space availability for study groups as of 01/27/2013 10:30AM

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## Online Study Groups

### African-American Drama 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

Spaces available: 9  
Intro and Adv./Liberal  
Fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in The Arts - fully

**Online Study Group**

We will study a wide range of 20th and 21st century plays written by African-American playwrights including Lorraine Hansberry, LeRoi Jones/Amiri Baraka, Adrienne Kennedy, Ntozake Shange, George C. Wolfe, Suzan-Lori Parks, August Wilson and Anna Deavere Smith. We will learn about each of these seminal playwrights and the contributions each of them made to US theater. We will also explore how these plays relate to US culture, history, and politics as you consider how race, gender, sexuality and class are reflected in these works. What is an “online study group?” Students will participate in weekly discussions via ANGEL or Moodle and will utilize ANGEL or Moodle for the delivery of course content. The study group will meet online together via Blackboard Collaborate (or similar system) roughly every two weeks for an hour. This online time will allow students and the instructor to engage in conversations about the films and readings synchronously. The online meeting time for this study will be established based on the schedules of the students in the study. Students should contact the instructor at Cynthia.Bates@esc.edu or by phone at (518) 388-0483.

### American Women in the Literary Imagination 4 cr with Anastasia Pratt

Spaces available: *CLOSED*  
Adv./Liberal  
Fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Humanities - fully

**Online Study Group**

In recent weeks, "chick lit" has been at the center of a high-profile media war. Pulitzer Prize for Fiction winner Jennifer Egan set off the maelstrom by making thinly veiled references to the “derivative, banal stuff” written by women and by urging young female writers to “shoot high and not cower.” Jennifer Weiner called Egan out for her comments, raising questions about how the popular and critical reception of works by women writers, how women writers are categorized (where does that phrase “chick lit” come from anyway?), and how the notion that all women writers focus on the trivial and inconsequential (with its corresponding implication that all male writers steer away from the trivial in order to create high literature) is erroneous. This study will probe the category of “chick lit,” looking at the literary history of women writers and the emergence of popular American fiction written by women. We will examine the manner in which critical reception of works by women differs from that of works by men and evaluate the validity of those responses. As well, we will look for the literary, artistic, and cultural allusions within the chosen novels, seeking a full and contextualized understanding of the genre and of the individual works.

### Database Systems 4 cr with Mete Cetiner

Spaces available: *CLOSED*  
Adv./Non-Liberal  

**Online Study Group**

In this study, you will learn about the fundamentals of databases and become familiar with a series of core concepts (e.g., data modeling and normalization) and design principles and techniques. The study will help you gain hands-on experience in querying database data with Structured Query Language (SQL) and develop skills in designing, implementing, and managing multiuser database systems. You will also learn about data warehouse and data mart databases and their supporting role in business intelligence (BI) systems. Prerequisite: Computer Applications (or equivalent)

### Human Resource Management (online study group) 4 cr with Kathy Tarrant

Spaces available: *CLOSED*  
Adv./Non-Liberal  

**Online Study Group**
The Human Resource Management (HRM) function has undergone substantial changes from the traditional HR function to one that can now be integrated to help achieve an organization’s strategic initiatives. As the authors of the text, Human Resource Management: Gaining a Competitive Edge, suggest, "...HRM practices can and should contribute to business goals and help to improve product and service quality and effectiveness" (Noe, pg. viii). The purpose of this study is to examine the major functions of HRM including the HR environment, HR acquisition and preparation, assessment and development of HR, employee motivational theories, theories of human and intellectual capital, and other special topics in a context of how each of these functions can provide a competitive advantage for an organization. The study will be supplemented with internet resources, case studies, and journal articles to provide a contemporary examination of actual HRM practices in today’s corporations.

Introduction to Adobe Dreamweaver 4 cr with Mete Cetiner
spaces avail. *CLOSED* Intro/Non-Liberal

In this study, you will gain hands-on experience with Adobe Dreamweaver and learn how to use that web authoring and editing software to design, develop, and maintain standards-based Web sites. Prerequisite: You should have a working knowledge of HTML, CSS, and computer operating systems. Required software: Adobe Dreamweaver CS6

Shakespeare on Film 4 cr with Cynthia Bates
spaces avail. 14 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir The Arts - fully

Shakespeare’s plays are excellent pieces of literature but they were originally performed live by actors. Today, more people see Shakespeare’s work through film than any other medium. This study examines seminal film productions of various Shakespeare plays including (but not limited to) Henry V, Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing, Hamlet, Richard III, Othello, and As You Like It. Students will read these plays and then watch assigned films to analyze how these films bring the worlds created by Shakespeare to life for contemporary film audiences. Literary criticism and film criticism will help us along on our journey as students consider how scholars and critics have also reacted to these important cinematic works. What is an “online study group”? Students will participate in weekly discussions via ANGEL or Moodle and will utilize ANGEL or Moodle for the delivery of course content. The study group will meet online together via Blackboard Collaborate (or similar system) roughly every 2 weeks for an hour. This online time will allow students and the instructor to engage in conversations about the films and readings synchronously. The online meeting time for this study will be established based on the schedules of the students in the study.

