

Explore Honors:

HNR 310-01: Decoding Artifacts with Chemistry

Patrick Hare

MWF 10:00-10:50

This course introduces students to the ways that chemistry enhances the study of material remains from historical sites and objects. Students will consider the intersections of analytical chemistry, history, archaeology, spectroscopy, and materials science as they learn about a range of objects and sites that span hundreds of thousands of years and come from around the world and the Cincinnati area. In addition, student groups will choose both a local object or site to research and a method to share the results of that research. While there is no lab component, students will have the opportunity to spend some time in the chemistry department learning about techniques and instruments used in archaeological studies.

Natural World Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 311-01: Conservation in Global Parks

David Kime

TR 10:50-12:05

It is often said (even by this instructor!) that National Parks are “America’s Best Idea” and one of the United States’ most significant exports to the global community. But are these aphorisms true—particularly from a conservation perspective. This class will compare the conservation missions of US and global national parks. We will begin with Swiss National Park that was created from the beginning to strongly favor science-based wilderness conservation with a miniscule tourism footprint, as opposed to the self-competing mission of the US National Park Service that is charged with preserving AND providing access to natural and cultural resources. Students will find, review, and discuss conservation related research produced at national parks outside the US. We will use read and discuss ideas regarding how National Parks (US and globally) can move forward to address global conservation issues. Students will select, research, and present to class about current scientific research and conservation efforts in a non-US national park of their choice.

Natural World Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 320-01: City Parks/Urban Greenspace

Thomas Bowers

TR 12:15-1:40

How is a day in a city park different than a trip to the Smokey Mountains or Red River Gorge? In this course, we will answer that question by exploring the unique characteristics, experiences, and values related to city parks and urban greenspaces. These are spaces that offer more than a connection to nature. In fact, they offer a very different connection to nature, while also offering a connection to history and culture and a connection to community among other things. To get at these varying experiences we will visit several local parks, including the Fernald Preserve, Smale Riverfront Park and the Riverfront Commons on the Kentucky side of the river, and the "New Kenton County Park." We will also discuss the development of and plans for several proposed parks in northern Kentucky, including the Eons Adventure Park, to understand how these parks fit within the desire to enhance the green space, recreational opportunities, and overall quality of living in the region.

Society Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 321-01: Museums in Contemporary Society (ANT 311-001)

Judy Voelker

R 2:00-4:45

This course provides a broad prospective on museum issues and practices. In this class we will examine major museum and exhibit controversies, evaluate exhibits, as well study issues of memory, context, and visual display. Readings, discussion, visual and written assignments will explore the roles and dimensions of museums domestically and internationally. Students will also collaborate on an exhibit for the NKU Museum of Anthropology focusing on contemporary Native American issues.

Society Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 321-02: Is Love Blind? Reality Romance, Cultural Difference

Burke Miller

MW 2:00-3:15

Our course explores the hit reality TV show Love Is Blind as a sociocultural phenomenon, analyzing how different cultures engage with the show's concept of love, marriage, and human connection. We will examine international adaptations of the series—including versions from Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the UK, and the US—through the lens of cultural norms, gender roles, and societal expectations of romance and commitment. Using interdisciplinary perspectives from media studies and all of our gen ed courses, we will investigate how cultural values shape participants' behavior, communication styles, and relationship dynamics. More specifically, we want to understand how reality love reflects and challenges traditional matchmaking practices, explores the role of physical attraction, and impacts modern dating culture. By the end of the semester, we will see how Love Is Blind serves as both entertainment and a window into evolving global perspectives on love.

Society Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 322-01: True Crime Journalism (JOU 394-001)

Stacie Jankowski

TR 9:25-10:40

This class will explore the cultural phenomenon of true crime and society's fascination with crime and murder. Throughout the course we will explore the genre of true crime, the history and origins, and how it has evolved over the centuries. We'll examine and engage with true crime's many forms, from podcasts to docuseries to famous true crime novels. We will also delve into the world of true crime fan communities. By taking a deeper dive into some of these communities and issues, we will attempt to understand society's obsession with true crime.

