

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Contact Information

Interdisciplinary Studies

<https://continue.rice.edu/master-interdisciplinary-studies> (<https://continue.rice.edu/master-interdisciplinary-studies/>)

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The Interdisciplinary Studies program at Rice University, offered through the Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies, provides intellectually rich graduate-level pathways for students who seek challenge, creativity, and connection at a world-class university. Three options are available: the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS) degree, the post-Masters Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS), and the Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing (<https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing/>) graduate certificates.

These programs are designed for students from a wide range of personal and professional backgrounds - working professionals, recent graduates, retirees, educators, and lifelong learners - who are eager to explore meaningful questions across disciplines. Whether pursuing a degree, diploma, or credential, students are united by a desire to engage with ideas that matter and to broaden their perspectives in ways not always possible in a career-focused undergraduate curriculum.

Each pathway supports students in examining enduring and timely questions across the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and the arts. Through interdisciplinary learning, students explore the complexities of human experience—from literature, history, and philosophy to science, politics, and society - while connecting with a community of learners who share their commitment to discovery and growth.

Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS)

The Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS) program attracts a dynamic and diverse community of students committed to exploring complex issues through multiple lenses. Students come from fields such as healthcare, law, education, public service, the arts, business, and beyond - bringing a wide range of life experience and perspective into the classroom.

Designed for curious learners who hold a bachelor's degree and seek a graduate education grounded in creativity, collaboration, and practical application, the MIS program emphasizes synthesis across disciplines and the development of essential skills in communication, research, and leadership. In addition to its broad interdisciplinary curriculum, the MIS offers optional areas of specialization in Philanthropic Leadership and Strategic Communication for students seeking a more focused course

of study within the degree. Rather than a thesis, students complete a capstone project and a reflective essay that demonstrate their growth across the program's six core learning outcomes.

The MIS degree can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. Full-time students typically finish in two years; part-time students can complete the degree in four years.

Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS)

Rice University's Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS) offers advanced interdisciplinary study for students who wish to further develop their intellectual interests beyond a master's degree. Unique to Rice, the DLS is designed primarily for graduates of the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS) program - or comparable interdisciplinary graduate programs - who seek to deepen their research, writing, and critical inquiry across the humanities, sciences, and arts.

Building on the foundational skills of the MIS, the DLS allows students to take a focused and personalized dive into complex topics that intersect disciplines. The program supports those who wish to enhance their academic and professional work, prepare for doctoral study, contribute to public scholarship, or pursue meaningful civic and creative projects.

The DLS welcomes well-prepared applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds. Non-MIS (Master of Interdisciplinary Studies) students may be admitted on a case-by-case basis, based on prior graduate study and alignment with the program's interdisciplinary approach.

Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing

The Glasscock School of Continuing Studies offers a Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing through coordinated coursework from the Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program. Certified K12 teachers can provide students with first-hand exposure to college-level instruction, make a 2- or 4- year degree more affordable for their students, increase their own earning potential, and fill their district's need for credentialed, dual credit teachers.

Texas high school students are able to participate in dual credit coursework, helping them earn college credit, or even an associate's degree, before they step foot on a post-secondary campus. High school dual credit courses are designed to challenge students with rigorous, college-level curriculum, and provide them with a jumpstart on their futures—all public colleges and universities in Texas are required by the state legislature to accept dual credit. Teachers that possess the appropriate credentials to teach dual credit courses in their content areas are in high demand and have the potential to maximize their earning power while providing college access and increasing college affordability for their students.

This Graduate Certificate opportunity is designed for the practicing secondary teacher in English or in History. Classes are offered every semester – fall, spring, and summer – and all courses are offered in the evenings to accommodate working professionals.

There are two paths available for certified teachers:

1. Created for teachers who hold a master's degree (in any subject) but lack the required 18 graduate content hours, this (standalone) Graduate Certificate option helps teachers with a master's degree efficiently meet the requirements to teach high school dual credit courses in English or in History.

- Teachers who need a master's degree can complete their credentialing requirements to teach dual credit and earn this Graduate Certificate concurrently with the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS) degree. The MIS plan of study will allow you to earn the master's degree while specializing in the English or History content you wish to teach. Visit the MIS website for admission and degree requirements.

Interdisciplinary Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the undergraduate level.

Master's Program

- [Master of Interdisciplinary Studies \(MIS\) Degree \(https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/interdisciplinary-studies/interdisciplinary-studies-mis/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/interdisciplinary-studies/interdisciplinary-studies-mis/)

Post-Master's Diploma Program

- [Diploma in Liberal Studies \(DLS\) \(https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/interdisciplinary-studies/liberal-studies-dls/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/interdisciplinary-studies/liberal-studies-dls/)

Certificates

- [Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing: English \(https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing-english/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing-english/)*
- [Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing: History \(https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing-history/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/continuing-studies/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing/dual-credit-teacher-credentialing-history/)*

- * *This certificate program is open to both Rice students enrolled in a graduate degree-granting program and to (standalone) graduate certificate students (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/certificates/). Additionally, these certificates are stackable, meaning graduate certificate students may decide to apply for and (upon acceptance) return for a MIS degree.*

Dean

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Lecturers

Richard Baker
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LaMecia Butler
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Ronnie Hagerty
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Ashley Hudson
Christopher M. Johns-Krull
Cassidy Johnson
Danielle D. King Jordan

Cin-Ty Lee
Peter V. Loewen
William Monroe
Burke Nixon
Casey Schoenberger
Rebecca Sharp
Scott Solomon
Chase Untermeyer

For Rice University degree-granting programs:

To view the list of official course offerings, please see [Rice's Course Catalog \(https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata\)](https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata).

To view the most recent semester's course schedule, please see [Rice's Course Schedule \(https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat\)](https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat).

