First Year—Exploration, Discovery & Linked Seminars:

Please note that if a listed seminar does not last the full 10 weeks, the drop deadline may be sooner.

Updated 5/12/21

INT 89AI - “Star Wars: Psychological and Literary Perspectives”

- **Seminar Type:** First Year Discovery
- **Department:** College of Creative Studies  Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology
- **Instructor:** Kara Mae Brown and Steve Smith
- **Instructor Email:** karamae.brown@ccs.ucsb.edu, ssmith13@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 10:00-11:50 in PHELP 1448
- **Enroll Code:** 63701

**Course Description:** A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away students critically examined the original Star Wars trilogy from a psychological and literary perspective. Students will study Star Wars as an example of Joseph Campbell’s heroic journey, with special attention to the psychology of heroes and the film’s storytelling techniques.

**Bio:** Kara Mae Brown, MFA is a Lecturer in the Writing Program and the College of Creative Studies. Her teaching and research interests include writing pedagogy, creative writing, and feminist theories of The Force.

Steve Smith, Ph.D. is clinical psychologist on the faculties of the Department of Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology and the College of Creative Studies. His interests include the psychology of men and boys, psychological assessment, the mental health needs of athletes, and ethical uses of the Jedi Mind Trick.

INT 94GG - “The Exploration of Identity & Art: Personal, Cultural, Familial & Sexual”

- **Seminar Type:** First Year Exploration
- **Department:** Art
- **Instructor:** Kip Fulbeck
- **Instructor Email:** seaweed@arts.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesdays 10:00-10:50 in Arts 1237
Enroll Code: 27805

Course Description: The exploration of identity continues to be a focus of contemporary artists. Examining how we create and recreate our internal and external selves allows us to better understand our interactions in personal, social and political arenas. In this interactive workshop, students will view work by various filmmakers, artists and performers, and engage in lively discussions pertinent to their phase in life.

Bio: Kip Fulbeck is a Distinguished Professor of Art, with affiliate appointments in Asian American Studies and Film & Media Studies. He has exhibited worldwide and has been featured on CNN, MTV, The New York Times, The TODAY Show, Voice of America, and various NPR programs, among others. He is the author of several books and the recipient of UCSB's Faculty Diversity Award and Distinguished Teaching Award.

INT 94TI - “Department of Music- Live!”

- Seminar Type: First Year Exploration
- Department: Music
- Instructor: Jill Felber
- Instructor Email: felber@ucsb.edu
- Day - Time - Room: This seminar will have one zoom class on Monday, October 4th, from 3:00-3:50 PST - Online
- Enroll Code: 27813

Course Description: Department of Music Live is a freshman seminar that allows students to attend student or faculty chamber and ensemble concerts hosted by the Department of Music. For Fall, 2021, the zoom seminar is required and listening assignments will be online. A paper is due by Dec. 3, 2021 by 3:00pm PST.

Bio:
Jill Felber, Professor of Flute, has performed solo recitals, chamber music, and concertos on five continents and has held residencies in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, Mexico, France, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy, Canada, Brazil, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and the United States. Ms. Felber has inspired many composers to write solo and chamber works for her and for her flute duo ZAWA!, and is currently engaged in several commissioning projects. She has premiered over five hundred works for the flute and has released world premiere recordings for Centaur Records, CRI, and Neuma Records.

INT 94VR - “Once Upon a Time in the West”

- Seminar Type: First Year Exploration
- Department: Spanish and Portuguese
- Instructor: Jorge Luis Castillo
- Instructor Email: castillo@spanport.ucsb.edu
- Day - Time - Room: Monday 2:00-2:50 in PHELP 2514
Course Description: A chronological overview of the so-called "adult" or "mature" Westerns from the 1950s til the 1960s. Adult Westerns no longer idealize or sanitize the genre (amiable singing stars like singing cowboy Roy Rogers wane). They become increasingly violent and delve into sexual themes and scenes, indulging sometimes in auto referential or parodic scenarios. This tendency culminates in the Spaghetti Westerns of the late sixties and early 70s. The seminar will focus on the Westerns of John Ford, Samuel Fuller, Fred Zinneman, Budd Boetticher, Edward Dmytryk, Giulio Petroni, Sam Peckinpah and Sergio Leone.

