

FIRST-YR WRITING INTENSIVE SEM (FWIS)

FWIS 100 - INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC WRITING

Short Title: INTRO TO ACADEMIC WRITING

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This topic-based course prepares students who need more time and practice in reading and writing to meet the more advanced communication demands of a FWIS. Through the study of one of several academic topics, this course will provide an introduction to the expectations of academic readers as well as practice with the rhetorical and linguistic structures common to academic writing. Students will also review grammatical points relevant to coursework and learn to self-edit their own work. This course does not fulfill the Composition Requirement.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/programs/first-year-writing-intensive-seminars/fwis-100-overview (<http://pwc.rice.edu/programs/first-year-writing-intensive-seminars/fwis-100-overview/>)

FWIS 101 - THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE

Short Title: THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: We will introduce various ways in which the Bible plays a significant role in contemporary popular culture. By analyzing biblical references found in music, film, art, and the medial, students will discover that even in today's seemingly secular culture, the Bible continues to influence our artistic, social, and political landscapes.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 102 - BLIND SPOTS: CRITICAL APPROACHES TO VISUAL CULTURE

Short Title: BLIND SPOTS

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The blind spot of "the act of seeing" is its social construction, its ideological nature. This seminar unveils the various historical, political, economic, and social "filters" that condition our decoding of visual information. This writing seminar aims at developing skills to de-naturalize the "act of seeing."

FWIS 103 - WHODUNIT? INVESTIGATING TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION

Short Title: TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: It was Colonel Mustard, in the library, with a candlestick! Crime fiction and true crime presents forensic evidence as a clue to find out: whodunit? This course examines the construction and adaptation of stories of crime, and investigates how the presentation of evidence influences our understanding of the crime.

FWIS 104 - WHAT WE OWE TO EACH OTHER: THE ETHICS OF WRITING AND RESEARCH

Short Title: WHAT WE OWE TO EACH OTHER

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In this course, students will watch episodes of The Good Place paired with readings on the theories featured to explore "what we owe to each other" across a range of contexts, from every day communication to equity and access in writing and research in the students' chosen field of study.

FWIS 105 - MEDIA, POLITICS, AND THE 2024 ELECTION

Short Title: MEDIA POLITICS & THE ELECTION

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course offers an in-depth examination of the 2024 American presidential election with a focus on the election's media and context. Students will critically engage with the developments of the final months of the election while analyzing the social and cultural factors that shape the broader contours of American politics.

FWIS 106 - WRITING THE SENSES

Short Title: WRITING THE SENSES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course investigates the ways different disciplines develop theories of and tools for touching, tasting, smelling, hearing, and seeing. We experiment with the distinctions we draw between our senses as well as other ways we process information including our sense of balance, sense of pain, sense of time, and synaesthesia.

FWIS 107 - IN THE MATRIX: ON HUMAN BONDAGE AND LIBERATION

Short Title: IN THE MATRIX

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Using the film "The Matrix" as the point of reference, this course presents celebrated explorations of servitude and emancipation - from religious mysticism to Marxism and artistic modernism. Texts by Lao Tzu, Farid ud-Din Attar, Plato, Freud, Marx, Baudelaire, J.S. Mill, Proust, de Beauvoir, Malcolm X, Marcuse, Baudrillard.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 108 - FROM THE CHINA DESK: CHINA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING ON CHINA

Short Title: FROM THE CHINA DESK

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will require students to read critically, discuss, synthesize, summarize and analyze writings about the contemporary affairs of the People's Republic of China. The students will become familiar with a range of basic documentary sources in English – official press releases, government reports – and also popular and academic secondary sources.

FWIS 109 - CONTEMPORARY ART AND ENVIRONMENT

Short Title: ART AND ENVIRONMENT

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course delves into questions of environment, ecology and sustainability through the lens of contemporary art. From earthworks, to performance, to land art, activist art, and community-based practices, participants engage critically and creatively with contemporary practices. This course is eligible for credit toward the Environmental Studies minor.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 110 - JEWS ON FILM: CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISH LIFE

Short Title: JEWS ON FILM

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will explore the modern Jewish life around the world through the medium of film. Students will be exposed to diverse Jewish communities and their cinematic representations. The course will consider modern Jewish identity through the lens of various themes including race, gender, religion, nationalism, assimilation and secularization.

FWIS 113 - RACE, PUBLIC POLICY, AND RACIAL CHANGE IN AMERICA

Short Title: RACE, POLICY, & RACIAL CHANGE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course examines conceptual and historical features of race and representation in the U.S., how race has shaped public policy development in the 20th century, and how American political institutions have affected outcomes for different racial groups. It also examines the causes and consequences of political mobilization for racial minorities.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 114 - THE HOLY GRAIL: RELIGION, QUEST, AND TRANSFORMATION

Short Title: THE HOLY GRAIL

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course explores the grail as object, moving from its roots in medieval romance through the literary-historical developments by which it emerges as a reality. Starting with the Arthurian legends, we explore developing associations of the grail within Christianity, and move to grail motifs in modern occultism, fiction and film.

