

ILR Sophomore Writing Courses ~ Fall 2017

Courses must be taken for a **letter grade** in order to count towards the ILR Requirements.

ILRLE 2400	Economics of Wages and Employment			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
15025	LEC 003	TR	1:25pm-2:40pm	IVS 107	R. Smith	
<p>Applies the theory and elementary tools of economics to the characteristics and problems of the labor market. Considers both the demand (employer) and supply (employee) sides of the market to gain a deeper understanding of the effects of various government programs and private decisions targeted at the labor market. Topics include employment demand, basic compensation determination, education and training, benefits and the structure of compensation, labor-force participation and its relation to household production, occupational choice, migration, labor-market discrimination, and the effects of unions.</p>						

ILRLE 2400	Economics of Wages and Employment			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
15392	LEC 006	TR	11:40am-12:55pm	IVS 107	R. Smith	
<p>Applies the theory and elementary tools of economics to the characteristics and problems of the labor market. Considers both the demand (employer) and supply (employee) sides of the market to gain a deeper understanding of the effects of various government programs and private decisions targeted at the labor market. Topics include employment demand, basic compensation determination, education and training, benefits and the structure of compensation, labor-force participation and its relation to household production, occupational choice, migration, labor-market discrimination, and the effects of unions.</p>						

ILRLR 2060	Cultural, Political, & Legal Perspective on Disability			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
15220	SEM 101	TR	1:25pm-2:40pm	IVS 103	A. Weiner Heinemann	
<p>This sophomore writing seminar engages in a critical, in-depth study of the way in which people with disabilities and the disability experience are represented in an array of interdisciplinary texts, with particular emphasis on the legal tradition and interpretations. Drawing from a variety of historical as well as contemporary texts and documents, we will explore the implications of disability in culture and policy, particularly as they impact ideas of citizenship and rights, primarily in the United States, but also globally. We will examine the history of disability law, looking closely at a number of Supreme Court cases and decisions. We will additionally allow for an intensive focus on the development of critical thought and reasoning in both oral and written communication. This course fulfills the ILR Advanced Writing requirement. Enrollment is restricted to ILR Sophomores and others with permission of the instructor.</p>						

ILRLR 2060	Law and Society			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
15297	SEM 102	MW	2:55pm-4:10pm	IVS 108	S. Gleeson	
<p>This course examines the experiences of workers attempting to navigate the labor standards enforcement bureaucracy. We begin by reviewing the conditions of post-industrial labor in an era of declining unionization and weak federal and state protections. Next we review theories of legal consciousness and legal mobilization, which help explain the conditions under which low-wage workers learn about their rights and come forward to demand justice. We walk through claimsmaking in an array of federal and state administrative bureaucracies, including wage and hour, health and safety, and discrimination. We also look at how the immigration enforcement regime intersects with the tenets of at-will employment to grant employers wide latitude in retaliating against undocumented workers and stifling attempts at legal mobilization. We next assess how these formal protections are filtered through various institutional gatekeepers (including legal advocates and medical experts) and how organizational compliance structures (such as human resources and mediation programs) have limited worker's ability to make claims on their rights. We consider how intersecting bases of inequality (such as gender, race, and national origin) are processed by administrative bureaucracies, and how lay versus legal conceptions of workplace justice often diverge. We end by considering the fallout of workplace abuse on individuals and their families. This course fulfills the ILR Advanced Writing requirement. Enrollment is restricted to ILR Sophomores and others with permission of the instructor.</p>						

ILRLR 2070	Writing Seminar in History: Women and Leadership			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
16312	SEM 101	W	7:30pm-10:00pm	IVS TBA	A. Elias	
<p>This course explores the varied experiences of ethnic Mexican workers in the United States from the early Industrial Period to contemporary debates concerning the transnational effects of migrant labor. We will examine the ways ethnic Mexican men and women have organized at a regional, national, and international level, and in both rural and urban settings, for fair employment and conditions. Class attention will be given to even historical figures who have helped shape Mexican American working-class identity. Ultimately, the course will determine how ethnic Mexican workers have confronted their perceived role as cheap and tractable labor to demand better wages, working conditions, and to raise socioeconomic conditions for themselves. As this course is writing-intensive, we will spend a lot of in-class time discussing the material we read from both an analytical and writing-structure standpoint. Students will also be required to critique and revise their own writing.</p>						

ILRLR 2080	Writing Seminar in Labor Relations: Ethics at Work			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
16927	SEM 101	TR	2:55pm-4:10pm	IVS 108	M. Gold	
<p>Examines major theories of ethics, then applies them to issues in the employment relationship such as genetic screening of job applicants, random drug testing of employees, affirmative action, discipline for off-duty conduct, whistle-blowing, worker safety and cost/benefit analysis, comparable worth, strikes by employees providing crucial services, and crossing a picket line.</p>						

ILROB 2290	Organizational Cultures			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
16399	LEC 001	MW	10:10am-11:25am	IVS 103	W. Sonnenstuhl	
<p>Reviews the concept of organizational culture. It examines the nature of ideologies as sense-making definitions of behavior, concentrating on the cultural forms that carry these cultural messages: ritual, symbols, myths, and stories. The course examines these concepts by applying them in a combination of individual papers and a team written paper.</p>						

ILRST 2150	Statistical Applications in Law and Policy			Sophomore Writing	3.0 HRS	LET ONLY
17486	SEM 101	TR	10:10am-11:25am	URIS 438	M. Karns	
<p>Covers the practical aspects of quantitative research in law and policy (occupational and environmental health, product liability, and employment discrimination). Students evaluate the existing literature on a topic, analyze statistical merits, and make quantitative arguments. Standards of evidence will be considered. Required weekly writing assignments, a preliminary paper, and a final paper. Final oral presentations. Prerequisite ILRST 2100</p>						