Women, Art & Peace 4 cr with Anastasia Pratt
spaces avail. *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Humanities - fully

This blended study will explore the manner in which women use art to promote peace and the manner in which images of women are used to promote peace. In order to understand the use of art to promote peace, we will consider the distinctions between art and craft, the role of traditional craft work within the art world, the expanding use of both art and craft within peace movements, and the role of women (and their art and craft work) within those peace movements. Additionally, the study will consider how images of women are used to promote peace. The manner in which women are represented speaks to the goals of particular movements, the membership of groups, and the nature of the struggle for peace and justice. A sense of how women’s images are created and used is important, then, to understanding how women use art to promote peace. Students in this study will be expected to read a variety of articles and at least one academic book focused on art and peace. They will also be expected to learn about a variety of artists, their styles and techniques, and their commitment to peace. Over the course of the term, students will develop a learning portfolio that will include definitions, brief biographies of influential artists, descriptions of important works of art, and a research paper focusing on one theme or era within the wider field of women, art, and peace. Students may take this study to fulfill the Humanities OR the Arts general education requirement, not both.

Women’s Health Issues 4 cr with Cathy Davison
spaces avail. 14 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Natural Sciences - fully
In this advanced level study, students will explore the reasons why women cannot be considered simply "small men" in terms of their normal physiology and diseases/conditions that affect their lives (heart disease, diabetes, menopause, dementia, depression, cancer, -- to name a few). Students also will apply the knowledge gained from reading a women’s health text to analyzing publications of primary clinical trials on women’s health. A current working knowledge of human biology/physiology and strong critical thinking and writing skills are required for successful completion of this course.
Albany Study Groups

Mondays

Cross Cultural Perspectives on Social Aging  4 cr  with Joseph Yogtiba
spaces avail.  15    Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22
This study will introduce the field of social gerontology, and include the following basic issues: the process of aging and senescence; historical view of aging; major physiological, psychological and social consequences of aging; selected social theories of aging, such as role theory, activity theory, disengagement theory, and continuity theory; old age as a stage in the developmental cycle and related theories; demographic trends among the older population and their impact on society, social attitudes towards the elderly and ageism. The study will focus on analyses of similarities and differences in perspectives and perceptions of aging (and the elderly) among selected cultures/societies.

Harry Potter & the Wizarding World of the Entertainment Industry  4 cr  with Cynthia Bates
spaces avail.  11    Intro and Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Humanities - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb. 25, March 4, March 18, April 1, April 15, April 29
Welcome to the Hogwart’s Express! In this study, you will consider the Harry Potter books and how they were adapted into films by Warner Brothers for international audiences. You will also look at how Harry Potter has become a marketing sensation by investigating how Harry Potter souvenirs, parties, costumes and more have become common household items for so many people. And of course, the Hogwart’s Express would not be complete without stopping off at the Harry Potter Theme Parks in Orlando and London. All aboard!

History of Social Welfare  4 cr  with Joseph Yogtiba
spaces avail.  13    Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  2/4, 3/4, 3/18, 4/1, 4/15, 4/29
The study provides an historical background of social welfare institutions and practices from medieval European times to the passage of the Elizabethan Poor Laws (1601) in England. The study principally will examine salient events in the evolution of social welfare institutions in the United States from Colonial times to the present. This includes in-depth analyses of watershed events such as the Great Depression, The New Deal, as well as dominant social values and sociopolitical events that influenced the development of social welfare policy and institutions in the United States.

Diversity in the Workplace  4 cr  with Joan Harrington
spaces avail.  3    Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/22, 2/5, 2/19, 3/5, 3/19, 4/2,4/16, 4/30
In this study the intent is to learn about an important contemporary issue, workplace diversity. Its distinctness comes from the fact that the current United States workforce is very different from the one that existed 50 or even 30 years ago. The workplace population has shifted and the expectations are that this trend will continue. Understanding these changes and the impact that they have on the work environment are the focal points for this study. Workplace diversity has economic importance as well as social significance. This differs from Equal Employment legislation and Affirmative Action approaches that can be said to have a moral and humane basis. Understanding and clearly articulating this distinction is a major goal of this study. Over the course of the study, we will examine various elements of discrimination, bigotry and stereotyping within the workplace. This will involve a view of corporate culture, legal reviews and legislative action as well as textual material. We will approach this subject by looking at business practices and how they relate to respect for people and their uniqueness and to the multidimensional diversity of humankind and the power that this holds. By the end of the study, we will develop and review how to approach workplace diversity constructively in order to impact productivity and competitiveness.