FWIS 115 - EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES**Short Title:** EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive course introduces students to biological research and scientific communication. Student teams work on investigative projects with opportunities to ask questions, perform experiments, collect and analyze data, and share their findings. Recommended for students interested in the Biosciences major who have limited laboratory experience. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 115 if student has credit for BIOS 150.**FWIS 116 - AMERICAN JOURNEYS****Short Title:** AMERICAN JOURNEYS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The narratives of travelers in the US are a window into history. Drawing on authors like Crèvecoeur, Tocqueville, Trollope, and Kerouac, the class will discuss and write about themes such as Indian life and territorial expansion, democracy, slavery, civil war, western settlement, and 20th-cent. social movements. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in History.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 117 - CULTURAL DIPLOMACY IN THE AMERICAN CENTURY: "THE AMERICANIZATION OF THE WORLD" IN THE TWENTIETH CENT****Short Title:** CULTURAL DIPLOMACY IN THE AMER**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This FWIS course seeks to introduce Rice freshmen to the hidden layers of the story of the Americanization of the world in the twentieth century. The topics to be explored include the role played by private philanthropy in shaping and transmitting American cultural forms, the impact of the Cold War on the diffusion of American culture in such diverse arenas as literature, visual and performing arts, movies, TV programming and science and technology.**FWIS 119 - THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST: TELLING AND RE-TELLING THE TALE AS OLD AS TIME****Short Title:** THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines filmic and literary adaptations of "Beauty and the Beast" from the "original" 1740 French version to the present day. It asks how the tale reflects cultural anxieties and fears and reinforces problematic representations of gender roles, toxic masculinity, and the tenuous fairy-tale conflation of goodness and beauty.**FWIS 120 - FICTION AND EMPATHY****Short Title:** FICTION AND EMPATHY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive course explores the possible link between reading literary fiction and empathizing with others. We'll read short stories, novel excerpts, and literary criticism in an effort to scrutinize and more deeply understand the specific elements of fiction that might provoke empathy.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 121 - TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES: FICTION, FILM, SCIENCE****Short Title:** TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** From an aesthetic perspective, time travel has existed as long as there have been stories. Narrative introduces alien temporalities, transporting listeners and readers into different temporal landscapes. This writing-intensive course investigates the historical, aesthetic, and scientific connections between the authorial and scientific co-creation of time travel.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 122 - CONVERSATIONS WITH SOCRATES

Short Title: CONVERSATIONS WITH SOCRATES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: We will read four Platonic dialogues about the last days of Socrates. We will explore the human concerns that Socrates and his friends discuss, and analyze their arguments. We will also consider literary features, and how the dialogues can inform our understanding of reading, writing, and speaking and their value.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 123 - STAR WARS AND THE WRITING OF POPULAR CULTURE

Short Title: STAR WARS & WRITING CULTURE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will unpack the cultural legacy of the Star Wars films through traditional literary analysis and close reading, by situating the films historically, and by considering the ways that the films reflect attitudes towards a variety of social issues, such as spirituality/religion, philosophy, race, gender, class, nationality, and imperialism.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 124 - WITNESSING THE HOLOCAUST

Short Title: WITNESSING THE HOLOCAUST

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will examine selected testimony given by Holocaust survivors. Their testimony varies according to time and the circumstance in which it was given and also according to the genre (film, memoir, drama) in which it is presented.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 125 - WRITING WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Short Title: WRITING WITH AI

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The course will examine the role of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in students' own composition education and prepare them to make informed decisions as consumers of this rapidly evolving technology. Topics include AI-assisted writing, AI ethics, and AI's role in education generally and writing specifically. By the end of this course, in addition to improved writing skills, students will employ AI tools in their writing, evaluate some tools, and gain insights into how they are transforming education.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 127 - KING ARTHUR IN POPULAR CULTURE: TIME TRAVEL, SPACE ALIENS, AND HOLY HAND GRENADES

Short Title: KING ARTHUR IN POPULAR CULTURE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This writing-intensive seminar examines how medieval Arthurian literature has been re-imagined within 19th, 20th, and 21st century contexts. Beginning with foundational readings from Malory's *Le Morte Darthur*, we will examine and discuss how the Arthurian tradition has been translated into various mediums, including the novel, comic books, art, and film.

FWIS 128 - SPACE, SPEED, CINEMA: THE AUTOMOBILE IN AMERICAN FILM

Short Title: THE AUTOMOBILE IN U.S. FILM

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Covering movies ranging from the early 20th Century to the present day, this class asks students to think critically about what it means to depict the automobile through film and to consider how these depictions, and their meanings, might change in accordance with different historical, artistic, and political contexts.

FWIS 129 - CHINGIS KHAN AND THE EMPIRE OF THE MONGOLS**Short Title:** THE EMPIRE OF THE MONGOLS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In the thirteenth century, the Mongols conquered China, Eastern Europe and Middle East. This class explores empire building, warfare, government and steppe culture, through reading the letters and memoirs of Mongols, merchants, travelers and adventurers. The students will work closely with primary sources to develop analytical writing skills.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 130 - WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE****Short Title:** WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course is dedicated to the poetics of everyday life. It draws from the forms and colors of what surrounds us day-to-day, from landscapes, to bodies and objects. Students develop research and writing skills through creative fieldwork assignments and workshops. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in Anthropology.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 131 - THE WAR ON DRUGS****Short Title:** THE WAR ON DRUGS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the rhetoric and implications of the "War on Drugs" in the U.S. and Latin America. Students analyze from different perspectives key texts that are related to policies enacted in the last fifty years to suppress illicit drug use and that have affected civil liberties and national security.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 132 - SLAVERY ON FILM****Short Title:** SLAVERY ON FILM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will look at the ways major Hollywood (or equivalent) films have dealt with chattel slavery in the United States. We will explore the general question of how feature films deal with controversial historical issues by analyzing more specifically how Hollywood has dealt with American slavery.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 133 - WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST: VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS****Short Title:** WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will examine the Third Reich and the Holocaust from the perspective of women as perpetrators and as victims.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 135 - WHAT IS A BOOK? THE MATERIAL FOUNDATIONS OF READING AND WRITING****Short Title:** WHAT IS A BOOK?**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will explore the history of books and the material (both intellectual and physical) from which they are created. We will consider how the physical form of books has shaped their content and meaning and think critically about how contemporary media shape our reading, writing, and thought.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 137 - POP MUSIC AND AMERICAN CULTURE****Short Title:** POP MUSIC & AMERICAN CULTURE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Recent cultural movements encourage a more serious exploration of popular music. This course will participate by taking a critical look at what songs mean, what songs/albums/genres express, what our interest in music expresses, and how writing about music can lead us to great insights.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 140 - IMAGINING THE PAST: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY****Short Title:** FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In the twentieth century and beyond, movies and television serve as an important source of mythologized national narratives (or somewhat "faked news") from war movies, to westerns, to "biopics" of figures such as Kenneth Turing. Are their patterns of distortion at work, we can identify? How do we correct them?**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 141 - TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE

