

space availability for study groups as of 09/21/2015 09:00AM

Go to <http://www.esc.edu/myesc> to register

Online Study Groups

African-American Drama 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Humanities - 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.

Children's Literature 4 cr with Linda Jones

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

In this study, students will explore a variety of literary works written for and/or enjoyed by younger audiences. Literary works will range from classical tales, such as *The Hobbit* and *The Little Prince*, to recent bestsellers, such as *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*. Students will also explore "the literary tradition behind the stories" as they read selections from mythology, folklore, and fairy tales and discover familiar images, themes, and motifs woven throughout the literature. Students interested in children's literature from an educational perspective will have the opportunity to develop learning activities associated with works of their choice. Students will also consider ways self publishing and interactive educational websites, related to works of literature, affect the reading experiences of young readers. As a final project, students will have the opportunity to write their own work of children's literature and/or develop interactive learning activities related to a literary work of their choice.

Communication for Peace: Graffiti 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully

** Online Study Group **

Spanning the centuries, graffiti's existence on walls and objects throughout the world has prompted the understanding of language, lifestyle, and culture. Graffiti is both an anonymous and public voice, accomplished at times when no one is looking yet surfaces for all to see. It can be etched, carved, painted, stenciled, knitted, chalked, or even projected onto a surface. This study will focus on a set verve expressed by this art form, which has incited rebellion, sparked social criticism, and cultivated change/peace. We will explore various topics and issues to include its historical context; aesthetics; legalities; collaborated efforts to promote peace; a set influence on other creative fields such as music, film, graphic design, and advertising; and individual artists – i.e. Banksy (Great Britain), Os Gêmeos (Brazil), Daim (Germany), Shepard Fairey (United States); as no other art movement has had such a profound impact on the physical face of the modern world. And considering that this is an art study, introductory exercises in graffiti will surely add to your knowledge of this medium.

Ecological Economics 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail **12** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

** Online Study Group **

Ecological economics is an emerging field that incorporates fundamental resource constraints and environmental problems into the logic and analysis of approaches for thinking about the economy, markets and public policy. Much of the focus is on systems, global perspectives, and long run concerns. Several topics in the area of ecological economics will be investigated in depth including market failures, globalization, fairness, and sustainable development. Specific problems and possible remedies in areas such as climate change, water and air quality, energy consumption, transportation, biodiversity, or recycling will be examined. Students will gain a better understanding of appropriate roles for government as it relates to natural resources and the environment and the tradeoffs that alternative policy choices entail. A few of the questions we will explore include: Is growth good? Are there better ways to measure progress than GDP? What is sustainable development and what does it look like in terms of everyday practice? Will businesses find it profitable to pursue "green" strategies? This is an advanced level study. This study is designed to meet the SUNY general education Social Sciences requirement and the college's economics expectation for degrees in the Business, Management and Economics area of study.

From Frozen to The Lego Movie: Exploring Gender Roles in Children's Animated Films 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

This study engages students in a meaningful exploration of gender roles in animated films for young children. Through the perspectives of gender studies, child development studies, and film studies, students will analyze a range of popular films aimed at young audiences such as Frost, The Lego Movie, the Tinkerbell movies (Great Fairy Rescue, Lost Treasure, etc.), Mulan, Hercules, 101 Dalmatians, The Lorax, Pocahontas, The Lion King, Cinderella, and more. What do these films teach our children about gender roles? Why does Disney focus so much time and money on "princesses" and "fairies"? Why do so many children's films depict the death of one or both parents, and what are children learning from such stories? Strong-willed characters such as Tinkerbell and Princess Anna (Frozen) provide positive messages to our young kids (girls and boys alike!) about personality, gender, resilience, and ethics. But the physical portrayal of these characters continues to provide a "Barbie-like" physical image where the size of one's waist and the "classic" design of one's hair is emphasized. Even Hercules is portrayed first by a slender, under-developed physical appearance only to later develop into a classically sculpted muscular physique. How can we help our youngsters interpret positive qualities from these films while teaching them to critically interpret the physical imagery and gender roles? Students in this study will learn techniques for analyzing films and for understanding how audiences make meaning from what they perceive on the screen. This study meets the following Arts AOS Guidelines: • knowledge of relevant theoretical and philosophical issues

