SENIOR PERSPECTIVE

Program Contact: CAS Dean's Office - Eppley 212

These courses are required only for students who fall under the Legacy Core requirements (those students who have matriculated prior to Fall semester 2014). Note that courses that fulfill the Magis Core component Intersections will also satisfy the SRP requirement for Legacy Core students.

The goal of these courses is to provide an integrative and interdisciplinary experience near the end of a student's college career. All courses in this category

1. focus on a major area of human and social concern,
2. are interdisciplinary,
3. address ethical and value questions, and
4. emphasize personal reflection.

Courses

SRP 401. Science and Uncertainty in a Pluralistic World. 3 credits. OD
This course examines how scientific knowledge is obtained and understood. The social impact of the formulation and acceptance of scientific models will be discussed. Topics to be considered include uncertainty in measurement, the impact of the observer on the phenomenon observed, and the effect of our need for certainty in our beliefs, judgments, and relationships. The course will provide the opportunity for reflection on the Creighton undergraduate experience and the commitment required after graduation. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 412. Sickness, Disability, and Healing in the Biblical and Modern Worlds. 3 credits. OD
This course studies biblical texts dealing with sickness, disability, and healing in order to critically reflect on health care issues. Topics are addressed under broad headings: The Body, Sickness and Health: Cultural Definitions and Social Meanings; The Illness Experience; Health Care System, Ancient and Modern; Access and Quality Care; The Experience of Disability; Ritual and Health Care. Readings include both biblical and modern texts and incorporate the methods and perspectives of various disciplines: biblical studies, anthropology, sociology, literature, and ancient history. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 415. Stories that Shape Lives. 3 credits. OD (Same as THL 415)
This course examines both classic stories and the implicit stories embedded in contemporary cultures. By 'classic stories' is meant fables, biblical parables, and stories of holy people. By 'implicit stories embedded in contemporary culture' is meant the 'lived stories' embodied in the cultures from which our students come and in which they live. We address story (as human activity) and stories (as concrete cultural artifacts) from a variety of perspectives especially those of literary criticism, biblical exegesis, and the cross-cultural and historical study of spirituality. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 416. For the Greater Glory: The Jesuits, Their History and Spirituality. 3 credits. OD (Same as HIS 416, THL 416)
An examination of the Society of Jesus from its founding by Ignatius of Loyola during the pivotal 16th century, through suppression and recovery to the challenges of the modern, Post-Vatican II era, this course seeks to understand the Jesuits on two levels: through their controversial history, set within the context of their times and as represented by the lives of selected individuals; and through the development of their particular spirituality, Ignatian methods of prayer and discernment of spirits, as originated in the Spiritual Exercises and enhanced over time. Students will have an opportunity both to analyze Jesuit history and to experience Ignatian spirituality in their own interior lives. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 270 or PHL 271 or PHL 272 or PHL 275 or THL 270 or THL 272 or THL 273.

SRP 418. Jesus Through the Ages: Ideas and Images Toward a Coherent Christian Identity and Ethic. 3 credits. (Same as ARH 418, THL 418)
Employing methods of the fine and performing arts and theology (historical and systematic), this course will seek the "real" Jesus amidst a plethora of images and ideas used by Christians throughout the ages to depict Jesus Christ. It will critique the historical-cultural dependencies of these images and ideas to discern which of them, if any, remain normative for Christianity, which are time-bound, which still speak powerfully, which do not—and why. In the process this course will not only inform students about the single most significant figure in human history but engage them in a personal search for an authentic Christian identity and ethic. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250 or One Magis Core Ethics course.

SRP 420. Science and Religion. 3 credits. OD (Same as PHL 420, THL 420)
This course explores the relationship between science and religion from three perspectives: philosophy of science, scientific theories, and theology. Issues to be studied include: reductionism vs. emergentism, the relationship between God and world (including creation and evolution), the Galileo affair, and Darwin and design. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250 or One Magis Core Ethics course.

