Summer 2017 Honors Seminars

Seminars are restricted to students currently enrolled in the College Honors Program through College of Letters and Science, or students in the College of Creative Studies.

These two-unit courses provide an opportunity for research exploration in various disciplines and consider advanced studies beyond college. To earn honors credit, seminars must be completed with a letter grade of B or higher. Eligible students may take 8 units maximum of INT 84 seminars and 8 units maximum of INT 184 seminars.

Add Codes for enrollment are made available only by the professor of the course. Please contact them directly for add codes during your assigned pass time.

All Honors Seminars are 2 units.
Consult GOLD for additional course details.

Lower-Division Seminars:

***LAB***

INT 84ZU: LAUNCH PAD: New Plays in Process
Professor Risa Brainin - Theater and Dance

Session E

Day: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Time: 4:00-5:00 pm
Location: TD-E 1101

Enrollment Code: 17640

This seminar follows the 3 week intensive course THTR 146 - LAUNCH PAD: New Plays in Process in Session E. Each week, a different nationally recognized playwright is brought to campus for a 20 hour workshop on a new play culminating in a public reading. Students in the Honors Seminar will follow the process by reading the play, attending one 90-minute rehearsal each week (between the hours of 6:00-10:00 pm on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday), meeting with the playwright, director and actors, and attending the final reading (Thursdays at 7:00-10:00 pm). Through this seminar, students study and observe the vital process of new play development.

Risa Brainin is Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance and a freelance director. She has directed at theaters across the country including the Guthrie Theater, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Denver Center Theatre Company,
Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and many others. She is the Artistic Director of UCSB’s LAUNCH PAD program for new plays, and a graduate of Carnegie-Mellon University.

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*** FIELD TRIP ***

INT 84ZV: The Golden Age of Ancient Greek Art
Professor Brice Erickson, Classics

Session B

Days: Mondays and Wednesdays
Time: 11:00-12:25 pm
Location: HSSB 1211
Excursion: Saturday, September 2 (8:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Enrollment Code: 17632

This seminar examines the artistic florescence of Classical Greece in the 5th century B.C. The Greek defeat of an invading Persian army in 480 B.C. ushered in a new era of artistic experimentation and a new stylistic idiom—the "Classical" style—in Greek architecture, sculpture, and painting. This has been regarded as one of the great moments in Western civilization. We will examine the social, historical, and political underpinnings of this movement and consider the material in light of recent archaeological interpretative models. We will focus on painted pottery made in Athens, and this will include a "hands on" approach with a collection of pots in the UCSB art museum and a field trip to the Getty Villa Museum in Malibu on Saturday, September 2, 2017 with one of the richest collections of painted Greek pottery in the world.

Brice Erickson, a Professor in the Classics Department, is an archaeologist of ancient Greece and specializes in Archaic and Classical pottery as a tool to reconstruct the histories of places lacking a written record. He has worked extensively on the Greek island of Crete, where UCSB has carried out a summer excavation program. His forthcoming book published the material from an older excavation at Lerna in central Greece, home of the Hydra (the many headed monster defeated by Hercules in Greek mythology).

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Upper-Division Seminars:

INT 184AB: Past and Future of the Human Genome
Professor Rolf Christoffersen – Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology

Session B

Day: Mondays and Wednesdays
Time: 2:00-3:25 pm
Location: GIRV 1108

Enrollment Code: 17590

This seminar will consist of reading and discussion focused on Siddhartha Mukherjee's book titled "The Gene: An Intimate History". This book is written for a general audience and tells the story of how we learned to read the DNA code, how we might rewrite that code in the future, and what the implications are for humanity when we have the ability to direct our own evolutionary future. Interested students from all majors are welcome.

Dr. Christoffersen earned his Ph.D. at UCLA followed by postdoctoral training at McGill University and the University of California. He joined the UCSB faculty in 1985. His research focuses on the molecular biology and biochemistry of plants. He has taught genetics since his arrival at UCSB and is currently Co-Director of a major research project funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute on improving biological science instruction at UCSB.

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***LAB***

Session A

INT 184ZZ: Computer Programming and Applications to Climate Studies
Professor Charles Jones, Geography

Day: Wednesdays
Time: 1:00-3:50 pm
Location: HSSB 4201

Enrollment Code: 17624

Students in this course will learn computer-programming methods and apply basic statistical methods to understand climate and environmental problems. Students will learn
the Linux operating system and design computer algorithms in high level programming languages (e.g., Python). No prior experience in computer programming will be needed. Current topics in climate change will be discussed and students will be engaged in using their computer experience to address such topics.

Professor Jones has a PhD in Atmospheric Sciences. His research interests are in Dynamic Meteorology and Climate Sciences. Research topics include: the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO), predictability of extreme events (especially precipitation), monsoon systems, climate change on global and regional scales.

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