

OSUN Online Courses Fall 2024

A Thousand Splendid Suns and the Contemporary Afghan Woman's Story

Lucy Ferriss, Bard College

Term: September 23, 2024 – December 4, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM EDT

Students will read Khaled Hosseini's novel 1000 Splendid Suns both as a literary exemplar and as a subject of postcolonial critique. We will pay particular attention to the dual point of view in the novel; to Hosseini's perspective as a member of the Afghan diaspora; and to the fluid interpretations of history embedded in novels tied to controversial events. By the end of class, students will have written two stories of their own, one from a perspective close to their own, and one from a perspective close to their mother's.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Big Brother Redux: Democracy, Privacy and Surveillance in the Era of AI

Chrys Margaritidis, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 20, 2024

Levels: 100-Level; 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Friday 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

In this course, we take a close look at two crucial concepts of modern life, privacy and surveillance, and their practices as they relate to democracy. We look at the history of these concepts and identify the changes that AI has brought about. We provide a holistic view of these changes, using texts in philosophy, ethics and law and examining real-world practices. We also look at important works of literature addressing these issues and how they are negotiated in films.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Civic Engagement and Social Action

Erin Cannan, Bard College and Zsuzsanna Arendas, Central European University

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

One way to think about civic engagement is to explore how it relates to making a difference mainly in the civic life of our communities and to develop the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. This course provides a forum for discussing a selection of topics on civic engagement through mainly contemporary literature. An important part of the course requires students to work together and create a project proposal for the needs of their local community.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Civic Engagement in Repressive Contexts

Jeffrey Goldfarb and Obaidullah Baheer, American University of Afghanistan

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday and Thursday, 08:00 AM-09:30 AM EST

This course helps students and professors to address the classic question "What is to be done?" by exploring cultural freedom; media and autonomous publics; politics as concerted action, and the responsibilities of intellectuals in creating democratic public life, political power, and cultural freedom. It probes alternatives to coercion in oppressive contexts, the distinct roles played by intellectuals, scholars, activists, politicians, and experts, and the impact of their actions on society.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Combating Violence Against Women

Jannat Kovalchuk, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Levels: 100-Level; 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday 7:00 AM - 9:40 AM EDT

The course focuses on the key concepts, the international and European legal framework, case law governing the prevention and protection of women and girls from violence, domestic violence issues and criminal laws dealing with family violence, the access to justice for victims of violence, criminal justice and the judicial response in violence against women cases.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Contemporary Witnessing through Fiction and the Visual Arts (taught in Spanish)

Patricia Lopez-Gay, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This interdisciplinary seminar explores contemporary "witnessing" and its impact on socio-cultural crises (ecological, migration, gender violence, COVID-19). Focusing on Spanish literature and visual arts, it questions how fiction and art serve to construct our collective memory and reshape our imagination of the future. The course examines blurred lines between journalism, literature, and art, probing the ethics and functions of testimony in hybrid cultural expressions. Conducted in Spanish.

Prerequisites: This course will be conducted in Spanish. Advanced or native command of the Spanish language is a must. Students are required to contact the instructor before registration to ensure eligibility for enrollment in this 300-level seminar.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Corruption, Development and Good Governance

Dinara Asanbaeva, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 11, 2024

Levels: 200-Level; 300-Level; 400-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 7:00 AM - 8:15 AM EDT

This course offers a discourse into the problem of corruption. Corruption has long been seen as the main obstacle to development and growth. It is a political, economic, social, cultural problem that exists in practically all countries and communities. Within this course, we examine the relationship of corruption with good governance and development in Central Asia and beyond.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Customary Fictions: The Impact of the Unreal on the Study of the Real

Michael Lewis, Al-Quds Bard College

Term: September 21, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course is an exploration of the ways fictionality impacts the process of interpretation in a variety of disciplines. Studying the concept of fiction beyond the arts, the course investigates the way fiction appears and/or impacts planning, innovation, categorization, identification, social decorum, social construction, nations and borders, dreaming, identification, theory of mind, and sympathy.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Democracy and Authoritarianism in Comparative Perspective

Christelle Genoud, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 20, 2024

Level: 400-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM EDT

The course intends to provide an advanced overview of the theoretical and empirical works focusing on the comparative analysis of modern political regimes. This notably involves tracing why and how democracy emerges and survives in some countries and not others and understanding authoritarian breakdowns. Emphasis will be placed on the critical evaluation of socio-economic and cultural theories of democracy, internal operation and performance of both democratic and authoritarian regimes.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Digital Literacy & Scholarship

Jeremy Hall, Bard College

Term: September 6, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Friday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT

This course examines the skills necessary to produce scholarship and engage the public sphere by developing proficiency in conducting and presenting research. It uses a meta-literate approach addressing issues such as information consumption, misinformation, information activism, digital inclusion, and equity. The class looks at news/media literacy and advanced research skills as foundational to modern civic life. Students will complete group projects to put the skills from class into action.

