth Hoffman

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0

- Open to juniors and above

MIT 393-0 2D Computer Animation

In this course, students will learn how to make digital animation and discover how to capture the hearts and minds of audiences with this highly popular and fun-filled art form. It offers a basic comprehensive understanding of integrating motion theory and various digital practices that create the illusion of life and movement on the screen. The course consists of three main components:

1. Theoretical knowledge development to understand the history of animation, basic principles of time and movement, digital production systems and methodologies, sensual values (such as visual, aesthetic, formal, pragmatic) and abstract values (such as emotional, motivational, persuasive).
2. Technical knowledge development through in-class workshops, self-guided learning, hands on practice using computer software and employing different digital production methods and processes. Students will learn how to manage projects and understand various technical terminologies, attributes and industry-standard specifications.
3. Experimentation and creative exploration by taking the knowledge and skills that were gained in the first two phases and reapplying them using a more personal, creative and conceptual mind-frame. This phase will reinforce the importance of narrative and creating value and romance for different audience.

Instructor(s): Dana Ahdab

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

MIT 398-0/JOUR 390-0 Empowering Women through Feminist Media Production and Criticism

This class is designed to help students translate key research findings from the UREP study, “Qatari Women: Engagement and Empowerment,” into artistic creations and multimedia productions (e.g., documentaries and museum installations) informed by gender studies and feminist media studies perspectives. Students will learn key documentary film shooting, editing and analysis skills. They also will review editing platforms, such as Final Cut X and Adobe Premiere CC. This portion of the class will enable students to take the information, insights, and interviews they extracted during the initial phases of the UREP project and convert them into high-quality and professional multimedia pieces that can be screened at film festivals and research symposiums across the globe. In addition to learning technical skills for producing quality visual media, students will learn how to create media with an eye towards gender dignity and female empowerment. As part of this training, students will be introduced to theories of gender and media and will practice critically analyzing gender representations (and their intersections with sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, and national identity) in popular culture. They will also learn how formal elements, such as camerawork, editing, and sound, can be used to convey ideas about gender and power—including both productive and limiting messages. Ultimately, students will work to apply critical lessons about gender to their own creative works, thereby advancing representations of local women that are informed by ethics, social responsibility, and cultural sensitivity.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike and Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: All students who enroll must be CITI certified to conduct social and behavioral research prior to the first day of class. Instructor permission required.

- Cross-listed as JOUR 390-0

Theatre 143-0 Basic Acting

This course introduces the basic principles of acting for the purpose of better communication, storytelling, and performance on stage and in life. Students will explore key aspects of human behavior, such as motivation, intention, actions, and tactics in order to develop performance skills useful for any career choice. Coursework will focus on perceiving, understanding, and recreating human behavior through exercises in observation and imagination. Using creative resources such as documentary and silent films, music, movement, journalism, and plays, students will also explore the essential elements of drama – plot, character, theme, language, music, spectacle and learn how to develop those elements into interesting and engaging stories. In addition, the course will introduce stage techniques needed to be an effective communicator, and provide the opportunity for students to strengthen individual abilities for risk-taking, stage presence, empathetic experience, and relating to an audience.

Instructor(s): Ann Woodworth

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

Journalism Courses

GEN CMN 202-0 Statistics

Introduction to statistics and probability models for journalism students. Covers topics common in general statistics courses, including the Central Limit Theorem, descriptive and inferential test statistics, regression to the mean, and analysis of variance. Specific attention is given, however, to statistical challenges journalists encounter in news reporting. Students will discuss ways to detect fraud in government data, methods for dissecting academic research promoted in press releases, and strategies for reporting statistical findings to a mass audience, among other skills. Portions of the book, *Thinking, Fast & Slow* will be read before the class begins, and a short quiz will be completed on day one.

Instructor(s): Justin Martin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

IMC 330-0 Principles of Public Relations

Introductory Public Relations course in which students learn the basics of public relations, the public relations process and design a public relations plan using strategic and integrated communication methods.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

IMC 331-0 PR Communication Strategies and Writing

Students apply strategic communication skills in writing public relations pieces for print, electronic and audiovisual media. Communicative tools include news releases, features, pitch letters, fact sheets, public service announcements, argumentation and advocacy pieces, executive summaries and speeches, and more. Through this course, students will develop a portfolio of public relations writing that will help them with internships, residencies and, ultimately, employment in the public relations field.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: IMC 330-0 and JOUR 101-0 or JOUR 201-0

- Open to sophomores and above

JOUR 202-0 Introduction to 21st Century Media

As the realms and contexts of media and journalism change at an unprecedented pace, today's student of journalism must examine and understand what these changes mean and what obligations they imply for the profession of journalism and its role in local and global societies. This course then will explore the dynamics of 21st century media and journalism, covering the following broad themes, some of them new and some timeless: 1) what is journalism; 2) the historical forces that have given

birth to modern journalism; 3) the social, political and cultural issues and currents that exert influence on media and journalism; 4) the roles of journalists (roles that are altered and those unchanging); 5) the relationship between journalism and community; 6) audience trends and business aspects; and 7) standards and ethics for journalists, and an important discussion on the concept and contradictions of “global journalism ethics.”