Short Title: TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Does pineapple belong on pizza? Does red Gatorade taste better than blue? Many of our favorite flavors are produced and marketed by food science and the food industry. This writing-intensive seminar investigates how technologies of taste shape our palates and the ways we think and write about what we eat.

FWIS 142 - WATER AND CITIES

Short Title: WATER AND CITIES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Investigates ancient, historical, and modern cities and how their residents received water. Questions include: how cities developed water resources, how water shaped city life, and how the environment was engineered to produce water. Students will be able to choose a city and a water topic for their final seminar project.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 143 - LEARNING TO OBSERVE THROUGH A TOUR OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS

Short Title: NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In this course, students will hone their skills of observation through careful study of nature, from the geology to the birds and plants of Texas. Students will learn how to interpret and communicate these observations through writing and illustration. This course will involve several local field trips to explore the natural history of the upper Texas coast.

FWIS 144 - THE 2024 FEDERAL AND STATE ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Short Title: 2024 ELECTIONS IN THE US

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will utilize the 2024 U.S. elections as the vehicle through which to achieve the six FWIS Learning Goals. It will involve a set of written work and oral presentations on specific election and political related topics, with concomitant group discussion and debate of those topics, culminating with a research paper.

FWIS 145 - MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY

Short Title: MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: What is a museum? What role do they play in the modern world? This course fosters critical thinking about how and why museums were important institutions. They emerged as sites of identity within and between local, regional, national, imperial and global networks. Globally, a diverse number of museums are at once beloved and controversial, commanding and irrelevant. These contradictions aren't new. To address the future of museums we must understand the evolution of these institutions in their global pasts.

FWIS 146 - APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

Short Title: APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: What is Apartheid? During the course, we will learn what Apartheid was and how white South Africans constructed and justified a system of racial separation, oppression, and violence in South Africa during the 20th century. We will also learn about the ways non-white South Africans fought against it.

FWIS 147 - AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES

Short Title: AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The United States has always been a source of fascination – both attraction and repulsion – for many people around the world. The course covers the perceptions and interactions of five regions – Africa, China, France, Mexico, and Russia – with America. It offers ways to approach cross-cultural study and concludes with a segment that “reverses the gaze” by analyzing American opinions of other cultures. “America through Foreign Eyes” addresses four overarching themes: 1) democracy and modernity; 2) globalization and capitalism; 3) racism and immigration; and 4) intellectual and cultural life.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 148 - THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING**Short Title:** THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This class is designed to introduce students to sports writing as a vehicle for conveying complex ideas and stories, and investigating difficult issues. It is not a sports journalism course, but rather one focused on story-telling through and about sports. We will read a variety of fictional and non-fictional writing about sports as a means to learning about how to look deeply into the world and the people around us.**FWIS 149 - GRAPHIC MEDICINE****Short Title:** GRAPHIC MEDICINE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Do graphic novels reflect perceptions of medicine? Can comics orient our notion of care? Formally dependent on interruption, graphic novels demonstrate the complexity of reading—reading texts, reading bodies, reading trauma. Thus, our class will grapple with disruption and healing in comics and will consider these implications for medical practice. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 149 if student has credit for CLAS 303.**FWIS 150 - THE WORLD OF MEDIEVAL MEDICINE****Short Title:** THE WORLD OF MEDIEVAL MEDICINE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** How did medieval Christians understand and treat mental and bodily illness? How did their experiences of pain, sex, childbirth, and death interact with larger concepts of God, nature, and the heavens? What role did angels and demons play? This seminar will explore these issues through close reading of medieval texts. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 150 if student has credit for FSEM 171/MDEM 171/RELI 171.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 151 - THINK OF THE CHILDREN – HISTORIES OF 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN CHILDHOOD****Short Title:** THINK OF THE CHILDREN**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing intensive seminar casts attention to some histories of twentieth century American childhood. Some of the topics explored include the advent of juvenile courts, psychologization of children, coming-of-age film, youth political disenfranchisement, and age as means of organizing collective life. Any and all majors are welcome.**FWIS 152 - NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS: REAL REMEDIES OR SHADY SCIENCE?****Short Title:** THE SCIENCE OF SUPPLEMENTS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive seminar examines evidence for the use of nutritional supplements in promoting health. Topics include the role of vitamins, herbs and food-based supplements in medicine; the biology of illnesses such as cancer and depression; and the molecular mechanisms of supplements in disease prevention and management.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 153 - BODY POLITICS IN FRANCOPHONE FICTIONS****Short Title:** BODY POLITICS FRENCH FICTIONS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** How do political, social, and cultural forces shape women's experience and beliefs about their body? We will analyze the social construction of women's body through contemporary Francophone fictions and discuss the roles personal, institutional, and disciplinary powers play in the degree of control women retain over their body.**FWIS 155 - WRITING ASIAN FOOD IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION****Short Title:** WRITING ASIAN FOOD**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course exposes students to the exercise of writing about Asian food. Students engage in the activity of "converting" multi-sensory experience, i.e. eating food, into writing on the one hand and think about transnational Asian food in the context of globalizing world. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 155 if student has credit for ASIA 205.