Bio: Jorge Luis Castillo is an award winning author and scholar. He has written a neobarroque novella, La estación florida (Isla Negra, 1997), and two PEN Club Award-winning collections of short stories, La vida vulgar (Isla Negra, 2004) and La virgen de los boleros (Isla Negra 2015). He has published two scholarly books on the poetry of Spanish American Modernismo and Posmodernismo, El lenguaje y la poesía de Julio Herrera y Reissig (Cuadernos de Marcha, 1999) and Gris en azul: el tedio y la creación poetica en Ruben Dario y la lírica hispanoamericana posmodernista (Academia Nicaragüense de la Lengua, 2010). He has also written a variety of scholarly articles on Spanish American modern and contemporary poetry and short story.

INT 94VW - “Exploration of the Physics major: from curious freshmen to young professionals”

- Seminar Type: First Year Exploration
- Department: Physics
- Instructor: Georgios Koutoulakis
- Instructor Email: gkoutrou@physics.ucsb.edu
- Day - Time - Room: Wednesday 4:00-4:50 in HSSB 4202
- Enroll Code: 27854

- Seminar Type: First Year Exploration
- Department: Physics
- Instructor: Tengiz Bibilashvili
- Instructor Email: tbib@physics.ucsb.edu
- Day - Time - Room: Wednesday 5:00-5:50 in PHELP 1440
- Enroll Code: 27862

Course Description: The class is designed for students who are majoring in physics. The goal of the seminar is to explain how physics majors get educated and who they become after receiving a BS in physics. Students in the class will build their virtual plan for classes from freshman fall to senior spring. They will also make a plan for doing research at UCSB and beyond. Moreover, students will explore post-BS options. The seminar is mostly discussion-based, but there will be some intro presentations by the instructor and invited guests (current students and faculty members).
Bio: Dr. Koutroulakis, a native of Greece, completed his Ph.D. at Brown University in the field of experimental condensed matter Physics. He then performed postdoctoral research at the Los Alamos National Lab and UCLA, before starting teaching full-time initially at UCLA and now at UCSB.

Dr. B aka Tengiz Bibilashvili earned his Ph. D. at Tbilisi State University. His thesis was about Non-equilibrium Quantum Filed Diagrammatic. Later he focused on teaching physics and he prepared several Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal winners at the International Physics Olympiads. Currently Dr. B is teaching classes and provides academic advice. Most of his students continue their education in top universities or start their career right after graduation with BA in physics.

INT 94WL - “Aliens in Philosophy, Science, and Pop Culture”

- **Seminar Type:** First Year Exploration
- **Department:** French & Italian
- **Instructor:** Renan Larue
- **Instructor Email:** renanlarue@frit.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 4:00-4:50 in HSSB 4201
- **Enroll Code:** 62901

**Course Description:** From ancient philosophers to today’s astrobiologists, humans have been fascinated by the possibility of intelligent extraterrestrial life. This idea resonates with so many of us because of the profound implications it raises about our place in the universe. The possibility that extraterrestrial beings live somewhere out there is both reassuring and terrifying. Reassuring because these creatures, if they exist, have overcome the existential obstacles humanity is currently facing. Terrifying because they could easily obliterate our species with their advanced technology. In this seminar, we will address the philosophical and scientific questions raised by the conjectural existence of aliens and assess their importance in our culture.

**Bio:** Renan Larue is an associate professor of French and comparative literature. The bulk of his research is about anthropocentrism, animal studies, and history of ideas. He’s currently working on a book about the concept of aliens in Western culture.