

# **University Honors (UH)**

## **Course Descriptions**

### **Fall 2017 – Spring 2021**

UH 101 Honors Lecture	Page 2
UH 201 Honors Forum	Page 5
UH 202 Honors Book Club	Page 7
UH 300 Honors Special Topics	Page 13

## **UH Participation Lecture Topics**

### **Fall 2017 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 12371

Instructor: Katelyn Williams, English

Course Description: Open forum course that will prompt students to discuss ideas and submit reflective papers with a particular emphasis on service learning. Over the semester, students will design and implement a service-learning project.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 22006

Instructor: Mr. John Upchurch, Library

Course Description: Fake News – Thinking Critically and Evaluating Sources - Using the phenomenon of “Fake News” and related concepts (the role of experts, manipulation of statistics, scientific data, and etc.) as a springboard, we will explore the history of this phenomenon from origins to the current day. We will also explore strategies for evaluation and analysis of information sources across a broad spectrum of media. The intended outcome for the class is for students to become more mindful and considerate information consumers.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-002

CRN: 22011

Instructor: Dr. Erin Rider, Sociology

Course Description: This Honors Lecture course will provide students and opportunity to learn and practice civic engagement skills. The course will offer a service-learning project through the Freedom Riders National Monument. Students will have the opportunity to reflect, participate, and contribute to the development of the Freedom Riders National Monument, and gain the necessary skills in becoming an informed, responsible citizen.

### **Fall 2018 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 12454

Instructor: Katelyn Williams, English

Course Description: Open forum course that will prompt students to discuss ideas and submit reflective papers with a particular emphasis on service learning. Over the semester, students will design and implement a service-learning project.

### **Spring 2019 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 22052

Instructor: Lori Hill, Nursing

Course Description: This course introduces students to the concepts of social stigma and self-stigma associated with mental illness. Personal views and public opinion regarding mental illness are explored through research activities and problem-based learning. Issues associated with exclusion and discrimination will be investigated. Students will evaluate the effect of stigma on individuals and families and how this impacts the mental health of the nation while developing strategies to decrease stigma.

### **Spring 2019 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-002

CRN: 22057

Instructor: Erin Rider, Sociology

Course Description: This course is designed as an opportunity for students to practice civic engagement in community volunteerism and activism. Students will be trained on diversity and racial inequalities, including the Freedom Riders Bus Burning. After initial training, the emphasis of the course will be providing students the chance to serve as tour guides/facilitators to the Anniston Freedom Riders National Park. Students would be able to interact with individuals and groups visiting the site and help them grasp the significance of the bus burning event on Anniston, the Civil Rights Movement, and its global significance.

### **Fall 2019 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 12454

Instructor: Teresa Reed, English

Course Description: Dr. Reed's section of UH 101 will be a service-learning course. During the course of the semester, students will propose, develop, and implement a service project of their choice. This project will come from the students' interests and what they perceive to be needs on campus and/or in our larger community. In such courses in the past, students have completed drives for goods that were donated to a local rape crisis center; have sent donated goods to active-duty military members overseas; have given donated books to local middle and elementary schools; and, through a video game tournament, have raised money which was sent to the Wounded Warriors Project.

### **Spring 2020 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 22052

Instructor: Roger Sauterer, Biology

Course Title/Description: Topics in Astrobiology - An introduction to selected topics in astrobiology. Topics may include: factors that make a planet habitable and the evolution of habitable planets, exoplanets, how they are detected and what we know about the 4000+ exoplanets discovered, the factors leading to the development of life, and the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence. Student teams will prepare presentations and/or panel discussions on these topics, will write a short paper, and will critique a favorite science fiction series or film regarding its plausibility.