Health Psychology 4 cr with Christine Testani

spaces avail *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

** Online Study Group **

Students will discover the marriage between the medical world and the psychological and social world through this study. The study will encompass topics such as chronic illness, stress and coping, basic psychoneuroimmunology, and the different theories behind health psychology. Students will engage in various learning activities including reading assignments, case studies, and behavior modification experiments.

Managerial Leadership through Film 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

This study teaches students the principles of managerial leadership and helps them identify and analyze these principles through the medium of film. Students study topics related to managerial leadership such as the traits and behaviors of successful leaders as well as how leaders use motivation and empowerment to build successful teams. Each topic about leadership will be explored through one or more films that demonstrate that topic in action. Students will read and respond to a managerial leadership textbook throughout this term while also engaging in a close analysis of each of these films. Films such as Apollo 13, Dave, Glengarry Glen Ross, Freedom Writers, Twelve Angry Men, It's A Wonderful Life, Stand and Deliver and others may be utilized in this study. Students should be prepared to rent, borrow, or purchase the assigned videos for this study after they are announced on the Learning Contract or via this study's Moodle site. This study fulfills the Business Administration guideline for Management and the Management guideline of "The use of roles" as noted in the Student Degree Planning Guide. It is also an excellent supporting study for students in any Area of Study who might be planning a career that involves acting in the capacity of a leader. Note that students may take this study for the Arts General Education OR for the Humanities General Education requirement but not for both.

Natural Disasters 4 cr with Linda Jonesspaces avail ***CLOSED***

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Natural Sciences - fully
Social Sciences - fully**** Online Study Group ****

Natural Hazards, Natural Disasters, Ecological Disturbance. Whatever the name, it is emerging as one of the fastest growing fields in Environmental Science. As human populations continue to increase, the probability of human encounters with natural hazards such as hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, mud slides, tornadoes, forest fires, blizzards, and tsunamis, also increases. This study explores the scientific processes behind natural disasters and examines the way disasters have impacted human populations—environmentally, culturally, economically, and politically—throughout history. The study will heighten students' awareness of the impacts the natural environment can have on current human populations around the world and will also highlight many ways human activities have actually rendered human populations more vulnerable to natural disasters.

Sex, History & Art 4 cr with Anthony Anadiospaces avail **1**

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully
The Arts - fully**** Online Study Group ****

Perhaps one of the most controversial topics in history, sex is as much a necessity for survival as is food, clothing, and shelter, and we can all say we are here because of it. Discussions and depictions of sex can be both taboo and tolerable at the same time with unpredictable swings of opinion throughout time. As part of the biological and cultural evolution of humanity, it is more than mere procreation. Sex is a powerful force in the development of religion, politics, and art. It has played a role in warfare, moral and legal codes, and sometimes it just drives us crazy. Beginning with a bit of pre-history, we will follow-up with the Greeks and continue through the Renaissance as we examine the symbolism and narratives of sex across a range of topics that include: sexuality, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, rape, prostitution, gender roles, love, and marriage. This study fully meets two Gen Ed requirements: Western Civilization and The Arts.

The Hudson River & its Valley: A Highway of Ideas & Commerce 4 cr with Anthony Anadiospaces avail **13**

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
American History - fully**** Online Study Group ****

In his search for the imagined Northwest Passage to China, Henry Hudson sailed up the river that now bears his name. The immense wealth that would have followed from such a discovery was an irresistible lure for intrepid explorers and European nations. Realizing that he could navigate no further than present-day Albany, Hudson turned back, but over the next four centuries, immense wealth has steadily flowed from the waterway that the Indians called "Muh-he-kun-ne-tuk" (river that flows two ways). We will look at the River and its valley from a multitude of perspectives as we examine its role in the development of the original colonies, transportation, commerce, warfare, literature, the art of the Hudson River School, environmental concerns, and American Identity. Additionally, we will consider the notion of local history. In that context, even though the River is in the eastern part of New York State, the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 stretched its influence across the state. Few things have transformed a state so completely, and in this study, we will explore the many connections between culture and history.