Interdisciplinary Studies (INDS)

INDS 500 - THE INTERDISCIPLINARY MIND: LIBERAL ARTS AND THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

Short Title: THE INTERDISCIPLINARY MIND

Department: School of Continuing Studies

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course will unpack and explore the meaning and history of interdisciplinary studies, as well as the various debates and controversies associated with the concept of liberal education. Along the way, we'll reflect on the role such an education plays in our own intellectual and personal lives while also examining the relationship between this form of education and issues of citizenship, democracy, justice, and the public good. The course will introduce you to the habits of inquiry, analysis, discussion, reflection, and interdisciplinary research that animate graduate-level activity in this program. Ultimately, this work will provide an opportunity for us to wrestle with complex and enduring questions about human life and the search for meaning and happiness while at the same time honing the foundational scholarly skills of writing, reading, and critical thinking. Required for all new students. Department Permission Required.

INDS 501 - THE SHAPING OF WESTERN THOUGHT

Short Title: THE SHAPING OF WESTERN THOUGHT

Department: School of Continuing Studies

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

Course Level: Graduate

Description: Study of the foundational, intellectual and artistic texts of the western tradition from Ancient Greece to Medieval Islam. Consideration of texts and images over time and in their historical development as we reflect on who we are and how we got here. Readings would include: The Gilgamesh Epic, Homer's Illad, Thucydides' War, Plato's Republic, Book of Genesis, Virgil's Aeneid, Gospels of Luke and of Thomas, Augustine's Confessions and The Qur'an. Department Permission Required.

INDS 502 - THE PERSONAL NARRATIVE IN POETRY**Short Title:** PERSONAL NARRATIVE IN POETRY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course examines the impulse to view poetry as autobiography. We'll question what this says about our culture's relationship to literature. We'll discuss confessional poetry and a selection of poets who grapple with readers' perception of autobiography in their poems, exposing students to problems and possibilities in personal narrative poetry. Department Permission Required.

INDS 505 - SHAKESPEARE AND FILM**Short Title:** SHAKESPEARE AND FILM**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will examine several Shakespeare plays and their theatrical productions. The instructor will teach each play as a text (and a script) first, and then study the films of these plays in an effort to understand the choices the film-makers have made in adapting Shakespeare's plays to the screen. In this course, then, we will be concerned with studying both Shakespeare's plays and what happens to those plays in the hands of a creative film-maker. Department Permission Required.

INDS 506 - ISLAMIC ART IN HOUSTON AND THE WORLD**Short Title:** ISLAMIC ART HOUSTON**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Drawing on the exquisite collections at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, this course takes an interdisciplinary approach to consider the materiality, impact of cross-cultural exchanges, and interpretation of Islamic art, ca. 800s-1800s. Examination of original art and conservation workshops will enable students to gain knowledge of materials and techniques. Department Permission Required.

INDS 507 - A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT: LIVES, STORIES, AND CREATIVE WORK**Short Title:** A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Across time and cultures, rivers have signified journeys, crossings, challenges, threats, sources, systems, majesty, transportation, transition, temporality, hope, beauty, and mystery. In this interdisciplinary course we will explore, examine, and discover the metaphorical power of rivers in literature, film, politics, sacred writings, and personal stories-including our own life writing. Department Permission Required.

INDS 508 - UNDERSTANDING EARTH AND BEYOND**Short Title:** UNDERSTANDING EARTH AND BEYOND**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: In this course, students will gain an understanding of how our planet works, from its deep interior to the oceans, atmosphere, and life. A central theme of the course is to study how our planet works as an interconnected system. For example, we will investigate how plate tectonics makes volcanoes, ocean basins, mountains, continents, and even the atmosphere, and how all these components of the Earth interact with each other to give us the habitable planet we live on. We will learn about how life began on Earth and how life evolved with changing environments. We will also show how the principles of physics, chemistry, biology, and math become beautiful and easy when applied to our planet. Students will come out of this class with a greater appreciation of landscapes and the life around us. The course will also prepare students how to think about societally relevant problems, such as climate change, critical minerals, and natural disasters. Department Permission Required.

INDS 509 - THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN FLOURISHING: EVIDENCE-BASED INSIGHTS FOR LIFE, WORK, AND LEADERSHIP**Short Title:** PSYC OF HUMAN FLOURISHING**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course examines the social-scientific foundations of human flourishing in adult life and contemporary work settings. Drawing on research from psychology, organizational behavior, economics, and moral philosophy, students evaluate definitions and measures of wellbeing, analyze individual and organizational determinants of flourishing, and assess evidence-based interventions designed to enhance human flourishing. Department Permission Required.

INDS 513 - DNA: HUMAN IDENTITY AND ORIGINS**Short Title:** DNA: HUMAN IDENTITY & ORIGINS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: "Who am I?" "Where did I come from?" All branches of knowledge address these fundamental questions. This course examines how DNA informs the structure and function of humans, and how humans have in turn used DNA as a source of information to solve mysteries and improve lives. We will introduce the structure of DNA and show how it influences physical traits and is passed on from parent to child. We will review the original goals of the Human Genome Project and discuss how the surprising results that emerged from it have altered the way we view the role of genes in human development. We will examine how breakthroughs in DNA technology have allowed us to answer questions about human origins, worldwide migrations and personal genealogy and aided criminal investigations and medical treatment. This course will also use the specifics of DNA investigation as examples of science in action. Department Permission Required.

INDS 517 - MODERN DRAMA ON FILM AND IN PERFORMANCE**Short Title:** MODERN DRAMA**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will focus on drama not only as text but also as performance. We will read modern plays and discuss them as they are often discussed in English courses, concentrating on theme, character, world, imagery, language and dramatic action. In addition, we will also examine the "texts" as scripts, as working papers for actors and directors: in short, as source materials for performance. To this end we will also view movie versions of many of these plays. Department Permission Required.

INDS 525 - PLAGUES AND POPULATIONS**Short Title:** PLAGUES AND POPULATIONS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will examine the interaction of pathogens and human societies. It will cover the biological nature of pathogens and disease, the human immune system and therapeutic and societal interventions to prevent and cure disease. Specific diseases will be studied to determine the biology of the disease agent, its exploitation of the human host, its transmission and epidemiology and how the disease impacts the economic, political, social structure and values of the affected populations, and how the response to disease may limit its impact. Department Permission Required.