### **Spring 2020 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-002

CRN: 22057

Instructor: Dr. Kelly Paynter, Education

Course Title/Description: Global Citizenship: Your Journey to New Places, Near and Far - Travel broadens horizons; reduces prejudices; and makes people more empathetic, relatable, and valuable to future employers. In this class we will focus on two essential questions: 1. Why is it important to have a global worldview, and how can traveling help enhance this worldview? 2. What practical steps can students take to become confident and cultured travelers? Topics will include items such as how to get a passport, how to plan/budget a trip, domestic vs. study abroad, packing the perfect suitcase, and how to apply for study abroad programs and scholarships. Whether you're an experienced traveler or just starting to think about traveling, this seminar will help you focus your travel vision and set personal or study tour goals.

### **Fall 2020 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 12454

Instructor: Ms. Kim Westbrooks, Library

Course Title/Description: College Research: Work Smarter, Not Harder - Would you like to know how to make your papers and projects easier to complete? This course offers research tips and tricks to save time and get more accomplished! This class is based on the six tenants of information literacy, so that you can work smarter, not harder, at JSU and beyond.

### **Fall 2020 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-002

CRN: 13504

Instructor: Ms. Katelyn Williams, English

Course Title/Description: Foundations of Leadership - (*Sophomore or higher. Only 12 seats available.*) In this course, students will study ways to exercise leadership, explore personal leadership styles, assess personal strengths and weaknesses, consider how to best collaborate with others in a leadership context, and discuss contemporary issues and perspectives on leadership. Foundations of Leadership will focus on how to effectively apply course concepts to student-selected leadership settings and situations. As a result, the course will include an element of service-learning, with the student choosing an avenue to direct his/her leadership effort. Through a process of readings, self-discovery, observations, reflection, and case studies, the student will identify, observe, analyze, and apply new leadership behaviors. Ultimately, this course is based on the premise that each student is equipped with specific traits, abilities, and characteristics that may be applied within a context of leadership and may be specifically utilized to overcome the challenges that leadership requires.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-001

CRN: 22052

Instructor: April Mattox

Course Title/Description: Civil Disobedience - Students in this course will gain a modern perspective of Henry David Thoreau's Civil Disobedience and explore the influence Thoreau's nonviolent approach to political and social resistance has on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi. Students will study and discuss the lives and works of Thoreau, King, and Gandhi.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Lecture**

Course Number: UH 101-002

CRN: 22057

Instructor: Mr. John Upchurch

Course Title/Description: Fake News – Thinking Critically and Evaluating Sources - Using the phenomenon of “Fake News” and related concepts (the role of experts, manipulation of statistics, scientific data, and etc.) as a springboard, we will explore the history of this phenomenon from origins to the current day. We will also explore strategies for evaluation and analysis of information sources across a broad spectrum of media. The intended outcome for the class is for students to become more mindful and considerate information consumers.

## **UH Participation Forum Topics**

### **Fall 2017 - Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-001

CRN: 12371

Instructor: Dr. Michael Boynton, Drama

Course Description: This course will examine performance (Theater, Sports, Games, Play, Ritual, etc.) and performativity (gender, race, etc.) primarily through the lens of Performance Studies. Students will attend various performance events (plays, concerts, sporting events, etc.) throughout the semester and examine them from a theoretical perspective primarily through class discussions and other related assignments.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-002

CRN: 22021

Instructor: Dr. Michael Boynton, Drama

Course Description: This course will examine performance (theater, sports, games, play, ritual, etc.) and performativity (gender, race, etc.) primarily through the lens of Performance Studies. Students will attend various performance events (plays, concerts, sporting events, etc.) throughout the semester and examine them from a theoretical perspective primarily through class discussions and other related assignments.

### **Fall 2018 - Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-001

CRN: 12457

Instructor: Dr. Erin Rider, Sociology

Course Description: In this course, students will have the opportunity to attend cultural events on campus and develop reflective and critical insight on the meaningfulness of these events. The mission statement for JSU states that "as a learning-centered community, [JSU] provides distinctive educational, cultural, and social experiences to prepare students to be competent, ethical professionals, and engaged, responsible, global citizens." One of the key aspects of the JSU mission statement is for students to partake in "cultural experiences." With greater programming underway on campus to support Diversity and Inclusion, students will be required to attend 7 cultural events on campus and develop and engage in reflection on the event through class discussions and journal entries.