Women at Work: Managing & Leading 4 cr with Kathy Tarrantspaces avail **13**

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

Although women have made significant inroads into management and leadership positions in today's corporations, women as managers and leaders still continue to lag their male counterparts in the executive suites and boardrooms of most major organizations across the globe. This study, based primarily on the research of Alice H. Eagly and Linda L. Carli as published in their seminal work, *Through the Labyrinth: The Truth About How Women Become Leaders* (2007), will examine the theories and concepts behind the roadblocks women continue to face in their quest for upward mobility. Topics covered will include the historical transition of women's employment, obstacles faced by women such as the glass ceiling, nonlinear career paths, and work/life/family balance, the importance of attracting and retaining talented women, and leadership styles and traits of women. These topics will be supplemented with additional research findings in these fields, articles from current business journals, and case studies of contemporary women in managerial and leadership positions. Do not register for this study if you have taken the CDL study: "Women in Business: Managing and Leading".

Writing About Art 4 cr with Elaine Handleyspaces avail **7**

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully
The Arts - partially

**** Online Study Group ****

This study is designed to strengthen students' critical thinking and writing skills as they explore works of art. One aspect of this study will involve curatorial writing, which accompanies exhibits of all kinds and serves to educate and illuminate works of art and history for the viewer. Students will do the research necessary to create interpretive text. By writing about art in myriad ways students will gain an intimate understanding of works of art and the culture surrounding the works. As a result, students' research and documentation skills will be enhanced. Students will have the opportunity to choose works of art they would like to write about.

Albany Study Groups

Mondays

Addiction & Recovery: Theoretical Approaches & Healing Stories 4 cr with Claudia Hough

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14

Addiction is a disease that exacts a devastating toll on individuals, families, communities and society. In this study, students will explore the effects of addictive drugs and alcohol on brain function and the changes caused by chronic drug abuse. Using biological and psychological concepts, students will understand drug use, addiction and dependence, tolerance, withdrawal, treatment, relapse, and recovery. Students also will read memoirs written by people affected by addiction to gain an appreciation for the human face of the suffering that addiction causes, and ultimately the healing that can result with treatment, rehabilitation and support.

Addiction & Recovery: Theoretical Approaches & Healing Stories 4 cr with Cathy Davison

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14

Addiction is a disease that exacts a devastating toll on individuals, families, communities, and society. In this study, students will explore the effects of addictive drugs on brain function, and the changes caused by chronic drug abuse. Using biological and psychological concepts, students will understand drug use, addiction and dependence, tolerance, withdrawal, treatment, relapse, and recovery. Students also will read memoirs written by people affected by addiction to gain an appreciation for the human face of the suffering that addiction causes, and ultimately the healing that can result with treatment, rehabilitation, and support.

Tuesdays

Cultural Diversity Competence 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail **8** Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8

This study in human diversity enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. The study gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. Upon completion of this study, students would be expected to demonstrate the ability to evaluate and apply informed perspectives on the social, cultural and political influences that commonly impact individuals and communities in contemporary societies.

Organizational Behavior 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8

Organizational behavior studies the human factor in management and derives from a number of disciplines including sociology, psychology, industrial/organizational psychology, and organizational studies among many others. As managers, organizational decision makers and leaders, our success or failure rests upon our ability to attract, develop, retain, motivate and lead a diverse array of appropriately skilled people in an ethical manner. Knowing more about workplace behavior helps us gain a valuable competitive edge and it helps current and future organizational participants better understand and manage people at work. This study will provide you with an understanding of individual behavior, group and social processes as well as organizational processes within a variety of organizations large, small, public and private. We will study organizational culture, personalities, values and attitudes, foundations of motivation, group dynamics and decision making, teams and teamwork, leadership, and managing change and stress. This study will provide a contemporary examination of organizational behavior and practices in today's organizations. This study fully satisfies the Business, Management and Economics guideline for understanding people in an organizational context.

Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail **13** Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15

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.

Stories & Poems: Real & Imagined 4 cr with Richard Gotti

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Basic Communications - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/29, 11/10, 12/8

Would you like some creative inspiration and practical advice about writing stories and poems? Would you like to develop a writing practice and an understanding of the craft of writing? If so, this group study is just right for you! You will have the opportunity to share and receive feedback on creative writing in a supportive, small group workshop setting with your peers. You will obtain guidance from an experienced team of faculty members and develop skills in writing stories, both fictional and personal, as well as poetry. The study combines independent work with six group meetings at the Northeast Center in Latham. Along with group meetings you will do reading and writing exercises, and submit a series of assignments on a regular basis to help you understand the process of creative writing. During the group meetings, you will have the opportunity to participate in discussions, share work in small groups, and learn how to give and accept feedback in a supportive environment. You will become a better reader and critic of your own work, too. To get credit, you must attend all six group meetings and complete all assignments between meetings. Before registering, you should contact the instructor by e-mail to determine the appropriate level of study (intro or advanced) and to learn more about the study.

Stories and Poems: Real and Imagined 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully
Basic Communications - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/29, 11/10, 12/8

Would you like some creative inspiration and practical advice about writing stories and poetry? Would you like to develop a writing practice and an understanding of the craft of writing? If so, this group study is just right for you! You will have the opportunity to share and receive feedback on creative writing in a supportive, small group workshop setting with your peers. You will obtain guidance from an experienced team of faculty members and develop skills in writing stories, both fictional and personal, as well as poetry. The study combines independent work with six group meetings at the Northeast Center in Latham. Along with group meetings, you will do reading and writing exercises, and submit a series of assignments on a regular basis to help you understand the process of creative writing. During the group meetings, you will have the opportunity to participate in discussions, share work in small groups, and learn how to give and accept feedback in a supportive environment. You will become a better reader and critic of your own work, too. To get credit, you must attend all six group meetings and complete all assignments. Before registering, you should contact the instructor by e-mail to determine the appropriate level of study (intro or advanced) and to learn more about the study.

[Wednesdays](#)

Cognitive Processing & Irrational Thinking 4 cr with Sylvain Nagler

spaces avail *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/30, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16

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.

Corporate Finance 4 cr with Chris Liberty

spaces avail 9 Adv./Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. September 23; October 7; October 21; November 4; November 18; December 2; December 16

This study provides an introduction to the issues, theory, and methodology that comprise a framework for rational decision-making by financial managers. We will emphasize the role of the financial manager as decision maker, how a financial manager might proceed in a given situation and the need for managerial input and judgment. Basic concepts, theories and issue include: Financial Markets and Interest Rates, Financial Statements and Cash Flows, Financial Performance, Time Value of Money, Risk and Return, Bond Valuation, Stock Valuation, and International Business Finance.

Critical Thinking & Writing 4 cr with Claudia Hough

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16

The goal of this study is for students to sharpen their ability to read and think critically and to express their ideas effectively in writing. Students will have the opportunity to research and organize information, interpret different perspectives, and demonstrate the value of critical thinking in their daily lives. Learning activities will include group discussions, readings, videos, and written assignments.