ENGLISH 2880: Expository Writing

ENGLISH 2880. Fall 2017. 4 credits. Each section limited to 17 students. Students must have completed their colleges' first-year writing requirements or have the permission of the instructor. S. Davis and staff. <http://courses.cit.cornell.edu/engl2880-2880>

ENGLISH 2880-2890 offers guidance and an audience for students who wish to gain skill in expository writing – a common term for critical, reflective, investigative, and creative nonfiction. Each section provides a context for writing defined by a form of exposition, a disciplinary area, a practice, or a topic intimately related to the written medium. Course members will read in relevant published material and write and revise their own work regularly, while reviewing and responding to one another's. Since these seminar-sized courses depend on members' full participation, regular attendance and submission of written work are required. Students and instructors will confer individually throughout the term. *English 2880 satisfies requirements for the English minor, but not for the English major.*

Each section limited to 17 students. Students must have completed their colleges' first-year writing requirements or have the permission of the instructor.

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: Modern Metamorphoses				4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
6125	SEM 101	MWF	12:20-1:10 AM	Flora Rose House 126	S. Schlemm	
<p>In ancient myths, humans are transformed into animals, plants, and other shapes and states of being. Why do such stories haunt us in the digital age? How fluid are our own identities, and are we capable of metamorphoses of our own? To answer these questions, we will discuss contemporary ideas about gender, sexuality, epigenetics, legal personhood, digital lives, and creative autobiography. We will also develop expository writing skills through a wide range of assignments. Course materials may include Ursula Le Guin's novel <i>The Left Hand of Darkness</i>, films such as Darren Aronofsky's <i>Black Swan</i> and Alfred Hitchcock's <i>Vertigo</i>, scientific journal articles, Supreme Court opinions, and other cutting-edge theories of what it means to be human - and maybe more.</p>						

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: The Reality Effect: Documentary Film				4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
6126	SEM 102	MWF	1:25-2:15 PM	Rockefeller B16	B. Lu	
<p>We trust documentary films to portray the “real” world, yet engaged viewers understand that reality looks different from different perspectives. Documentaries have the power to shape and alter the truth in the process of reporting on it. In this course you'll practice critical reading and viewing, paying close attention to how recent documentaries construct, maintain, reimagine, and/or challenge our understanding of the world and of ourselves. In discussion and writing, we'll consider the ethics and politics of representation and the question of who speaks for whom. Films may include <i>Grizzly Man</i>, <i>Exit Through the Gift Shop</i>, <i>Stories We Tell</i>, <i>Citizenfour</i>, <i>Cameraperson</i>, and <i>The Act of Killing</i>, as well as adjacent genres like reality television and mockumentary.</p>						

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: Creative Nonfiction: Do Our Stories Matter?			4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
6127	SEM 103	MW	2:55-4:10 PM	Goldwin Smith G20	A. Masum-Javed
<p>Can a story take down a system? Under what conditions? This course will examine the role of the personal narrative as a political weapon. We will analyze the impact of art on the sociopolitical landscape through the works of James Baldwin, Adrienne Rich, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Rebecca Solnit, and many others. We will then interrogate our own biases, assumptions, desires, relationships, and fears in order to write the self into a global context. The essays we craft will confront the intersections of political and personal trauma, history and family, identity and theory. Ultimately, we will ponder, "Do our stories matter? Why or why not?"</p>					

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: Cool Britannia: Exporting Britishness			4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
7925	SEM 104	TR	11:40-12:55	Goldwin Smith 350	J. Glaubman
<p>A century ago, Britain ruled the largest empire in the history of the world. By 1960, most of that empire was independent; yet Britain still seems to be everywhere. Instead of troops, plantations, and the King James Bible, the U.K. now exports itself. In pop music (The Beatles), fantasy fiction (<i>Harry Potter</i>), comedy (<i>Monty Python's Flying Circus</i>), spies (James Bond), science fiction (<i>Doctor Who</i>), and costume dramas by the score (Jane Austen any way you want her), we keep buying Britain. What is Britishness, anyway? How did this small island hold on to its outsized cultural influence? And what role did its former colony, the USA, play in this process?</p>					

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: What If? Alternative Histories and Speculative Fictions			4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
8665	SEM 105	TR	1:25-2:40	Rockefeller 187	J. Lee
<p>What if the Axis powers had won World War II? What if the Great Depression had never ended? What if single-sex societies had evolved through reproductive innovation? Speculative fiction plays with such possibilities and can present us with new pasts, opening up new presents and futures. We'll read a range of alternative histories such as Philip K. Dick's <i>The Man in the High Castle</i>, Joanna Russ's <i>The Female Man</i>, Margaret Atwood's <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>, and James Tiptree, Jr.'s "Backward, Turn Backward," exploring the mechanisms that make these strange tales possible and bringing them into conversation with theoretical texts on psychoanalysis and trauma theory. Essays and class discussions will ask: why are such alternatives so alluring?</p>					

ENGL 2880	Expository Writing: Creative Nonfiction: A Close Look at Craft			4.0 HRS	LET ONLY
9044	SEM 106	TR	2:55-4:10	Goldwin Smith 164	K. Saracini
<p>What techniques do writers use to tell a true story well? This class will analyze sentences, voice, scene-building, and argumentation to explore the specific elements that create persuasive, immersive writing. We'll read essays exploring race (James Baldwin), gender (Rebecca Solnit), politics (George Saunders), culture (Roland Barthes), sexuality (Maggie Nelson), television (David Foster Wallace), and philosophy (Albert Camus). In our writing, we will use our personal experiences to explore what forces shape us, what roles we play, how we are coping, and more—always with a eye on craft.</p>					