**Spring 2019 - Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-001

CRN: 22058

Instructor: Dr. Michael Boynton, Drama

Course Description: We will explore the basic theories and principles of “Fandom Studies”, a new academic discipline that studies Fans, Fandoms, and Fan Cultures. From Football Fans to Harry Potter Fans to Beatles Fans, the course will cover a broad range of fandoms and the theoretical principles that help explain Fan behaviors. Students will devise and work on a project for the semester that will examine a particular fandom from both a scholarly and ethnographic perspective, requiring both research and performance attendance and participation.

**Fall 2019 – Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-001

CRN: 12457

Instructor: Dr. Erin Rider, Sociology

Course Description: Students will have the opportunity to develop a proposal for a Democracy Wall on campus. In this course, student will be able to research Democracy Walls, determine the benefits and challenges, integrate it with the Carnegie efforts, and develop a solid class proposal. Students will be able enhance their research skills and will be provided opportunities for student and civic engagement.

**Fall 2020 - Honors Forum**

Course Number: UH 201-001

CRN: 12457

Instructor: Ms. Karlie Johnson, Library

Course Title/Description: Library Survival: Fight for Your Rights! - Do you think that libraries are boring and only full of dusty old books? What if I told you that libraries are actually secret warriors fighting for your rights to access information freely? Using escape room games, we will join the fight by examining issues like Intellectual Freedom, Censorship, Net Neutrality, and more that libraries are fighting to protect!

## **UH Participation Book Club Topics**

### **Fall 2017 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 12373

Instructor: Benjie Blair, Biology

Course Description: The Fall 2017 Book Club will explore the influence of science on popular fantasy or science fiction novels. Students will be expected to identify a novel of interest to them and provide reports on how real-world science was used in the storyline. We will also use current discoveries in science to develop book ideas. The course will concentrate on easy to understand science concepts including symbiotic associations, parasitism, cutting edge genetic systems and immunological discoveries. Join us for what promises to be a stimulating series of discussions.

### **Fall 2017 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 12374

Instructor: Laurie Heathcock, Library

Course Description: Extra! Extra! Read All About It! This course will explore hundreds of “underground” newspapers which were created by Vietnam-Era counterculture youth during 1965-1974 and sold on street corners in all regions of the United States. Students will become familiar with protest literature published in alternative “rags” such as the *East Village Other*, *The Great Speckled Bird*, *the Berkeley Barb*, *the San Francisco Oracle*, and hundreds more. Some of the topics heavily covered in these papers are Civil Rights, Women’s Liberation, the American Indian Movement, LGBT rights, the New Left, the Environmental Movement, Communal living, “hippie” lifestyle, sex, drugs, rock n’ roll, the rise of underground comix, and anti-war demonstrations. Students will utilize the Underground Press Syndicate’s (UPS) Underground Newspaper Collection which includes over 800 newspapers created by young people during the 1960s. While the topics studied are very liberal, no political viewpoints are in any way promoted.

### **Fall 2017 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-003

CRN: 12375

Instructor: Kim Westbrook, Library

Course Description: Spotlight on Graphic Novels (Comic Books and Manga) - Immerse yourself in the world of the Japanese visual storytelling art of manga and a popular American comic book series. Vote on which two popular and thought-provoking graphic novels to read and then discuss themes and art style with the class.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 22013

Instructor: April Mattox, English

Course Description: Students enrolled in this course will gain a modern perspective of Henry David Thoreau and his work with a multi-discipline focus on “Resistance to Civil Government” and excerpts from *Walden*. “Resistance to Civil Government” reveals Thoreau’s nonviolent approach to political and social resistance that inspired leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi. *Walden*, considered one of America’s masterpieces, documents Thoreau’s experiment in self-reliance at Walden pond.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 22016

Instructor: Dr. Timothy Lindblom, School of Science

Course Description: We will read and discuss the book *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. This book examines the remarkable case of Henrietta Lacks, an African-American woman who died from cancer in the 1950’s and the source of the HeLa cells, an incredibly important line of cells for biological research. The book encourages complex discussion on science, faith, medicine, ethics, patient rights, and race.

