

INQ Course Descriptions – Fall 2024 Offerings

INQ 110

2024FA	INQ-110-A	Strange Tales From the Bible	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
<p>After an introduction to a scholarly understanding of the origin and interpretation of the Bible, we will address the questions: Why have some tales from the Bible been deemed strange, sparking the interest and imagination of believers and non-believers of various time periods? How have these readers responded to these stories? What significance have they attached to them? This course will investigate a variety of stories--some well-known and others more obscure--from both the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament writings.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-110-L3	Myths of Musical Genius	MW 02:20PM-03:50PM
<p>What do we mean when we say a composer is a genius, or speak of a musician's genius, or the genius of a singer? How can we say a work such as an opera or Broadway show or record album is a work of musical genius, when it is essentially a collaborative project? This course pursues an inquiry into the notion of musical genius by proposing how popular culture creates musical myths about artists and works held to be "great." The term 'myth' can refer to any abiding story of human action and achievement. This course introduces students to several myths of musical genius--stories about originality in music and musicians across the ages. To complicate these myths of musical greatness, we will consider how the teachers and mentors, collaborators, and the artistic milieu of each artist's epoch actually shaped the "genius" attributed to them and their work. Our goal is to learn the "back-story" of each myth, and to thus learn how our knowledge of music history can inform an understanding all too often framed simply by the myths and legends of popular consciousness.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-110-O	Mind and Body	MWF 01:10PM-02:10PM
<p>This course deals with the perennial question of who we are and how we relate to the rest of the world: are we highly sophisticated bodies, immaterial minds, or something else? As we follow along with the ancient and modern thinkers who have reflected on these questions, we will find that dealing with the relation between mind and body prompts us to consider other topics at the core of our sense of what it means to be a human being: the nature of consciousness, the possibility of freedom, death, human destiny, and the existence of God.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-110-T2	Criminology Goes to the Movies	TTH 01:10PM-02:40PM
<p>Crime stories surround us. How do crime films both reflect our ideas about social issues, and shape the ways we think about these issues? In this course, students will learn to critically analyze crime films through the lens of criminological theory. The course will begin with an introduction to classical and contemporary criminological theory, followed by a discussion of the role of film in popular culture. Once a foundation for the course has been established, students will screen a range of crime films that correspond to specific criminological theories. Through their analyses of these films, students will explore the dynamic interplay between art and life. Throughout the semester, students will write and lead discussions about the films they are viewing; the course will culminate with an individual research paper and presentation.</p>			

INQ 120

2024FA	INQ-120-A	True Freedom	MWF 08:30AM-09:30AM
<p>This course understands Spinoza's ethics as an "experimentalism." Despite the fact that Spinoza died over 300 years ago, his writings remain remarkably prescient for a wide variety of disciplines from religion to neuroscience. The source of this prescience, however, comes from Spinoza's recasting ethical theory in terms of how we might live rather than in terms of how we should live. Freedom in every aspect of life from the personal to the political to the religious is dependent on a particular way</p>			

of engaging with the world. This engagement takes the form of an experiment to see if what we engage with results in an increase or a decrease in our capacity to affect and be affected by the world. True freedom, for Spinoza, lies in increasing our capacities.

2024FA	INQ-120-B	Communication in Leadership	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
--------	-----------	-----------------------------	---------------------

An investigation of the traits and behaviors of effective, ethical leadership and exploration of how one can inspire a values-based organization with different channels of communication (verbal, non-verbal, written, public, and private). In this sense, an organization is a “social unit of people, systematically arranged to meet a need or to pursue a goal.” The theories of leadership and ethics will be explored, and practical applications (teamwork, oral presentations, writing persuasively) will be utilized to enhance communication and leadership skill development. All topics discussed have a strong underlying ethical component. To accentuate this, ethical leadership will be further analyzed through a unique collection of essays by philosophers, leadership scholars and management theorists. Students will analyze how an increased understanding of communication enhances their confidence and self-image as effective leaders.