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif / Janet Key / Andrew Mills

Prerequisites: None

- Required for freshmen Journalism majors.

JOUR 203-0 Multimedia and Visual Journalism

Multimedia Journalism is a general introduction to visual and multimedia journalism and storytelling techniques. Students will learn the theories behind and fundamentals of photo and video journalism in order to create their own compelling audio slideshows and video news packages; in addition, students will gain a deeper understanding of how to use social media and search engine optimization techniques to extend the reach of their reporting.

Instructor(s): Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0 with C- or better

- Open to sophomore Journalism majors

JOUR 321-0 Storytelling: Magazine and Feature Writing

Magazine and Feature Writing students will be immersed into the magazine world—a huge and storied part of journalism. Along the way, students will learn to draft, outline, write and edit various kinds of magazine stories, including FOBs (front-of-the-book pieces), departments, features and reviews—storytelling forms that obviously originated in print magazines (and remain so) but, to a good degree, have survived and even thrived the transition to online publications. They vary in lengthy and purpose. This is a writing-intensive, editing-dependent and fact-based class with enormous payback to the students. You will learn important skills and will be shown an expansive venue (print and online) for your story ideas, storytelling abilities and, of course, your writing style and voice. Your stories in class will be built on your reporting, research, and structure befitting the assignment, and they will be conveyed by your compelling writing style. By this point in the journalism program, students are expected to have advanced writing skills so that we may focus entirely on the various structures and approaches to magazine writing. Students are expected to develop their story ideas (consultation with faculty and classmates is a given) and find sources required to produce interesting and well-told stories.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif

Prerequisites: JOUR 301-0 with a C or better

- Open to junior Journalism majors

JOUR 323-0 Techniques: Video Journalism – Studio Production & Video Journalism

Broadcast Production will cover techniques for gathering, reporting, and producing video news with special emphasis on production and writing. This will be accomplished through a combination of

lectures/discussion, exercises, and projects. This class will leverage NU-Q's world-class facilities and students will gain highly transferable skills. Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Gather and produce high quality audio and video packages for news, features and documentary programs
- Write/produce short newscasts and edit these on Adobe Premier CS6.
- Understand the role, function of, and significance that mobile phones and other portable devices have in today's media environment
- Comfortably present and report for live broadcast

If students want a broadcasting residency like EuroNews or a multimedia site like Huffington Post they should take this class. Broadcasting/video skills are also highly valuable for PR residencies in order to produce video press releases and newspaper as reporters for many publications, including The Wall Street Journal, now are expected to carry iPhones and shoot video. It would be preferable for students to have basic editing skills. Students will be trained to use Adobe Premier during class, but do require a basic understanding of picture editing.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

JOUR 370-0/MIT 398-0 Media Law & Ethics

The legal and ethical framework defining media freedoms and constraints in the United States, including copyright and trademark issues. Historical context and focus on the evolution of constitutional statutory, judicial and ethical standards. The course is designed to enhance critical thinking among students commencing a Journalism Residency in spring semester. Topics will include: Key legal principles that frame freedom of the press; legal systems—their role and the limits—in governing mass media news, information and entertainment content; copyright protection and ethics considerations for journalism organizations and professional.

Instructor(s): Amy Sanders

Prerequisites: None

- Priority to Journalism students who will be on residency in the spring.

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0: The Media and Journalism in Today's Middle East: Shaping and being shaped by the Arab Uprisings

This seminar course will explore ways the media and journalism have affected and often shaped events that have unfolded across the Middle East since the beginning of the Arab Uprisings in late 2010. It will also examine the flipside: how the Arab Uprisings and the turbulence that has followed continue to affect the media and the practice of journalism in the region. The course will be organized around a series of focused case studies drawn from the real world of media and journalism in the Middle East. We will take an interactive, discussion-based approach in this course and students will get to put themselves in the shoes of various protagonists or decision-makers in each case in order to grapple with the kinds of decisions media professional must make and the effects those

decisions have on the politics and societies of the region. Each case will explore an actual situation that highlights key issues like gender and journalism in the Middle East, the shifting regional role of Al Jazeera, social media and digital newsgathering.

