All first-year Honors students will take a section of UNIV 1784 (Honors First Year Seminar) in the fall. Students not registered for UNIV 1784 on the 10th day of classes will be eligible for dismissal from the Honors Program.

001 The Pursuit of Happiness: Explorations in Positive Psychology
Suzanne LaFleur

What leads to happiness, contentment, and life satisfaction? What can psychological science tell us about well-being and joy? Traditionally psychology has focused on problems and treatment. Positive psychology examines how people can flourish, thrive, and be happy. In this course, we will examine the psychological research on positive emotions and fulfilling lives. We will explore topics like joy, life satisfaction, compassion, gratitude, mindfulness, humor, and optimism. We’ll examine pop culture and societal influences and think critically about the methods used to study happiness. We will also consider the ways we can bring joy to our own lives. Join us as we strive to be happy and explore and reflect on the positive.

002 New Worlds of Geographic Information Science and Technology
Ken Foote

GPS, web-based maps, location-based services, phone-based navigation systems, LiDAR, and data gathered by satellites are revolutionizing the way we travel, communicate, shop, and live. The whole world is now literally at our finger tips on our smart phones. This course will allow you to dive into this broad field of Geographic Information Science and Technology (GIS&T). You’ll gain hands-on experience with a variety of these technologies and learn how they are being used for cutting-edge research and innovation in the sciences and humanities, in business and commerce, and across all levels of government.

004 The Forgotten Senses . . . How taste and smell influence your health and behaviors
Valerie Duffy

Taste and smell allow us to interact with the chemicals that drive our behaviors toward food, the environment and each other. Taste is more primitive — liking of sweet and disliking of bitter are present at birth. Yet taste responses to foods and beverages vary genetically, developmentally and as a result of injury, which influences what we like to eat and choose to eat. The sense of smell is more complex -- thought is required to identify what we smell, and elicit specific memories and emotional responses. Classic understanding of smell comes from experimental psychology, but recent advances have occurred in molecular genetics, culminating in the 2004 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Olfactory communication occurs in diverse species -- basic research has applications ranging from pest control to perfume development. In this course, we will discuss the basic science of taste and smell and how we apply this knowledge to questions about behavior and health.

005 Developing Personal Creativity for STEM Majors
Jaclyn Chancey

We tend to associate creativity with the arts, but high levels of achievement in any field—including the sciences—require creativity. Research publications, patents, solutions to engineering problems, and all other forms of innovation rely on your ability to go beyond what is already known: to CREATE. Psychological research has shown that creativity is not an innate trait. Join us as we develop the habits of creative people and see how they are applied in STEM fields. You may get a little messy in the process.
**Why Read?**

*Jason Courtmanche*

This course will explore the value we place upon reading and the role reading—especially reading literary fiction—should have in our lives. In particular, I want you all to be thinking about the role reading will have in your lives when you become engineers and mathematicians and business people. Will you continue to read literary texts? And if so, why?

We will focus on literary fiction that explores books, reading, and censorship. Each book we will read examines societies in which reading has been eliminated or severely curtailed, though for different reasons and through different means. I will ask you to consider if you see some of the forces in these books as being operative today in our world. (No surprise, but I think they are).

Required texts are *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood, and *The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink.

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**Buried, Brewed, and Briny: Korea’s Rich and Delicious Tradition of Fermentation**

*Anne Kim*

Fermented foods make up a significant portion of the human diet around the world, and while microorganisms are essential to the production of some of our favorite foods and beverages (coffee, bread, chocolate, cheese!) it can be easy to overlook the degree to which human, not just bacterial, culture is affected by the biochemical process of fermentation. In this course we will look at how cultural and culinary traditions are enhanced by fermented foods, focusing on Korean culture and cuisine in particular. We will investigate the bacteria and processes responsible for transforming cabbage and soybeans into staples of the Korean diet, and see how a 2000-year-old food tradition found its way to food trucks and outer space, playing a major role in South Korea’s gastrodiplomatic efforts. We will also participate in our own *kimjang*, the practice of making and sharing kimchi. Bring your inquisitive (and adventurous) palates!

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**The Art of College - Films, Fictions, and Facts**

*Jennifer Lease Butts*

*National Lampoon's Animal House* is a landmark 1978 film that arguably created the genre of the "college movie." More recent examples like *National Lampoon's Van Wilder* (2002), *Old School* (2003), *Accepted* (2006), *The House Bunny* (2008), *Pitch Perfect* (2012) and the sequel (2015), and *Monster's University* (2013), among many others, follow in similar footsteps. What do all of these films have in common? They are telling a story about college and the college experience. Most of us know that these portrayals of college life are not the full picture of college life, or part of it, or perhaps not it at all. So what is the college experience? In this course we will examine representations of college life in a variety of films and deconstruct film themes. As we do this, we will discuss the college you are coming to know as a new student here at UConn and encourage you to construct your own narrative about your college experience. Assignments include short papers, a presentation, and a creative project. In addition, we will cover basic aspects of film criticism to aid you as you work with these films and their subject matter.
People and Place