Tuesdays

Dreams, Creativity & Problem Solving: The Unheard Self Speaks  4 cr  with Richard Gotti
spaces avail.  6    Intro and Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
We spend a third of our lives asleep, and a third of that dreaming. That is a lot of time to spend with our eyes closed, but our minds are wide open! Free from conventional logic, our minds play with ideas at night that cannot reach our consciousness during a busy day, sparking novel approaches to creativity and problem-solving. In our dreams, messages from our unconscious come to us in many ways -- visually, metaphorically and literally. Dreams have produced creative breakthroughs in the arts, literature, science and sports, as well as in personal problem solving. Learn how others have used their dreams creatively, and how you can listen when the unheard parts of yourself speak. Some background in psychology is useful, but this study is for anyone interested in dreams and creativity. Introductory and advanced levels will be accommodated. This study fully meets the Social Sciences general education requirement.

No Ordinary Time: America in the Depression Years (1929-1941) 4 cr with Christopher Grill
spaces avail. 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir American History - fully

This study will offer a comprehensive overview of one of the most trying and transformative decades in American history: the 1930s. Key social, cultural, economic, and political events and developments during this era will be explored. Topics to be addressed include the collapse of the old order and emergence of a new “school” of economics; the immediate impact and lasting legacies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal; how the Great Depression challenged and to some degree reshaped core American values, beliefs, and institutions; the emergence of a “golden age” in American popular culture during a time of terrible hardship and deprivation; and the ways in which this period still speaks to us today. Students will be encouraged to choose a topic of special interest to them for their primary research assignment.

Social Research Methods 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn
spaces avail. 14 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully

The purpose of this study is to introduce students to Social Research Methods. The study will cover 3 main areas of Social Research: Elements, Design and Measurement and Modes of Observation. In this study, students will learn about the logic of social inquiry and how research is conducted to inform policy and decision-making in a variety of social settings. Topics covered include: basic research ethics, experiments, surveys, reliability and validity, analysis, evaluation and presentation methods.

Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn
spaces avail. 11 Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully

This study is designed to provide students with a substantial understanding of social policies and the social welfare system in the United States. Rational and political frameworks for policy analysis are developed across multiple areas of social welfare policy including poverty, disability, welfare, hunger, healthcare, education, employment, services for children and elderly, and policies surrounding mental illness and substance use. The study will explore issues of diversity in terms of social welfare policies directed at achieving racial equality, civil rights and gay rights. Students will examine ethical issues of policy making and policy implementation. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the role of politics and policy in the delivery and sustenance of human rights and social and economic justice.

The Non-Profit Organization: How Is it Managed? 4 cr with Joan Harrington
spaces avail. 12 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully

This study is a critical review of the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations. In particular, the student will examine the structure and management approach within which these organizations function. Additionally we will explore the manner in which a nonprofit organization is viewed or perceived, setting up expectations for the way in which it should operate. The underlying premise for this study is that billions of dollars have been donated to charities. With this economic influx, one would expect to see a diminishment of poverty, an end to life threatening diseases such as cancer or AIDS, or a substantial lessening to homelessness in the U.S. Yet we are still very far from reaching these goals. Why?

Communication & Self-Expression in the Digital Age 4 cr with Lisa D'Adamo-Weinstein
spaces avail. 14 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Basic Communications - fully
This study group will explore the impact of digital technologies on communication and self-expression. Students will engage in activities using free social networking and digital sharing technologies (Wikis, Blogs, Facebook, YouTube, Photosharing, etc.), will look at current technologies people “can’t live without,” and will explore practical, social, and theoretical implications of how technology has influenced how humans communicate and the expectations we now have to be “plugged in” 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will address these issues from several frames of reference including education, media, business/advertising, and family.

Critical Thinking & Writing 4 cr with Claudia Hough
Spaces avail. 2 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham  Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

This study will guide students to explore the important thinking concepts introduced through provocative, informative readings drawn from various sources; to engage in structured, analytical writing assignments; and to explore the topics through thoughtful exchange of ideas in dialogue with others. Students will have the opportunity to organize information, interpret different perspectives, analyze complex issues, and master the technical aspects of writing in order to articulate their thinking with clarity and precision.

Ethics in the Public Sector 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn
Spaces avail. 10 Adv./Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham  Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

Public sector professionals face a host of ethical issues everyday, whether they realize it or not; and decisions made by public sector practitioners have consequences in the lives of real people. This study is designed to facilitate students in developing an understanding of ethics for practicing public sector decision-making. We will take the approach that moral philosophy is an activity that allows individuals to think critically about what we can know, how we should act, and what type of service delivery and governance is best for us. To this end, this study will allow students the opportunity to study major ethical frameworks, and relevant applications in the evaluation of competing options and optimal decision-making.

History of Women as Healers 4 cr with Joan Harrington
Spaces avail. 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Other World Civilizations - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham  Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/23, 4/6, 4/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1

This study is an examination of women as healers within an historical context. You will develop a definition of healing and focus on the impact of women’s efforts and influence within this context. Special attention will be directed to witchcraft and its societal impact, as well as the economic and political ramifications of the witchhunts expanding the 15th-19th centuries. Your overall examination of women healers will expand into more contemporary times (20th century) and assess the position of women as healers in the Western world.