2024FA	INQ-120-C	Sport and Ethics	MWF 08:30AM-09:30AM
--------	-----------	------------------	---------------------

Should a person be able to ingest a substance to help sport performance? Does it matter if that substance is a soda or a steroid? Is it okay to break a game rule if it helps your team win? Are athletes obligated to be role models? In our society, sports can fascinate through playing, watching, or talking about the games. Sports also have an impact on nearly every life, positively and negatively, of both the passionate fan and the uninterested person who cannot tell the difference between a touchdown and a touchback. This course will inquire some of the sociological and ethical considerations of sport and life, and illuminate some of these complex issues. The course goal is for each student to consider how sport can impact life, and to contemplate and question the many perspectives in which sporting endeavors can be viewed.

INQ 240

2024FA	INQ-240-A1	Free Will on the Internet	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
--------	------------	---------------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-240-A2	Free Will on the Internet	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
--------	------------	---------------------------	---------------------

As we surf the web, are we really exercising free will? Whether it be reading, shopping, or interacting socially, we'd like to think that we are in control of our choices. The reality is that web designers and marketers use conclusions drawn from vast amounts of data to carefully craft and control our web experiences and actions. This course provides an inquiry-focused introduction to the statistical methodologies necessary to successfully explore and answer this question. Along the way students will develop an understanding of how data is collected and used in relation to virtually everything we do on the internet.

2024FA	INQ-240-B1	Here's to Your Health	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
--------	------------	-----------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-240-B2	Here's to Your Health	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
--------	------------	-----------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-240-B4	Here's to Your Health	MW 02:20PM-03:50PM
--------	------------	-----------------------	--------------------

Newspapers, magazines, television, and websites frequently announce the latest health findings regarding nutrition, lifestyle, diseases, disorders, syndromes, treatments, medications, exercise, weight control... the list goes on and on. We do not lack for health information, but is the information presented to us good information? When reports are contradictory, what can we reasonably believe? We will learn the methodologies of modern statistics to address these questions. In the face of uncertainty, we must recognize the importance of basing decisions on evidence (data) rather than anecdote. Care must be taken to construct studies that produce enough meaningful data from which results can be trusted.

2024FA	INQ-240-C	Statistics and Sports	MWF 08:30AM-09:30AM
<p>The sports industry is a multibillion dollar entity that generates some extremely interesting questions about quality assessment, business, ethics, and health issues. Some of the questions we will ask are: What type data are necessary to assess the quality of a player and how can we use that data to determine the value of a player? What are the long term health risks associated with playing full contact sports and how do we determine the prevalence of these injuries and their impact on the player's lives. The key to answering these questions is putting aside preconceived opinions and emotion and using statistical analysis to see what the data say. Under the broad umbrella of statistics, this course will use an abundance of rich data sets to uncover the enormous impact that statistical analysis has on the sports industry.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-240-D	Statistics and Food	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
<p>Do you like food? Are you interested in issues concerning topics such as food industry, personal dietary choices, food marketing, and food shortages? In this course, you will learn how statistical methods are used to provide arguments for such issues and explanations for patterns that arise in the US today. And of course, food will be involved. You will read and reflect on articles involving food, use and create data sets concerning food, and even do a little bit of cooking!</p>			
INQ 250			
2024FA	INQ-250AS-A	Astronomy Controversies	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
2024FA	INQ-250ASL-1	Astronomy Controversies Lab	T 01:10PM-04:10PM
<p>What creates and propagates controversy within the Sciences? How do the scientific processes of observation, measurement, and theorizing help to create and resolve controversy? Is it healthy to maintain controversy regarding theories and models in the Sciences; i.e., do the Sciences thrive on controversy? How is controversy received and interpreted by the larger society and culture? By examining four well-known controversies within the astronomical sciences, students will explore both the quantitative arguments and the historical contexts in answering the above questions. Since physics is the proper background for astronomical studies, the course will also focus on the physical concepts and processes associated with astronomical objects. Students will also take measurements, observe astronomical objects with telescopes, and interpret graphically-presented data through a required weekly night lab.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-250BI-A	From Microbe to Meal	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
2024FA	INQ-250BIL-1	From Microbe to Meal Lab	T 01:10PM-04:10PM
<p>An introduction to the principles and processes of the science of microbial ecology and agriculture. Designed to provide students with a focus on the fundamental properties of soil, leading to a better understanding of the critical importance of soil conservation. The course offers a focused approach on how the science of discovery assists scientist's understanding of life through hands on laboratory activities. Topics include organismal diversity, use of energy, genetics, disease, and soil chemistry, structure and ecology. Application to current events surrounding agriculture and soil science will also be discussed.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-250BI-B	Living in a Microbial World	MWF 12:00PM-01:00PM
2024FA	INQ-250BIL-2	Living in a Microbial Wrld Lab	W 02:20PM-05:20PM
<p>Have you ever thought about what the full impacts of microorganisms are on your life? Sure, you think about them when you get sick but what are they good for? The answer isn't "absolutely nothing." Based on size alone, microorganisms arguably have the greatest impact on humans compared to any other living organism. How can we find out where microorganisms are located and</p>			