Eleanor Shoreman-Ouimet

The purpose of this course is to conduct an analysis of conservation - that is, how it is regarded, practiced, as well as how it is changing, and being studied within communities and across cultures and disciplines. Although social scientists are indeed rising to the call for increased attention to the environment, the truth is that there is a fundamental conflict of interest for social scientists concerned with the environment: people are the problem. In this course, we will examine the ways in which social scientists, specifically environmental anthropologists are attempting to study environmental damage and repair and seek out examples and ideas on how to reconcile the rifts between the study of people and the promotion of environmental well-being, as well as, social equity and ecological justice.

The Art of History in Ancient Greece

Joseph McAlhany

In this course we will read two foundational texts of history: The Histories by Herodotus, who is often called the “father of history,” and History of the Peloponnesian War by Thucydides, who is credited with elevating the narration of historical events into philosophical inquiry. While we will pay attention to the events they describe—from the defining conflict between the Greeks and Persians down to the war between Athens and Sparta that consumed the classical Greek world—we will also discuss the ways in which these historians shaped their material into a narrative, and how they influenced our understanding not only of the peoples and events narrated, but of history itself.

A Path of Papers

Olivier Morand

Students will read a set of seminal papers and works following a path through demography, economics, cosmology, art history, literature, poetry, physics (and more), and discuss their relevance to everyday life. Readings will include “The Anthropic Principle” (Scientific American, 1981), The Tragedy of the Commons by G. Harding, “On the Origin of Religion” (Science, 2009), and extracts from Basho’s poetry.

Digital Political Communication

David Atkin

In an interview in May 2017, Hillary Clinton lamented that the 2016 election was marked by the “weaponization” of emerging online communication channels (e.g., “Fake News”). Donald Trump is heralded as the first candidate to master the Twitter medium, following in the footsteps of Kennedy (Television) and FDR (Radio) in decades past. Sunstein writes about digital “information silos” that contribute to a coarsening of public discourse, which Susan Herbst terms “rude democracy.” These and other balkanizing trends are now seen as a threat to democracy. This course examines the theory and research underpinning the study of digital political communication. In particular, we address political implications of emerging digital “echo chambers” on the content and effects of political communication. The class encompasses contexts ranging from ongoing policy debates to empirical surveys of technology influence in the realms of politics, journalism and public opinion.

Jazz Music and Social Change

Earl Macdonald

Jazz musicians, through their music, have played an important role in promoting racial equality, shaping political consciousness, encouraging political activity, and strengthening the scope of social activism in America. An appreciation and understanding of jazz music will be fostered as we examine and discuss specific recordings and the sociopolitical circumstances which inspired these artistic statements.
014 Hellholes and Marvelous Faraways: Travel and Travelers Then and Now
Roger Celestin

“What is the point of moving when you can travel so magnificently sitting in a chair?” - J.K. Huysmans, Against the Grain
“What's the point of walking when you can travel by car?” - Bernard Olivier, The Long March

The course will examine a body of travel literature ranging from the Renaissance to the contemporary period and attempt to answer the following questions, among others: has travel -- its purpose, its practice, its methods, its meaning -- changed in the past few centuries? From the Romantic affirmation of Self as a means of subverting or criticizing Home, to the English gentleman’s “tour of the Continent” as “finishing school;” from the “going native” syndrome of the “ultimate travelers” to the cordoned-off “mass tourism” of today, what does travel tell us about what we do and who we are?

015 Sex and the Campus
Amanda Denes

Sexual activity is a part of many people’s college experience. And yet, sex is often considered a taboo topic and communication about sex and sexuality can be difficult. This course will discuss a range of topics related to sex and sexual communication. We will explore topics such as the effect of hook-up culture on sexual pleasure, communication about sexual likes and dislikes, friends with benefits relationships, pillow talk, and communication about safe sex. Class meetings will involve open and honest dialogue about sex and sexuality as it pertains to readings, documentaries, and popular media presented throughout the course. Assignments will include written reflections, student-led presentations, and a final project. Students who do not feel comfortable discussing material that is sexual in nature should not enroll in this course.

016 Reproducibility, Open Science, and You: How Can We Address the Replication Crisis in Science?
Rachel Theodore

In the halls of academia and in the popular press, it's been argued that modern-day science is facing a replication crisis that threatens to undermine the established knowledge base. In this seminar, we will explore issues of replication with an eye towards individual and institutional factors that may contribute to a replication crisis, the role of the internet and social media in bringing this crisis to light, and new best practices for fostering reproducibility as outlined in the Open Science Framework.