Political Deception & Discontent: Understanding Contemporary American Political At 4 cr with Christopher Grill
Spaces avail. 12 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Social Sciences - fully

Troy Unit, Rice Building, 216 River Street  Wednesdays 5:45-8:30 p.m.  2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/24

Did you know that only about 50% of eligible voters vote in presidential elections (and merely 25% in congressional races), while trust in government has plummeted? Or that civic participation in America has declined over the same period that the concentration of wealth has risen dramatically and wages have stagnated, to the point where there is now greater economic inequality in the U.S. than in any other advanced democracy? All the while public opinion surveys consistently show that many Americans know very little about their system of government and political process. Why are we so disenchanted with yet so poorly informed about politics? Why do so many citizens appear to support policies and leaders that may not be in their best interest? In this study we will examine some of the forces that may explain these paradoxes, including: the psychological roots of (political) self-deception; the shaping of public opinion in the media and in political messaging; the obstacles to being an “informed citizen” in modern society; and the impact of “new media” (such as talk radio and the Internet) on people’s political attitudes and beliefs. We will also consider what, if any, solutions there are to these dilemmas. Advanced level critical thinking and writing skills are required.

Spanish 4 cr with Patricia Apuzzo
Spaces avail. 13 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Foreign Language - fully
This study, which has a significant online component, has been designed for students who have had no previous experience with Spanish language and culture. Students will have the opportunity to learn functional grammar, vocabulary and cultural concepts which they can apply in interactions at work, with clients, or during travel. All language skills will be practiced: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

The Art & Craft of Business Case Study  2 cr  with Desiree Roberts
spaces avail.  13  Intro/Non-Liberal

This study is designed to give the students an understanding of the business case study method. Business case study is integral to most undergraduate business coursework and to all graduate level business study. As a participant in this study, students will learn how to analyze business cases, beginning with SWOT Analysis. The Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats which the student recognizes when reading the case. These 4 elements form a foundation for understanding the subject case. After identifying the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the subject cases, an analysis is done to determine not only the cause of the student identified case problems, but also offer a suitable, possible solution. In addition, students will learn how to design and write a case narrative which explains the case situation(s) and provides the reader with a synopsis of the case, including the aforementioned problem(s) and suggested solutions. This study aids in the further development of critical thinking and also gives students exposure to business study elements in actual “real life” situations.

Urban Studies  4 cr  with Nadine Wedderburn
spaces avail.  15  Adv./Liberal

A common perspective of urban affairs is that urban issues deal with events that take place in cities or metropolitan regions. However, this perspective reflects only a partial understanding. This study is an interdisciplinary survey of urban affairs. In this study, we examine key questions about cities and suburbs from the vantage point of different fields, highlighting how the questions (and answers) can be shaped by variations in method, history, philosophy, and style. In addition to areas like public health, transportation and education, we explore such topics as urbanization, social relations and ideals of community, urban facets of migration and immigration, identity, social inequality, the role of space and place, and political power and decision-making.

Wellness: Mind, Body & Spirit  4 cr  with Cathy Davison
spaces avail.  3  Intro and Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Basic Communications - partially

Wellness means more than being disease-free. Using an interdisciplinary approach to wellness, we will learn how to achieve a healthy balance between body, mind and spirit. We will discover what contributes to well-being, longevity, peace of mind and mental acuity across cultures. In addition, we will experience writing as a tool for self-discovery and learn to develop healthy habits of mind. This study requires students to attend 6 meetings, 2 hours each meeting, and to complete assignments between meetings. This course is being offered at the introductory and advanced levels. Students should check with their primary mentor to determine the appropriate level prior to enrolling.

Wellness: Mind, Body & Spirit  4 cr  with Claudia Hough
spaces avail.  18  Intro and Adv./Liberal

Wellness means more than being disease-free. Using an interdisciplinary approach to wellness, we will learn how to achieve a healthy balance between body, mind and spirit. We will discover what contributes to well-being, longevity, peace of mind and mental acuity across cultures. In addition, we will experience writing as a tool for self-discovery and learn to develop healthy habits of mind. This study requires students to attend 7 meetings, 2 hours each meeting, and to complete assignments between meetings. This course is being offered at the introductory and advanced levels. Students should check with their primary mentor to determine the appropriate level prior to enrolling.

Women in the Middle East  4 cr  with Karen Garner
spaces avail.  14  Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Other World Civilizations - fully
Students will study the history of women in the Middle East throughout the 20th and into 21st centuries, with discussions of the roles of Middle Eastern women in the recent social movement known as the “Arab Spring.” This study will examine and compare the histories of women in the Middle Eastern countries in relation to religious traditions, family life, work life, imperialism and nationalism, international feminism, and women’s bodies. We will discuss significant debates within the field of women’s history, global feminist theory, and post-colonial studies as they apply to what we study and how we study Middle Eastern women. Study group sessions will include discussions, small group work, viewing DVDs, and individual research projects. This study also addresses the “comparative perspective” and “theoretic perspective” guidelines for students designing degrees in the Social Theory, Structure and Change area of study. And, it includes cross-cultural and historical perspectives addressing questions of gender, class, and race that should be included in degree plans in the Cultural Studies area of study.