how they can be useful or harmful to us? From their beneficial use in producing some of your favorite foods and beverages to their ability to cause sexually transmitted infections, we find them on almost every spot on Earth because we are living in a microbial world! This course is focused on how microorganisms influence humans and the challenges facing us today in biology that have global implications with topics including food and beer production, sexually transmitted infections, and antibiotic resistance.

2024FA	INQ-250CH-A	Chemistry and Crime	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
--------	-------------	---------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-250CHL-1	Chemistry and Crime Lab	TH 08:30AM-11:30AM
--------	--------------	-------------------------	--------------------

How can chemistry contribute to the investigation of crime? The evening news, the primetime TV lineup, and the local bookstore are all filled with examples of the work of forensic scientists. This course will emphasize fundamental chemical principles that allow us to understand the techniques used to analyze evidence from a crime scene. From bloodstains to drug identification to DNA fingerprinting, commonly employed techniques of the forensic scientist will be studied. In the laboratory, students will perform some of these same analyses used by professional criminologists to solve simulated crimes. Students will also use general chemistry principles to design their own analysis methods.

2024FA	INQ-250PH	Take a Dive	MWF 01:10PM-03:10PM
--------	-----------	-------------	---------------------

The focus of this scientific reasoning course is to understand the way things work in our natural world. To that effect, fundamental questions that will be addressed are “why study motion, what factors contribute to the motion of an object and how do these contributing factors produce the observed motion of a sky diver and a deep sea diver”. The basics laws of physics applicable to sky diving and deep sea diving will be understood through a suite of laboratory experiments that are exploratory in nature. In this course, the focus will be on the process of science as it is motivated through measurements and inquiry. Cooperative learning groups, computer-assisted activities, and exploratory worksheets will facilitate the conceptual understanding process. Two group projects will provide opportunities for further scientific investigations into each of these topics.

INQ 251

2024FA	INQ-251-A	How to Build a Dinosaur	MWF 08:30AM-09:30AM
--------	-----------	-------------------------	---------------------

How did dinosaurs evolve? How do genes and embryos work? How could we build a dinosaur with genetic engineering? Using the field of evolutionary developmental biology (evo-devo), we will explore the origins of dinosaurs on Earth, the way that genes and the environment interact to form embryos, and how this knowledge could be combined to create dinosaurs.

2024FA	INQ-251-B	Cloning	TTH 01:10PM-02:40PM
--------	-----------	---------	---------------------

Cloning is the process of making genetically identical copies of organisms. Whether it occurs in naturally or is induced in the laboratory, cloning has been used as a valuable method for producing identical copies for agriculture and scientific applications. The concept of producing copies has been explored in literature and film evokes impressions that clones are inferior, unnatural and dangerous. But with the achievement of Dolly the sheep, the first cloned mammal, the possibility of cloning humans has moved from fiction to reality. In the course, we will explore the biological basis for cloning, starting with the fundamental principles of the cell and DNA. We will examine major achievements in developmental biology and stem cell research that resulted in the technology necessary to clone multi-cellular organisms like Dolly. We will conclude by discussing the biological, legal and ethical concerns regarding the possibility of human cloning.

