

CALS 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Independent study on a special topic for upper-division students. Prerequisite: completion and approval of a special studies form. May be repeated for credit.

CALS 499 INTERNSHIP (1-4)

An internship in Chicano and Latino Studies must combine: 1) service in a school or an agency where activity is related to the Latino community; 2) the selection of a topic for observation and study; 3) preparation of a bibliography and a reading list related to the internship activity; 4) a term paper that reflects both the internship work experience and appropriate research. The internship must be proposed and arranged ahead of time with the professor in CALS who will supervise the internship. Prerequisites: senior-level standing and completion of most CALS core classes. This course may be repeated once for credit.

CALS 595 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Directed study for graduate students. Prerequisite: completion and approval of a special studies form.

Communication Studies (COMS)

COMS 160A HUMANITIES LEARNING COMMUNITY (4)

COMS 160 A/B is a year long course, which features weekly lectures and small seminars. It constitutes a Humanities Learning Community (HLC) for any first-year student. The learning objectives of the HLC will satisfy A3 (Critical Thinking) and C3 (Comparative Perspectives and/or Foreign Languages) GE Areas.

COMS 160B HUMANITIES LEARNING COMMUNITY (4)

COMS 160 A/B is a year long course, which features weekly lectures and small seminars. It constitutes a Humanities Learning Community (HLC) for any first-year student. The learning objectives of the HLC will satisfy A3 (Critical Thinking) and C3 (Comparative Perspectives and/or Foreign Languages) GE Areas.

COMS 200 PRINCIPLES OF MASS COMMUNICATION (4)

An introduction to the history of mass communication, the mechanics of the mass communication industries, and theories of mass communication as a social, cultural, and political phenomenon.

COMS 201 STORY TELLING VIA VIDEO (4)

Designed for beginning video students. Assignments include creating skits and music videos and conducting interviews using DV camcorders. Students also do a final creative project of their own.

COMS 202 METHODS OF MEDIA CRITICISM (4)

A survey of ways to analyze mediated texts, with a focus on film, television, magazines, music, news, and advertising. Methods and concepts include semiotics, structuralism, ideology, psychoanalysis, feminism, and postmodernism.

COMS 210 WRITING FOR THE MEDIA (4)

Introduction to a wide range of writing styles and formats, from hard news and features to press releases. Students learn to write for newspapers, magazines, television, radio, and the internet, as well as for public relations.

COMS 240 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC RELATIONS (4)

An overview of the history, structure, and organization of public relations. Students also learn the basic public relations tactics of writing, presentation, event organization, and web communication.

COMS 265 INTRODUCTION TO RADIO BROADCASTING (4)

History of broadcasting; evolution of broadcast technology; introduction to basic theories and techniques of radio broadcasting. Overview of radio station organization, programming, and operation. Experience in radio program development and production techniques.

COMS 301 MASS COMMUNICATION THEORY AND RESEARCH (4)

Intermediate-level study of the key research events that contributed to the development of communication theories, government policy, and the emergence of communication as an academic discipline. Prerequisites: COMS 200, 202, and COMS majors with junior-level standing.

COMS 302 MEDIA ETHICS (4)

Students analyze real-life ethical issues that media professionals face on TV, radio, newspapers, the internet, in public relations, and in the music and entertainment industries. Classroom exercises involve discussion, debate, critical thinking and reasoning, and practical application of ethical principles. Prerequisites: COMS 200, 202, and COMS majors with junior-level standing.

COMS 315 MEDIA LAW (4)

An intensive exploration of the rules and regulations governing media and communication in the United States. The focus is on the First Amendment. Students take exams, write papers, and participate in moot trials on issues of libel, privacy, copyright, obscenity, and the right to a fair trial. Prerequisites: COMS 301, 302, and senior-level standing.

COMS 316 ADVANCED DIGITAL FILMMAKING (4)

Intensive production for filmmakers. In fall semester, students work on biography, news, and multi-camera talk shows. In spring, students work on screenplays, scenes with actors, and images for songs. Beginning students use DV camcorders and Stet. Advanced students use 3-chip cameras and edit on Final Cut. Prerequisite: COMS 201.

COMS 317 ADVANCED RADIO BROADCASTING (4)

This course encourages students in their individual interests in Radio/Sound Recording. Students will learn more about the application of sound to all aspects of the media world, from the producing or hosting of live radio shows to the use of sound in promotions and DVD production. Prerequisite: COMS 265.

COMS 318 ADVANCED MEDIA WRITING (4)

Writing for different media, including Blogs, magazines, radio, websites, newspapers, and investigative reporting. Emphasis on development of sources, proposals, pitches, working in teams, and writing in-depth features and columns on issues, trends, and complex ongoing stories. Prerequisite: COMS 210 or consent of instructor.