FWIS 157 - TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA: LIVED EXPERIENCES ACROSS TIME AND SPACE

Short Title: TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In this class, we will read and write about people who traveled across and beyond Asia from the fourteenth century to the twentieth century, focusing on core topics such as intercultural interactions, globalization, and modernity. In doing so, we will also challenge the common misconception that Asian societies were isolated from one another and from the rest of the world before the arrival of the Westerners in Asia in the nineteenth century.

FWIS 158 - THE HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Short Title: THE HOLOCAUST IN HISTORY

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course will examine the history of the Holocaust from early accounts to recent reconstructions of the origins, implementation, and aftermath of the "Final Solution." We will also analyze documents, testimonies, memoirs, trial records, and various forms of representations and commemoration of the Shoah.

FWIS 159 - ROBOPSYCHOLOGY AND THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE INTERNET

Short Title: SPIRITUALITY OF THE INTERNET

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: From TikTok to Instagram, Google and ChatGPT, artificial intelligence is an inescapable aspect of everyone's daily life. This course explores how the internet platforms they engage with in their daily lives, and the dreams of the technologists who create them, are also embedded in the history of philosophy and religion.

FWIS 163 - SEX, DEATH, AND SPIRITUAL WRITING

Short Title: SEX DEATH & SPIRITUAL WRITING

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In this course we will look at the ways in which a variety of historical and contemporary "spiritual but not religious" texts grapple with sexuality, mortality, race, gender, class, and politics. This course will foreground discussion and reflection, and students will write weekly discussion posts on canvas, in addition to the three major papers and a group presentation.

FWIS 164 - WAYS OF WALKING IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Short Title: WAYS OF WALKING

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course explores the act of walking, in theory and in practice. Through readings, discussions, writing assignments, and group and individual walks, it examines questions about the body and its movements; the construction and navigation of space; the tradition of travel writing; and the relationship between walking and thinking.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 165 - MEDIATION, "FAKE NEWS," AND DEMOCRACY

Short Title: FAKE NEWS AND DEMOCRACY

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This writing-intensive seminar examines how and why the spread of disinformation has become increasingly more prevalent in our 21st century society and what impact it has on our democratic processes. We will take an interdisciplinary approach to discussing fake news, drawing from history, philosophy, journalism, media studies, and political science.

FWIS 166 - EXPLORING THE WORLD THROUGH INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Short Title: EXPLORING INTL EDUCATION

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Every year millions of college students leave their home countries to spend months, or even years, integrating into a new culture and interacting meaningfully with people in another country. This course explores significant features of international education, through reading, writing, and learning from experts.

FWIS 167 - BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN: AN EXPLORATION OF THE READING EXPERIENCE**Short Title:** BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** What is it about certain books that draws us in and keeps us turning the page? To answer this question, this class examines selected works of fiction and creative nonfiction with a focus on literary form, the psycho-social functions of narrative, and the physical and emotional experience of reading.**FWIS 168 - CASE STUDIES OF BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS****Short Title:** BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** We will analyze buildings that ended up in legal battles. Problems include structural failures, design blunders and near disasters. You will write about what went wrong and why, who saved that day and who should have acted differently. You will learn to write critically and present a convincing argument.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 169 - WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?****Short Title:** WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** We hear and talk about "human rights" frequently, but few of us have an easy time defining ideas so inherently contested and pitted against one another. This class will read, discuss, and write about the history and future of human rights in the United States and elsewhere in the world.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 170 - "WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?"****Short Title:** "WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?"**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Paying special attention to the experiences of immigrant, indigenous, and (formerly) enslaved peoples of the United States, this seminar takes a broad approach to the examination of "citizenship," its global contexts, and its material domains, including education, identity, labor, language, sovereignty, and suffrage.**FWIS 171 - THE DEVIL AND THE WORLD: THE IMAGE OF THE DEVIL IN WESTERN CULTURE****Short Title:** THE DEVIL AND THE WORLD**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** What are the reasons for the Devil's sustained popularity in Western culture? And what are the consequences of this "popularity"? How and why did the Devil, the embodiment of pure evil, become a romantic and tragic hero? This class will tackle these and other questions regarding the image of the Devil.**FWIS 172 - SITES, SOUNDS, & STORIES: THE RHETORIC OF PUBLIC MEMORY****Short Title:** RHETORIC OF PUBLIC MEMORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course invites students to consider whose stories we remember, and how/when/where. How does the framing of historical events bolster or disrupt dominant narratives of public memory? Students will examine scholarship on public memory and conduct analyses of the sites, sounds, and stories of national and local histories.**FWIS 174 - SOUNDING THE CITY****Short Title:** SOUNDING THE CITY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Sound surrounds us. And yet we often put little thought into what role it plays in our lives and the lives of our public spaces. This course aims to correct this oversight by offering an introduction to the field of sound studies focused on Houston's audio environment, past and present.**FWIS 175 - POLITICS AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH QUESTION****Short Title:** POLITICS AND RELIGION**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Though the separation of church and state is a tenet of modern democracies, the relationship between religion and politics is more complicated than it appears. In this course, we will focus our attention on the Jewish Question as a case study for thinking about the relationship between religion and politics.