INQ 260

2024FA	INQ-260ED-A	How People Learn	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
<p>How do people learn? What is the relationship between learner, learning and instruction? Are there environments in which people learn best? How do we assess learning? What are the societal implications? These essential questions are the framework for this course and will engage students through an inquiry-focused social science approach to researching, analyzing and presenting findings.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-260PH-G	Global HIV/AIDS	TTH 08:30AM-10:00AM
<p>HIV/AIDS is a global epidemic, but how is it more than a medical disease? In highly developed nations, AIDS has become a treatable, though decidedly stigmatized infection. In much of the world, AIDS remains a death sentence, a path to orphan-hood, an economic and social disaster. We will begin with some HIV/AIDS 101, but then will move on to think about the disease from social scientific perspectives. We will examine the social history of HIV/AIDS, including denial, fear, misinformation, discrimination, and in time, some positive turning points. We will study the ways sexuality, gender, social class, and race have allowed bias to persist in prevention and treatment programs. We will read the voices of those living with HIV/AIDS. We will think about stigma and other processes as they affect individuals and institutions. And importantly, we will do all of these things on both a national and global scale.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-260PS-A	Who Governs Schools: Power&Pol	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
<p>Who governs public schools in the United States? This course will explore public attitudes about education in the U.S. and how certain beliefs and ideologies shape educational policy. Students will learn how education and public policy researchers study the philosophies of education, public attitudes about education, and the determinants of educational policy decisions in the United States. By engaging in critical thinking, writing, and oral communication, students will explain and use methods of social science to analyze contemporary issues in U.S. education policy.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-260PY-A1	Psychology in the Media	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
2024FA	INQ-260PY-A2	Psychology in the Media	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
<p>How accurately do popular media portray current psychological knowledge? Movies, sitcoms, newspapers, magazines, and blogs often report findings from psychological science. How often do they get it right, and how often do they get it wrong? Do they manipulate findings in order to make their points? This course explores the core methodologies of psychological science by comparing and contrasting popular vs. scientific treatments of current and perennial topics within psychology. Topics will vary, but may include amnesia, school shootings, effects of Facebook use, antidepressant effectiveness, Dissociative Identity Disorder, ADHD prevalence, and self-esteem.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-260PY-B	Neuroscience and Free Will	MWF 02:20PM-03:20PM
<p>We make choices every day to negotiate our world. Does this require free will? We feel in control of our actions. But what forces, both within ourselves and in our environment, impact our choices? We interact with other people based on a shared understanding of the same kind of conscious experience. What are the consequences when someone's consciousness changes, and how can we know that it has? Our choices, feelings, and consciousness are grounded in neural activity in our brains, and scientific experiments are required to elucidate how and where. These questions and others will be addressed in this class in relation to neuroscience and psychological science.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-260SO-A	Culture and Society	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
<p>Using a combination of lectures, readings, films, writing, projects, and discussions, this course explores the concepts of culture and society from a sociological perspective and teaches students how sociologists conduct their research. Through various aspects of social life, we will ask: What is the individual's relationship to culture and society? How do we acquire our values, norms, laws, and ways</p>			

of life? How do we form our individual and cultural identities? How do our interactions with others in groups and organizations affect our own sense of self?			
2024FA	INQ-260SO-B1	Women in Politics	MWF 01:10PM-02:10PM
2024FA	INQ-260SO-B2	Women in Politics	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
urse will compare the experiences of women in American politics to that of women in other parts of the world. We will study how women become involved in politics and the role they play in policy-making. We will explore whether women form a social or political collective, and if so, what their interests are, what issues are important to them, and whether or how women in power represent such interests and issues.			
2024FA	INQ-260SO-G1	Traveling without Leaving-Glbl	TTH 01:10PM-02:40PM
2024FA	INQ-260SO-G2	Traveling without Leaving-Glbl	TTH 02:50PM-04:20PM
Why do people take their shoes off when they enter a home in Japan? Why do some Egyptian women choose to wear the veil? Why are many marriages around the world still arranged by parents? These questions focus on practices that most Americans would find unusual. Yet, studying these practices in a meaningful way will help students question their assumptions about others. Students will take a comparative global approach to study topics such as culture, gender relations, and family. This approach will facilitate a critical reflection on the central question this course focuses on: how do social forces shape the lives of individuals? Cross-cultural examinations of similarities and differences will help students investigate the ways in which social practices and institutions influence the trajectory of individual lives. Students will do a service-learning project that requires them to volunteer with an agency in the Roanoke Valley, and reflect on their experiences in course assignments. Service: 15 hrs/sem.			
INQ 270			
2024FA	INQ-270-A	Myth, Philosophy, and Nature	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
This course will look at different ways in which people have approached the natural world, ranging from mythological accounts of the world and its origins to rationalistic attempts to understand natural processes in early Greek philosophy and in the tradition of thought it inspired. We will consider what mythological approaches to the world have in common with more rationalistic approaches developed in the western world, and how they differ, as well as ways in which contemporary understandings of the world differ from views articulated in earlier modes of thought.			
2024FA	INQ-270-B1	In Search of the Trojan War	TTH 08:30AM-10:00AM
2024FA	INQ-270-B2	In Search of the Trojan War	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
For at least three thousand years, the tale of the war between the Greeks and Trojans – and the ultimate destruction of the city of Troy – has captured the imaginations of one generation after another. For the ancients, it was an account of their past; in the Middle Ages, a source of literary tropes; early modern critics regarded it as high literature, but completely fictitious; while modern scholarship has revealed a more complex relationship between history and legend. While no serious person would argue that Homer’s account exactly reflects factual reality, historians, archaeologists, linguists, and literary analysts have come to appreciate that his poetry echoes a world that collapsed around the same time Troy was destroyed. In this course, we examine not just the content relevant to the legend of the Trojan War, but focus on the modern intellectual quest to understand the world to which the saga of Troy belonged.			
2024FA	INQ-270-G1	Does Art Imitate Life?-Global	TTH 01:10PM-02:40PM
2024FA	INQ-270-G2	Does Art Imitate Life?-Global	MW 04:00PM-05:30PM
There is a popular tendency in the twenty-first century to see works of art as self-expression: the representation of an artist’s personal interests, experiences and mind-set at a particular moment in			