American Art: The New World to the Modern World 4 cr with Anthony Anadio
spaces avail. 12
21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 4/4, 4/18, 5/2
American Art: The New World to the Modern World is designed to introduce students to the study of America from its founding in 1607 through the 1960s by looking at art. We will predominantly center our focus on paintings, which are more than images of people, places, and things (and sometimes not even those) - they represent an artist’s and/or a society’s values. How artists gradually found a place in American culture and how art became a profession in an evolving nation are key themes we will explore in order to understand how art both reflected and directed particular periods in history. From very humble beginnings in the 17th century, American art ultimately displaced Paris as the center of the art world in the post-WWII era. Throughout that trajectory, there were incredible successes, raging controversies, and numerous struggles for dominance, as artists, patrons, critics, and the public made and remade their place in American society. Students do not need any specialized knowledge in order to take this study, and in fact anyone can learn how to look at art and grasp its many meanings. The essential task is learning how to think about art. This study fulfills the general education requirement for the Arts, and because historical context is so important, it also fulfills the general education requirements for American History.

Art, Music & History 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio
spaces avail. 9
21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-07:30 p.m. 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25
Art, Music and History 1 is a survey of European culture from ancient Greece through the Renaissance, which examines the many historical contexts that underlie art and music. Students do not need any background in the arts, as this is a course we will build from the ground up by first exploring the questions: What is art? Is it necessary? Where does it come from? Why is it important? And What does it mean? Our world is filled with art and music, and it did not get that way by accident. Broadly speaking, this is a course about cultural history, or how people live their lives in society -- what they think, what they value, and what they do. If you can understand these basic ideas within your own life, then you will be able to understand them in history and vice versa. Although our focus here is on the arts, it is important to emphasize that we will study them within the political, social, economic, and technological backgrounds from which they sprang and which they also influenced. Hopefully, you will see art, music, history and the world around you in ways you never thought possible.

Enhancing the Academic Eye: Multiple Perspectives on Thinking & Learning 4 cr with Kate Stockton
spaces avail. 10
21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jan 24, Feb 7, 21, March 7, 21, April 4 &18
The purpose of this study is to sharpen students’ abilities to read, think, and communicate effectively and critically in academic contexts through writing and other formats of presentation (PowerPoint & Public Speaking). The focus will also include academic/information literacy research strategies applied to the content of another academic study or to a topic agreed upon by the instructor and student. Movement from basic to more advanced development of both the mind set and skill set needed to think critically and engage in sophisticated analysis of issues are the key desired learner outcomes of the study.

Ethics in the Workplace 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy
spaces avail. 8
21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jan 23; February 6; February 20; March 6; March 20; April 3; April 17; May 1
Ethics in the Workplace 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy
This study will examine moral issues related to the workplace from a philosophical perspective. Major aspects of these issues will be identified and analyzed using basic analytical methods of philosophy to include, for example, conceptual clarification, testing logical implications, evaluating arguments for soundness, and evaluating for coherence and consistency with ethical theories. This study will provide students with the opportunity to engage in basic philosophical reflection on ethical problems in the workplace. This study will also examine ethical theory and its application to business, theories of economic justice, corporate social responsibility, self-regulation and government, conflicts of interest and obligation, and truth in advertising. Students will be expected to learn how business ethics involves corporate philosophy and management behavior. Students will also examine a number of important social issues related to the conduct of business in modern society. Prerequisites for advanced level credit include either an introductory course in ethics, prior coursework that included ethics, an introductory philosophy course (with a substantial section on ethics), or ethics training on the job. This advanced level course covers historical perspectives in ethics and ethical theory. This study meets the Business, Management and Economics (BME) guideline for Ethical and Social Responsibility. It also meets the SUNY general education requirement for the Humanities.

Information Technology, Ethics & Society 4 cr  with Mete Cetiner
spaces avail. *CLOSED*  Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - partially
21 British American Blvd.  Thursdays 3:30-5:30 p.m.  1/31, 2/13 (Wednesday), 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25

In this study, we will evaluate the impact of information technology (IT) on our lives and society, and we will examine how we use current IT applications for different purposes. The study will also provide you with an understanding of the fundamental principles of ethics. You will analyze a series of cases and real-life situations where individuals or organizations face social or ethical dilemmas, or legal sanctions in relation to the use of IT in different environments. By exposing you to a wide range of complex issues, our study will help you improve your critical-thinking and problem-solving skills so that you will be able to make effective observations and ethical decisions to overcome challenges caused by IT in your personal and professional lives.

Introduction to Bellydance 4 cr  with Erika Ihara
spaces avail. 15  Intro/Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir The Arts - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Thursdays 6:00-9:00  1/24, 3/31, 2/14, 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25

The purpose of this study is to explore the vast and richly diverse dance form popularly known as bellydance through multiple learning approaches. Students will build knowledge about regional forms of Middle Eastern dance and its historic influences through at-home reading and film viewing, weekly in-class discussions, and a series of written assignments. In addition, students will be introduced to basic bellydance technique in a biweekly dance lab. This study will consist of 10 discussion sessions of 2 hours each and 8 dance lab sessions each lasting one hour. Women and men with an interest in the topic are encouraged to enroll. No previous dance experience necessary! Workout wear or other non-restrictive clothing is required for the dance lab sessions.

