

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (IDS)

Course Descriptions

IDS 102. Urban Legends and American Society. 3 Credit Hours.

This course allows students to explore and study urban legends in American society as well as the various contexts in which these myths are placed. Students have the opportunity to interpret the symbolic and social significance of urban legends as well as analyze its shaping and criticism of American Society.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

IDS 107. Representations of Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality in U.S. Society. 3 Credit Hours.

Students will explore representation of race, class, gender, sexuality, and disability in American films, television programs, animation, music, journalism, advertisements, and other mediated culture products, from the early 20th century to the present. Students will analyze the ideological functions of mediated communication and rhetorical methods present in mediated representations of people and ideas. Students will also examine theories concerning the formation and maintenance of social hierarchies, and the ways individuals interact with media images.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

IDS 108. Movement Culture of 1960s America. 3 Credit Hours.

This course explores and analyzes the various aspects of politics and culture from multiple perspectives during the period surrounding and including the 1960s. Through research, exploration and analysis, this course focuses on politics, literature, history, film, and music and the various themes which characterized those years and the ways in which that decade shaped and changed American society.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

IDS 115. The Science and Value of Happiness. 3 Credit Hours.

What makes people happy and why? Through counseling, psychological and biological approaches to the study of happiness, this course examines personal values, the values of others, and how those values influence choice, lifestyle and behavior. The ability to critique the cultural, moral and ethical implications of being happy and how this relates to overall well-being, citizenship and personal growth is developed.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency

IDS 120. Science, Sci-Fi, Society and Cinema. 3 Credit Hours.

In this course, students utilize the basic language and analytical criteria of both Science and Cinema to investigate the portrayal of science and scientist in cinema. Portrayals real and imagined are explored to investigate dualities and how the quest for knowledge can lead to consequences and catalyst not so "scientifically detached" - at least not on film.

Prerequisites: Reading Proficiency