COMS 320 SELECTED TOPICS IN COMS (4)

Intensive study of various topics and trends in the mass media, including advertising, propaganda and persuasion; children and the media; technical and scriptwriting; environmental and international communication; and film. May be repeated for additional credit with new subject matter.

COMS 321 INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION (4)

Course develops a basic understanding of current issues related to the field of international communication. Surveys readings and videos on global media (MTV, CNN, ESPN, theme parks, video games, advertising, media campaigns for social change computer hackers, Sesame Street, etc.). Overseas job and volunteer opportunities discussed.

COMS 322 BROADCAST JOURNALISM (4)

Introductory class on the art and craft of Journalism, print, video, and radio, by career professionals. Designed to give students a taste of real world media experience.

COMS 323 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION (4)

Course will focus on research, reporting skills to produce magazine articles, or video/radio documentaries on health, science, and the environment. Other assignments include press releases, profiles, and memos. Lecture, videos, and field trips help to critique news, public relations, advertisements, PSAs, campaigns, film, television, music, and the internet on related issues. Junior-level standing required.

COMS 324 SCRIPTWRITING FOR VIDEO (4)

Course focuses on fundamentals of writing professional-level scripts for video, television, and film productions. Assignments include lab work and homework producing scripts and storyboards for Public Service Announcements (PSAs), commercials, news packages, documentaries, corporate and educational training programs, and dramatic screenplays. Junior-level standing required.

COMS 326 ADVANCED PRESENTATION TECHNIQUES (4)

Course involves intensive self-evaluation of both verbal and non-verbal elements of presentation. Interviews, group communications, and presenting with multimedia are covered. Theories of communication are discussed as they relate to presentation styles. Junior-level standing required.

COMS 327 MEDIA AND CHILDREN (4)

Students learn about the latest research in child development, media design, and marketing. Students then apply these ideas to the creation of a media message for a specific age group. Junior-level standing required.

COMS 328 AMERICA AT THE MOVIES (4)

An examination of the sociopolitical meanings and significance of American film from the silent era to the present. To better understand how films can potentially reflect and affect society, students read about American history and analyze dozens of films in their particular historical contexts.

COMS 329 "REALITY" TV AND FILM (4)

How is "reality" mediated in film and television? In this course students examine the truthfulness, ethics, and sociopolitical implications of such forms and genres as the documentary, neorealism, Dogme 95, tabloid talk shows, voyeurism/confession shows, crime shows, freak shows, and contest/game shows.

COMS 332 SCREENING VIOLENCE (4)

Violence in media and popular culture has been the subject of great concern and voluminous research for many years. In this course students examine the history, meaning, and real-world implications and effects of media violence, with a focus on film, television, literature, news, sports, comics toys, and video games.

COMS 333 COMMUNICATION, POWER, AND SOCIAL CHANGE (4)

How does power operate through communication to delay or to advance social progress? Analyze history, film, documentary, news, corporate PR, government propaganda, and cultural myth. Craft short messages from comic books to posters to radio or video spots. Design and get feedback for messages students create on issues of choice.

COMS 340 ADVANCED PUBLIC RELATIONS (4)

A hands-on class for students who are planning to work in the field of public relations. Students work as consultants with clients to develop plans for public relations campaigns. Prerequisite: COMS 240 or an introductory public relations course. Junior-level standing required.

COMS 368 NEWSPAPER WRITING/EDITING (STAR) (4)

The faculty advisor offers a comprehensive evaluation — oral and written — of the most recent edition of the campus newspaper, the STAR. Instruction is provided on a wide variety of journalism topics, from editing and reporting to ethics and law. Students are required to read the STAR and the written evaluation by the advisor. May be repeated for up to 12 units.

COMS 369 SSU-TV (4)

This is an essential class for students who will work in the Broadcasting Industry. Students will learn about the history, structure, and operations of local broadcasting. Students will be expected to work in a specific department of SSU-TV during the semester. May be repeated for credit up to 12 units.

COMS 385 MEDIA LAB: RADIO (KSUN) (4)

A media lab to develop a range of skills in the production of radio programs. Work focuses on the production of live and prerecorded pieces for KSUN, SSU's internet radio station (www.sonoma.edu/ksun). The lab also serves as the staff meeting of the radio station. May be repeated for up to 12 units.

COMS 402 SENIOR SEMINAR (4)

Students will share at least one critical analysis of a specific media message and complete a senior-level project/portfolio/study, which is the culmination of their major experience. Prerequisites: COMS 301 and 302; seniors only. Cannot be repeated for credit.

COMS 435 SEMINAR IN MASS MEDIA (4)

Seminar provides an opportunity to gain new insights into social problems through an intensive analysis of the role and impact of mass communication in contemporary society. Emphasis is on exploring, through a major research project, social issues that should be, but are not, fully covered by the mass media. Prerequisite: COMS 301, SOCI 300, SOCI 331, or consent of instructor. Cross-listed as SOCI 435.