Quantitative Reasoning 4 cr  with Amy Salvati
spaces avail. *CLOSED*  Intro/Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Mathematics - fully
21 British American Blvd., Latham  Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m.  1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18, 5/2

This introductory level study will develop the ability to interpret and reason with information that involves mathematical ideas or numbers. As students explore issues that directly affect their lives, they will gain an appreciation of mathematics and its importance in a technological world. Topics will be chosen from statistical reasoning, symmetry and proportion, mathematical modeling, probability, and geometry. These topics will cover the required general education competencies of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, data analysis, and quantitative reasoning. Applications of mathematics to the social sciences, environmental issues, business, art, and music will be featured.

Introduction to Guitar & Guitar Music 4 cr  with Anthony Anadio
spaces avail. 10  Intro/Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir The Arts - fully
Have you ever wanted to play guitar? Or if you already play, would you like to unlock its historical mysteries? Look no further! In this study group we will embark on a musical journey through time by looking at the evolution of guitar music, the acoustical properties of wood, the mechanics of guitar construction, and the physics of sound and music. All you need is a guitar and the desire to have fun as you learn. Is there some hesitation on your part? Let me allay your fears -- no previous experience is necessary; you do not need to know how to read music; and you will not be required to perform in front of the group. Come eager to learn; leave a guitar hero (that is, if you practice, practice, practice!).

_____________________ Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published _____________________

Cognitive Processing & Irrational Thinking  4 cr  with Sylvain Nagler
spaces avail.  *CLOSED*     Adv./Liberal        fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

As much as we might wish it to be otherwise, there is considerable psychological research data to indicate that not all of our decision making is as rational as we might prefer to believe. A similar disconnect exists in making assessments about the behavioral decisions of others. Still, we proceed, mostly without being aware, with making perceptions and engaging in choices that are, in fact, not rational. In this study we will probe into some of the psychological processes and underlying motives that sustain this thinking and reward us sufficiently to continue with this pattern of deception. We will be reviewing a host of experimental findings, theoretical analyses and engage in a series of exercises in order to enhance our understanding and appreciation of these cognitive processes and some of their outcomes. The study is designed to provide enhanced insights our into understanding and explaining the behavior of others in a wide variety of social settings. Advanced level critical thinking and writing skills are required.
Enriching Writing Skills  4 cr  with Robert Congemi
spaces avail.  15    Intro/Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in Basic Communications - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

This study will focus on the skills necessary to become a more confident and proficient writer at the college level. Students will learn the steps in the writing process from pre-writing to final revised essays and become familiar with writing concepts. They will also engage in further developing grammar, sentence building, usage and punctuation skills, as well as organizing and developing paragraphs and essays for academic writing assignments.
American History & Social Policy: History & Hypocrisy of Separating Church & State  4 cr  with Ralph English
spaces avail.  *CLOSED*
Intro and Adv./Liberal   fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req in American History - fully

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***

This study will examine the history of the role religion has played in developing public and social policy since the inception of the United States. For example, prior to the Civil War, scripture was used to both justify and condemn slavery. This study will explore how several groups have used religion in order to advance their ideologies and transform social and public policy. This is a study group for the Johnstown Unit. It will meet on Tuesdays from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, every two weeks for 8 meetings over the course of the 15 week term. This study fully satisfies the SUNY general education requirement for American History OR the Humanities, not both. Students should contact the instructor, Ralph English, at Ralph.English@esc.edu to choose introductory or advanced, American History OR Humanities.
Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

“the illustrated man” - Sci-Fi, Metaphors & Ray Bradbury 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden
space avail. *CLOSED*  Intro and Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir The Arts - fully

111 West Avenue, Saratoga Springs  Mondays 5:30-6:30 p.m.  1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29

This studio course facilitates a study of drawing via the genre of science-fiction. Together we will explore the ways in which metaphors emerge, giving visual representation to same, within a quintessential work of the genre’s central figure/work -- Ray Bradbury’s the illustrated man. The focus of the study will center on the following -- key compositional images that are compelling and imaginative; an environment that reflects a story’s premise; the development of appropriate symbolism and mood; the researching of historical motifs; the expansion of drawing techniques; and the creation of a narrative flow. We will work collaboratively to present, in a visual fashion, Bradbury’s 18 short stories. The study will deal with drawing in various materials to include charcoal, pencils, conte crayons, and ink.

Advanced Drawing 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden
space avail. *CLOSED*  Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir The Arts - fully


This studio course is for the student with drawing experience, one who has a firm foundation in the fundamentals of drawing. The continual practice of drawing provides us with a heightened response to the visual world, one that is both subjective and objective. Through direct observation via the human figure and still-life, the student will build on his/her technical skills necessary to produce a meaningful and expressive translation of a 3-dimensional image onto a 2-dimensional surface. Emphasis will be placed on the following: the underlying conceptual structures of perceptual relationships; pictorial traditions; procedures; and a personal direction via an exploration of the poetic and metaphoric potential of form.