### **Spring 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: 202-003

CRN: 22263

Instructor: Dr. Teresa Reed, English

Course Description: This course will focus on *Lincoln in the Bardo* by American novelist George Saunders. The novel is set in the graveyard where Willie, President Lincoln’s 11-year-old son, is laid to rest. The characters are the spirits who live there and do not understand why they are trapped where they are. The novel’s focus on life, death, grief, responsibility, and consequences and its use of many voices—including quotations from history books on Lincoln’s presidency—will provide us with many things to discuss, and the novel is funny too!

### **Fall 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 12458

Instructor: Teresa Reed, English

Course Description: This class begins with a reading and investigation of Neal Stephenson’s 1999 novel *Cryptonomicon*. Set during both World War II and present times, this novel traces the early development of computer technology, specifically cryptography, and more recent outcomes of these early decisions, while also sketching the development of many other aspects of our daily lives, like electronic banking and multinational corporations. As such, the novel provides ample opportunities for research into both its literary, historical, and computational aspects.

**Fall 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN:12459

Instructor: Laurie Heathcock, Library

Course Description: Extra! Extra! Read All About It! This course will explore hundreds of “underground” newspapers which were created by Vietnam-Era counterculture youth during 1965-1974 and sold on street corners in all regions of the United States. Students will become familiar with protest literature published in alternative “rags” such as the *East Village Other*, *The Great Speckled Bird*, *the Berkeley Barb*, *the San Francisco Oracle*, and hundreds more.

**Fall 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-003

CRN: 12460

Instructor: Kim Westbrook, Library

Course Description: Spotlight on Graphic Novels (Comic Books and Manga) - Immerse yourself in the world of the Japanese visual storytelling art of manga and a popular American comic book series. Vote on which two popular and thought-provoking graphic novels to read and then discuss themes and art style with the class.

**Fall 2018 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-004

CRN: 12467

Instructor: Wendy Stephens, Education

Course Description: Picture books – the blending of art, design and narrative to convey meaning – fine-tune visual literacies and allow for connections across cultures. This course will help students develop a deeper understanding behind the art of the contemporary picture book – historical and technical background of illustrated books, evolving artistic elements behind the books that have been named “most distinguished” over the years, and conveying meaning through image. Students will learn to identify media, style, and visual elements, as well as the basics of composition, and how pictures work to tell a story. By the end of the course, students should have a solid understanding of the range of contemporary picture books; a familiarity with notable artists from the past; and sharper skills for evaluating, discussing, and reviewing picture books as an art form, a visual pleasure, and an instructional tool.

**Spring 2019 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 20019

Instructor: Tim Lindblom, School of Science

Course Description: We will read and discuss the book “Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies” by Jared Diamond. In this artful, informative, and delightful book, Jared Diamond convincingly argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. Societies that had had a head start in food production advanced beyond the hunter-gatherer stage, and then developed religion—as well as nasty germs and potent weapons of war—and adventured on sea and land to conquer and decimate preliterate cultures. A major advance in our understanding of human societies, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* chronicles the way that the modern world came to be and stunningly dismantles racially based theories of human history.

### **Spring 2019 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 22059

Instructor: Gordon Harvey, History

Course Description: Clark Kerr "The Uses of the University." There is perhaps no institution in 20th Century American life that is more misunderstood, criticized, debated, and celebrated than the university. The American form of higher education is unique and worthy of discussion. The college degree has replaced the high school degree as the required entry to a higher standard of living. Fewer than one in four Alabamans have a college diploma. What is it for? Who is it for? Why are you here? Does the modern university need an overhaul in design and scope? Clark Kerr's seminal treatise is a great jumping off point for this and many more questions.

