

Morehead State University
First Year Seminars
Fall Semester, 2010

Theme for all seminars: “Fact or Fiction”

Book required for all seminars: *un Spun: finding facts in a world of [disinformation]* by Brooks Jackson and Kathleen Hall Jamieson (others may be required – check listings)

FYS Speakers and other FYS events will always be scheduled during these times to assure maximum participation and access.

All incoming first year students must schedule a first year seminar during their first semester at MSU.

FYS 101-001. Hans Chapman, Global Sustainability: Switching to a Greener Future

9:10-10:10 MWF LCB 104

Sustainability is a hot topic, and this seminar provides an interdisciplinary exploratory view of global sustainable development and the underlying ethics and values. Students will examine the ecological, social, philosophical, and economic realities within the context of existing technical expertise and analyze the social, financial and environmental impacts of sustainable products. An Assistant Professor, Dr. Chapman joined the Department of Industrial and Engineering Technology in 2009. He holds the PhD in Materials Science & Engineering. His research area is Alternative Renewable Energy. He has been involved in the design and testing of renewable energy systems such as photovoltaics and hydrogen fuel cells.

FYS 101-002. Ann Rathbun, “Are you Kidding Me?” Humor and Health

9:10-10:10 MWF LB213-214

We all know that a sense of humor can be survival tool – but does it also apply to health? This seminar examines the benefits of humor on health and well-being. Students will explore the impact of humor and laughter on the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual dimensions of health, wellness and well-being and will examine a variety of techniques and practices to promote positive thinking and manage stress. Using humor, they take a “fact or fiction” approach to debunk societal myths regarding health, health information, nutrition, and consumer products. The course content will include the study of theories and research about humor, positive thinking and laughter. Prof. Rathbun has worked with first year students for over 15 years. She is passionate about health and loves challenging students to be creative. She enjoys using humor to engage students in health content.

FYS 101-003. Debby Johnson, Are Plants the Answer?

9:10-10:10 MWF LC 303

This seminar explores whether plants are the answer to many of today’s world problems. Taking a “fact or fiction” approach, students will examine whether plants will replace fossil fuels or if using plants for fuel will simply increase food prices, whether genetic engineering will provide food for an exploding population or cause irreparable damage to people and the environment, and whether chemical fertilizers and pesticides can be replaced by organic production. They will decide whether organic means safe, if biodegradable plant products can improve the environment, if small traditional plant-producing farms can survive in today’s economy, and whether plants can be used to improve health and well-being. Dr. Johnson teaches horticulture courses in the areas of agronomy, soils, and weed science.

Jennifer Birriel, ET and Interstellar Travel

FYS 101-004. 9:10-10:10 MWF LA 112

FYS 101-005. 9:10-10:10 TThF LA 126

Two Sections. ET captures the imagination, but is there more to the extra-terrestrial phenomenon than meets the eye? Claims of UFO sightings and alien abductions abound in popular culture. This seminar introduces students to the scientific method and the scientific study of life in the universe. Science fiction literature imagines an incredible variety of intelligent life capable of routinely communicating and traveling across vast distances in space. Students will explore whether these scenarios are fact or fiction and how scientists in the emerging field of astrobiology are attempting to determine if humans are alone or if other life forms exist in the Universe. Students will critically examine the possibilities and challenges of interstellar travel by using case studies of UFO claims, such as the Roswell, NM UFO site. An Associate Professor of Physics in the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Physics, Dr. Birriel teaches general education science classes and physics at MSU. She is a contributing editor to *Mercury* magazine with a regular column entitled “The Astronomer’s Notebook”.

FYS 101-006. Sanjeev Adhikari, Building Green Homes: Improving Economy and Environment

9:10-10:10 MWF REH 105

Carbon footprints and low environmental impact are more than just buzz words. They reflect a more thoughtful approach to life on the planet. This seminar provides an introduction to green construction within the global context of sustainability. Green construction minimizes environmental impact and has changed the construction industry. It is part of the growing trend to recycle, reuse, and make the most of what you have with minimum impact on the future ecology of the planet. Students will examine the social, economic, and environmental impacts of green construction and analyze their impact on the industry and on the planet. By examining green building and its results, they will better understand renewable energy and the need for matching green projects with sustainable locations. Dr. Adhikari joined the department of Industrial and Engineering Technology in 2009. An Assistant Professor, his PhD in Civil Engineering is from

Michigan Technological University. His research is in green building and construction, building information modeling and computational mechanics of highway pavements and transportation materials. He has also been involved in the design and testing of sustainable highway material, such as using warm mix asphalt, nano material and crumb rubber.

