

Summer 2023 INQ Courses

Below you will find the INQ course and topic information for expected summer offerings. There are three summer terms, each listed separated below. They are:

- Early Summer Session: May 15, 2023 through June 10, 2023
- Summer Session I: June 5, 2023 through July 1, 2023
- Summer Session II: July 3, 2023 through July 29, 2023
- (There is also a Summer Session III that combines sessions I and II, but no INQ courses are scheduled for the long session.)

Please pay attention to the **delivery mode** shown at right.

- **In-Person** means that you **MUST** be in-person on campus to take this section.
- **Online Synch** means that you can be located anywhere. The course will be online. You must attend online at the time shown.
- **Online Asynch** means that you can be located anywhere. The course content can be accessed at any time.

Note: This listing was last updated on **4/1/2023**.

Early Summer Session (5/15-6/10)

INQ-120-A	Film and Ethics	MTWTHF 10:50AM-01:00PM	In-Person
How are ethical concepts and dilemmas discussed in film and television? How can media help us form more complex ethical judgments, and how can we become more discerning viewers by adopting an ethical lens as we consume our media? Like literature, visual media can help us develop empathy with characters outside of our own cultural contexts, providing varying perspectives and alternate worldviews. Through an introductory study of ethics, students will continue to develop their writing and oral presentation skills. Students will be introduced to ethicists (e.g., Aristotle, Kant, Rawls) and ethical theories (e.g., utilitarianism, divine command, relativism). Contemporary ethical dilemmas (e.g., gun control, war, abortion, capital punishments) will be explored as students are exposed to various points of view on these subjects. Communal screenings will be held at a weekly scheduled time.			
INQ-120-OL	1960S and American Values		Online Asynch
The 1960s were a time when traditional American values were being questioned and reformed. Concepts such as equal rights, justice, civil disobedience, and the counterculture were part of the national discourse. This course will look at social phenomena like student protests, hippies and communes, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam War, through the lens of essential ethical questions which apply to the 1960s as well as today.			
INQ-300-OL	Issues in Education		Online Asynch
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.

Summer Session I (6/5-7/1)

INQ-120-OL	Sports & Ethics		Online Asynch
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-250CH-A	Chemistry and Crime	MTWTHF 09:00AM-11:10AM	In-Person
INQ-250CHL-1	Chemistry and Crime Lab	MTWTHF 12:00PM-03:00PM	In-Person
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.			
INQ-260CO-OL	Media Effects		Online Asynch
How does media use affect people? Aside from working and sleeping, individuals in the US spend more time consuming media than any other single activity. By the time the average person reaches 65, he or she will have spent over six full years of life watching television – not to mention the additional time spent on the Internet, mobile communication devices, and playing video games. The importance of media in people's lives makes it crucial for us to comprehend and critically examine our perception of media messages and their influences. This course will introduce students to the study of the effects of media on individuals and society. By introducing media theories through several key research areas, this course will explore such inquiries as “does exposure to media violence increase aggression?,” “does consuming sexual content lead to callousness against members of the opposite sex?,” and “does media stereotyping breed out-group intolerance?”			
INQ-260PY-OL	The Science of Meditation	MTWTHF 10:50AM-01:00PM	Online Synch
Over the last 40 years, meditation has been increasingly recognized for its potential use in medicine and mental health. As meditation has been applied to alleviate human suffering and increase well-being, the scientific evaluation of this construct has grown. This course will explore the core methodologies of psychological science through the examination of the literature surrounding meditation and its application in mental health and medicine. In addition to a better intellectual understanding of meditation, students will gain an improved personal understanding of meditation through experiential exercises throughout the semester. Students will be			

expected to engage in meditative activities both inside and outside of the classroom, with opportunities to reflect on their experiences through papers, class discussion, and other modalities.			
INQ-260SO-GOL	Travel Without Leaving-Global		Online Asynch
Why do people take their shoes off when they enter a home in Japan? Why do some Egyptian women <i>choose</i> 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.			
INQ-270-OL	Myth, Philosophy, and Nature		Online Asynch
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.			
INQ-271-OL	Cowboys and Indians	MWTHF 10:50AM-01:00PM	Online Synch
This course will examine how the American West has been portrayed at home and in other countries to learn what this tells us about the function of cultural representations. We will use history, fiction, and film to explore how individuals have used the American West to construct new identities and to critique their own culture. This class will investigate the nature of those myths and explore how they were shaped and what effect they had on our own and other cultures. Myths of the American West have been created by other countries as well. The course will explore how some groups of Europeans adopted Indian roles and lifestyles. Both European and Asian cinema have found the Western a fertile genre for both critiques of the United States and expressions of their own archetypes. The course will relate these films to the historical circumstances that produced them.			
INQ-300-OL	Issues in Education		Online Asynch
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.			
INQ-300-OL2	Sport and Society		Online Asynch
Many of us participate in or follow sports, but when we play tennis or watch the Super Bowl, we aren't usually thinking about how society affects sport or how sport influences who we are. What role does sport play in the socialization of children and adults? How is sport connected to the economy, our schools, politics, religion, family, or our government? How does sport perpetuate or disrupt social inequalities based on race, gender, social class, or disability? How do media shape sport and our understanding of it? What problems—violence,			

substance abuse, eating disorders, and gambling—are reflected in or exacerbated by sport? This course will ask you to choose a problem or issue in sport for which you can offer a solution, whether it be the development of a program, policy, business, non-profit, event, research project, information campaign, or some other creative outcome.

Summer Session II (7/3-7/29)

INQ-120-OL	What a Waste		Online Asynch
Our inquiry will focus on the definition of waste and the ways that various cultures have dealt with their waste. In the process, we examine our own trash, learn about how the waste streams in our lives are managed, and discuss ways to reduce waste. We explore ethical traditions such as frugality and related concepts from other cultures. The course involves field trips and hands-on experiences to open our eyes to the meaning of waste in our lives.			
INQ-240-OL	Statistics & Sports Industry		Online Asynch
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.			
INQ-260SO-OL	Elite Deviance		Online Asynch
An examination of elite deviance, which refers to the criminal and deviant behaviors of those with power, privilege, and wealth in society including both individuals and organizations within the corporate, governmental, and political realms. Students analyze case studies, examine theoretical perspectives, and research the social costs of elite deviance. Questions addressed in this course include: What is the nature of elite deviance and its consequences for society? What social arrangements contribute to this social problem? How does the unequal distribution of wealth and power in society allow elite deviance?			
INQ-270-OL	Gods and Monsters	MTWTHF 08:30AM-10:40AM	Online Synch
Asian literature abounds with supernatural beings of all sorts—gods who hold grudges, monsters with 12 heads, hungry ghosts that wander the earth, and spiritual masters who can conquer all of them. These tales offer an excellent window into Asian religion and literature, because while they are fantastic (and fun to read), they make sense when read in the context of Asian belief systems. This class will survey Indian, Chinese, and Japanese religious and ethical world views as a foundation for reading the many genres of Asian literature. The class will consider the following questions: What ethical and religious beliefs help explain the nature of these gods and monsters? Why are people, gods, and monsters punished under these belief systems? What do the human protagonists learn about themselves? What do the supernatural characters teach us about the human condition?			
INQ-271-OL2	Why Hitler?	MTWTHF 10:50AM-01:00PM	Online Synch
This course will ask the question: Why Hitler? Why did one of the most sophisticated nations in Europe follow one of the most murderous and hateful leaders in world history? German history, the legacies of the First World War, and the biography of the dictator himself will be examined to help students begin to form an answer to this question.			

INQ-300-OL	Making Life Count		Online Asynch
<p>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.</p>			