SRP 422. Children of Poverty: An Interdisciplinary Perspective. 3 credits. OD (Same as SWK 422)
An interdisciplinary course addressing a variety of issues concerning children of poverty in America including policy, justice, and ethical issues related to economics, health, law, mental health, family, housing, and education. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 424. Sustainability and Rural America. 3 credits. SP, SU (Same as EVS 424, NAS 424, SOC 424)
This interdisciplinary course studies sustainability and the diverse cultures of rural American peoples by looking at topics such as ethics, environmental resources, economic strategies, public policy and social inequality. This course offers off-campus field observation and ethical reflection assignments and involves students in active collaborative problem-solving research. P: Sr. stdg and one course from: PHL 270, PHL 271, PHL 272, PHL 275 or THL 270 or THL 272 or THL 273.

SRP 425. Myths That We Live By. 3 credits. (Same as CNE 425)
Examination of the values expressed in ancient classical and Near Eastern myths, how they were reappropriated in new context, and how they continue to express fundamental values of and insights into human life. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.
SRP 428. Film and the Fine Arts. 3 credits. OD (Same as THR 428)
Film as an art form and its relationship to art history, music, and theatre history; the history of styles of acting, design, music, and art in film in the 20th century. Criticism of film art. Course requirements include discussion, examinations, and critical writing. Extensive use of the Internet. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 430. Ethics and Market Reforms in the Post-Communist Countries. 3 credits. OD (Same as PLS 430)
This senior capstone seminar considers ethical problems that have emerged during the course of the market reforms and democratization in the post-Communist countries of Eastern Europe. Conducted abroad, the seminar gives students an opportunity to reflect on these moral and ethical dilemmas in the actual environment. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 431. Mathematical History, Philosophy, and Ethics. 3 credits. OD (Same as HIS 431, MTH 431)
An examination of mathematics and mathematical ideas and their relation to philosophical and ethical views from the ancient Babylonians and Pythagoreans to the present. Special attention will be given to non-Western mathematics, ethnomathematics, twentieth-century game theory, encryption, and ethical issues facing the mathematician and society in the past and today. The course assumes no mathematical background beyond the Core E requirements. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 434. Philosophy of East Asian Literature and Film. 3 credits. (Same as PHL 434)
This course is a philosophical investigation into the moral values expressed in East Asian literature and film. Study of a wide range of master works will ground an examination of how Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism function in the lives of the peoples of eastern Asia. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 435. Literature, Philosophy and Economics: Critical Representations of Commercial Life. 3 credits. OD (Same as ENG 435, PHL 435)
Drawing on contemporary work in critical theory, literary criticism, aesthetics, and rhetoric, this course examines the relationships of philosophy, economics, and literature through an assessment of the representation of economic phenomena in selected literary and philosophical texts. The course will explore 1) how an analysis of such texts can reveal underlying social forms such as private property, the commodity, wage labor, and capital; and 2) how these ethically consequential forms tie in with problems of poverty, unequal distributions of income and wealth, overconsumption and depletion of natural resources, competition and conflict, and social instability. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 436. Politics and Ethics of Science and Technology. 3 credits. OD (Same as PLS 436)
Study of the interrelationship of politics, ethics and science in contemporary societies. The course examines the role of government in encouraging and regulating science and technological development in American and international settings. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 437. The Environment and Race, Class, and Gender. 3 credits. OD
This course investigates whether and to what extent human interaction with the natural environment has a bearing upon ethical interactions among individuals of different races, classes, and genders within an increasingly global social environment. The course will draw from a variety of disciplines, including philosophy, literature, science and public policy to explore questions of environmental justice. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 438. Literacy and Community: Reading and Writing Toward Social Change. 3 credits. (Same as ENG 438)
This senior perspective course will allow us to examine literacy as an issue of human and social concern, as we pay particular attention to the relationship among literacy, socioeconomic and political power. Through interdisciplinary academic inquiry and community-based learning, we will: examine competing conceptions of literacy and analyze the social ends each definition serves; reflect on our own literacy histories, assumptions, values, and beliefs; consider our responsibilities as citizens with access to culturally valued literacies; and strive to articulate a cogent personal position as literacy sponsors. Students should plan on completing 10 hours of on-site community-based learning. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 439. Literacy and Technology: How Technology Shapes Cultural Literacy. 3 credits. OD (Same as ENG 439)
Students will explore the ways that literacy, technology, and humanity interact. Students will look at the ways that each of these entities affects the others. The course will begin with a historical look at human technological literacy, but the majority of the course will focus on present literacy and technology. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 440. Liturgy, Music, and the Transformed Life. 3 credits. OD (Same as MUS 440, THL 440)
A study of the historical development of the relationship between the Eucharist and liturgical music. The class will study how the liturgy (Eucharist, scripture reading, music, and architecture) intends the transformation of the assembly into a moral, virtuous, and just community. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250 or a Magis Core Ethics course.