INDS 534 - HUMAN RIGHTS IN WORLD AFFAIRS**Short Title:** HUMAN RIGHTS IN WORLD AFFAIRS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Human rights organizations have gained tremendous attention and credibility among people and governments. While universal human rights may seem timeless, they have a long and checkered political and legal history. The main objective of the course is to explore the increasing yet contested role played by human rights and humanitarianism in contemporary world affairs. Students will undertake independent research on an issue, location, and period of their choosing. Students who have earned credit for MLSC 534 cannot earn credit for INDS 534. Department Permission Required.

INDS 536 - TRADITIONAL CHINESE CULTURE AND ITS MODERN LEGACY**Short Title:** TRADITIONAL CHINESE CULTURE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: An analysis of the language, philosophy, religion, art, literature, institutions and social customs of the Qing dynasty (1644-1912), the last imperial regime and a crucial bridge between "traditional" and "modern" China. Although this course is intended in part as an exercise in appreciation, it is designed primarily to encourage critical and creative thinking about another place and time. Department Permission Required.

INDS 537 - PROFILES FROM THE PAST: FAMOUS FIGURES IN WESTERN HISTORY**Short Title:** PROFILES FROM THE PAST**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: What has happened during the course of time, regarding culture and human experience that has been transmitted from the ancient to the modern world? What ideas and concepts concerning subjects such as politics, art, music, and philosophy have been our legacy from the western past? This course will survey the answers to these questions covering the time of classical Greece through the period of the high middle ages. Department Permission Required.

INDS 539 - IMMIGRATION AND THE STATE: EUROPE AND THE US IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE**Short Title:** IMMIGRATION AND THE STATE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The course traces the history of immigration within and to Europe and to the United States from the late 19th century to the present. How did the United States and the European states elicit, regulate or contain successive waves of labor and colonial migrants, stateless persons and asylum seekers? And what type of legal, political and cultural debates did the "immigrant question" raise in the public sphere since the advent of mass migration? We will discuss key issue regarding immigration including political asylum, guest-worker programs, assimilation and integration debates, and immigrants and the welfare state Department Permission Required.**INDS 542 - THE EPIC JOURNEY****Short Title:** THE EPIC JOURNEY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This class explores some of the classic texts of Western literature, books from the ancient world that have had, and continue to have a formative influence on who we are and how we got here. The works we will study all share a common theme: the epic journey. We explore different variations of this theme, follow ancient travelers on their journeys, and reflect with them about their discoveries. Department Permission Required.**INDS 547 - PROFILES FROM THE PAST II: FAMOUS FIGURES IN WESTERN HISTORY****Short Title:** PROFILES FROM THE PAST II**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course covers the span of years from the end of the middle Ages through the eve of the French Revolution. In addition to the study of a selected group of people from these years, there will also be an examination of the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and Absolutism. Department Permission Required.**INDS 548 - HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY SET IN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONTEXT****Short Title:** HIST OF INTERSIC PHILOSOPHY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will introduce students to leading figures, ideas and arguments of the history of western philosophy, set in interdisciplinary context in this interdisciplinary MLS program. For a general educated audience philosophy is best approached from multiple perspectives - historical, literary, scientific, religious, artistic - and we will take this approach.**INDS 549 - COMPARATIVE IMPERIAL PLEASURE GARDENS: POWER AND LANDSCAPE****Short Title:** IMPERIAL PLEASURE GARDENS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course examines pre-modern designed landscapes used for crating, declaring, and reading social and political claims. While understanding the garden as art form and sacred space, we focus on the relationship between landscape and power in a globally comparative context. Department Permission Required.**INDS 550 - MODERN ASTRONOMY AND OUR PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE****Short Title:** MODERN ASTRONOMY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** An introduction to modern astrophysics beyond the solar system including a brief history of astronomy from antiquity through Galileo and Newton. Our modern understanding of the formation, evolution, and death of stars; the composition and evolution of galaxies; the structure and evolution of the universe will then be surveyed. Department Permission Required.

INDS 551 - PROFILES FROM THE PAST III: FAMOUS FIGURES IN WESTERN HISTORY**Short Title:** PROFILES FROM THE PAST III**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will cover the span of years from the beginning of the French Revolution to the middle of the 20th century. In addition to the study of selected individuals such as Napoleon Bonaparte, Czar Alexander I, Cecil Rhodes, Gregor Rasputin, Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Adolf Hitler and Mohandas Gandhi, there will be examinations of Romanticism, Nationalism, Imperialism, and Fascism. Department Permission Required.**INDS 552 - CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY****Short Title:** CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Many scientists have coined the current geological age as the "Anthropocene" in reference to the impact of mankind on the planet. This course will examine biodiversity, how biodiversity influences our lives, the forces that affect biodiversity worldwide, and how we can protect it. Local species and ecosystems will be highlighted.**INDS 553 - SOLVING THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE****Short Title:** SOLVING THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course overviews climate science and explores strategies for transforming electricity, transportation, and agriculture to avert the impacts of abrupt climate change. Department Permission Required.**INDS 554 - MY FAVORITE NOVELS - AND GREAT FILMS MADE FROM THEM****Short Title:** MY FAVORITE NOVELS AND FILMS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** In this class we will carefully examine four great novels from different eras: "Pride and Prejudice," "Great Expectations," "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," and "Atonement," to see what makes them so successful. Then we will watch and discuss the great films made from them. Department Permission Required.**INDS 555 - THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION****Short Title:** POL PHIL OF AMER REVOLUTION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will 1) discuss the significance of some events in Colonial American that precipitate the clarion call the dissolve forever all political ties to Great Britain: 2) discuss the ideological origins of the American Revolution in the key documents, specifically the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Federalist Papers. Department Permission Required.**INDS 556 - HEAVEN AND HELL: FROM DANTE TO MILTON AND BEYOND****Short Title:** LITERATURE FROM HEAVEN & HELL**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The ultimate end of human life resides in landscapes defined by aspiration or terror, punishment or reward. Thus heaven and hell are places frequently conjured by the literary imagination. This course looks closely at the implications of such imaginings from Dante's Divine Comedy to Milton's Paradise Lost to the present. Department Permission Required.**INDS 557 - EARLY MODERN ISLAMIC WORLD: ART AND EMPIRE****Short Title:** ISLAMIC EMPIRES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Introduction to Islamic empires of the early modern Muslim world: Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal. Focus on art, architecture, literature, religion, kingship, family, which shape the cultural heritage of the Muslim world today. Opportunity to study works of art produced in these imperial workshops at MFAH. Department Permission Required.**INDS 558 - EVOLUTION AND SOCIETY****Short Title:** EVOLUTION AND SOCIETY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The science of evolution has come a long way since Charles Darwin first proposed his theory for how species change through natural selection in 1859. This course will provide an overview of modern evolutionary biology, with a focus on its relevance for 21st century society. Department Permission Required.