Instructor(s): Andrew Mills

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Cross-listed as MIT 398-0
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor, Contemporary Media Sequence and Middle East Studies Certificate course requirements

Liberal Arts Courses

Anthro 242-0: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

This course introduces students to the methods and perspectives of cultural anthropology. Emphasis will be on appreciating cultural difference and its implications. By learning to think analytically about other people's lives and our own, students will begin to learn to think like anthropologists. We will move through a series of anthropological concepts and demonstrate the manner in which human universals such as notions of time, space, kinship and gender are reconfigured across different cultures.

Instructor(s): Tanya Kane

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen only
- Open for Cross-Registration

Arabic 142-0 Arabic for Media

This course is designed to offer students the opportunity to reflect on the linguistic decisions media professionals make every day and to inform this decision-making process with a broad theoretical background. Students will utilize the newly acquired theoretical knowledge to develop their understanding of media discourse delivered in spoken and written Modern Standard Arabic. The course is also hands-on in that it will require students to create comparable written and spoken productions and deliver them via different media. It is understood that students will enter the course with different levels of proficiency in written and spoken Modern Standard Arabic; however, an intermediate proficiency level is required. Assessment of student achievement will be based on competencies developed during the semester. Class will be conducted in Arabic.

Instructor(s): Mounir Ouanaimi

Prerequisites: Intermediate proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic. Instructor permission required - email mouanaimi@qf.org.

- Open to freshmen and above
- This course carries 0.5 NU-Q units
- Open for Cross-Registration

Econ 242-0 Principles of Economics

This introductory course studies basic economic concepts and theories. It is divided into two main parts: microeconomics and topics on macroeconomics. The module examines central economic ideas including supply and demand, market structures, consumers, public policy and monopoly as well as macroeconomic indicators such as gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment. Issues on economic growth, financial systems and capital markets are also discussed (including Islamic finance). Whenever possible, examples from Qatar and other economies in the Gulf region will be used to illustrate the material being discussed. The content and delivery of the course is suitable to students who are not pursuing a major in economics. Topics are discussed in a relatively non-technical way. Analytical explanations will focus on graphs rather than mathematics.

Instructor(s): Giovanni Bandi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

ENGL 103-1 First-Year Writing

The primary goal of this course is to improve writing skills within an academic setting. It is designed to help a student become a more efficient and successful writer by also strengthening skills in reading and analyzing texts. It recognizes that writing is indeed a process. This means that whether a writer starts with a thesis, an outline, or an assigned topic, there will be many steps and missteps involved in producing the final essay. Multiple phases of the writing process will be carried out, such as workshop, peer review, and one-on-one conferences with the instructor. Each semester, a different theme will serve as a focal topic for readings, discussions, and writing assignments.

Instructor(s): Allwyn Tellis / Maria Lombard / Mohanalakshmi Rajakumar

Prerequisites: None

- Mandatory for all first year students

ENGL 242-0 Modern Middle East Literature

The countries that stretch along the broad expanse of the Middle East—from Morocco to Iran, from Turkey to Pakistan—boast various cultures, different languages, and a range of religions. Yet the literary landscape of this dynamic part of the world has been bound together not by borders and nationalities, but by a common experience of Western imperialism. This course will be an exploration of how the literature from this part of the world can, in fact, be used to form identity and serve as an extraordinary chronicle of the disrupted histories of the region.

Instructor(s): Tracy Vaughn

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

ENGL 242-0 Gender in Arab Popular Fiction

This course on gender in Arab Popular Fiction offers an introduction to social and cultural issues as

represented in popular Arab literature. Reading short stories and novels, we will discuss a set of questions that examine identity, gender, culture, and values, vis-a-vis the individual and the nation in contemporary Arab societies.

Instructor(s): Mohanalakshmi Rajakumar

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen only

ENGL 379-0 Coming to America: American (Im)Migrant Literature

America is uniquely a country of immigrants. It is made up of people whose cultural origins are connected to other societies with their own languages, religions, customs, and fundamental values. The American experiment has succeeded in bringing disparate peoples together in a democratic society but sometimes at enormous cost in hardship and disillusionment. The "human" cost of this immigration/migration experience has best been expressed in the fiction written by the people involved. Students will learn how to read closely and critically; how to develop a distinctive voice in their writing; and how to become confident in asking questions and framing persuasive answers. Students will also acquire a technical and critical vocabulary for analyzing various forms of literature and apply this vocabulary to their written analyses. Ultimately, students will have a more nuanced understanding of the sacrifices and benefits; the gains and losses that are all a part of the American immigration experience.