FYS 101-007. Rebecca Miculinich, From Neon Fish to Designer Babies: Genetic Biotechnology and You

9:10-10:10 MWF LC 304

This seminar addresses some timely and important question about genetic engineering. Should we be able to choose the hair color and sex of our children? Is genetically modified food dangerous? Can a pig heart or goat milk save your life? Students will examine the facts and misconceptions about controversial and interesting biotechnologies as they pertain to food, medical therapies, and society. Students will explore the interconnection between the multifaceted social, ethical, environmental, political and economic issues resulting from the rapid dissemination of these tools and examine how biotechnology implementation affects society from the personal and global perspective. Dr. Miculinich, Assistant Professor of Animal Science, obtained her Ph.D. in Animal Genetics from Ohio State University and immediately began work as a geneticist with SYGEN International, an agricultural biotech company. She teaches introductory Biology and Animal Science and enjoys debates and discussions about biotechnology.

FYS 101-008. Yuqiu You, Becoming the Jedi in the Information Age

9:10-10:10 MWF LC 300

The seminar offers techniques for success in the digital information age. This hands-on, individual and group project oriented course helps students learn how to purchase and build a computer system, how to upgrade an existing system, how to evaluate the power of their computers, and how to manage personal information on a computer. They will examine cutting edge technologies, practice building home wireless networks to protect their privacy, establish personal web pages, create personal web servers, share information on the Web, work and play with Web 2.0 tools such as facebook and twitter, and use and upgrade their applications on their Ipod Touch/Ipod. They will explore the facts and fictions of technology and communication as they relate to college life. Dr. Yuqiu You, Ph.D. in Technology Management, Major in Manufacturing Technology. Microsoft Certified Computer System Engineer. Dr. Yuqiu You, an Assistant Professor in Industrial and Engineering Technology, holds the Ph.D. in Technology Management. His primary field is Manufacturing Technology, and he is a Microsoft Certified Computer System Engineer.

FYS 101-009. Layne Neeper, Rock Music: Enduring Art or Ephemeral Entertainment?

9:10-10:10 MWF Combs 205

Students in this seminar will explore the artistic qualities of contemporary rock and roll through an examination of its lyrics and music. They will apply the study of poetic elements to the language of rock songs in order to distinguish important values and ideas found in some rock music from the popular perception that it is a mere throw-away commodity produced in the service of a consumer culture. Class discussion, writing assignments, and oral presentations will be informed by an emphasis on critical listening and thinking. A Professor of English, Dr. Neeper has been a serious listener to rock music since he, at age 10, explained to his sister why the B-side of Neil Young's "Heart of Gold" was better than the single. Since then, he has presented scholarly papers and published on rock music and has taught classes in its appreciation.

Science, Deception, and Global Upheaval

FYS 101-010. Timothy Hare, 9:10-10:10 TThF Combs 109

FYS 101-011. Thomas Creahan 9:10-10:10 MWF Combs 201

Two sections. This seminar examines the flood of information, misinformation, and disinformation in today's world. Finding facts can be like finding a needle in a haystack, and social action and public participation require skills for processing and evaluating information carefully and rigorously. Students will build these skills by critically exploring and analyzing information, communicating clearly and concisely to engage in public discussion and debate, and making decisions and acting based on an evidentiary foundation. Students will focus on key global issues of climate change, environmental destruction, population growth, and extreme poverty. These complex problems require multidisciplinary approaches to address the dynamic interplay of the environment, economy, culture, society, and politics. Focusing on these subjects is a step forward in building a long-term commitment to a sustainable future. Dr. Timothy Hare, Associate Professor of Anthropology, teaches anthropology, sociology, regional analysis, GIS, and economic geography. He uses quantitative geographical analysis techniques to investigate a wide range of multidisciplinary issues in political economy and public health. His current research focuses the social, political, economic, environmental, and cultural factors influencing regional disparities in central Appalachia. Dr. Creahan, an Associate Professor of Economics, teaches environmental economics, principles of economics, managerial economics and labor economics, as well as public finance. His research interests are in the fields of economics pedagogy, environmental taxation and computer-assisted instruction.