INDS 559 - ENVIRONMENTAL LITERATURE**Short Title:** ENVIRONMENTAL LITERATURE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Environmental Literature will focus on nature essay writers, ecopoets, and ecocriticism. The course will include poetry and other literary writing designed to inspire and creatively capture the natural environment and nonfiction nature writing that highlights major concerns about the environment and aims to transform the thoughts and behavior of society. Department Permission Required.**INDS 560 - WOMEN IN SOUTHERN LITERATURE****Short Title:** WOMEN IN SOUTHERN LITERATURE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will consider the role of women in southern literature, focusing mostly on the works of women writers from the 1800's to the 2000's with some readings from male writers as well. Some very early works, including letters, diaries, and captivity narratives will be included, but most of the readings will be modern and contemporary short stories, novels, and memoirs. Department Permission Required.**INDS 561 - HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA: THE ORIGINS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN****Short Title:** HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** A broad introduction to the history of the cultural, religious, economic and political systems of South Asia, this course explores the centuries-long development of Hinduism and Buddhism, rise of Islamic state power and establishment of British control, culminating in resistance movements among South Asians and establishment of modern nation states, alongside the wrenching experience of Partition. Department Permission Required.**INDS 562 - MUSIC AND MEDIEVALISM****Short Title:** MUSIC AND MEDIEVALISM**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course examines the history and aesthetics of medievalist music in the context of literature, drama, and film. We consider the authentic models for medievalist works, establish the romanticizing methodology, and then observe how medievalism plays out in the concert hall, film, and other media. Department Permission Required.**INDS 563 - A HISTORY OF TUDOR ENGLAND****Short Title:** A HISTORY OF TUDOR ENGLAND**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** At the end of the long and brutal Wars of the Roses, a new royal dynasty emerged in England to great acclaim and relief - and uncertainty. Henry Tudor, who styled himself as Henry VII, began a successful reign and the beginning of a family dynasty lasting a little longer than a century. This course will study the Tudor century. Department Permission Required.**INDS 564 - THE POLITICS OF WORLD WAR TWO IN EUROPE****Short Title:** THE POLITICS OF WORLD WAR TWO**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The course is an in-depth exploration of the Second World War in Europe. Hitler's conquest of Europe elicited political, social, economic and demographic upheavals in all parts of the continent. While closely following the military chronology of the conflict, our course will examine the radical transformations brought about by Nazi rule in Western and Eastern Europe as well as the Balkans. Department Permission Required.

INDS 565 - PAST AND FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE: NATURAL VERSUS HUMAN INFLUENCE**Short Title:** PAST AND FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Have humans really altered the course of natural climate change? Can this course be altered? This course introduces students to the methods used by scientists to study Earth's climate history. We will examine methods used to study Earth's climate evolution over hundreds of millions to decadal time scales. Why did Earth's climate undergo extreme changes from "icehouse" conditions when much of its surface was covered by ice, to "greenhouse" conditions when the planet was much warmer than present? What was the impact of these changes on Earth's inhabitants? Lastly, we will use Earth's climate history as context for understanding the role of humans in altering the course of our planet. How reliable are climate predictions and what can be done to curtail climate change? Department Permission Required.**INDS 566 - MUSIC IN THE ERA OF THE REFORMATION****Short Title:** MUSIC IN THE REFORMATION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This seminar concerns musical responses to the changing religious climate in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Examination of the concomitant polemics in theology and government, Biblical Humanism and the Devotio Moderna, secular vernacular song, and popular preaching will shed light on the complex interactions between music and society in this age of religious reform. Department Permission Required.**INDS 567 - THE HOUSE OF STUART****Short Title:** THE HOUSE OF STUART**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Although the Stuarts were a royal dynasty in Scotland since the fourteenth century, they arrived in England after the death of Elizabeth I. Unlike the Tudors who preceded them, the Stuarts never gained a great popularity with their subjects. There were, nevertheless, as a result of friction amongst the population, great constitutional developments during their century which continue to shape the United Kingdom until this day. Department Permission Required.**INDS 568 - PSYCHOLOGY OF AGGRESSION AND VIOLENCE****Short Title:** AGGRESSION AND VIOLENCE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course provides an overview of empirical research on the social psychology of aggression and violence, flowing from evolutionary/biological perspectives, cultural perspectives, and contextual/situational perspectives. Through exposure to classic and contemporary works in this course, students will get a taste of the breadth of social-psychological research on aggression and violence. Department Permission Required.**INDS 569 - FORESIGHT IN SOCIAL JUSTICE****Short Title:** FORESIGHT IN SOCIAL JUSTICE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Foresight in Social Justice will explore and analyze social justice issues, and then suggest positive action for social change. This course introduces students to future studies research, enabling individuals to spot emerging opportunities and threats within the context of social justice and develop innovative responses to serve changing needs. Department Permission Required.**INDS 570 - CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS****Short Title:** CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Through this course, students will learn about developmental psychology and developmental outcomes within the context of immigration. Given that the Houston metropolitan area hosts the fourth highest number of children of immigrants in the entire country, this course will provide students with the opportunity to connect theoretical knowledge with community related issues. Throughout the semester, the students will read recent scientific articles and policy-related reports that will provide background information for in-class discussions. In addition, students will engage in class exercises to brainstorm about local and national issues related to the course content. As a semester project, students will select a topic for further exploration resulting in a written essay and oral representation to the class. Department Permission Required.

