Special Topics Course Descriptions
Winter Session 2024

Undergraduate

CJ 340-IL ST: Social Media & Video in Criminal Justice (with Steve Morreale)
This undergraduate course provides an in-depth exploration of the dynamic intersections between social media, video technology, and the field of criminal justice. As technology continues to evolve, understanding the impact and relevance of these digital tools within the criminal justice context is essential. This course delves into the role of social media platforms and video technologies in law enforcement, corrections, the courts, and investigative practices. (3 credits)

CJ 340-IL2 ST: Cyber Criminology (with Mark Beaudry)
Cyber Criminology will provide theoretical explanations for the phenomenon of cybercrimes. It will also explore the causation of crimes that occur in cyberspace and its impact in the physical space. To include the nature of criminal behavior of persons operating in cyberspace. (3 credits)

CJ 340-IL3 ST: Cyber Intelligence (with Mark Beaudry)
Students identify and apply cyber intelligence methodologies of the global cyberthreat environment. Students focus on criminal behavior, hacker culture, and nation state geopolitical aspects of cyberthreats. Students will conduct analysis of a contemporary topic, exploring cyberthreats in a specific domain to create a cyber intelligence report that integrates the concepts covered in this course. (3 credits)

EN 450-IL ST: American Autobiography (with Heather Treseler)
The satirist Franklin P. Jones memorably quipped “an autobiography usually reveals nothing bad about its writer except his memory,” and yet memoir writing carries the expectation of factuality and truth, a paradox that we investigate in this course. We begin with excerpts from five iconic memoirs from the late 18th and 19th centuries by Benjamin Franklin, Frederick Douglass, Walt Whitman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley, but the emphasis is largely on autobiographical writing from the 20th and 21st centuries to include work by Kiese Laymon, Vivian Gornick, Alison Bechdel, Temple Grandin, Richard Rodriguez, Carmen Maria Machado, and Philip Roth. Reading three autobiographies in their entirety and several in excerpts, we will consider how autobiographers grant their life experiences narrative coherence, using techniques borrowed from fiction and journalism, the personal diary and the letter. The format of the course is online asynchronous with weekly readings, reading responses, and a final paper as well as optional “Zoom café” meetings with the instructor. Graduate students will also consider theories of autobiographical writing and complete a seminar-style paper. (3 credits)

Graduate

EN 998-IL ST: American Autobiography (with Heather Treseler)
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