FYS 101-012. Wilson Gonzalez-Espada, What Your Politicians Don't Know Could Hurt You

9:10-10:10 MWF Lappin 406

Do lawmakers know enough about some of the topics of their legislation? This seminar examines the facts, opinions, misconceptions and behind-the-scenes politics surrounding the creation of public policy related to scientific ideas and technology. Approximately 70% of the laws under consideration by legislators involve science and technology, yet most politicians do not have a science background. Science topics such as terrorism, energy, nuclear arms, space exploration, global warming, population growth, food availability, pollution, ethics, and environmental philosophy will be explored. Students will watch the films, carry out investigations, analyze the data, interpret the results, and sort out the fact from the fiction in public policy! Dr. Wilson Gonzalez-Espada is an Associate Professor of Science. He

completed his bachelor's degree in physics education and his graduate studies in science education. Dr. Gonzalez-Espada teaches physical science, physics and science methods courses. His scholarly interests include the role of physical science in society and the media.

FYS 101-013. Rajeev Madhavannair, Technology: the New Double Edged Sword

9:10-10:10 MWF LC 305

Is technology our master or a servant? This seminar develops an appreciation of the symbiotic relationship between technology and democratic values in our society. It helps prepare students for a fast changing world where often democracy, technology and values are at loggerheads. It takes a realistic view of global technological development as it proceeds at an astonishingly fast rate and examines how human dimensions and values: individual, social and cultural, are redefined. Students will ask whether technology has a dark side to it, whether it is their friend or a task master that runs their lives, and whether it has religious and cultural implications. They will examine whether scientific knowledge can enhance or destroy democracy and even make us less healthy. This course takes an interdisciplinary network approach that provides complementary but non-intrusive interactions to merge ecological, social, philosophical, and economic realities with existing technology, democracy and values. Dr. Rajeev Madhavannair is an Assistant Professor in the department of Industrial and Engineering Technology. He was a lecturer and post doc at Iowa State University and has experience dealing with international technological implications for more than a decade.

FYS 101-015. Rebecca Katz, Crime Dramas and the News Media: The Reality of National and Global Crime

9:10-10:10 MWF Rader 221A

Crime scene investigation is a fascinating and action-packed career – or is it? This seminar examines and compares the accuracy of crime dramas such as CSI and Law and Order as well as Hollywood crime dramas to the realities of the criminal justice system. Students will critically examine these issues with regard to the race, class, gender, and ethnicity of courtroom players, victims, and offenders in terms of processes and outcomes. They will explore the print and television media, both locally and cross-nationally with regard to the accurate representation of global crimes such as genocide, terrorism, corruption, and drug and human trafficking. Students will view television and video programming to critically analyze the material for factual content and present findings both orally and on paper. Students will also be challenged to examine their own thinking about the basic philosophy of the local, national, and international criminal justice system in the 21st century. We will also read materials that critically examine the functioning and outcomes of the criminal justice system both locally and globally.

Dr. Rebecca S. Katz, an Associate Professor of Sociology, was a mental health therapist in two prison systems and a juvenile detention center and served in the U.S. Army. Dr. Katz has published in a variety of academic journals and lived abroad in the Former Soviet Union and in Western Europe. She has written a book about crime and corruption in the Republic of Georgia.

FYS 101-016. John Ernst, 'Spinning' America's Wars: Myth, Memory, and the Good Guys

9:10-10:10 MWF Rader 201

This seminar looks at soldiering and societal expectations, at concepts of just cause and "good" war, and at the myths and mythology that surround the American Civil War and United States involvement in World War II, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Using oral history, film, and literature, students will examine US motives, domestic and foreign propaganda, public expectations, and how these conflicts have been remembered and memorialized. They will also look at peace making and how conflicts end. Topics include the taking and liberating of prisoners of war, what constitutes war crimes, the impact of combat on individuals, families, and social networks, and the way that Americans "spin" war. Evidence includes traditional sources such as diaries, oral testimony, the public and private documentary record, and in this course includes films and film making, the war memorial process and outcomes, hero making, enemy construction, and the representations of the combat experience in literature and popular history. Dr. Ernst, Professor of History, has researched and written about the Vietnam conflict for many years. With research partner, Dr. Yvonne Baldwin, he is writing a book that examines the role of Kentuckians in Vietnam using oral histories as the primary point of reference.

Online Culture: More than Facebook

FYS 101-017. Lola Smith, 9:10-10:10 MWF CB 312

FYS 101-018. Robert Brown, 9:10-10:10, TThF CB 312

FYS 101-097. Connie Grimes, W 11:30-2 MSU at Mt. Sterling

Three sections. This seminar focuses on technology, particularly internet-based, and how it influences society and culture. Students will explore a number of controversial topics and develop a fuller understanding of how the technologies we use and experience shape our society and our lives. Topics will include social technologies and how they build cultures, technology and information privacy, information ownership and sharing, and ethics and behavior in a connected world. The course will use active learning and discussion-focused formats, with a significant portion of the content details driven by student interest. Students will research, formulate, present and argue multiple points of view and become adept at evaluating online information sources and integrating technology into their learning experiences. Dr. Lola Smith, a CIS Instructor, holds the Ph.D in Instructional Technology and is a Presentation Coach and SIFE Ethics Seminar presenter. Robert Brown is a CIS Instructor. Connie Grimes is an Instructor of Information Systems in the Department of Information Systems, School of Business Administration. She has taught Computers for Learning for the past 12 years along with other computer programming courses at MSU.