time. But is this the best approach for understanding works of art produced before our era? In this class we will study the lives and works of painters and sculptors from early Renaissance Italy (14th and 15th centuries) to explore whether artists' lives can explain what is represented in their art.

2024FA	INQ-270-G3	War & Peace in Asia-Global	TTH 08:30AM-10:00AM
--------	------------	----------------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-270-G4	War & Peace in Asia-Global	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
--------	------------	----------------------------	---------------------

How did war and peace interact in history? How did people try to avoid war and sustain peace? This course is designed to examine three major stages of violent interactions among East Asian countries, first around the seventh century, second around the thirteenth, and third around the fifteenth century. Despite relatively long periods of peaceful interactions, wars played important roles in the formation and reconfiguration of the East Asian world order throughout history. This course will examine the historical and political background of three crucial stages with focus on four historical figures, namely Emperor Yangdi of Sui Dynasty China, Genghis Khan of the Mongol Empire, Toyotomi Hideyoshi of Japan, and Admiral Yi Sunsin of Choson Korea, as well as their respective impact on the political and cultural spheres during the most turbulent eras in premodern East Asia.

2024FA	INQ-270-G5	Exploration & Discovery-Global	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
--------	------------	--------------------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-270-G6	Exploration & Discovery-Global	TTH 01:10PM-02:40PM
--------	------------	--------------------------------	---------------------

Between 1000 and 1500 C.E. explorers fanned out across the globe, sparking a revolution in knowledge and eventually commerce. What were the explorers seeking? What did they find? How did their discoveries change the world? These questions will form the basis of inquiry into the roots of the first *global* explorations and exchanges of products. We will examine the travels of eight very different explorers, ranging from Leif Erikson in 1000 C. E. to Vasco de Gama in 1498 C. E. The majority of explorers we will study were European, though considerable attention will be paid to the journeys of Ibn Battuta (1300s) and Zheng He (1400s). Each one of those explorations raises questions about the paths *not taken* by major civilizations of the time, and the consequences of those decisions. By the end of the course students should know not only what was explored in the late premodern era, but also use the class material to reflect on the meaning of exploration and discovery in our own time.

2024FA	INQ-270-G7	Men, Women, Monsters-Global	MW 02:20PM-03:50PM
--------	------------	-----------------------------	--------------------

In this course we will examine the formation of gender identity and anxiety through a variety of works representing pre-modern cultures. Fields of study represented include literature, music, religion, philosophy, art, and history, and the cultures we will encounter include ancient Sumeria, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, as well as medieval Europe, Japan, and India. Our studies will focus on how the works we examine use gender to create and express categories of social and sexual identity yet at the same time both emphasize and distort those categories with the addition of the monstrous. Students will be asked to confront and evaluate the questions and conundrums raised by these works, consider ways the artists tried to answer these questions, and determine why these questions are relevant to their lives today.