Dynamic Earth: An Introduction to Earth Science 4 cr with Linda Jones
space avail. *CLOSED*  Intro/Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Natural Sciences - fully

111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs  Mondays 6:00-8:00p.m.  2/4, 2/25, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8

From volcanic eruptions to earthquakes, disappearing geologic resources to diminishing potable water resources, intensification of severe weather events to global climate change, the natural physical environment undergoes constant change that impacts human populations and natural ecosystems around the world. To better understand the dynamic interactions driving these patterns of change, this study is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the physical and chemical processes operating within natural environmental systems and explore the ways these basic processes shape the world in which they live. Students will examine processes of mineral, rock, and soil formation, stream formation, and mountain building, which shape the physical environments on Earth. They will explore processes which contribute to annual forest fires and mudflows in California, volcanic eruptions in the Pacific Northwest, Iceland, and Indonesia, and earthquakes along the San Andreas Fault, along the Ring of Fire, and in the Caribbean. Students will learn why meteorologists now frequently forecast “tornado outbreaks” instead of “a tornado,” why urban areas are increasingly susceptible to heat waves, why decade-long drought has become the norm in north central Africa, and why the state of the ocean impacts the quality of terrestrial life. Particular attention is devoted to the exploration of the inherent global interconnectedness of natural environmental systems and human interactions with the physical environment. Students will consider the ways environmental challenges, like global warming, acid precipitation, desertification, deforestation, natural hazards, and limited natural resources, transcend political, economic, religious, and cultural boundaries. Students will meet approximately every 2 weeks at the Saratoga Springs unit to discuss weekly readings and assignments, participate in short field or laboratory exercises, and/or watch films related to reading topics.

Unsolved Crimes: Forensic Science in Historic Cases 4 cr with Thomas Jones
space avail. 8  Intro and Adv./Liberal  fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
This study examines cases that have captivated observers for years, including Jack the Ripper, the Jon Benet Ramsey murder, the Black Dahlia, Dr. Sam Sheppard (the case that inspired The Fugitive), the Zodiac Killer, O.J. Simpson, the Cleveland Torso Killer (was this connected with the Black Dahlia?), and others. Rather than simply using conjecture, as is common in popular books on these cases, we will utilize methodologies and theories from forensic science to develop new ideas and test hypotheses put forth by others who have looked at the same cases. In some cases, we will attempt to determine how methods that were not available at the time might be used to re-examine evidence that may have been missed -- could modern methods help determine if Jack the Ripper was right- or left-handed and perhaps how tall he (or perhaps she) was, or the shape of the weapon/item used in the murders? Could pollen analysis have provided definitive proof of guilt or innocence in the O.J. Simpson case? Might there have been hidden DNA evidence in the Zodiac cases that has since degraded as items sit in boxes? In other cases, we will try to determine how mistakes were made and how evidence can be re-evaluated once it has been weakened by errors -- the Jon Benet Ramsey murder and the Dr. Sheppard case were famously mishandled, even though evidence was found.

Black Women in Politics 4 cr with MaryNell Morgan
spaces avail. 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir American History - fully
111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jan. 29; Feb. 19; Mar. 5; Mar. 19; Apr. 2; Apr. 23
This study examines central political ideas, issues, and experiences of Black women in the U.S.A. from colonial times to the present. Similarities and differences in the political experiences of American women will be studied through the eyes of women who have been suppressed because of race, class, and gender. Students will study traditional and non-traditional ways in which Black women in the U.S.A. participate in the political process. This study fully meets the general education requirement in American History.

College Writing 4 cr with Rebecca Cash
spaces avail. 11 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Basic Communications - fully
111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/29; 2/12, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23
This course is designed to enhance the college-level writing skills of students while helping them come to a better understanding of what the writing process entails. By fully engaging in the writing process (prewriting, revising, editing), students will be able to communicate more easily, meaningfully and effectively in their academic work.

Global Social Movements 4 cr with Karen Garner
spaces avail. 13 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Social Sciences - fully
111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs Room 175 Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb 13; Feb 27; Mar 13; Mar 27; Apr 10; Apr 24
This study examines the theory and practice of global social movements, from the 1980s to the present. We will focus on the global women's movement, the global environmental movement, the global human rights movement, and global fundamentalist and anti-modernist movements. Students will engage with these topics in 6 study group meetings and through texts, documentary films, and websites, and will complete an independent research project. This study addresses the theoretical perspectives guidelines with introductions to Social Movement Theory and Feminist Theory for degrees in the Social Theory, Structure and Change area of study. It also addresses linkages between global women's movements and other social movements relevant to degree plans in the Interdisciplinary Studies "Women's Studies" concentration.