John Secor, 'Freedom' Fries: Fact or Fiction?

FYS 101-019. 9:10-10:10, TThF BK 209

FYS 101-020. 3-4:15 TTh BK 209

Two sections. This seminar examines the bases of the love/hate relationship between the United States and France. Four centuries after establishing a colony in Québec, which led to exploration of much of North America, including parts of Kentucky in the 18th century, the French are still held at arm's length by North Americans, who envy the luxuries and the lifestyle of the French while still harboring distrust and incomprehension at certain French behaviors and attitudes. Taking stereotypes of the French as a starting point, this course will study other pieces of disinformation, such as French stereotypes of us, and stereotypes from other nationalities. Students will look for historical perspectives to explain why stereotypes exist, what basis they may have in fact [or not], and ask whether these received ideas can be changed over time, as indeed the French are attempting to do today, by a conscious effort to cater to foreign tourists. Dr. Secor, Associate Professor of Romance Languages, has been teaching French language, culture and literature for over 30 years. He has also been a regular visitor to France, Canada and other foreign countries. A polyglot, he is intrigued by misperceptions and misunderstandings of/by foreigners caused by inadequate or outdated training in language and culture.

FYS 101-021. Paris Adkins-Jackson, Hip Hop: Beyond Beats & Rhyme

9:10-10:10, TThF Rader 323

Proposed by Prof. Clarenda Phillips, this seminar examines why Hip Hop is much more than the music that has made the culture a global phenomenon. Students will take a closer look at Hip-Hop culture and its roots in the many cultural and resistance movements that came before it. In particular, the culture owes much to the Black Arts and Black Power Movements of the 1960s. Understanding this debt, comprehending Hip Hop's sometimes troubled and paradoxical past, and appreciating the innate beauty of the culture require that we move beyond popular imagination and the all too often debased consumer imagery of the culture. Students will use sociohistorical analysis of Hip Hop to examine the conditions for its creation and continued existence as they discover how the socially constructed characteristics of race, class, and gender are addressed and conveyed in Hip-Hop music. They will analyze the ways that capitalism and the commodification of Hip Hop affect society, and how artists conceptualize and present masculinity and femininity. Is it really okay to be a P.I.M.P., hustler, or player? They will look at the role of race and ethnicity in Hip-Hop music, and examine whether white artists such as Eminem are really appropriating the culture from minorities. Paris Adkins-Jackson, the Minority Student Academic Services Coordinator, holds the MA in Anthropology. She joined the staff at MSU in March.

FYS 101-022. C. Brent Rogers, The Trouble with Tribbles and Monsters from Within

9:10-10:10, TThF Reed Hall 245

In an episode of the original STAR TREK series, a trader brought an organism called a 'tribble' onto a space station that was storing seed grain needed to colonize a planet. The tribbles multiplied and overran the station and consumed the seed grain. It was a great deal of trouble to set things right. Could this happen to us in Kentucky? On the spaceship Earth? Is this fiction or a real possibility? This seminar examines some real cases of organisms that have moved into extra-normal habitats and tries to determine whether, indeed, the purported harm caused by species outside their normal habitat is a fact or merely someone's fiction. C. Brent Rogers, an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences, holds the Ph.D. He teaches courses in the areas of agronomic plant science, soil science, and pest management. He is a Certified Pesticide Applicator – Non-commercial, and a thirty-plus year member of the Weed Science Society of America and the Southern Weed Science Society. He is also a member of the Kentucky Envirothon Planning Committee.