017 The Psychology of Time Travel and the Movies
James C. Kaufman
Paul Joseph Barnett

Time travel is a convention that has been used in film almost as long as there have been motion pictures. It has crossed every genre from science fiction to comedy to drama to romantic comedy. Countless movies have attempted to incorporate the concept of time travel into their narrative with varying levels of success and failure. This class will address some of the more common ways in which time is represented in film, some of the most fundamental concepts of time, the psychology impact of time travel, and the paradoxes and complications that could result from time travel. Films such as Somewhere in Time, 12 Monkeys, Looper, and Predestination will be the main focus, but there will be brief discussions of the manipulation of time in many other films.
018  **Science and Human Service**  
*Keat Sanford*

As you embrace the challenge of the undergraduate collegiate experience, you will find it is all about careful observation, experience, honesty, perseverance, reflection, and your wired and learned habits of character and mind. The purpose of this seminar is to orient you to the college experience, to get your feet on the ground, and to start you running with your interests, ambitions, goals, and promises to yourself. We will discuss biographies of exceptional people who pursued careers in the health professions. We will consider historical and inspirational figures such as Hippocrates, Galen, Vesalius, Harvey, Hunter, Laennec, Semmelweis, Virchow, Blackwell, Montessori, Taussig, Farmer and others.

019  **Bridging the Two Great Realms**  
*Robert Thorson*

Everything we do straddles the gap between the human and earthly realms. On one side lies *Homo sapiens*, i.e. business, society, and the arts & humanities. On the other lies a unified natural planetary system, i.e. the sciences. For the last fifteen years, Professor Thorson has been bridging these two realms as a regular op-ed columnist for the state’s flagship newspaper, the *Hartford Courant*, on topics dominating the news: climate change, extinction, sustainability, evolution, education, mining, energy, health, social media, ecology, etc. This seminar will be prompted by weekly readings of one or more columns followed by a friendly, free-ranging, and heated discussion informed by a knowledge of how the earth actually works.

020  **Economics as Story Telling**  
*Derek Johnson*

This class will explore our economic world through the writings of writers. Not textbook writers. From the financial crisis of the last decade, to why poor countries are poor to the economic importance of cities to why winners often regret winning (and much more), this class will tackle our world through narrative stories told by economists and non-economists alike.

021  **Mathematics, Political Representation, and Gerrymandering**  
*Myron Minn-Thu-Aye*

Gerrymandering, the drawing of electoral districts to manipulate the outcomes of elections, has generated significant political and legal debate, including multiple cases during the most recent term of the United States Supreme Court. How can gerrymandering be detected and quantified? This is where mathematics enters the picture! We will explore the geometry of electoral districts, the relationship between redistricting and demographic information, and the contributions of data science. Using this lens to study contemporary racial and partisan gerrymandering in the United States requires understanding the interplay between mathematics, politics, and the law. We will lend essential context to our mathematical insights by discussing election law, relevant court opinions, the 2018 midterm elections, and the significance of the 2020 census.

022  **Have Cell Phone Will Photograph**  
*Janet Pritchard*

*(Cell phone with high quality camera required.)*

Now that you have a kick-ass little camera in your pocket what are you going to do with it? That is the question that frames this course. Looking at cellphone photography within the context of fine art and documentary photography I challenge each of you to expand your horizons and reconsider your throw away photographs as part of a larger tradition of image making. What will you do with that knowledge?
Designing the Great Campus Space

John Alexopoulos

Students will be introduced to the landscape design process and explore what makes an outdoor space memorable. In teams, the students will design a significant campus space, one that is part of the current master plan. No experience in drawing is necessary.

Human Rights, Visual Culture and Digital Media

Michael Orwicz

This course explores the dramatic impact that digital media have had in the field of human rights and humanitarian advocacy. In less than a decade, the digital has changed how journalists, activists, investigators, legal and medical teams document and verify human rights violations and spread global awareness. More important, perhaps, is the way that digital culture has turned every one of us into potential actors in the field, creating and disseminating visual evidence of human rights abuses that has literally transformed the lives of tens of thousands. This class examines three topics: a) how pre-digital visual forms—photography, print media, etc.—inform today’s digital approaches; b) the variety of ways that human rights advocates use digital and social media; and c) the creative aesthetics that contemporary visual artists, using digital and social media, have developed to address human rights.

Scientists are Human Too

Tom Seery

Society has benefitted greatly from advances in science. But science is done by human beings and the human factor enters into the process at almost every point. Although the process of science is intended to be self-correcting, sometimes that takes longer than we would like. It took some time to uncover the true nature of such historical “discoveries” as N-Rays, Polywater, and Cold Fusion. But the persistence of skeptics eventually won out. Science is used in our courtrooms and to guide public policy—How do we apply standards to complex and highly technical topics when laymen must sit in judgment? In this course we will talk about some of the monumental failures of science as well as some of the more controversial ways in which science enters the public domain through the use of expert witness testimony, contributions to public policy and government regulation. Students in the course will work in groups to develop case studies and present their findings to the class.