Credits: 2 US / 4 ECTS

Epistemology of Conspiracy Theories

Bruce Matthews, Bard College

Term: September 3, 2024 – December 19, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

Epistemology of Conspiracy Theories takes an interdisciplinary approach to exploring how and why the information overload of our digital age has led to a growing legitimacy crisis of our shared understandings of what is true, and how this breakdown of a shared reality makes us more susceptible to conspiracy theories. We examine works of literature and philosophy that have wrestled with the intersection of truth and narratives of power, engaging with Plato's Noble Lie and George Orwell's 1984, while also focusing on propaganda and the manufacturing of consent within our contemporary social media landscapes. Building on the insights of multiple schools of epistemology, students will engage and critique select conspiracy theories, as they learn to contextualize and understand the political and technological currents that shape the competing narratives of truth we confront in today's world.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Ethical Leadership

Brian Mateo, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course explores approaches to ethical leadership not just in the abstract, but as a discipline that is focused on analysis, awareness and action. As an approach to thinking through ethical leadership, the course is structured around the concerns explored in Dr. Mary Gentile's Giving Voice to Values framework. Students will read case studies, develop their own, and share with peers from across the globe.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

European Union Law and Human Rights

Kanykei Kasybekova, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 8:25 AM - 9:40 AM EDT

The course will address two main themes. Firstly, students will be exposed to the functioning of the European Union and address the human rights issues as raised within the European Union. The second theme will cover the Council of Europe and European Human Rights Law, exploring the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The course introduces students to the legal system and institutions, the basic principles, and rules with a focus on human rights.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Gender and Environmental Justice

Carmel Christy Kattithara Joseph, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 6, 2024

Levels: 100-Level; 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM EDT

As debates about the climate crisis and the environment are omnipresent today, this course discusses the importance of understanding the environment as deeply connected to social justice and human rights. It introduces foundational debates on analyzing the environment as intrinsic to our existence, as well as mediated by social structures. Therefore, discussion of the environment requires us to unpack it as a given, but as accessed through relations of power such as gender, race, indigeneity and colonization.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

GlobalEd Core - Policy and Practice in Global Education

Tamo Chattopadhyay, American University of Central Asia

Global Education Development Certificate

Term: September 5, 2024 – November 21, 2024

Level: Masters-Level

Day/Time: Thursday 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course has been designed to introduce students to some of the key themes and critical issues in international educational development. It is widely understood that the forces of globalization are profoundly changing the experiences and opportunity structures of young

people in an increasingly interdependent world. Yet, while there is a growing recognition that the knowledge-based global economy requires a new paradigm for education in the 21st century, a significant number of children and adolescents in the world remain vulnerable, disengaged, and disenfranchised from education. Against this backdrop, the course will examine the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that keep children excluded from schools and learning in different parts of the world. The syllabus embodies an intersectional framework – where thematic domain-specific issues will be explored in conjunction with socio-cultural and historical contexts. Through the readings, assignments and discussions in the course, students would be able to: analyze critical policy choices for educational equity and develop a systems perspective and examine issues shaping education in their interconnectedness - both globally and locally. Learning about the global to interrogate and act innovatively at the local is an overarching objective of this course. The collaborative, cross-continental GLOBALED learning experience will not only encourage asking “why” but will normalize asking “why not”.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Human Rights Advocacy

Liudmila Ulyashyna, European Humanities University

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 25, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT

This seminar serves as an introduction to human rights and humanitarian advocacy, with a practical component. Half of the course focuses on the history and theory of human rights and humanitarian advocacy: what are the bases, overlaps and differences of human rights and humanitarianism? What is it to make claims for human rights, or to denounce suffering or rights violation, especially on behalf of others? How and when and why have individuals and groups spoken out, mounted campaigns, published reports and exposés? How do they address, challenge, and sometimes work with governments and international organizations like the United Nations, particularly through transnational advocacy networks? What allows some campaigns to succeed while others fail? As we look at humanitarian and human rights advocacy from the campaign to abolish the slave trade to the advent of digital activism, this half of the course serves as an introduction to human rights work as a mode of legal, political and cultural practice. The other half of the course involves hands-on work with the human rights organization Scholars at Risk (SAR) to support detained and disappeared Uyghur

scholars in China. We will research events and individuals, communicate with families and lawyers and other advocates, write country and case profiles, propose strategies and tactics for pressuring governments and other powerful actors, and develop appeals to public opinion -- all while recognizing the ethical and political risks this work may involve.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Human Rights and Health