INDS 571 - MORAL LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMICS**Short Title:** MORAL LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMICS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course explores how we can be (or become) virtuous and successful leaders. This course helps students to develop personal and professional mission and values statements as aids in good leadership. On the path to developing mission and values statements, students will explore elements of moral psychology and philosophy, emotional intelligence, character development, the formation of communal and personal identities, the purpose and practice of commercial activities from the vantage point of five spiritual traditions, practical examples of institutions applying missions and values (both successfully and unsuccessfully), ideas regarding meaning-making, measuring our success in life, creating a life purpose, and giving voice to our values. The question at the center of the course is whether we can live professional and personal lives that do not conflict, but rather work in concert with the economic dimensions of institutions, especially if we find ourselves leading others in these organizations.

INDS 572 - BIBLICAL ETHICS**Short Title:** BIBLICAL ETHICS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This is a course on what the Bible has to say about some of the major moral issues of our time, including the environment, gender and sexuality, religious (in)tolerance, and issues of justice. Department Permission Required.

INDS 573 - WOMEN WRITERS AND HEROINES: FROM MYTH TO REALITY**Short Title:** WOMEN WRITERS AND HEROINES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Women Writers and Heroines will focus on the poetry, fiction, nonfiction writing, and feminist criticism of selected women writers in the 20th and 21st centuries, looking at major literary themes and the characterization and history of women as writers and heroines, including the misrepresentation of women's stories in folklore and mythology. Department Permission Required.

INDS 574 - GREAT LITERATURE, GREAT MUSIC**Short Title:** GREAT LITERATURE GREAT MUSIC**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This seminar explores the synergy between music and literature through a selection of works culled from the repertoires of Western sacred and secular vocal and instrumental music composed for the church, salon, and theater. Department Permission Required.

INDS 575 - ALL ABOUT BIRDS - AND MORE: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENCE COURSE**Short Title:** ALL ABOUT BIRDS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course is an interdisciplinary science course with birds and humans at the center and includes comparative study of the anatomy and physiology of humans and birds, ornithology with some special focus on sciences beyond biology, connections between ornithology and birding, and interdisciplinary links, with a bird focus, to humanistic disciplines. Department Permission Required.

INDS 576 - THOMAS JEFFERSON AND HIS WORLD, 1740-1830**Short Title:** JEFFERSON AND HIS WORLD**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: An examination of the thought and career of Jefferson set in the context of his time in all its complexity. This course will contextualize Jefferson within the era of the Revolution and the consequent creation and growing into maturity of the new nation, including the writing and ratification of the Constitution, the setting of the new government underway, the evolution of political parties, the changing role of the presidency, the evolution of the Supreme Court, international events, economic and cultural changes, and the decline of the political era of the so-called Founding Fathers.

INDS 577 - LATINA/O/E STORIES FROM THE BORDERLANDS**Short Title:** LATINE BORDERLANDS LITERATURE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will examine a range of Latina/o/e literature to query how the multivalent nature of borders structure possibility or lack thereof. Similarly, we will examine theory to complement our readings as we navigate the varying ways we can interpret borderlands, from the physical location to carried within the body. Department Permission Required.

INDS 578 - INTELLECTUAL FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN LAW**Short Title:** FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN LAW**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will trace the development and interaction of the two great concepts of law and justice in Anglo-American legal, political, and social theory with respect to the individual and the state up to the present day. Readings will include primary legal and philosophical texts. Department Permission Required.

INDS 579 - EXPLORATIONS IN THE FAIRY TALE TRADITION**Short Title:** THE FAIRY TALE TRADITION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course explores the literary fairy tale by examining traditional and contemporary stories and interdisciplinary scholarship related to the genre. Students explore the dissemination and endurance of the fairy tale tradition and how a tale's evolution fits into historical and social frameworks. Department Permission Required.

INDS 580 - EAST ASIAN FOOD HISTORY**Short Title:** EAST ASIAN FOOD HISTORY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This subject introduces students to the traditional dietary cultures of China, Japan, and Korea as seen from perspectives of geography, climate, material and social technologies, religion, philosophy, economics, and politics. We will examine such practices as banquet etiquette, seasonal celebrations, tea ceremony, courtesan/entertainment culture, and traditional processing methods, like fermentation, stir fry, and distillation. Department Permission Required.

INDS 581 - EAST ASIAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION**Short Title:** EAST ASIAN LITERATURE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This subject introduces students to major works of premodern and early modern literature of East Asia. These works span nearly three thousand years and a wide range of genres, including poetry, narrative histories, storyteller tales, drama texts, short stories, and vernacular novels. We will read selections of English translations of the Book of Songs, "Biographies of Assassins," the Ballad of Mùlán, the Kokinshū, The Tale of Genji, Romance of the Three Kingdoms, Peony Pavilion, Story of the Stone (Dream of Red Mansions), The Song of Shim Ch'ōng, and more. By the end of the course, students will be broadly familiar with major genres and themes of traditional Chinese, Korean, and Japanese literature as considered from such perspectives as traditional and modern literary criticism, religion and philosophy, translation, performance studies, and cognitive psychology. All readings are in English translation, and no prior knowledge of East Asian languages or literature is required. Students may optionally request instructor assistance with locating and interpreting original language materials. Department Permission Required.