FYS 101-023. Zexia Barnes, Baked, Broiled, or Fried? Climate Change for Dummies

9:10-10:10, TThF Lappin Hall 224

Is global warming real or is it a contrived disaster in the making? This seminar examines the natural science that supports the existence of climate change, including the relative effects of various greenhouse gases, ice cores, sediment studies, and ocean acidity. Students will use an internet based carbon calculator to find how much carbon dioxide their activities generate and will discuss ways to decrease their carbon footprint. They will calculate the volume of ice needed to raise sea levels by one inch and compare this to the volume of the Greenland Ice sheet. Students will study the average annual temperatures for various regions of Kentucky and the number of named tropical storms and hurricanes and their strengths. They will investigate and discuss the possible effects on agriculture in the region and the different ways the coal industry could be affected by these developments. Students will also discuss the relative burdens of developing vs. developed countries in reducing the emission of greenhouse gases. Zexia Barnes, an Associate Professor of Chemistry, received her bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University and her Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Michigan State University. She has helped run workshops that include climate change issues for public school teachers.

FYS 101-024. John Hennen, "We the Other People:" Dissidents Challenge American Exceptionalism

9:10-10:10, TThF Rader Hall 101

To what extent is the United States what we say it is? This seminar employs primary documents, secondary reading, and film/newsreel footage as core source material to analyze and comprehend the ongoing debate about American Exceptionalism. The focus will be on critiques of the national narrative about America's special place in the world as played out in debates over, for example, the War of 1898, the annexation of the Philippines, the institutionalization of American racial apartheid, the American eugenics movement, immigration, civil rights broadly defined, the displacement of "citizenship" by "consumerism," and the post-World War II global projection of American military and cultural power. Dr. Hennen, Professor of History, spent two decades in low-wage work before becoming a history professor, developing a strong interest in workplace history and issues. He has applied that experience to his teaching and research ever since. He has

written or co-edited three books and dozens of articles, reviews, and essays on Appalachian and working-class history. Dr. Hennen co-edited the "Labor" section of the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* (2005).

FYS 101-025. Constance Hardesty, "Got Food?" The Sociology of Food and Inequality

9:10-10:10, TThF Rader Hall 222

"Tell me what you eat and I will tell you what you are."-- Anthelme Brillat-Savarin.

Food is essential to human life, and therefore, is a central part of social life. It is a powerful carrier of cultural, social, and personal meaning. This seminar studies food as a cultural phenomenon, examining variations in cultural norms and values regarding food and exploring the ways in which food establishes cultural and ethnic boundaries. Students will examine the role of food in the construction of ethnicity, social class, and gender identity; the relationship between food and ethnic/racial, class, and gender inequality; the social construction of ideal bodies and the development of eating disorders; vegetarianism as a way of life; the reorganization and McDonaldization of the food industry through fast food including an analysis of the ecology and morality of this industry; agribusiness and its relationship to global inequality and environmental destruction; and world hunger and the organization of the global food system. Students will examine the future of food by examining recent developments such as organic agriculture, farmers' markets and fair trade. Constance Hardesty, an Associate Professor of Sociology, teaches and researches racial/ethnic, class, gender, and sexual orientation inequality. Her courses include Death and Dying, Social Theory, Women and Religion, and Women in Global Perspective.

FYS 101-026. Diana Murphy, Is Justice Really Blind or Has My Due Process Done Gone?

9:10-10:10, TThF Rader Hall 201

Does the right to a fair and impartial public hearing by a jury of our peers exist in the U.S. judicial system? Is there a right to counsel in criminal cases? This seminar examines why the courts are being criticized for safeguarding these constitutional rights as well as for failing to ensure them. Students will look at who is and what might be wrong. They will examine the influences that effect the perception of the courts and the execution of these rights. They will find out whether any of this really affects their lives. They will examine the future of these rights in the U.S. and how they will be affected by several recent court cases: one filed in Kentucky which claims the government has failed to provide enough money to the state public defenders' office to ensure access to these rights; and two U.S. Supreme Court cases that discuss whether the right to an impartial hearing can be destroyed by excessive campaign contributions that appear to provide some with too much access to the courts.

FYS 101-027. William Grise, Technology's Impact: From Railroads on Earth to Rovers on Mars

9:10-10:10, TThF LC 305

This seminar uses the ubiquitous impact of technology and the systems that depend on technology to lead students to an understanding of the role that technology plays in our civilization. Students will engage with that role largely through projects, both individual and group-based, that encourage the integration of ideas from the various branches of technology, as well as the integration of ideas from their peers. The nature of the projects will require the application of critical, even creative, thinking in a specific technical context in order to assess both best solutions and the real underlying questions that will govern the choice of solutions. Dr. William R. Grisé is a Professor in MSU's IET Department He earned the Ph.D. in Physics (Theoretical Solid State) from University of Texas at Austin, and the B.S. in Physics with minor in Philosophy from Fordham University, Bronx, NY. He also worked on the development of modern digital fiber-optic communications systems and components at A.T.& T. Bell Laboratories in New Jersey.