FWIS 176 - DRAMATIC PAUSES: INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Short Title: EAST ASIAN PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Introduces performing arts of China, Japan, and Korea, like Noh, P'ansori, and Beijing opera, focusing on psychological and multimedia aspects. Introduces performance studies—how to think, write, and present ideas about singing, dancing, storytelling, and drama from perspectives like ritual, gender, music, choreography, costume, stage design, and literary criticism.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)

FWIS 177 - STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM

Short Title: STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course explores the forms and contexts of storytelling in Buddhism, with a broad eye toward literature, visual arts, and performance. Students engage in both creative and academic writing to understand the importance of narrative in Buddhist cultures and different approaches to writing in the modern day. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 177 if student has credit for FSEM 109.

FWIS 178 - JESUS CHRIST MOVIE STAR

Short Title: JESUS CHRIST MOVIE STAR

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This class presents a film-by-film look at several "Jesus" films as recreations and revisions of sacred texts, as reflections of religious and social history, and as responses to biblical scholarship on the subject of the historical Jesus. Writing workshops are interspersed with essential readings and film discussions. Films viewed outside class period. Student film festival outside class period. Evaluation: film journal, 4 papers, creative film short.

FWIS 181 - GRAPHIC BLACKNESS: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMIC BOOK TRADITION

Short Title: AFRICAN AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course examines the struggle for black representation in comics and graphic novels. We will discuss the unique opportunities that sequential narratives present to creators as they represent race on the page and we will examine the history of black artists working in the comic book industry.

FWIS 182 - BORDER POLITICS: MIGRATIONS AND THE MEANING OF THE NATION

Short Title: BORDER POLITICS

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In the midst of a global climate and migration crisis, the safeguarding of borders has become an increasingly contentious issue worldwide. In this course we will explore the perilousness of the human condition, as experienced in the crossing of real and imaginary borders, and in the traumatic loss of homeland and self.

FWIS 183 - UTOPIA OR DYSTOPIA? THE POLITICS OF SPACE

Short Title: UTOPIA/DYSTOPIA: POL. OF SPACE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course discusses utopias and dystopias across history and cultures through a political lens: national borders, imperial conquests, and modern urbanism all result from map-making and the power of human engineering to overcome or live in harmony with nature. Content includes films, essays, comics, novels, and more. All majors welcome.

FWIS 184 - THE CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF TEXAS

Short Title: CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF TEXAS

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: What do we mean by Texas? How has Texas been figured in the American imagination? How are ideas of place both meaningful and limiting? In this course will look at how Texas has been portrayed in the American imagination while uncovering lesser told histories of the state.

FWIS 185 - CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY**Short Title:** CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This class will delve into contemporary American poetry by exploring outstanding poetry books of the previous year. Students will study American poetry in literary and historical contexts, develop ability to analyze how poems "work," develop ability to create clear, effective prose, and build framework for exploring other types of poetry.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 187 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN LITERATURE AND MEDIA IN ENGLISH****Short Title:** INTRO TO AFRICAN LIT & MEDIA**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Intro to African Literature and Media in English explores a variety of cultural and artistic work emerging out of Africa after 1945. In this course, students will learn verbal and written communication skills, especially how to revise and edit their own academic writing. No prior knowledge of African literature is required.**FWIS 188 - INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION****Short Title:** ENG DESIGN & COMMUNICATION**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in the School of Architecture or School of Engineering colleges.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Students learn the engineering design process to solve real-world problems by evaluating design requirements and constructing innovative solutions in the OEDK. Several communication assignments will be completed by individuals rather than teams. Fall limited to ENGI and NSCI students; spring open for engineering and architecture students. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 188 if student has credit for ENGI 120.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 189 - POST-APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE AND FILM****Short Title:** POST-APOCALYPTIC LIT AND FILM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Our culture is fascinated with its own destruction. From zombies to nuclear war, ecological disasters, aliens, disease and killer machines, Armageddon takes many forms. Structured around ways in which we have imagined the world ending, this course charts the cultural consciousness of apocalypse.**FWIS 191 - THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY****Short Title:** THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** How exactly does the length of a piece of writing connect to its expression as a work of art and our interpretation of it? In this course, we'll consider "shortness" as a challenge authors undertake, investigating the ways they weave complex tales into brief, often pithy, masterpieces.**FWIS 192 - THE ROARING TWENTIES****Short Title:** THE ROARING TWENTIES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The 1920s were about new possibilities, aesthetic experimentation, and frenzied expression. We'll examine iconic '20s literature by Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Woolf, and others, as well as the linchpins of '20s culture: jazz, Prohibition, the Harlem Renaissance, and modern art. Highlights include lessons on the Charleston and a Roaring Twenties soiree.**FWIS 193 - THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE****Short Title:** LAW AND JUSTICE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Democratic societies claim to be based on the rule of law. This course examines what is required of a society that treats every individual equally regardless of a person's status or influence. We will analyze the relationship of politics and the law in the distinct historical and national contexts of the contemporary US and post-war Germany, as well as exploring the topics of crimes, guilt, punishment and vigilante justice in selected literary texts and films.