Instructor(s): Tracy Vaughn

Prerequisites: ENGL 242-0

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

History 242-0 History of Medieval Muslim Empires

This course provides an overview of the political, intellectual, and social history of the kingdoms (Mamluk, Ottoman, Safavid, Mughal, and Songhay Empires) ruling over Muslim societies from roughly 1300-1800 C.E. Since many of the claims about Middle East modernities are made with reference to what came before, this course challenges assumptions concerning the pre-modern political, social and cultural norms.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

History 242-0 Modern European History

This course explores the major themes of modern European History. It will not cover everything. It is designed to be an analysis of the ideas, people and events that shaped and reshaped Europe from the start of the French Revolution in 1789 to the end of the Cold War in 1991. Our primary focus will be on the transition to what is now called a modern western society. Special attention will be given to the different ways popular forms of media responded to and, in turn, influenced the major themes of modern European history.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

History 387-0 History and Memory: Remembering the American Revolution

What is the relationship between history and memory? After 250 years the American Revolution is still at the center of American life. Every generation has reinvented the Revolution as ideas about America and America's place in the world have changed. This course explores the evolving place of the American Revolution in the national memory of the United States. We will start by studying the history of the Revolution before focusing on a case study of the Boston Tea Party to explore how subsequent generations reinterpreted the ideas, people, and events of the period.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

Poli Sci 242-0 Introduction to American Government and Politics

This course provides an introduction to American politics and government. We will explore the history of the US Constitution, the three branches of government, the news media, public opinion and political participation, campaigns and elections, and the political culture of America. We will follow American elections with interactive blogs, and end with a comparative and critical perspective on US democracy. An introduction to American politics is essential for students to understand American influence and capacity on foreign policies and current events.

Instructor(s): Sean Burns

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

Poli Sci 242-0 Introduction to International Relations

This class will introduce students to the development of international politics in the last century and the major theories of International Relations. Our primary focus will be the Cold War and after. We will look at the development of the current international system and the ways scholars and policymakers try to understand and navigate war, peace, and the various states between.

Instructor(s): Sean Burns

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen only
- Open for Cross-Registration

Poli Sci 387-0 Contemporary Arab Thought

This course focuses on the role of the media in the politics and nation-building of the post-colonial Arab countries. Loyalist and opposition media in their conservative or revolutionary forms are analyzed, along with themes such as media and foreign policy, media and identity and religious media. From the time of independence to the moment of the Arab Spring the course examines the politics and politicization of the Arab media throughout its evolution from press and radio to TV broadcasting and social media. The course also follows the development of the Arab media in various political contexts, historical phases and geographical locations such as diaspora media and Arabic-speaking media owned by non-Arabic countries. Considerable time and discussion will be devoted to transnational TV broadcasting media that was pioneered by Al-Jazeera in 1996, unfolding a new chapter in Arab media and its politics.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for Cross-Registration

INTERDIS 100-0 Introduction to NU-Q

The Introduction to NU-Q seminar is a discussion-based course that utilizes readings, visual materials, and short exploratory papers to examine themes relevant to the School's programs in Communication, Journalism, and Liberal Arts. The course, which meets once a week, is offered on a pass/no pass grading basis and may not be taken for a grade. Emphasis is placed on the identification of ideas and arguments present in the media and the ability to recognize, challenge, and defend the use of sources and other forms of evidence used by authors and other media producers.

Instructor(s): Justin Martin & Susan Pak

Prerequisites: ABP Dual Students only

- Open to ABP Dual Students only

INTERDIS 301-0 Doha Seminar 2014 Uneasy Cosmopolitans

This interdisciplinary, honors seminar brings together professors and students from all the EC colleges to discuss issues that may include Qatari and Gulf history, arts and culture, natural and human resources, education, regional and international foreign policy, geosciences, communication and media, and other topics in which the EC campus has special expertise. The thematic thread holding these issues together is a characterization of Gulf residents as "uneasy cosmopolitans". That is, Qatar and other Gulf nations have a long history of interaction with peoples of different technological capacities, religions and cultures. The challenges—as well as the opportunities—have become more urgent in the last three decades. Questions of home and identity, citizenry, rights and responsibilities, environmental impact of population and consumer growth, and cultural values have sparked a range of complex responses among host societies and expatriates recruited from the global south and north.

Instructor(s): Sandra Richards

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above

- Open for Cross-Registration
- Permission of the home Academic Dean is required.
- Registration for the course is by nomination of the program/school director

Religion 242-0 Islamic Intellectual History

This course examines the development of the classical Islamic scholarly disciplines (fanūn or ‘ulūm) central to the formulation of Muslim religious identity. We will focus on key intellectual disciplines such as jurisprudence (fiqh), Prophetic traditions (ḥadīth), Qur’anic exegesis (tafsīr), theology (kalām), philosophy (falsafa), and Sufism (taṣawwuf). Recurrent themes in the course include internal continuities and ruptures, disciplinary complementarity and competition, the social role of Islamic scholars (‘ulamā’), Orientalist critique, and the crisis of modernity. The course concentrates on the eighth to the twelfth centuries C.E., with some reference to the medieval and modern periods.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to freshmen and above
- Open for Cross-Registration