FYS 101-029. Tammy Platt, Troy Wistuba, Kimberly Peterson, The Food we Eat: What's True, What's Not

3:00-4:15 MW RH 329

This seminar covers topics such as healthy food choices, nutritional facts and fictions, food safety and the regulations associated with it, and different food preparation methods and how they affect food quality and flavor. Students will examine the facts and myths associated with food marketing and production as well as safety, including media reports of food-borne illness outbreaks and how to analyze them for factual soundness. They will also explore the reality of food product marketing and the variation between the "hype" and the facts. Tammy Platt, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences. She teaches classes in animal science, food science, and equine sciences. Kimberly Peterson, DVM, is an Assistant Professor in the Veterinary Technology Program. She teaches classes in Small Animal medicine and surgery, and laboratory animal science and is the Chair of MSU's Institutional Animal Care And Use Committee. Troy Wistuba, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences. He is a Regional Ruminant Nutritional Consultant and teaches courses in animal science of food and fiber species.

FYS 101-014. Heather Kindell, How to Lie With Numbers

MW 3:00-4:15 RA 225

Do the numbers lie? This seminar introduces students to techniques that can be used by the average person to evaluate claims in the media without using math. Are statistics reported by the New York Times, law enforcement and popular television news programs true? If so, what do they mean and how do we translate this information in our daily lives. Dr. Kindell, an Assistant Professor of Sociology, is a native of West Liberty, KY. She has taught courses in research methods for social scientists at Morehead State and Penn State, as well as an applied research course at Penn State.

Chocolate and Other Survival Tools

FYS 101-030. Janet Ratliff, 3:00-4:15 MW CB 201

FYS 101-031. Beverly McCormick, 3:00-4:15 MW CB 209

Two Sections. Chocolate! Undeniably delicious! It is also big business! This seminar actively engages students in entrepreneurship by allowing them to explore the companies that make delightful sweets. Life lessons will include: creative and critical thinking; consumerism; personal finance; leadership and team-building; etiquette and business protocol; and time management. Students will participate in a service learning project involving chocolate economics. Dr. Janet Ratliff has taught children and adults economics and personal finance for 17 years using active learning strategies that engage her students. Her love of chocolate began as a child eating chocolate chip cookies and Snickers. Dr. McCormick is a Professor of Real Estate and lifelong chocolate lover. She loves active fun classrooms filled with engaged students who love to learn.

FYS 101-032. Clay Howard, Ray Bailey and Steve Middleton, Becoming Wikipedian

3:00-4:15 MW CCL 201

This seminar explores Wikipedia, “the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit” and its implications for academic research and beyond. Are there successful strategies to make Wikipedia better? Students will explore this intriguing question in this class. Ray Bailey is the Instructional Technology Librarian at MSU Camden-Carroll Library. Clay Howard is the Distance Instruction Librarian at the Camden-Carroll Library. Steven Middleton is an instructor of mass communications in the Department of Communication

FYS 101-033. Cyndi Gibbs, Medical Dramas: Fact or Fiction: Is There a Doctor in the “House”

3:00-4:15 MW CHER 415

Medical dramas have been a staple for TV viewers since the 1960s when shows such as *Dr. Kildare* and *Marcus Welby, MD*, brought medicine into American homes. This seminar explores the impact of television medical dramas on the general public, especially more recent shows such as *ER*, *House*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Scrubs*, and *Three Rivers*. Students will view examples and examine the impact of these shows and their influence on public perceptions of medicine and the individuals who deliver healthcare. In addition, they will evaluate the accuracy of medical situations and examine the relationships between physicians and patients, and other members of the healthcare team. Ms. Gibbs is an Associate Professor of Imaging Sciences and has been a healthcare professional for almost 30 years. In addition to teaching, she currently practices in the profession as a radiologic technologist.

FYS 101-034. Wesley White: Bounding Irrationality

3:00-4:15 MW 303 Lloyd Cassity

How real is your reality? Why do you support certain political policies or ideologies and reject others? Students in this seminar will identify the constraints and tactics that induce us to develop insufficiently justified beliefs. Students will identify some motivational, cognitive, social, and cultural processes that constrain their capacity to consider issues adequately. Students will explore ways to unravel political spin and pop psychology. Dr. White is a Professor of Psychology. He received his Ph.D. from Indiana University and did postdoctoral work at Johns Hopkins University and in Switzerland. At MSU he teaches Introduction to Psychology, Learning, Motivation, and Systems and Theories of Psychology, the department capstone course.