From Roosevelt to Reagan (& Beyond): A History of Modern American Economic Policy 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully
Social Sciences - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/16, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9

This study will explore the evolution of American national economic policy from the 1930s to the present. We will focus on two periods that came to dominate the political landscape for decades and are still important today: 1) FDR's New Deal and the post-WWII Keynesian consensus and 2) the so-called "Reagan Revolution" of the 1980s. While emphasis will be placed on the economic ideas, beliefs, and goals that drove elected leaders and policy makers, special attention will also be paid to the political motivations, pressures, and trends that were as (if not more) important in shaping economic policy during these eras. Our survey will conclude with a look at economic policy making in the wake of the 2007-2008 financial meltdown and subsequent "Great Recession," and consider where we might go from here. You do not need an economics or politics background to benefit from this course; only the desire to better understand what Uncle Sam has been doing, in economic terms, over the past eight decades, and why the tax and fiscal policies/priorities of our nation look the way they do today. Note: This study helps fulfill the Public Affairs AOS guideline areas of "economic, financial, and budget issues" and "historical perspectives," and is also well-suited for those studying modern American history as well as BME students with concentrations in economics or economic policy.

Thursdays

American History & Business: Gold, Gild, & Greenbacks 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 18 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/12, 12/3, and 12/17

American History and Business is designed to introduce students to the emergence and development of the American nation from an economic standpoint. We will begin by defining the fundamental terms associated with the study and then connecting them to the founding principles of the United States and its Constitution. Those ideas will provide the context for the Industrial Revolution as we study how business, society, and politics simultaneously worked together and at odds. By the end of the 19th century, American business had risen to unprecedented levels and stood at the doorstep of global ascendancy. Also by the end of the 19th century, politicians had consolidated a firm position as regulators of the US economy, and that role dramatically increased in the 20th century. How the Federal government justified and practiced their regulatory functions, and how businesspersons responded, will conclude our study. Throughout the period of this study, culture, and the role of ideas will be emphasized as a means of analyzing and connecting the people and events that make up the trajectory of history.

Art, Music & History 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 10 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully
The Arts - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 11/5, 11/19, and 12/10

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 study 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 study 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.

Liberty & Justice for All?: U.S. Politics, Policy & Process 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail 9 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Despite what many of us think, politics matters! This study, co-taught by a consortium of Northeast Center mentors, is designed to engage students in contemporary debates over key issues in U.S. politics such as religious freedom, power and privilege, voting rights, education reform, social welfare policy, and criminal justice. The purpose of this study is to provide an interdisciplinary framework for understanding critical issues and institutions in U.S. politics as they intersect various aspects of public and private life. Students in multiple areas of study - especially Public Affairs, Community and Human Services, and Social Science - will find this study particularly relevant to their degree programs as they explore and examine issues through different disciplinary perspectives.

Liberty & Justice For All?: U.S. Politics, Policy, & Process 4 cr with MaryNeil Morgan

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully
Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Team-taught by the faculty of the Northeast Center and Units. Despite what many of us think, politics matters! This study, being co-facilitated by a consortium of Northeast Center mentors, is designed to engage contemporary debates over important issues in U.S. politics such as religious freedom, power and privilege, voting rights, education reform and funding, economic policy, social welfare, and immigration. The purpose of this study is to provide an interdisciplinary framework for understanding critical issues and institutions in U.S. politics as they intersect various aspects of public and private life. Students in multiple areas of study, especially Public Affairs, Community and Human Services, and Social Science, will find this study particularly relevant as they explore and examine issues through different disciplinary lenses.

Quantitative Reasoning 4 cr with Amy Salvati

spaces avail 11 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

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.

[Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published](#)

Principles of Management 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro/Non-Liberal

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

This study is an introduction to the study of management through which a modern business organization can be understood as a functioning system. The focus is on learning practical applications of management concepts in the work environment. The study will cover the role of the manager in modern business and the functions that define the scope of managing including decision-making, planning, organizing, staffing, leading, motivating and controlling.

The Life & Times of Pete Seeger (& his music too) 4 cr with Efrat Levy

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully
The Arts - partially

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

This interdisciplinary, team-taught study group will look at a variety of topics by reflecting on the life and legacy of Pete Seeger. In each study group meeting, alongside other readings, one or more songs brought to the public by Seeger will be used in order to more fully examine and analyze historical and social issues. These will include: the historical roots of life and culture in Appalachia; the fight against fascism in World War II; the McCarthy era; music and civil rights; environmental activism; folk music as a vehicle for social change.