### **Fall 2019 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 12458

Instructor: Benjie Blair, Biology

Course Description: This course will explore the influence of science on popular fantasy or science fiction novels. Students will be expected to identify a novel of interest to them and provide reports on how real-world science was used in the storyline. We will also use current discoveries in science to develop book ideas. The course will concentrate on easy to understand science concepts including symbiotic associations, parasitism, cutting edge genetic systems and immunological discoveries. Join us for what promises to be a stimulating series of discussions.

### **Fall 2019 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-003

CRN: 12460

Instructor: April Mattox, English

Course Description: Students enrolled in this course will explore the stories of service, working, and emotional support dogs. With a focus on three particular books, students will delve into the critical roles of working dogs, such as those trained to find cadavers and bombs, and the healing powers that service dogs offer their human companions, such as the hope one golden retriever inspires in a veteran suffering from PTSD and a physical disability.

### **Spring 2020 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 20019

Instructor: Lori Hill, Nursing

Course Title/Description: *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover - This course is a discussion on the book *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover. Tara Westover was born to survivalists in Idaho and received no formal education. She spent her childhood prepping for doomsday and assisting her mother with midwifery and essential oil preparation. She worked in her father's junkyard alongside her brothers. Despite discouragement from her family, Westover decided she wanted a formal education and prepared herself to take the ACT and apply to college. At the age of 17, she stepped into a classroom for the first time and went on to receive a doctorate from Cambridge University in England.

**Spring 2020 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 22059

Instructor: Karlie Johnson, Library

Course Title/Description: Reliving the Past – Take a step back in time and discover another world through popular fiction of the decade! This class will focus on three popular fiction books, each from a different decade spanning the 20th Century. Students will vote on the books and decades the class will cover. The class will discuss the books through a historical lens and will focus on issues and influences of the decade that impacted the development of the book and society. Students will participate in a service-learning project in the form of chronicling local history through a brief, 10-15 minute oral history interview, focusing on the decade of their chosen book. The ultimate goal of the class is to help students have a greater, more realistic understanding of their chosen decade and its influence on our society today.

**Spring 2020 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-003

CRN: 22718

Instructor: John Upchurch, Library

Course Title/Description: Fake News: Thinking Critically and Evaluating Sources - Using the phenomenon of “fake news” and related concepts (the role of experts, manipulation of statistics, scientific data, and etc.) as a springboard, we will explore the history of this phenomenon from origins to the current day. We will also explore strategies for evaluation and analysis of information sources across a broad spectrum of media. The intended outcome for the class is for students to become more mindful and considerate information consumers.

**Fall 2020 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 12458

Instructor: Dr. Mark Sciuchetti, Geosciences

Course Title/Description: Place in Our Novels - The Fall 2020 Book Club will explore the role of place in the popular fantasy, science-fiction, and historical novels that we read. Have you ever thought about the real and imagined worlds that are created in novels? As a class, we will choose two novels of interest to explore for the semester. We will discuss how the authors use common imagery of places and physical landmarks that we know to create their imagined world and make connections to us as readers. We will use this to explore how we understand our world through common physical and cultural landmarks.