FWIS 194 - LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS THROUGH FILM**Short Title:** LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines ways films have grappled with histories of dictatorship in Latin America, in the 20th century. We will use films alongside other historical and literary sources, to learn about various dictatorial regimes and explore broader questions about state violence, democracy, revolution, imperialism, justice, and memory.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 196 - BUSINESS IN THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION****Short Title:** BUSINESS IN LITERATURE & FILM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The world of business has long been a culturally rich site for national and self-reflection. As we read representations of business in literature and film, we will consider an array of allegories, motifs, and plots about the profits and pitfalls of American commerce culture.**FWIS 197 - SCIENCE, PSEUDOSCIENCE AND SKEPTICISM: HOW TO TELL GOOD SCIENCE FROM JUNK SCIENCE****Short Title:** SCIENCE OR PSEUDOSCIENCE?**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This class focuses on scientific skepticism and critical thinking, and how they can be utilized to distinguish science from pseudoscience. Core topics include the fallibility of perception; mechanisms of self-deception; as well as metacognition, cognitive biases and logical fallacies. These topics will be illustrated through examples of good and bad science.**FWIS 198 - INVENTING THE ESSAY: READING, WRITING, AND THINKING WITH MONTAIGNE****Short Title:** INVENTING THE ESSAY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This FWIS will take Montaigne's essays—in translation—as our primary text. We'll get acquainted with Montaigne's mind, his methods, and the insights his work offers about life and learning. In the process, we'll strengthen our own critical thinking skills and our own abilities as writers, readers, and thinkers.**FWIS 199 - THE SOCIAL LIFE OF DATA****Short Title:** THE SOCIAL LIFE OF DATA**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The Social Life of Data is an introduction to the discipline of social-cultural anthropology and its engagements with data as both a topic of study and key figure animating contemporary human life. More specifically, the course interrogates how recent investments in data inform long-standing structures of social inequality.**FWIS 200 - TRANSFER CREDIT – FIRST-YEAR WRITING (FWIS)****Short Title:** TRANSFER CREDIT-FWIS WRITING**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Transfer Courses**Course Type:** Transfer**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** For transfer of an approved first-year writing intensive seminar. This course may not have been taken pass-fail at the transferring institution and must meet Rice University's transfer credit requirements. Credit for this placeholder course will count towards the total credit hours required for graduation, and will be eligible to satisfy the university's Writing and Communication Requirement. Transfer students must contact the FWIS transfer credit advisor to determine if their course will transfer. Instructor Permission Required.**FWIS 203 - WHODUNIT? INVESTIGATING TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION****Short Title:** TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** It was Colonel Mustard, in the library, with a candlestick! Crime fiction and true crime presents forensic evidence as a clue to find out: whodunit? This course examines the construction and adaptation of stories of crime, and investigates how the presentation of evidence influences our understanding of the crime.

FWIS 209 - CONTEMPORARY ART AND ENVIRONMENT**Short Title:** ART AND ENVIRONMENT**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course delves into questions of environment, ecology and sustainability through the lens of contemporary art. From earthworks, to performance, to land art, activist art, and community-based practices, participants engage critically and creatively with contemporary practices. This course is eligible for credit toward the Environmental Studies minor.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 210 - JEWS ON FILM: CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISH LIFE****Short Title:** JEWS ON FILM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will explore the modern Jewish life around the world through the medium of film. Students will be exposed to diverse Jewish communities and their cinematic representations. The course will consider modern Jewish identity through the lens of various themes including race, gender, religion, nationalism, assimilation and secularization.**FWIS 211 - THE MEANING AND IMPACT OF QUANTUM MECHANICS****Short Title:** MEANING AND IMPACT OF QUANTUM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** We will discuss many ongoing debates over the content and meaning of quantum theory. This will reveal how theories are formed, how science is done, how these impact our day-to-day culture, and the surprisingly significant role that humans play in objective science.**FWIS 215 - EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES****Short Title:** EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive course introduces students to biological research and scientific communication. Student teams work on investigative projects with opportunities to ask questions, perform experiments, collect and analyze data, and share their findings. Recommended for students interested in the Biosciences major who have limited laboratory experience.**FWIS 218 - BAD MOMS: THE RHETORIC AND REALITY OF AMERICAN MOTHERHOOD****Short Title:** BAD MOMS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the experiences of mothering parents who do not fit cultural and social ideals of "good motherhood" – working mothers, immigrant mothers, mothers who are single, young, absent, sick. Students will analyze cultural texts and read essays from different scholarly fields, including sociology, history, philosophy, and others.**FWIS 219 - THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST: TELLING AND RE-TELLING THE TALE AS OLD AS TIME****Short Title:** THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines filmic and literary adaptations of "Beauty and the Beast" from the "original" 1740 French version to the present day. It asks how the tale reflects cultural anxieties and fears and reinforces problematic representations of gender roles, toxic masculinity, and the tenuous fairy-tale conflation of goodness and beauty.**FWIS 220 - FICTION AND EMPATHY****Short Title:** FICTION AND EMPATHY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive course explores the possible link between reading literary fiction and empathizing with others. We'll read short stories, novel excerpts, and literary criticism in an effort to scrutinize and more deeply understand the specific elements of fiction that might provoke empathy.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 221 - TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES: FICTION, FILM, SCIENCE****Short Title:** TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** From an aesthetic perspective, time travel has existed as long as there have been stories. Narrative introduces alien temporalities, transporting listeners and readers into different temporal landscapes. This writing-intensive course investigates the historical, aesthetic, and scientific connections between the authorial and scientific co-creation of time travel.