INQ 271

2024FA	INQ-271-A	Radical Movements in America	MWF 02:20PM-03:20PM
--------	-----------	------------------------------	---------------------

This course is a study of social, cultural, and political movements including and following the Civil Rights Movement in the United States—roughly, the decades between 1950 and 1970. How do we as a twenty-first century audience looking and reading back comprehend and relate to these far-reaching movements? Our primary means for exploring the various movements will be literature, but we will also look to contemporary personal essays, philosophical writings, music, art, film, and documentary for additional insight. Part of the work of the course will be to explore the relationship between the movements, and their continued resonance and relevance.

2024FA	INQ-271-C	Photography: Silver to Silicon	MWF 01:10PM-2:10PM
<p>What is Photography? How is it a combination of art and science, reality and artifice? The medium and history of photography provides a rich field of inquiry that has been studied since the mid-nineteenth century. This course will examine the photograph as a cultural document and as an aesthetic object. We will be engaged in how photography has influenced our perception of reality from a western perspective. How are photographic images significant in our understanding of war, anthropology, social reform, art, portraiture, personal identity, pornography, and the repertoire of visual information in the media? Do they present a reality of history, of culture and do they represent truth? Or do photographs simply document change as it happens in a particularly powerful way? These are just some of the questions we will take up, as we work our way through the course material. Students can expect some costs for film, printing and presentation materials in the range of \$10-\$50.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-271-D	Music As Mirror	TTH 02:50PM-04:20PM
<p>How have musicians handled tensions and debates between faith and reason in the music they create? How have the roles of sacred music in Western society changed over the past 500 years? What are the possibilities (and challenges) to musicians when composing music for sacred purposes? This course examines how music reflects changes in society and culture across time from the perspective of the sacred. Music offers a lens through which we can understand the metamorphoses of politics, religion, economics, and philosophical thinking. Movements, practices, and repertoires covered include major western events like the Reformation, Enlightenment, and life after World Wars I and II. Contemporary examples will explore issues related to the potential for expressing the sacred in today's global world.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-271-F	Jazz, Media and Race	MWF 02:20PM-03:20PM
<p>In this course, we will explore the history of jazz music and its unique position as a commentary on life in 20th Century United States. Through reading and listening, the student will develop a background in jazz music from its nineteenth century origins in New Orleans to the digital era of the late twentieth century. Some of the questions we explore in this course include: How did the evolution of media from records to radio to television affect the trajectory of jazz music in the first half of the twentieth century? How did racism affect the music and its players? Why was jazz seemingly at the crossroads of race and entertainment during much of the century? When and where did racial segregation or integration hurt or help jazz? How was the music and its players received outside America? By studying the music from the musician's point of view, students learn how jazz history plays a fundamental role in the development of culture in the USA.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-271-G1	Cultural Difference-Global	TTH 04:30PM-06:00PM
<p>This section of INQ 271 explores the representation of difference in ethnography (a branch of anthropology dealing with the study and description of specific cultures) and fiction. How does one attempt to understand and represent people from different cultures around the globe? This is a question that fiction writers and anthropologists grapple with in different ways. In this course, we will examine how difference is performed in a variety of 20th century texts ranging from ethnographic studies to science fiction. By juxtaposing fiction with ethnography, we will examine the claims that different texts make to represent reality and the "Other." We will also explore how these claims are linked to writing styles.</p>			
2024FA	INQ-271-G2	Latino Experience-Global	MWF 12:00PM-01:00PM
<p>What is Latino? Who are the Latinos in the United States? What role do they play in the social fabric of the United States? What is the cultural and political impact of the Latino population in the United States? This course is an introduction to the culture, literature, and film surrounding the issues of Latinos in the United States. Facets examined of the Latino experience include, but are not limited to,</p>			

culture and history, immigration patterns, gender issues, family relations, and their values and beliefs. We will look at the historical forces that push and pull people from all over Latin America to the United States. We will also examine how Latinos integrate to the dominant culture in their quest to become “American,” but still remain a racial and cultural “other.”

2024FA	INQ-271-I	Living With the Past	MWF 12:00PM-01:00PM
--------	-----------	----------------------	---------------------

How do historical forces continue to shape our own lives? Our ancestors point to a series of potential answers. This course begins with each student constructing their family tree, but also explores how family history intersects with the fields of micro- and macro-history. This approach will demonstrate the many ways historical forces have influenced contemporary lives. By the end of the semester, a student will know ca. five generations of their family tree, some greater historical context for at least one branch of their family, and knowledge of how significant historical forces have shaped their own destinies.