SRP 441. Education, Vocation and Discernment Through Writing. 3 credits.
Drawing from education, critical pedagogy, and writing studies, this course allow students to consider how American schooling has privileged efficiency and productivity over authenticity and self-knowledge. Students will study and contribute to current debates on education and vocation and will use writing to contemplate their educational histories and futures vocations. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 448. Freedom and Security in a Digital-Divided Society. 3 credits. (Same as CSC 448)
The concepts of Freedom and Security take on global implications when applied to the Cyber world. This course examines how power is gained and waged through computer technology, and how Freedom and Security are moral banners for the promulgation of this power. The student will gain knowledge and experience regarding how public and private sectors, governments and military institutions implement offensive and defensive Cyber strategies, countered with strategies and tactics waged by loosely-organized “freedom-fighters.” The student will then be invited to apply the effects of this struggle to the problem of the Digital Divide. P: One Critical Issues in Human Inquiry course and Senior standing.

SRP 450. Violence in America: Nature, Consequences and Personal Responses. 3 credits. (Same as EDU 450)
This course explores some of the many forms of violence in America and the nature of violence as a social, cultural, and legal construct. The nature and consequences of American violence will be studied with an emphasis on understanding the dynamics and then formulating ethically appropriate personal responses. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.
SRP 451. Science and Values. 3 credits.
The design and implementation of interdisciplinary projects allowing students from the performing arts, philosophy, education and physics to examine ethical questions in detail and develop tools that are effective in engaging an external group of students in the associated issues. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 455. Food, Society, and Environment. 3 credits. SP (Same as ANT 455, EVS 455, SOC 455)
Access to food is a fundamental, basic human need. This course considers, from several disciplinary perspectives, the social and cultural significance of food, the ecological implications of producing it, and the social justice issues that surround its distribution. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 456. Public Health Ethics. 3 credits. (Same as HAP 456, PHL 456)
Lectures and small group discussions focus on ethical theory and current ethical issues in public health and health policy, including resource allocation, the use of summary measures of health, the right to health care, and conflicts between autonomy and health promotion efforts. Student evaluation based on class participation, a group project, and a paper evaluating ethical issues in the student’s area of public health specialization. P: Ethics course; Senior standing.

SRP 457. Biomedical Ethics: Philosophical and Theological Approaches. 3 credits. OD (Same as HAP 457, PHL 457, THL 457)
An exploration of relations between philosophical and theological conceptions of ethics and moral methodologies, together with an application of the latter to select issues in biomedicine and health care policy. P: Ethics course; Senior standing.

SRP 458. Theology and the Vocation to Health Care. 3 credits. (Same as THL 458)
Health care in the United States is both big money and arguably the most important social justice issue in contemporary society. This course will offer an opportunity for students at Creighton to discern whether or not they are called to the vocation of caring for others through medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physical and occupational therapy, nursing or emergency medical services. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 460. Humanity and the Concept of the Future. 3 credits. (Same as PHL 460)
This course examines the philosophical concept of time in relation to how one understands oneself as a member of a community that reaches back into the distant past and forward into the distant future, and the intergenerational ethical relations and obligations which emerge from the temporal and historical self-understanding. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 465. Faith and Political Action. 3 credits. OD (Same as JPS 465, PLS 465)
This course challenges students to understand theological and political science perspectives on social policy issues, public policy analysis, and advocacy strategies, and allows the students to practice these new skills/understandings in a service-learning project for a local agency. In addition to class time, the course requires twenty hours of volunteer service for the agency during the semester. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 468. Christianity and Power: A Russian Case Study. 3 credits. OD (Same as PLS 468, THL 468)
Challenges students to consider the link between religion and politics. Starting from the assumption that politics is fundamentally about the competition of ideas, it considers the ideas of Russian Orthodoxy and measures them against the goals and actions of the Russian state. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 469. Psychological and Theological Approaches to Vocation. 3 credits. (Same as THL 469)
This course examines the concept of vocation from an interdisciplinary perspective using insights from psychology and theology. Research and theory from the fields of personality, motivation, and social psychology are complimented with the theology of the Incarnation, Ignatian spirituality, and relevant texts from four historical periods of Christianity. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250 or Magis Core Ethics course.