INDS 600 - THE INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLAR: RESEARCH, WRITING, AND INTELLECTUAL PRACTICE**Short Title:** THE INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLAR**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course equips Master of Interdisciplinary Studies students with practical skills for engaging in graduate-level interdisciplinary research, writing, and professional scholarship. Students will engage with recent interdisciplinary journal articles, learning how to critically analyze research across different fields. Faculty from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and creative arts will discuss methodologies and problem-solving approaches in their respective disciplines, demonstrating how interdisciplinary research is conducted in practice. Students will explore the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in research and writing, and interdisciplinary approaches in creative projects, exploring how AI transforms knowledge production. Students will develop graduate-level writing and research skills and apply interdisciplinary methods in traditional and creative research contexts. Students will develop effective presentation techniques, including peer feedback on delivery, visual aids, and engagement. Department Permission Required.

INDS 606 - THE HEBREW BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETERS**Short Title:** HEBREW BIBLE/ITS INTERPRETERS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This seminar seeks to acquaint students with the principal parts of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, with the modern, historical-critical study of the Bible as an academic discipline, and a few episodes in the recent history of the Bible in the West. Our reading of the biblical literature will primarily be historical-critical in the sense that it emphasizes that the Hebrew Bible is rooted in the ancient Near East, its history and literature. At the same time we will be sensitive to traditional, Jewish and Christian readings of the Bible as they evolved over two millennia and examine how these faith-based traditions arose, how they differ from modern critical approaches and how the two can complement each other. Department Permission Required.

INDS 612 - THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS**Short Title:** THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls a little over a half a century ago in the Judean desert has been celebrated as the most significant manuscript discovery of the 20th century. Students will study the fascinating history of the discovery and publication of the Scrolls. They will read the most important Scrolls, learn about the beliefs and practices of the Jewish group that authored them and discuss what can be learned from the Scrolls about the nature of Early Judaism and the origins of Christianity. Department Permission Required.

INDS 613 - CHANGING VIEWS OF VICTORIAN ENGLAND**Short Title:** CHANGING VIEWS VICTORIAN ENGLD**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Ever since the early days of Margaret Thatcher's prime ministership when she frequently ballyhooed the virtues of "Victorian Values," scholars have been revisiting the stereotypical history of life and lifestyles during Victorian Great Britain. For much of the last century we have perceived Victorians as living soberly prudent lives, living in overstuffed houses, filled with overstuffed furniture. We have commonly depicted the Victorians as persons who revered the institutions of religion, family, country and social convention. This course stresses the result of the most recent historical research which challenges the more traditional views. Department Permission Required.

INDS 614 - PUBLIC SPEAKING**Short Title:** PUBLIC SPEAKING**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course is designed to give the student exposure to and experience using basic principles and skills of oral communication in the public context. Emphasis will be on the development of speech organization, support and delivery. Informative and persuasive speeches will be practiced. An important outcome of the course is that the student better understand and appreciate the important role public speaking plays in modern society. Instructor Permission Required.

INDS 615 - TEN MASTERPIECES OF NORTHERN RENAISSANCE ART**Short Title:** MASTERPIECES OF REN ART**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will introduce students to the great "masterpieces" of painting produced in Northern Europe during the Renaissance of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Each week we will focus on a single work of art from this period and explore a constellation of issues around the creation and reception of the painting. Students will learn in-depth methods of visual analysis and interpretation of works within their historical context. These same skills and strategies may be applied to the full range of western painting and provide useful tools for enriching visits to museums or experiences of European travel. Department Permission Required.

INDS 616 - OCEANWAYS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE**Short Title:** OCEANWAYS OF BRITISH EMPIRE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Never in the history of imperial expansion has there ever been anything that compared to the British Empire at its height in the days of Queen Victoria. In size the Empire was supreme, ruling the largest area and the largest number of people. This course will examine these aspects of the Victorian Empire and compare them with imperial activities of the present day. Department Permission Required.

INDS 617 - CREATIVE NONFICTION**Short Title:** CREATIVE NONFICTION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Creative nonfiction takes many forms, including expository writing, personal essay, narrative story-telling, literary journalism, memoir, nature and science writing, travel and food writing, historical narrative, biographical narrative, and academic and cultural criticism. This course is designed to help students read and write creative nonfiction with a focus on the voice, structure, messages, style, and technique found in contemporary creative nonfiction. The material covered applies to the humanities, the social sciences, and the sciences. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

INDS 618 - THE AWAKENING OF RUSSIA**Short Title:** THE AWAKENING OF RUSSIA**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: There was a spectacular flowering of Russian culture in the aftermath of the death of Czar Nicholas I (1825-55). Ushered in was a relatively liberal era which, combined with a powerful natural upsurge, yielded a period of remarkable creativity. Department Permission Required.

INDS 620 - MASTERPIECES OF THE POETIC TRADITION**Short Title:** POETIC TRADITION MASTERPIECES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will introduce students to the appreciation and analysis of poetic masterpieces. We will focus on poetry produced in the English and American literary tradition, with particular attention paid to the poems, poets, and cultures that influence the development of those traditions. Department Permission Required.

INDS 622 - THE SCEPTER'D ISLE: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL BRITAIN**Short Title:** ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL BRITAIN**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: From the murky prehistoric times of Stonehenge and New Grange to the tumultuous times of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine, the dramatic combinations of history and myth have continually fascinated lovers of the British Isles. This course will explore ancient and medieval Britain, meandering from prehistoric sites to the early invaders, from the delightful legends of Glastonbury to the centuries of Roman invasions, from the Anglo-Saxon heptarchy to the Norman invasion, and from the hegemony of the Roman Catholic church to the challenge of secular kings. Department Permission Required.

INDS 624 - ADVANCED CREATIVE NONFICTION**Short Title:** ADVANCED CREATIVE NONFICTION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course offers students an opportunity to continue to practice writing creative nonfiction in a guided workshop format. The primary emphasis in the course will be on the professor and students reading and providing constructive feedback on the students' creative nonfiction writings. In addition, the students will read further examples of various types of creative nonfiction writing and complete writing exercises designed to allow them to work on the voice, structure, and technique of their writing. This course is designed for students with experience in writing creative nonfiction, such as completion of MLSC 617 or a similar course or creative writing workshop experience elsewhere. For those who have not taken a creative nonfiction course in the MLS program, consultation with the instructor is recommended before enrolling. Department Permission Required.