Tourism, Cars & Geography: Marketing America 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden
spaces avail. *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir American History - fully
The period between 1880 and 1940 is characterized by the escalation of national tourism. This occurrence was dependent upon the continual development of communication networks and transportation systems across the American landscape. It resulted in tourism emerging as a form of geographical consumption. Students will examine the growth of the tourist industry, which centered on the various sights and scenes of the American landscape, as well as the individuals, agencies, and corporations that advocated tourism as one’s patriotic duty, or as an individual’s right in relation to American citizenship. James Agee in Fortune noted that the automobile was “the opium of the American people,” and went on to describe the American roadside by 1934 as “incomparably the most hugely extensive market the human race has ever set up to tease and tempt and take money from the human race.” This study will present that extensive market via literature, statistical research/polls, corporate nuances, art, radio, newspapers, and film.

Gardens Through Science & Literature 4 cr   with Drew Monthie
spaces avail.  14    Intro and Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Humanities - fully
111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs    Thursdays  6:00-8:00 p.m.  1/31, 2/21, 4/4, & 4/18 and Saturday 3/23 (all day field trip)

“A garden provides beauty for the eye, contentment for the mind, and often some delights for the palate.” -- Hamilton Tyler Throughout history, gardens have been a means of natural creative expression as well as an important source of sustenance. Throughout history, gardens have been symbolic of the relationship between nature and culture. This study group will meet every 2 weeks in Saratoga to discuss a variety of essays, stories, and poems focused on gardens, as well as to explore the ecology of gardens. Students will have the opportunity to explore their garden or local nature area from a scientific perspective as they examine the impact non-native species can have on garden communities. In addition, students will learn to analyze their garden environment through the collection of atmosphere and soil characteristics data and through the identification of plant and animal species. Students will have the opportunity to submit their data to an online science learning community where they will contribute to a Citizen Science map of New York and share their gardening experiences with others. Based on what students discover about types of gardens and their local environment (soils, climate, and native species), students will design a sustainable garden that could be established in their local community. This study group will be co-facilitated by Drew Monthie and Linda Jones.

Gardens Through Science & Literature 4 cr   with Linda Jones
spaces avail.  13    Intro and Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Humanities - fully
111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs    Thursdays  6:00-8:00 p.m.  1/31, 2/21, 4/4, & 4/18 and Saturday 3/23 (all day field trip)

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Enhancing the Academic Eye: Multiple Perspectives on Thinking & Learning 4 cr   with Kate Stockton
spaces avail.  "CLOSED"    Intro and Adv./Liberal    fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req ir Basic Communications - partially

*** Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined ***
Rock and Roll provides us with very rich possibilities to consider historic contentions that “cultural artifacts exist in time, and . . . are bound up with personal and institutional conflicts, negotiations and appropriations” (Stephen Greenblatt). From Jackie Brenston's “Rocket 88” in 1951 to Punk and Grunge in the 80s, Rock is a chronicle of race, sex, war, drugs, materialism, adolescence, generational conflict, the role and status of women, ideals of beauty, constructions of masculinity, fashion, regionalism, suburbanism, the car culture and escapism. We will study the ways in which Rock and Roll, as a material cultural artifact, was a product of both roots music forms and cultural turmoil at a time of radical transformations within American society. We will also examine the ways in which Rock had a reciprocal impact on the culture that produced and sustained it. Basic readings will include The Rolling Stone History of Rock and Roll and David Shumway's "Rock and Roll as a Cultural Practice." Listening will be based on an extensive list of titles that are available as downloads.
The goals of this study are twofold: to introduce some of the ways in which economists view the world, and then, to apply these approaches to some current economic issues. We will not try to cover all of the concepts and tools of macroeconomics and microeconomics, but will pick and choose the more central and interesting ones. Throughout, we will pay serious attention to the broader context in which markets operate and the appropriate roles for government involvement in markets. In macroeconomics we will focus of the determination of aggregate income and how monetary and fiscal policy might influence the level of economic activity in both the short and long run. We will engage in the Keynesian -- monetarist -- supply side debate concerning the appropriateness of public policies aimed at restraining inflation and promoting economic growth. In microeconomics we will be primarily concerned with how markets work. On the demand side we will examine consumer behavior and the concept of elasticity. On the supply side of the market, topics will include cost minimization and profit maximization. The economic behavior of firms, such as pricing strategies and investment decisions, will be considered in the context of market structure. The study will conclude with an examination of the theory of international trade and finance. This study group will meet for seven evening sessions during the term, on alternating Tuesdays.
Every organization today is critically dependent on technology to help improve productivity. That alone makes the management of technology and innovation a strategic imperative. In addition, especially in business, firms rely on technology to establish and sustain competitive advantage. Whether technology is created internally through innovative efforts or acquired externally through alliances and acquisitions, every part of the organization must participate effectively in managing technology and innovation in support of the organization’s overall strategy. This course guides the student through a study of the underlying concepts, operational issues, and management practices involved in managing technology and innovation. Emphasis is on management activities and not on developing technology or doing innovation. This study group will meet on Saturday mornings in the Troy Unit on River Street (4 sessions) and the course learning activities will be presented in the ESC technology platform: ANGEL.