COMS 460 TEACHING ASSISTANT IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES (1-4)

Intended to give students experience assisting instructors. Teaching Assistants help teach, do research, and tutor students in classes. Consent of instructor and department contract required. May be repeated for credit.

COMS 470 RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES (1-4)

Intended to give selected students experience in the construction and implementation of a professor's research project. Consent of instructor and department contract required.

COMS 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Supervised study of a particular problem or area of interest in the media selected by the student in consultation with a sponsoring faculty member. Meetings will be arranged for discussions and progress evaluations. May be repeated for credit. Consent of instructor and Special Study 495 contract required.

COMS 497 JOURNALISM FIELD STUDY (1-3)

Students will travel to the national journalism conference where they will attend educational seminars in all aspects of journalism from writing, to design photography, to media convergence. They will attend lectures and speeches by both nationally and internationally renowned journalists and scholars. To be taken with COMS 368. May be repeated for up to 3 units of credit.

COMS 499 MEDIA INTERNSHIP (1-4)

This class provides students with an opportunity to discover how to make an effective transition from the classroom to the workplace. For a semester, individuals work in a media firm, business, newspaper, radio, or TV station. On the job, students learn networking and negotiating skills. Assignments for class include: a resume, workplace lingo, self-evaluation, profile of supervisor, and album with photos and text that describe the experience. There is also an interview for a job. Seniors only. Consent of instructor, internship agreement form, and department contracts required. Can be taken for up to 12 units only.

Computer Science (CS)

CS 101 INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS AND COMPUTING (3)

Lecture, 2 hours; laboratory, 2 hours. This course is an introduction to the concepts, techniques, uses, applications, and terminology of computers, computing, and networking. Emphasis is on the possibilities and limitations of computers and computing in a wide range of personal, commercial, and organizational activities. Topics include computer types, history of computing, computer organization and operation, computer languages, program development, computer applications (word processing, database, graphics, spreadsheets, etc.), basic networking, and computers in society. Weekly hands-on experience with a variety of operating systems, applications, and computer programming. Not applicable to the CS major. Recommended for all students. Satisfies GE Area B3.

CS 115 PROGRAMMING I (4)

Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. This course gives an overview of computer organization; arithmetic and logical expressions, decision and iteration; simple I/O; subprograms; principles of good programming style, readability, documentation, and structured programming concepts; top-down design and refinements; techniques of debugging; and testing. Use of the above concepts will be implemented in a standard high-level programming language. Satisfies GE Area B3. Prerequisite: GE math and English eligibility, or consent of instructor.

CS 115W PROGRAMMING I WORKSHOP (1)

A workshop designed to be taken with CS 115. Exploration of programming concepts through problem solving in a group setting. Co-requisite: CS 115.

CS 175 INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER GRAPHICS (3)

Lecture, 2 hours; laboratory, 2 hours. This is the first course in computer graphics hardware and software. Topics include graphics hardware, microcomputer graphics, presentation and business graphics, graphics for artists, computer mapping, CAD/CAM (drafting and environmental applications), animation, 3-dimensional graphics, and desktop publishing. Students will have hands-on experience using a variety of graphics programs on microcomputers. Not applicable to the CS major. Prerequisite: previous computer courses or consent of instructor.

CS 185 SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (1-4)

Content will be indicated by the specific topic. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

CS 210 INTRODUCTION TO UNIX (1)

Laboratory, 3 hours. This course is an introduction to the use of Linux/Unix as a programming environment. Communicating with a Unix host, shells and shell commands, files and directories, Gnome desktop, jobs and processes, scripting, programming utilities (compiler, linker, debugger, make, hex dump, etc.). Prerequisites: CS 115 and previous or concurrent enrollment in CS 215, or consent of instructor.

CS 215 PROGRAMMING II (4)

Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. This course is the sequel to CS 115. Topics include: pointers and dynamic allocation of storage linked lists, an introduction to the object oriented programming (OOP) paradigm, classes and objects, encapsulation, member variables and member functions, inheritance and polymorphism, scoping, templates, iterators, and error handling techniques. Prerequisites: CS 115 and previous or concurrent enrollment in CS 210, or consent of instructor.

CS 242 DISCRETE STRUCTURES FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE (4)

Lecture, 4 hours. This course covers fundamental mathematical concepts blended with their applications in Computer Science. Topics include: sets, functions and relations, Boolean algebra, normal forms, Karnaugh map and other minimization techniques, predicate logic, formal and informal proof techniques, relational algebra, basic counting techniques, recurrence relations, and an introduction to graph theory. Prerequisites: CS 115 and MATH 161 or 161X, or consent of instructor.