Empire State Plaza Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Cultural Diversity through Literature 4 cr with Robert Congemi

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

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

The principal aim of this study group is to increase the students' awareness of cultures through selected readings in Latin, Asian, Arabic, African literature, as well as in those works that bring insight into American sub-cultures. The study group will address such themes as signature cultural characteristics, social and political justice, cultural stereotypes, cultural traditions and rituals, cultural disorientation and transition, quality-of-life and poverty issues, racism and misogyny, and imperialism.

Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

Unsolved Crimes: Forensic Science in Historic Cases 4 cr with Thomas Jones

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

111 West Avenue, Saratoga Springs Mondays 6:00-8:00 p.m. 9/14, 9/28, 10/19, 10/26, 11/9, 11/23, 12/7, & 12/21

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.

Tuesdays

Critical Thinking & Writing 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail 11 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

111 West Avenue, Saratoga Springs Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/22,10/6,10/20, 11/3, 11/17,12/1,12/15

This study is a very practical one: because everything we do or want or feel is influenced by our thinking, it makes sense that we should study how we think and cultivate the best possible thinking skills. Without developing critical thinking skills we often rely on biased, partial, uninformed, distorted or prejudiced thought processes to make decisions, which often don't involve good judgment. We now know that writing and thinking are intricately linked--by improving one you improve the other. So in addition to improving how you think, this study will help you hone your college writing skills. Through a variety of lively activities, projects, readings and writing assignments we will develop strategies for looking at the complexity of issues and reasoning them through. The skills developed in this study should enhance your academic ability (especially writing), work and personal life. This study fully meets the general education requirement in Basic Communication as well as the competency in Critical Thinking.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Identity, Self & Gender in Literature, Film & Popular Culture 4 cr with Tom Akstens

spaces avail 15 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully
Social Sciences - partially

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

This study begins with a question: Is there an essential self? If not, then are our identity and gender simply products of cultural determinants? Are they performance, rather than expressions of a core, personal selfhood? In this study, we will study texts, films and other cultural artifacts that seem to provoke these questions, even as they offer insights that may lead us to productive conclusions. We will pay particular attention to the status of literature in our own cultural context, and to its viability in a technological, consumer culture. The material will include: The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Danish Girl, Zelig, Hamlet, M Butterfly, Boys Don't Cry, Photographs by Cindy Sherman and Yasumasa Morimura, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, Southern Comfort and "Deacon Blues" by Steely Dan.

Schenectady Study Groups

[Wednesdays](#)

Statistics 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail 1

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16

This study is designed to provide students with a solid introduction to fundamental statistical methods and concepts used to organize, analyze, and interpret hypotheses developed in various research environments. At the end of this study, students should be able to effectively relate managerial, socio-economic, political and cultural issues using statistical techniques, and successfully represent data analysis results via charts, tables, and other appropriate methods. Furthermore, the study will provide students with appropriate decision-making tools in different interdisciplinary contexts.

Troy Study Groups

Tuesdays

Health Care Policy 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

Troy Unit, 216 River Street, 3rd floor Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15

Students will learn about the process of making health care policy and some of the institutions responsible for creating health care policy at the federal and state levels. Students will gain an understanding of the complexities and trade-offs inherent in the development and implementation of health care policy. Students should find this study of benefit in understanding and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the government sector and market mechanisms in making production and distribution decisions in the health sector. Students will study the major public insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, and consider various proposals for reform of the health care system in the U.S. Students will examine the functions and effects of public health insurance on access, cost and market efficiency, and quality of health care. Students will investigate several topics in health care policy in some detail; these may include the uninsured, long term care, pharmaceuticals and patents, medical malpractice, and international comparisons of health care policy.