FYS 101-035. Phillip Prater, Troy Witsuba and Kimberly Peterson: The Human-Animal Bond: The Emotion and Science

3:00-4:15 MW RH 319

From cave paintings to medical research, the human to animal bond is centuries old. This seminar offers a multidisciplinary exploration of the interactions between humans and animals from the beginning of recorded time through current scientific discoveries. The misconceptions and realities of the human-animal bond will be examined through its effects on human emotion, behavior, socialization, and intellect. Students will examine the relationship from the perspectives of science, ethics, therapy, and entertainment and learn why animals are such a large part of our everyday lives. Dr. Prater is a DVM, Director of the MSU Veterinary Technology Program, Instructor in Large Animal medicine and surgery, and Regional Veterinary Consultant. Dr. Peterson is a DVM and an Assistant Professor in the Veterinary Technology Program, Instructor in Small Animal medicine and surgery, and laboratory animal science. Dr. Wistuba is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Sciences and an Instructor in the animal science of food and fiber species.

FYS 101-036. Capp Yess: Science Fiction? or Fact?

3:00-4:15 MW LA 112

This seminar examines the basis of scientific fact or fiction. Students will define the scientific method by examining case studies such as Fox TV's “Conspiracy Theory: Did We Land On The Moon”, the Sokal Affair, the “Alien Autopsy”, and the Cold Fusion controversy. Popular media and scientific papers will provide the text for class examination, discussion, and critical analysis for examining these case studies. Students will apply critical thinking skills to gain perspective in presenting, criticizing, and evaluating scientific claims and controversial ideas. Dr. Yess is an Associate Professor of Physics in the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Physics. He has taught numerous general education science classes at MSU. His specialty is in the field of Cosmology.

FYS 101-037. Janelle Hare and Alana Cain Scott: Plagues and People

3:00-4:15 TTh Rader 225

Although infectious disease has always accompanied human civilizations, changes in human society continually result in new pathogens, continuing the cycle of human-microbe interaction. This seminar will examine the intersection of social practices or behavior and disease

emergence. Students will consider both how emerging microbes have affected the course of human history, as well as how changing human behaviors affect the emergence of new strains of microbes. Understanding these interactions is important, not only because of past effects on human society, but because new factors, such as rapid travel and an abundance of immunocompromised hosts, are accelerating the pace of pathogen emergence. Evaluation of popular and scientific literature will be used to assess the validity of frequent claims of “new” diseases, and understand the effects of past pandemics on societies. Dr. Hare is a microbiologist specializing in the evolution of infectious diseases. Dr. Scott, a historian, studies the role of women in the nonconformist churches of late 17th-century England, an important historical period during which pandemics and human attitudes towards disease were developing.

FYS 101-038. Suzanne Tallichet: Sociology of Motorcycle Maintenance

3:00-4:15 TTh Rader 221

This seminar will examine the image of the motorcycle rider in American popular culture. Students will be challenged to question their own ideas about age, gender, race and class as they explore the implications of this image. Students will explore how the Harley-Davidson has made this image a part of our American individualism and patriotism. Dr. Tallichet is a Professor of Sociology and the author of *Daughters of the Mountain: Women Coal Miners in Central Appalachia*. She is a proud Harley Davidson owner and a member of her local H.O.G. chapter.

FYS 101-028. Bernadette Barton: The Sociology of Speculative Science Fiction

3:00-4:15 TTh Rader 223

How do we create change in society? What would the world look like if egalitarian, life-affirming goals shaped social and political relations? This seminar examines how we create change in society. Students will read science fiction novels and view science fiction programming to explore issues of social inequality in society. These works will be critically analyzed to measure the strengths and weakness of our culture. Dr. Barton, an Associate Professor of Sociology, is the author of *Stripped: Inside the Lives of Exotic Dancers*.

Health Through the American Media: What is the Real Message?

FYS 101-039. Stephanie Johnson 3:00-4:15 TTh CHER 310

FYS 101-040. Theresa Howell 3:00-4:15 TTh CHER 415

Two sections. This seminar invites students to learn more about their health and the health of America by observing, critiquing, and delving into the world of messages about health in the American media. Students will learn how to dispel myths about health and gain understanding about health education. Need sleep? Do you wonder if you or your friends have depression, restless leg syndrome, or anxiety disorders? Is childhood obesity related to media marketing as some claim? Students address these questions and others. They will uncover facts, dispel myths, and gain understanding about health education and how societal trends, cultural influences, and psychosocial behaviors interrelate with our understanding of health primarily through films and television and other visual media. Mrs. Johnson teaches the Nursing Research course. She is very interested in health information literacy, given its relevance to her pursuit of the doctoral degree.