INQ 300

2024FA	INQ-300-B1	The End of the World	TTH 08:30AM-10:00AM
--------	------------	----------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-300-B2	The End of the World	TTH 10:10AM-11:40AM
--------	------------	----------------------	---------------------

Across this country a growing number of Americans are preparing themselves for a catastrophic apocalypse. For reasons ranging from terrorist attacks to natural disasters or an economic meltdown, these individuals have been taking survival courses, constructing safe rooms and shelters, and stockpiling canned goods in preparation for the end of the world as we know it. Are their fears founded in fact or fantasy? Does the scientific data support the likelihood of an event occurring? Are there preparations we can take to ensure our survival if it does occur? In this course you will investigate a potential catastrophic event and the underlying science and technology, assess the level of threat based on all available evidence, and develop an action plan with persuasive arguments to advise others of the apparent danger and how to prepare and respond to the event.

2024FA	INQ-300-C1	Community Solutions to Poverty	TTH 02:50PM-04:20PM
--------	------------	--------------------------------	---------------------

2024FA	INQ-300-C2	Community Solutions to Poverty	W 02:20PM-05:20PM
--------	------------	--------------------------------	-------------------

To obtain a better understanding of poverty, students review recent empirical findings and volunteer in a local community agency that addresses the social and economic consequences of being poor. Agencies include those that assist with food and housing insecurity as well as the need for low-cost after-school care. Additional readings address these questions: What are the strategies of organizations that have an impact on their community and what makes for a successful innovative nonprofit? Students work in groups to write a proposal that seeks to improve an existing program or create new organization or social policy that helps to alleviate the hardships of poverty.

2024FA	INQ-300-F	Issues in Education	T 04:30PM-07:30PM
--------	-----------	---------------------	-------------------

What is the role of formal education in preparing students for life in the 21st century? What knowledge and skills must be a part of the educational canon? What challenges does the U.S. face as it tries to meet the changing needs of a global society? Student will research the latest trends in and historical foundations of education policy. Through an inquiry process they will engage with cross-disciplinary texts that offer a variety of views of what life in the 21st century requires of U.S. citizens. Assignments will require students to read and reflect on a wide range of perspectives as well as engage in both individual and collaborative research, writing, and presentation.

2024FA	INQ-300-G	Ecology of Music-Global	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
--------	-----------	-------------------------	---------------------

This global course explores the impact of consumer culture on the ecology of music and poses a range of questions about its culture, consumption, technology, sustainability, and diversity. For instance, do streaming services and social media platforms expand the world of music—or do they reduce it to soundbites and videoclips? Do playlists express identity within a community of shared tastes, or do

they actually reflect marketing and advertising processes? Can marginal musics survive media conglomerates? Why is cloud-based music distribution at the center of the digital rights movement? Can music education shape cultural diversity? Why does MP3 compression satisfy our need for music? Is “live” music more authentic than recorded music? What is cultural appropriation? Teams develop an original case study, defending a viewpoint, analyzing a perspective, and arguing solutions regarding present and future music in a global economy.

2024FA	INQ-300-I	Powerful Medicine	MWF 10:50AM-11:50AM
--------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------

How do drugs affect our life? The pharmaceutical industry projects that worldwide drug sales will exceed \$1 trillion within the next few years. One touchstone of the 20th century was the explosion of the pharmaceutical industry, and the effects of this rapid growth on human health. This course will explore the pharmaceutical industry and its impact on individuals and on society. From drug discovery to clinical trials to marketing and economic implications, we will learn about this industry. Once we have covered the basics in the first half of the course, groups will choose a contemporary problem related to the pharmaceutical industry, carry out research on the problem, analyze possible approaches to the problem, and propose a solution in a final paper and oral defense.

2024FA	INQ-300-K	Making Life Count	MWF 09:40AM-10:40AM
--------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------

What makes life fulfilling? Do you need material wealth? How does personal attitude contribute to a successful life? This course will explore how to make our life count by examining the relationship of attitude and our perception of living a meaningful life. Do we have to be an effective member of the community to make our life count? We will discuss the very real issues of poverty, homelessness, and people with physical disabilities in our nation and around the world and examine the question “Can everyone live a life with purpose?” This course requires a service learning component. The service learning experience will allow students to work with underprivileged community members in the Roanoke Valley and gain a deeper understanding of their situation.