INDS 625 - THE SHAPES OF POETRY: A WORKSHOP**Short Title:** THE SHAPES OF POETRY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course examines fundamental architecture of poetry. How do poets create a sense of shape? What are the nuts and bolts of a poem? Students will read widely in the history of poetry, from traditional meters and historical forms to contemporary free verse and experimental or open forms. Part workshop and part seminar, this course will feature critical and creative assignments and is designed for writers and non-writers of any level of experience. Department Permission Required.

INDS 626 - THE BROTHERHOOD: LIVES AND LOVES OF THE PRE-RAPHAELITES**Short Title:** PRE-RAPHAELITES LIVES & LOVES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (PRB), founded in 1848, was a small group of British artists who boldly challenged the conventions of Victorian-era art and the materialism of industrialized England. While the PRB influenced the British art world for the remainder of the century, this course will focus on the intriguing personal lives of the artists, including Dante Gabriel Rossetti, William Holman Hunt, and John Millais, rather than the art they created. These artists, along with their wives, paramours, and models (often all one and the same) were part of a highly prolific Victorian creative class which for this course will revolve around the locale of central London and the influence of the towering figure of art and architecture - critic John Ruskin. Department Permission Required.**INDS 627 - JOHN RUSKIN AND HIS WORLD****Short Title:** JOHN RUSKIN AND HIS WORLD**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will examine John Ruskin (1819-1900), who rose from a troubled childhood to become one of the most influential critics of art and architecture of his century, forever fulminating the notion that art had a moral purpose and especially that art and architecture produced in France and Italy in the Middle Ages. Department Permission Required.**INDS 630 - POST-BOP. JAZZ'S GOLDEN AGE****Short Title:** JAZZ'S GOLDEN AGE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** In this course we will explore the music of some of the most influential and important jazz musicians of the period, and we will also study the social, cultural and political context within which the music was created. We will focus in particular on Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Billie Holiday, Miles Davis, Charles Mingus, and John Coltrane. Department Permission Required.**INDS 631 - INTRODUCTION TO READING AND WRITING FICTION****Short Title:** INTRO READING WRITING FICTION**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course provides an introduction to reading fiction critically and writing short fiction successfully. The reading portion of the class focuses on the primary elements of fiction: scenes, tension and conflict, character, point of view, structure, voice, and dialogue. For the writing portion, students will compose original prose and provide feedback on one another's work in a workshop format. Department Permission Required.**INDS 632 - MUSIC MYTH AND MADNESS****Short Title:** MUSIC MYTH AND MADNESS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** A study of biographical narratives about musicians including Bach, Bod Dylan, Thelonious Monk, Mozart, and Schumann. Considers the nature of creativity and inspiration. Examines the extent to which biography borrows from mythology and literary fiction. Materials include memoirs, letters, novels, and films. Department Permission Required.**INDS 633 - HOW TO READ A NOVEL****Short Title:** HOW TO READ A NOVEL**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** We will start this course by making one of Jane Austen's novels our "norm" and then read a survey of the novel's great variety through the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. As we read the novels, we will keep asking what we mean by narrative, point of view, the nature of character, the paradigm of character relationships each novel creates, and the meaning of the end. Department Permission Required.**INDS 635 - THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANITY****Short Title:** THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTIANITY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** An examination of the origins and earliest history of Christianity, from Jesus to the second century CE. The class is based on a close reading of texts; Jewish texts; texts from the Old Testament; and Christian texts from the second century CE. Department Permission Required.

INDS 637 - THE LITERATURE OF THE SIXTIES**Short Title:** THE LITERATURE OF THE SIXTIES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Some decades are not simply a ten-year period but a cultural phase. The Sixties, it seems, started in 1963 with the assassination of JFK and lasted until 1975, when we withdrew our military forces from Saigon and quit the war we lost. The literature of the period reflects some of this upheaval-new themes, greater candor, many different kinds of experiments.**INDS 639 - EXPLORING THE ARTS****Short Title:** EXPLORING THE ARTS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course is designed to introduce students to an array of contemporary and traditional arts practices and to deepen experience and understanding of those arts through writing. Engaging with the arts offerings available during the semester, the course will cover concepts in theater, opera, dance, and art exhibitions. Department Permission Required.**INDS 640 - AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES****Short Title:** AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The course examines the perceptions and interactions of five regions – Africa, China, France, Mexico, and Russia – with America. Some course content is online, taught by Rice experts of these regions. The course introduces students to various disciplinary approaches to the study of intercultural exchange and representation. Department Permission Required.**INDS 641 - PHILOSOPHIES FROM INDIA AND TIBET: RELIGION, ART, HEALTH, SCIENCE & SPIRITUALITY****Short Title:** PHILOSOPHIES OF INDIA & TIBET**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Examining the philosophies and religious traditions from India and Tibet, can give us a broader view of some of the landscape of thought in Asia, from the early Harappan culture and Vedic worldview, to the religious traditions of Hinduism, Jainism, Islam, Bon and Buddhism among others. Department Permission Required.**INDS 642 - ASIAN RELIGIOUS AND MEDICAL TRADITIONS: INDIA, CHINA AND TIBET****Short Title:** ASIAN RELIGIONS AND MEDICINE**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Exploring the philosophical and religious traditions of India, China and Tibet, this course will look at their own understanding of well-being and thus, the medical systems and methods they create accordingly-particularly mind-body conceptions and practices. We will thus examine the relationship between body and mind, illness, suffering, treatment, healing, and death. Department Permission Required.**INDS 644 - DEATH, DYING AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUALITY IN LIFE: GAINING INSIGHTS FROM EASTERN PERSPECTIVES****Short Title:** DEATH & SPIRITUALITY IN EAST**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** It is easy to forget the importance of spirituality in our daily lives until we have a major illness or someone around one has it, or as we notice our changes due to aging. Reading, discussing and using practices from Eastern perspectives may provide some new insights as we move forward more meaningfully in our lives. Department Permission Required.**INDS 645 - THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EMPLOYEE RESILIENCE****Short Title:** RESILIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will provide an overview of resilience research and practice. We will discuss theory, empirical findings, and practice-based perspectives. The main goal of this course is to broaden and deepen knowledge about major models and approaches that inform our understanding and practice of resilience. Students who have earned credit for MLSC 645 cannot earn credit for INDS 645. Department Permission Required.**INDS 650 - HISTORY OF UNITED STATES PHILANTHROPY****Short Title:** HISTORY OF US PHILANTHROPY**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course uses in-depth case studies, historical analysis and an interdisciplinary lens to examine the emergence and evolution of organized philanthropy in the United States. From religious charity and mutual aid to major foundations and modern giving, students explore philanthropy's influence on society, power, and policy while considering its future. Department Permission Required.