FYS 101-041. Michelle McClave: Can You Really Google Good Health Practices?

3:00-4:15 TTh CHER 311

This seminar explores information literacy, which is defined as the ability to know when there is a need for information and to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively use that information for the issue or problem at hand. Students will specifically investigate how both consumers of health care and health care professionals can effectively use information literacy skills. Students will examine the general application of information literacy, and this will provide the new university student with tools for use in their own academic pursuits. Mrs. McClave has a background in community health and chronic illness. She also understands the need for effective identification and use of information by the healthcare consumer.

FYS 101-042. Randy Manis, Vincent Cesaro and Cathy Thomas: Xposed: Leadership Mythbusting

3:00-4:15 TTh BR 309

This seminar explores the various definitions of leadership. Students will examine leadership theories and concepts from a variety of contexts. Students will discuss the development of leadership styles. Critical analysis of leaders and their successes and failures will help students develop their own definition of leadership. A variety of strategies will be used to uncover the student's leadership potential. Mr. Manis serves as the LEAD Program Coordinator in the Center for Regional Engagement and as an instructor in the Department of Communication, Media, and Leadership Studies. Dr. Thomas is an Associate Professor of Speech Communication in the same department. She has been a member of the LEAD Program faculty for seven years and is a graduate of the President's Leadership Academy. CPT Vincent E. Cesaro III, is an Active Duty Field Artillery Officer in the United States Army and a veteran of three Iraq combat tours. He is a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, the Captains Career Course, and numerous leadership positions including Battery Command.

FYS 101-043. Jonathan Pidluzny: Dilemmas of Justice and Liberty

3:00-4:15 TTh COMBS 109

This seminar introduces students to an array of important theoretical and practical political debates centered on questions about the nature of justice, liberty and individual rights. Students will consider some of the most powerful disquisitions and treatises history has to offer. A diversity of conflicting perspectives will be presented. Students will examine some of the perennial questions relevant to their lives as citizens of the American Republic and as individual moral agents, with an aim to habituating themselves to serious contemplation. Dr.

Pidluzny is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Government. His interests include U.S. Foreign Policy and American Political Development. His current research focuses on the theoretical requirements of constitutional democracy from the perspective of a regime's citizenry, especially as it relates to U.S. efforts to help democratize the Middle East.

FYS 101-044. Duane Skaggs: Calculating Truth, Beauty, Justice, and Fairness

3:00-4:15 TTh LA 241

This seminar considers quantifying the concepts of truth, beauty, justice, and fairness in different contexts. Students will explore whether beauty is objective or subjective. They will examine whether these concepts can be quantified and measured in an objective way. Dr. Skaggs, an Assistant Professor of Mathematics, is interested in connections between things that seem unrelated, particularly topics to which mathematics may not typically be applied but which may benefit from a mathematical approach.

FYS 101-045. Wendell O'Brien: Winnie the Pooh and Buddha Too

3:00-4:15 TTh Rader 219

The theme of this seminar, like all the others, is "fact or fiction," but students will give the theme some odd twists as they think about Buddhism and Taoism as philosophies of life. Focusing on the ancient teachings of the original Indian Buddhist (the Buddha himself) and the two great Chinese Taoists (Lao Tzu and Chuang Tzu), as well as recent popular expositions of these teachings, students will read both factual and fictional stuff. They will examine such questions as: Was Winnie the Pooh really a Taoist, or is that just fiction? Is the common western conception of Buddhism and Taoism at odds with the facts? What is the difference between fact and fiction anyway? Is there one? Along the way students will consider the Buddhist idea that what we think of as the world of fact is really just another fiction of our own. Dr. O'Brien studied history, religion, and philosophy at Malone, Harvard, and Johns Hopkins universities. Since 1992 he has been at MSU, where he regularly teaches, among other things, Eastern Philosophy.

FYS 101-095. Janet Kenney: Advertising: The Product is YOU!

4:30 -5:45 MW MSU at Mt. Sterling

In this seminar students will examine the history of advertising, analyze methodology for ad pricing and placement, look at the use of demographics and psychographics in advertising, and critically reflect upon the current mix of media advertising. Students will choose one of the designated topic areas: political advertising; advertising and alcohol or tobacco products; advertising and body image; advertising and prescription drugs for in-depth study. Dr. Kenney is the former chair of the Department of Communication and Theatre and holds degrees in both media and theatre. Advertising has been an integral component not only in her studies and her role as Director of MSU at Mt. Sterling, but in her eighteen year career in public radio.