**Fall 2020 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 12459

Instructor: Dr. Teresa Reed

Course Title/Description: Fables: Ancient and Modern - Students will read fables, from the ancient to the modern, including works by Aesop, James Thurber, and George Saunders, among others. The class will analyze the question of what makes a story a fable and will develop their own definition of a fable. Working together or alone, students will create their own fables and present them in any form they come up with. Such forms may include graphic novels, plays, videos, painting, sculpture, electronic or table-top games, or any other format the class deems acceptable.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-001

CRN: 20019

Instructor: Dr. Tim Lindblom

Course Title/Description: Future Science - It is abundantly clear that two fields will dominate much of the scientific discovery in the near future: artificial intelligence and space. In this class, we'll explore both of these topics in two excellent books: *Life 3.0*, *Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*, by Max Tegmark and *Death by Black Hole and other Cosmic Quandries* by Neil DeGrasse Tyson.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-002

CRN: 22059

Instructor: Karlie Johnson

Course Title/Description: Reliving the Past - Take a step back in time to unearth the past through popular fiction to learn about different decades and bring history alive once more. This class will focus on three popular fiction books, spanning different issues of a decade of the 20th Century. Students will vote on what decade and books the class will cover. This class will discuss the books through a historical lens and will focus on issues and influences of the decade that impacted the development of the book and society. Students will also participate in a service-learning project in the form of chronicling local history through a brief, 10-15-minute oral history interview, focusing on the decade of their chosen book. The ultimate goal of the class is to help students have a greater, more realistic understanding of their chosen decade and its influence on our society today.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Book Club**

Course Number: UH 202-003

CRN: 22718

Instructor: Laurie Heathcock

Course Title/Description: 60's Counterculture Underground Newspapers - Extra! Extra! Read All About It! This course will explore hundreds of "underground" newspapers which were created by Vietnam-Era counterculture youth during 1965-1974 and sold on street corners in all regions of the United States. Students will become familiar with protest literature published in alternative "rags" such as the East Village Other, The Great Speckled Bird, the Berkeley Barb, the San Francisco Oracle, and hundreds more. Some of the topics heavily covered in these papers are Civil Rights, Women's Liberation, the American Indian Movement, LGBT rights, the New Left, the Environmental Movement, Communal living, "hippie" lifestyle, sex, drugs, rock n' roll, the rise of underground comix, and anti-war demonstrations. Students will utilize the Underground Press Syndicate's (UPS) Underground Newspaper Collection which includes over 800 newspapers created by young people during the 1960s. While the topics studied are very liberal, no political viewpoints are in any way promoted.

## **UH Special Topics: Interdisciplinary**

### **Spring 2020 - Honors Special Topics: Interdisciplinary**

Course Number: UH 300-001

CRN: 22749

Instructor: Ben Gross

Course Title/Description: Comedy and Democracy - Comedy can only flourish in regimes that are open. As such, it tends to flourish in democracies. Yet, the place of comedy in democracy is complicated. Can it critique the regime or will the regime control what is funny? By exploring comedians through Western Civilization, we can come to better understand the place and role of comedy within a democratic society.

### **Fall 2020 - Honors Special Topics: Interdisciplinary**

Course Number: UH 300-001

CRN: 13659

Instructor: Dr. Wendy Stephens

Course Title/Description: History and Future of the Book - (*Sophomore or higher or 30 Composite ACT/SAT or higher.*) This course will review the cross-curricular history of the book as a technology, a tool, and an object, each through the functional lenses of printing, publishing, editing, design, and bookselling. Topics will include, but are not limited to, incunabula and texts before print, printing and electronic publishing as technologies, publishing as an industry and self-publishing as an alternative, past, present, current, and potential future. Additionally, we will study production practices, nuances of bibliographic description, copyright laws, and the role of audience for both the popular press and the scholarly press.

### **Spring 2021 - Honors Special Topics: Interdisciplinary**

Course Number: UH 300-001

CRN: 22749

Instructor: Dr. Ben Gross

Course Title/Description: Politics, the News, and You - This course studies the creation, use, and consumption of mass media through multiple mediums in the public sphere. Students examine the relationship between forms of government and the press, public vs. private media models, the processes and routines of news organizations, how political campaigns engage with the media, ways political institutions use the media, and where Americans get their news from. Through historical, large-N, case studies, and experimental evidence, students gain an understanding of how politics and the news connects to their daily lives. This includes connecting the course materials to contemporary local, national, and world stories during the course.