SRP 470. Poverty in America. 3 credits. (Same as EDU 470, JPS 470)
The intent of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the cultural, economic and political structures of an impoverished society, to understand the dilemmas inherent in poverty and to develop an attitude of sensitivity and connectedness with those in this plight. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 475. Multiculturalism: History, Philosophy, Literature, and Education. 3 credits. OD (Same as PHL 475)
An intensive examination of the theory (and practice) of multiculturalism, this course will consider historical, philosophical, literary, and educational perspectives on the encounter between different cultures, and their relevance for the contemporary world. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 477. Gendered Health Across the Lifespan. 3 credits. (Same as COM 477, HAP 477, WGS 477)
A great human concern in our society is the gendered construction of health and how individuals are affected by health decisions. This interdisciplinary course will explore gendered health issues from unique perspectives involving ethical, biocultural and psychosocial perspectives across the lifespan. The first part will lay the theoretical groundwork and identify policy and ethical concerns; the second part will examine gendered health issues across the lifespan. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 478. Intersections of Working and Personal Life. 3 credits. (Same as COM 478)
This course explores the intersections between (paid) working life and personal/family life from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Topics include "balancing" careers with volunteer work, caregiving and relationships as well as the ways in which individuals communicate about their personal and family lives while at work and their working lives at home. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 479. Communication and Theology. 3 credits. (Same COM 479, THL 479)
This course explores communication from a Christian perspective. Christian values such as charity, justice, freedom, human dignity, reconciliation, and peace as developed in Sacred Scripture, Church documents, and by great Christian thinkers are applied critically to issues and cases from three areas of communication studies: Interpersonal Communication, Organizational Communication, and Mass Communication.

SRP 481. Poverty, Development and Public Policy. 3 credits. (Same as PLS 481)
Course explores in an international and comparative way the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, including such factors as political powerlessness, physical and social isolation, racial and gender discrimination and economic systems. Ethical issues regarding these are explored. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.
SRP 482. Race in America: Idea and Reality. 3 credits. OD (Same as AMS 482, BKS 482, HIS 482, PHL 482, PL 482)
An examination of the idea and reality of race during key phases of U.S. history, with an emphasis on the contemporary situation. To understand the multiple meanings and experiences of race, the course draws on sources from science, literature, law, and philosophy. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 487. The Bible and the Holocaust. 3 credits.
It is an unfortunate fact that the Bible was more often abused to support Nazism than used to oppose it. This course looks at how the Bible (Old Testament and New Testament) was interpreted so as to provide support for those who carried out or acquiesced in the Holocaust as well as for those who resisted it. We investigate the religious, historical, and cultural contexts that allowed for these phenomena. We also explore trends in more recent biblical exegesis that reflect on the experience of the Holocaust. P: Sr. stdg.; THL 250 or PHL 250.

SRP 488. Personal and Spiritual Dimensions of Leadership. 3 credits. OD (Same as COM 488, EDU 488, THL 488)
The purpose of the course is to give students the opportunity to engage in introspection and examination of their personal belief and value systems related to leadership. The course begins from the assumption that leadership is "a journey that begins within" and examines the relationship between leadership theory and Christian spirituality. Biographical examples will be analyzed; biographies will be drawn from diverse fields such as health, science, business, government, sports, and education. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.

SRP 489. American Prisons: Punish or Reform. 3 credits. (Same as ENG 489)
An examination of the philosophy of our social justice system and how members of the community can contribute to positive changes in the way inmates are regarded and treated. In a variety of prose writing projects, students will be expected to articulate their sense of how incarceration, punishment, and reform interrelate. Students will write about how their assumptions regarding prison and the inmates match the philosophy behind the way criminals are sentenced and the way they spend their time behind bars. P: Sr. stdg. and PHL 250 or THL 250.