

Fall 2025 Nichols Honors Scholar Courses

Honors Scholar Courses are only open to students in the Nichols Honors Scholar program. If you want to take an Honors Scholar Course as a non-Honors student, please speak with the instructor and then submit an [Honors Scholar Course Permission Form](#) to request a seat in the course.

COMM-248-01H Media Literacy **Deys, K.** **TF** **9:25am-10:40am**

Given that media informs our daily lives in a multitude of ways, it is important to critically examine and analyze how it affects us on both a cultural and individual level. The impact that media has on methods of communication, as well as on our personal and societal notions of identity will be explored, with special attention to issues of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation.

CRIT-201-03H Discovering Disney **Deys, K.** **MW** **10:50am-12:05pm**

This course will critically explore Disney: its marketing and brand dissemination, its films, and its cultural impact. As we analyze Disney's brand, we will consider its position in the global market, its marketing strategies, and some of its subsidiaries. In studying Disney films, we will think about their relationship to traditional fairy tales, their portrayals of ethnic and gender identities, and their depictions of difference. Studying Disney will serve as a means for developing critical writing, reading, and researching skills.

Prerequisite: ENGL 105 or ENGL 122

DS-101-05H Data Literacy **Lawshe, N.** **WF** **12:15pm-1:30pm**

This course introduces the principles of data literacy that will give students the confidence they need to read and use data in both every day and working life. Topics covered include: data fundamentals, data fluency, introductory data analytics, storytelling with data, data visualization, data-informed decision-making. Students will gain hands-on experience using the suite of Microsoft Office tools and will prepare and present a final project. The primary goal is to increase the students' skill and comfort level in understanding and working with data.

ECON-223-04H Intro to Economics **Gil-Vasquez, K.** **TTh** **9:25am-10:40am**

This is an introductory course of economics principles. The course covers both microeconomics and macroeconomics, along with issues within the global economy. Topics covered are supply and demand; allocation of resources; firm decision-making; imperfect competition; economic analysis of unemployment, inflation, and economic growth; the role of government in the domestic economy; global economic issues and U.S. and economic policies of the last quarter century. Students will learn and use economic tools of analysis to explore a variety of social phenomena. Primary emphasis is placed on real world examples to study microeconomics, macroeconomics and global political economy issues from alternative theoretical perspectives.

ENGL-112-01H Analytical Writing Deys, J. MTh 12:15pm-1:30pm

In this writing course, students will study and practice critical writing. As students read, write, and discuss such important cultural issues as technological developments, media's impact on society, identity formation, and environmental concerns, they will develop their own perspectives. Students will learn the purposes, strategies, and conventions of academic writing, particularly analysis and argumentation, through critical reading, drafting, and collaboration. *Students who take this course cannot also take ENGL 105 College Writing. (Previously ENGL 212)*

INTD-370-01H AI & the Future of Work Mentzer, K. TTh 9:25am-10:40am

This course explores the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the workforce, examining how AI-driven automation, machine learning, and data analytics are reshaping industries, job roles, and skill requirements. Students will critically analyze AI trends, ethical considerations, policy responses, and strategies for workforce adaptation. Through discussions, case studies, and hands-on activities, students will develop a nuanced understanding of AI's role in the future of work.

LSB-327-01H Business Law and Ethics Barnes, N. MW 10:50am-12:05pm

A working knowledge of business law is important to every member of society, as the law applies to us all -- from individuals to organizations. This course is a broad introduction to U.S. law, concentrating on basic knowledge of the legal system and its impacts on commerce. Business Law begins with an overview of the judicial system and alternative dispute resolution. After a brief look at criminal law and civil liability, we focus on contracts, the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), business formation, agency relationships and intellectual property. This course will also introduce students to ethical constructs and ethics-based decision making.

Prerequisite: A minimum of 27 completed credits

SOC-270-01H Banned Books Anderson, N. WF 12:15pm-1:30pm

"Any book worth banning is a book worth reading," said American author and biochemistry professor Isaac Asimov. In this discussion-based course, students will read and discuss contemporary and American classic books that have been banned in certain parts of the country, or by different populations, for a variety of reasons and intentions. This course will not solely debate why these books were banned, but rather examine the quality of the work as a piece of literature.

SOC-370-01H Our Place in the World Brown, B. MW 12:15pm-1:30pm

"How did we get here? The humans of the Anthropocene" Humans are unique. As a biological organism, we have spread across the planet, and occupy more habitats, than almost any other species. Socially, the cultural, economic, political systems, and the technology, that we construct alter how we interact with one another and with our environments. Despite the fact that the human species has existed for around 300,000 years, our impact has been most keenly felt in only the last 10,000 – a period of time known as the "Anthropocene". This course will explore the "rise" of the human species and the consequences that has had on the planet. We will explore some basic principles of human evolution to then focus our efforts to understand how humans interact with and alter the earth's natural system. In addition, we will consider the broader social and cultural consequences of human interaction with the environment.