FWIS 226 - THE GERMAN FAIRY TALE: OLD AND NEW**Short Title:** THE GERMAN FAIRY TALE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In this writing-intensive seminar, students will examine the fairy tale and its role in German culture and beyond. Topics include the Brothers Grimm and their times, qualities of the fairy tale genre, gender dynamics in fairy tales, and political and historical content in fairy tales. Appropriate for all majors.**FWIS 230 - WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE****Short Title:** WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course is dedicated to the poetics of everyday life. It draws from the forms and colors of what surrounds us day-to-day, from landscapes, to bodies and objects. Students develop research and writing skills through creative fieldwork assignments and workshops. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in Anthropology.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 231 - THE WAR ON DRUGS****Short Title:** THE WAR ON DRUGS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the rhetoric and implications of the "War on Drugs" in the U.S. and Latin America. Students analyze from different perspectives key texts that are related to policies enacted in the last fifty years to suppress illicit drug use and that have affected civil liberties and national security.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 234 - DEEP CUTS: MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES****Short Title:** MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** With a focus on mainstream and experimental cinematic treatments of medicine produced in the United States, France, and Spain, this writing-intensive seminar explores how films depict medicine's and culture's intersections through representations of the body, clinical practices, and healthcare institutions.**FWIS 237 - POP MUSIC AND AMERICAN CULTURE****Short Title:** POP MUSIC & AMERICAN CULTURE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Recent cultural movements encourage a more serious exploration of popular music. This course will participate by taking a critical look at what songs mean, what songs/albums/genres express, what our interest in music expresses, and how writing about music can lead us to great insights.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 240 - IMAGINING THE PAST: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY****Short Title:** FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In the twentieth century and beyond, movies and television serve as an important source of mythologized national narratives (or somewhat "faked news") from war movies, to westerns, to "biopics" of figures such as Kenneth Turing. Are their patterns of distortion at work, we can identify? How do we correct them?**FWIS 241 - TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE****Short Title:** TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Does pineapple belong on pizza? Does red Gatorade taste better than blue? Many of our favorite flavors are produced and marketed by food science and the food industry. This writing-intensive seminar investigates how technologies of taste shape our palates and the ways we think and write about what we eat.**FWIS 243 - LEARNING TO OBSERVE THROUGH A TOUR OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS****Short Title:** NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In this course, students will hone their skills of observation through careful study of nature, from the geology to the birds and plants of Texas. Students will learn how to interpret and communicate these observations through writing and illustration. This course will involve several local field trips to explore the natural history of the upper Texas coast.

FWIS 245 - MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY**Short Title:** MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** What is a museum? What role do they play in the modern world? This course fosters critical thinking about how and why museums were important institutions. They emerged as sites of identity within and between local, regional, national, imperial and global networks. Globally, a diverse number of museums are at once beloved and controversial, commanding and irrelevant. These contradictions aren't new. To address the future of museums we must understand the evolution of these institutions in their global pasts.**FWIS 248 - THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING****Short Title:** THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This class is designed to introduce students to sports writing as a vehicle for conveying complex ideas and stories, and investigating difficult issues. It is not a sports journalism course, but rather one focused on story-telling through and about sports. We will read a variety of fictional and non-fictional writing about sports as a means to learning about how to look deeply into the world and the people around us.**FWIS 251 - MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES: THE ART OF THE PERSONAL ESSAY****Short Title:** MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course explores and examines the personal essay as a vehicle for discovery, critical thinking, and self-scrutiny. Students will read great essays from the past and present, write a variety of essays themselves, and analyze the form to draw larger conclusions about thoughtful and engaging writing in any genre.**FWIS 252 - NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS: REAL REMEDIES OR SHADY SCIENCE?****Short Title:** THE SCIENCE OF SUPPLEMENTS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive seminar examines evidence for the use of nutritional supplements in promoting health. Topics include the role of vitamins, herbs and food-based supplements in medicine; the biology of illnesses such as cancer and depression; and the molecular mechanisms of supplements in disease prevention and management.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 254 - THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BORDER****Short Title:** THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE BORDER**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will explore portrayals of morality in film, literature and music produced in the US-Mexico borderlands. As we examine conflicting and converging moral codes in these cultural texts, students will use writing as a tool for exploring ideas and refining understanding.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 255 - WRITING ASIAN FOOD IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION****Short Title:** WRITING ASIAN FOOD**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course exposes students to the exercise of writing about Asian food. Students engage in the activity of "converting" multi-sensory experience, i.e. eating food, into writing on the one hand and think about transnational Asian food in the context of globalizing world. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 255 if student has credit for ASIA 205.

FWIS 257 - TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA: LIVED EXPERIENCES ACROSS TIME AND SPACE**Short Title:** TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In this class, we will read and write about people who traveled across and beyond Asia from the fourteenth century to the twentieth century, focusing on core topics such as intercultural interactions, globalization, and modernity. In doing so, we will also challenge the common misconception that Asian societies were isolated from one another and from the rest of the world before the arrival of the Westerners in Asia in the nineteenth century.**FWIS 260 - GLOBAL ENGLISH: DIVERSITY, DEMAND, AND DOMINANCE****Short Title:** GLOBAL ENGLISH**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In this course, students will consider how sociocultural, political, and economic factors have historically influenced decisions about language use in the context of English. In doing so, they will practice different forms of academic communication and refine skills fundamental to their success as critical thinkers, readers, and writers.**FWIS 263 - SEX, DEATH, AND SPIRITUAL WRITING****Short Title:** SEX, DEATH, & SPIRITUAL WRITING**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In this course we will look at the ways in which a variety of historical and contemporary "spiritual but not religious" texts grapple with sexuality, mortality, race, gender, class, and politics. This course will foreground discussion and reflection, and students will write weekly discussion posts on canvas, in addition to the three major papers and a group presentation.**FWIS 267 - BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN: AN EXPLORATION OF THE READING EXPERIENCE****Short Title:** BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** What is it about certain books that draws us in and keeps us turning the page? To answer this question, this class examines selected works of fiction and creative nonfiction with a focus on literary form, the psycho-social functions of narrative, and the physical and emotional experience of reading.**FWIS 268 - CASE STUDIES OF BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS****Short Title:** BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** We will analyze buildings that ended up in legal battles. Problems include structural failures, design blunders and near disasters. You will write about what went wrong and why, who saved that day and who should have acted differently. You will learn to write critically and present a convincing argument.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 273 - CONTEMPORARY LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS****Short Title:** LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This writing-intensive course explores the new and ever-growing category of LGBTQ+ classics by reading a diverse array of novels from the 1950s to the present day that represent gay, lesbian, queer, and trans experiences, while exemplifying and challenging the idea of the literary classic.**FWIS 274 - SOUNDING THE CITY****Short Title:** SOUNDING THE CITY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Sound surrounds us. And yet we often put little thought into what role it plays in our lives and the lives of our public spaces. This course aims to correct this oversight by offering an introduction to the field of sound studies focused on Houston's audio environment, past and present.