Society Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 322-02: Collective Behavior and Social Movements (SOC 332-001)

Amanda Brockman

MW 2:00-3:15

This course focuses on activism, collective behavior, social movements, and relevant theory. Students will direct their learning about a particular social movement that they care about, however, all students will learn various social movement theories related to emergence and success. Students will then analyze their chosen movement of focus using social movement theories to generate novel insights. Given the instructor's expertise, theories will often be presented in relation to the contemporary K-12 teacher social movement (Red for Ed). Tactics, strategies, and approaches to effective activism will also be examined. Students will leave the course with a better understanding of how movements emerge, sustain, and actually make social change as well as how they can serve as impactful social change agents themselves.

Society Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 330-01: The Green Goodbye

Donelle Dreese

TR 12:15-1:30

Is it possible to think about death in a more positive way? Is there such a thing as a "good death"? This course will study the fast-growing movement of natural or "green" burial and how it can change our perceptions of death, dying, and bereavement. Our course readings and assignments will be linked with Cincinnati's only dedicated natural burial preserve, Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary in Pierce Township. Would you like to go for a hike at Heritage Acres or perhaps attend a fall volunteer workday to help plant trees? Or, would you enjoy creating land art or writing and journaling while walking an open prairie or woodland trail. This course will open the door to those opportunities, offer avenues for creative expression, and feature perspectives from people who are national experts in green burial.

Throughout the semester, we will investigate burial customs from a variety of different historical and cultural contexts, the environmental impact of modern burial practices, science and conservation perspectives, spiritual and religious influences, and the deep social inequities that exist within death care. What does it mean to have a "good death" and do all members of our society have access to one? We will begin with an exploration of the "death positive" movement and study where green burial fits into its vision. We will approach the topic of death holistically, as an emotional, spiritual, and biological event, and as an opportunity to understand one's regenerative birthright within the fundamental essence of being a living, breathing organism on this planet.

Humanities Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 331-01: Environmental Storytelling

Rhonda Davis

TR 1:40-2:55

This course is an introduction to the many ways the human environment relationship is expressed. We will examine environmental stories and art from a variety of voices, cultures, and perspectives. Students in this course will also explore the important reciprocal role science and the humanities play in service to environmental sustainability and how that impacts the human-environment relationship. Through a mapping project, that could take many different forms (papers, projects, videos, art installations, etc.), we will also express our own environmental experiences, values, and culture.

Humanities Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 332-01: Lost at Sea: History, Culture, and Science of Shipwrecks

Casey Kuhajda

MW 2:00-3:15

"There is nothing like a shipwreck," opines Jon Stewart, "to spark the imagination of everyone who was not on that particular ship." Archeologist David Gibbons puts it more earnestly: "Just as the mythologized Wild West was to be for Hollywood, shipwrecks (in the 18th century) were a stage on which people could be seen at their best and at their worst, where mortality was tested and where dignity and bravery could be imagined in face of certain death." Shipwrecks have inspired art and song for thousands of years. Today, modern science allows shipwrecks to serve as a portal to the past like never before. HNR332 will introduce students the standards and processes of scholarly inquiry and communication about knowledge, culture, and the arts from an interdisciplinary, humanities- and arts-based perspective. We will begin each module with a historical account of a shipwreck and branch out, considering the literature, art, economics, science and culture connected to each tale. Hands on research projects as alternatives to written papers will be encouraged. As we consider multi-disciplinary tales of Davy Jones' locker, the course will also emphasize research, analysis, critical thinking, and deliberative process as essential to creative practice, critical interpretation, and innovative problem-solving. Come sail the high seas of scholarly inquiry, as we consider how the literature, arts, and artifacts of shipwrecks illuminate both human history and the globalized society of today.

Humanities Cohort

Explore Honors:

HNR 394.001: Simulations in Healthcare

TR 3:05-4:20pm

Rami Leventhal

This course will provide insight into key strategies that will promote understanding of the foundations of simulation.

Participation in simulation sessions will allow exploration into the impact of simulation on education and healthcare. Students will spend the majority of their time in the Center for Simulation

Education where they will be hands-on with the various simulation modalities. These modalities include simulation manikins across the lifespan, simulation patient actors, virtual reality, and video technology. We will explore and participate in simulation best practice activities such as pre-brief, simulation development, and debriefing philosophies. The course will conclude with students creating and facilitating their own simulation scenarios.

Topics Courses

Explore Honors:

Capstones

Capstone Registration requests will be handled through the HNR 390 DEV Canvas site (for students who will start capstone in the fall) or through the HNR 490 course (for those currently in capstone).

If you are intending to start capstone in the fall and are not yet in the HNR 390 DEV Canvas site, please request to be added immediately.

Capstones