Fairy Tales as Mirrors on the World: Reflections in Darkness and Light

Susanna Cowan

Fairy Tales: Rags-to-riches, brave deeds, overcoming the odds, magical help from fairies and animals, the triumph of good, happily ever after. Fairy tales: sinister temptations, cruel curses, deceptive appearances, menace everywhere, lost in the woods, happily ever after (?).

In this course we’ll try figure out just what it is about these stories that we have found so compelling across the centuries and across so many cultures and retellings. Is it the “timeless” themes? Is it the happy endings? (Are they always happy?) Do the anxieties of fairy tales (evil step-mothers, poison apples, dangerous forests, etc.) still somehow speak to us in 2018? How have modern story writers replayed and adapted these tales to underscore both fairy tale [sic] endings and darker undercurrents?

Be prepared to find time for both regular reading and viewing outside of class. Assignments will vary and include regular short written pieces.
027  Introduction to Native American Studies  
Barbara Gurr

Can you name ten famous Native Americans? How about five Native American reservations? This class considers music, poetry, art, film, and fiction as well as a brief study of Tribal law to better understand the history and contemporary lives of indigenous people in what is now called the United States, using events at Standing Rock Reservation in 2016 as our entry point.

028  Documenting the First-Year Experience  
Daniel Buttrey

(Digital camera or good-quality phone camera required.)
In this course, you’ll learn about digital photography while documenting your first semester at UConn. Topics covered will be an introduction to camera operations, compositional techniques, image editing, and documentary theory.

029  “Improv”ing Your Communication Skills!  
Rory McGloin

Communication skills are vital to enjoying success in our lives, careers, and personal relationships. This course will take a Communication centered approach to the study of improvisational acting. The primary goal of the course will be to help students develop their verbal and nonverbal communication skills by engaging in a wide variety of improvisational games and demonstrations. The course will provide students an opportunity to learn about foundational communication theories and best practices through a dynamic and exciting learning environment.

Objectives - This class is designed to:
- Develop verbal and nonverbal communication skills
- Help reduce anxiety surrounding public presentations and communication events
- Increase students ability to think critically about their communication
- Increase students ability to think and respond quickly when communicating
- Provide an overview of fundamental communication theories
- Provide instruction and demonstration on best practices in communication

101  Law, Lawyers & Society  
Peter Kochenburger

THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR AND OPEN ONLY TO STUDENTS IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN LAW.

Law shapes society and lawyers help shape the law; they are not neutral actors in its development and application. Laws and legal systems are often authoritative expressions of social values negotiated and then put into practice. They can, for example, protect unpopular opinions— even those most obnoxious to the majority – or serve as instruments of suppression and oppression. Most legal systems do both, including ours. We will explore how lawyers influence and utilize the legal system and what it means to be a lawyer in different settings and areas of law, including human rights, criminal law and representing or regulating businesses. The practice of law is described as a “profession,” but what does that really mean and how do lawyers embody this ideal? Students will play an important role in shaping this course and selecting some of the topics and issues we will discuss.
Foundations of Medicine and Dental Medicine
Keat Sanford

THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR AND OPEN ONLY TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN MEDICINE/DENTAL MEDICINE.

This course provides a broad survey of premedical and predental studies, the preparation for medical and dental school, residence and the professions. The class will address admissions requirements and procedures, academic coursework at the undergraduate and professional school levels, residency training, typical routines of medical and dental practice, and issues affecting the training of physicians and dentists in the United States. The course will follow the chronological sequence of a traditional student and examine how academic, experiential, interpersonal and social skills and professionalism attributes play an integral role in the development of a skilled health professional.

Special Program in Pharmacy I (Section 1 of 2)
Philip Hritcko

THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR AND OPEN ONLY TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN PHARMACY.

The course is designed for first-year pre-pharmacy students who have been admitted to the Special Program in Pharmacy through the university Honors program. In addition to orienting students to UConn and the Honors Program, including research opportunities in pharmacy practice and the pharmaceutical sciences, the course will introduce students to the profession of pharmacy including professional tracks, study abroad opportunities, pharmacy organizations, and pharmacy careers.

Special Program in Pharmacy I (Section 2 of 2)
Philip Hritcko

THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR AND OPEN ONLY TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM IN PHARMACY.

The course is designed for first-year pre-pharmacy students who have been admitted to the Special Program in Pharmacy through the university Honors program. In addition to orienting students to UConn and the Honors Program, including research opportunities in pharmacy practice and the pharmaceutical sciences, the course will introduce students to the profession of pharmacy including professional tracks, study abroad opportunities, pharmacy organizations, and pharmacy careers.