FWIS 277 - STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM**Short Title:** STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course explores the forms and contexts of storytelling in Buddhism, with a broad eye toward literature, visual arts, and performance. Students engage in both creative and academic writing to understand the importance of narrative in Buddhist cultures and different approaches to writing in the modern day.**FWIS 280 - INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY****Short Title:** INNOVATIONS IN ED TECH**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The course will examine the role of innovative technology in students' own education and prepare them to make informed decisions as consumers of these technologies. Topics include mobile learning, virtual and augmented reality, gamification, and artificial intelligence. By the end of this course, in addition to improved writing skills, students will have a better understanding of the latest trends in educational technology and how they are transforming education.**FWIS 281 - GRAPHIC BLACKNESS: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMIC BOOK TRADITION****Short Title:** AFRICAN AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the struggle for black representation in comics and graphic novels. We will discuss the unique opportunities that sequential narratives present to creators as they represent race on the page and we will examine the history of black artists working in the comic book industry.**FWIS 282 - BORDER POLITICS: MIGRATIONS AND THE MEANING OF THE NATION****Short Title:** BORDER POLITICS**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** In the midst of a global climate and migration crisis, the safeguarding of borders has become an increasingly contentious issue worldwide. In this course we will explore the perilousness of the human condition, as experienced in the crossing of real and imaginary borders, and in the traumatic loss of homeland and self.**FWIS 286 - MINORITIES AND SUBCULTURES IN EAST ASIA****Short Title:** MINORITIES AND SUBCULTURES**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course challenges the myth of homogeneity in the understanding of East Asian societies by examining the experience of a variety of minority groups in terms of ethnicity, gender, religion, class, occupation, as well as physical and mental conditions.**FWIS 288 - INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION****Short Title:** ENG DESIGN & COMMUNICATION**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in the School of Architecture or School of Engineering colleges.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Students learn the engineering design process to solve real-world problems by evaluating design requirements and constructing innovative solutions in the OEDK. Several communication assignments will be completed by individuals rather than teams. Fall limited to ENGI and NSCI students; spring open for engineering and architecture students.**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (<http://pwc.rice.edu/>)**FWIS 290 - BLACK CONTEMPORARY ART****Short Title:** BLACK CONTEMPORARY ART**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course introduces students to the field black contemporary art. How is a new generation of black art making shaping the way we think about race, gender, sexuality, and disability? How have expressions of self-representation changed over the decades and how do we begin to understand the political stakes of who is seen, who is overseen, and who is made invisible?**FWIS 291 - THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY****Short Title:** THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** How exactly does the length of a piece of writing connect to its expression as a work of art and our interpretation of it? In this course, we'll consider "shortness" as a challenge authors undertake, investigating the ways they weave complex tales into brief, often pithy, masterpieces.

FWIS 292 - THE ROARING TWENTIES

Short Title: THE ROARING TWENTIES

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The 1920s were about new possibilities, aesthetic experimentation, and frenzied expression. We'll examine iconic '20s literature by Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Woolf, and others, as well as the linchpins of '20s culture: jazz, Prohibition, the Harlem Renaissance, and modern art. Highlights include lessons on the Charleston and a Roaring Twenties soiree.

FWIS 293 - THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

Short Title: LAW AND JUSTICE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Democratic societies claim to be based on the rule of law. This course examines what is required of a society that treats every individual equally regardless of a person's status or influence. We will analyze the relationship of politics and the law in the distinct historical and national contexts of the contemporary US and post-war Germany, as well as exploring the topics of crimes, guilt, punishment and vigilante justice in selected literary texts and films.

FWIS 296 - BUSINESS IN THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION

Short Title: BUSINESS IN LITERATURE & FILM

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The world of business has long been a culturally rich site for national and self-reflection. As we read representations of business in literature and film, we will consider an array of allegories, motifs, and plots about the profits and pitfalls of American commerce culture.

FWIS 297 - SCIENCE, PSEUDOSCIENCE AND SKEPTICISM: HOW TO TELL GOOD SCIENCE FROM JUNK SCIENCE

Short Title: SCIENCE OR PSEUDOSCIENCE?

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This class focuses on scientific skepticism and critical thinking, and how they can be utilized to distinguish science from pseudoscience. Core topics include the fallibility of perception; mechanisms of self-deception; as well as metacognition, cognitive biases and logical fallacies. These topics will be illustrated through examples of good and bad science.

FWIS 298 - FROM CLIMATE CHANGE TO CLIMATE JUSTICE

Short Title: CLIMATE CHANGE CLIMATE JUSTICE

Department: First-Year Writing Intensive

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Climate change is not only an environmental problem but also a social, economic, and political one. In this seminar, students will learn about these elements of climate change, ask how environmental issues intersect with ideas of justice, and investigate various appearances, contexts, and critical uses of the term "climate justice."