INDS 677 - SPECIAL TOPICS**Short Title:** SPECIAL TOPICS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory, Independent Study, Internship/Practicum, Laboratory, Lecture, Seminar**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.**INDS 680 - STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION FOR MISSION-DRIVEN LEADERS****Short Title:** STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP COMMS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Students will learn and develop skills to communicate effectively as leaders on behalf of their organization. This course explores strategies for influencing stakeholders, crisis communications, storytelling and leadership presence. Course literature, lectures and exercises will facilitate application and mastery of strategic communication practices, resulting in clear, consistent, and inspiring messaging. Department Permission Required.**INDS 699 - CAPSTONE SEMINAR****Short Title:** CAPSTONE SEMINAR**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hour:** 1**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This seminar course is designed to familiarize students with the academic requirements of the Capstone Project and to assist students with the research, preparation, and defense of the MIS Capstone Proposal. Required for all MIS students planning to register for the capstone in the upcoming academic year, provided they will have completed at least 24 credit hours by the time of enrollment. Department Permission Required. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Completion of at least 24 hours of graduate coursework.**INDS 700 - CAPSTONE I****Short Title:** CAPSTONE I**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Capstone I is the first semester of a two-term culminating experience in the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies program. It provides students with the time and structure to begin executing their approved capstone proposal under the guidance of a Capstone Advisor and Second Reader. Drawing on the foundations laid in the INDS 699 Capstone Seminar, students engage in independent work toward the development of a substantial final project that reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the MIS degree. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.**INDS 701 - CAPSTONE II****Short Title:** CAPSTONE II**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies or Liberal Studies. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Prerequisite(s):** INDS 699 or MLSC 699**Description:** Capstone II is the final course in the culminating experience for the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies program. It serves either as the second semester of a two-term capstone sequence or as a one-semester capstone option for students approved to complete their project in a single term. Students work independently under the guidance of a Capstone Advisor and Second Reader to complete a substantial project that reflects the interdisciplinary and graduate-level rigor of the MIS degree. Department Permission Required.**INDS 750 - INTRODUCTION TO DIPLOMA RESEARCH****Short Title:** INTRO TO DIPLOMA RESEARCH**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in a Diploma in Liberal Studies degree.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Open only to students in the Diploma in Liberal Studies Program. The purpose of this course is to prepare students for diploma research in general and for the diploma project research in particular. The course will accomplish this by giving students an opportunity to gain knowledge of research in the two chosen disciplines outlined in their Diploma Proposal. Department Permission Required.

INDS 797 - ADVANCED INDEPENDENT READINGS**Short Title:** ADVANCED INDEPENDENT READINGS**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in a Diploma in Liberal Studies degree.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This independent study course is designed for students in the Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS) program who wish to pursue a focused area of study not covered by existing coursework. Under the supervision of a faculty advisor, students will engage in deep reading and research related to one or both of their chosen disciplines, with the goal of strengthening their academic foundation in preparation for the Diploma Project. Students who have earned credit for MLSC 797 cannot earn credit for INDS 797. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

INDS 798 - DIPLOMA PROJECT I**Short Title:** DIPLOMA PROJECT I**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in a Diploma in Liberal Studies degree.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This is the first of a two-semester research sequence for students in the Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS) program. Under the guidance of a three-member faculty committee, students begin work on their interdisciplinary Diploma Project, which culminates in a substantial written thesis and public defense. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

INDS 799 - DIPLOMA PROJECT II**Short Title:** DIPLOMA PROJECT II**Department:** School of Continuing Studies**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in a Diploma in Liberal Studies degree.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This is the second of a two-semester research sequence for students in the Diploma in Liberal Studies (DLS) program. Under the guidance of a three-member faculty committee, students complete their interdisciplinary Diploma Project, which culminates in a substantial written thesis and public oral defense. Department Permission Required.

Description and Code Legend

Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule

- Course offerings/subject code: INDS

Home School Description and Code

- Continuing Studies: CS

Home Department (or Program) Description and Code

- School of Continuing Studies: SOCS

Graduate Degree Descriptions and Codes

- Master of Interdisciplinary Studies degree: MIS
- Diploma in Liberal Studies: DLS

Graduate Degree Program Description and Code

- Degree Program in Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS degree): INDS
- Degree Program in Liberal Studies (DLS diploma): LBST

Graduate Certificate Descriptions and Codes

- Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing - English: DCE
- Certificate in Dual Credit Teacher Credentialing - History: DCH

CIP Code and Description ¹

- **INDS** Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 30.0000 - Multi-/Interdisciplinary Studies, General
- **LBST** Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 24.0101 - Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies
- **DCE** Certificate: CIP Code/Title: 13.1305 - English/Language Arts Teacher Education
- **DCH** Certificate: CIP Code/Title: 13.1328 - History Arts Teacher Education

¹ Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2020 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/>.