Venera Urbaeva, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: October 2, 2024 – November 2, 2024

Levels: 300-Level; 400-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM EDT Saturday 11:00 PM - 2:00 AM EDT

Right to health, defined as the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, is a fundamental human right. This course will explore public health issues from a rights-based perspective. Students will delve into the core components of the right to health through analyzing key legal documents, exploring the role of international actors, governments, and public health authorities with a focus on health equity and the social determinants of health.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Identity, Order, and Violence in the Post-Cold War

Bugra Güngör, American University of Central Asia

Term: August 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Levels: 300-Level; 400-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM EDT

This is a course on the varieties of political violence led by individuals' identities and order in the Post-Cold War era. The students discuss important concepts related to identity, such as religion, nationalism, and ethnicity, and political order including formal and informal norms, coercion, and sanctions. Furthermore, they examine whether and how these concepts can shape intra and inter-group violence drawing on some episodes in different settings from the early 1990s to the present.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Intersectional Feminisms and/in Contemporary Literature

Kathy-Ann Tan, Bard College Berlin

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 6, 2024 – December 20, 2024

Level: 300-Level

Day/Time: Friday 3:00 AM - 6:15 AM EDT

This course will center the writings of Black and brown feminists. We will discuss the works of the Combahee River Collective, Audre Lorde, bell hooks and Gloria Anzaldúa whose writings from the 1980s and 90s continue to be highly influential today in the work of intersectional and transformative justice. We will then turn to contemporary works of poetry, essayistic writing and fiction that develop, queer and expand on the practice of intersectional feminism(s) in the literary realm.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Introduction to Law & Society

Haroun Rahimi, American University of Afghanistan

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 1, 2024 – December 24, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Saturday 9:00 AM - 10:20 AM EDT

Imagine law not just as a collection of static rules, but as a living, breathing institution. This course invites you to see how the values, conflicts, and institutions of society shape and are shaped by law in turn. We dissect the very concept of law, tracing its origins and evolution within the broader social landscape. We'll venture beyond the confines of formal legal systems to understand law's deeper roots in society.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Investment Law and Sustainable Development

Begaiym Esenkulova, American University of Central Asia

Human Rights Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate, Sustainability and Leading Change Certificate

Term: September 6, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Friday 5:35 AM - 8:15 AM EDT

This course is focused on legal aspects of foreign direct investment and sustainable development. Classes are aimed at providing students with the knowledge and critical understanding of main investment law as well as sustainable development concepts and

issues. Students will study how investment law can protect investment and how it can be used to advance host states' sustainable economic, social, and environmental development. The course is student-centered and interactive.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

kNOwVAWdata: Know Violence Against Women Data

Jarkyn Shadymanova, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Levels: 300-Level; 400-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM EDT

The kNOwVAWdata Course, a partnership between AUCA, University of Melbourne, and UNFPA (Kazakhstan), addresses the global priority of combating violence against women (VAW). Recognizing the scarcity of high-quality data on VAW prevalence, the course offers a sustainable solution by building local capacities to collect, analyze, and communicate data. This course aims to build a global professional workforce that is data literate and skilled in undertaking reliable and ethical VAW research.

Prerequisites: Gender study courses.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Laughter in the Dark: Humor and Violence

Zahid Rafiq, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 4, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Levels: 200-Level; 300-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 8:00 AM - 10:20 AM EDT

In this course, we will read books that rise out of violent contexts and engage deeply with violence, and yet it is humor they resort to. Why do violent places, dictatorships, wars, prisons abound with their own humor, that often appears to make fun of the oppressed themselves? Does humor express something other than what the tragic might be able to say, does humor in the worst of times help keep up human? We will ask these and many other questions in this course.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Literature and Art from the Soviet Union

Maryna Batsman, American University of Central Asia

Term: August 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 5:35 AM - 6:50 AM EDT

The course offers an overview of the most important literature and art produced in the Soviet Union from the 1917 Revolution until the country's dissolution in 1991. We will read Mayakovsky, Akhmatova, Mandelstam, Babel, Shalamov, Bulgakov, Yerofeyev, and others. We will examine the art of Malevich, Kandinsky, Eisenstein, Chuikov, Aytiev, Tarkovsky, and others. Prerequisites: First Year Seminar and/or English Composition or an equivalent freshman course.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Literature and Social Justice

Charlotte Fiehn, American University of Afghanistan

Human Rights certificate

Term: August 19, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Levels: 200-Level; 300-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 5:30 AM - 6:45 AM EDT

What do “humanitarianism” and “human rights” have to do with the humanities? How can literature contribute to a consideration of these pressing questions? In a globalizing culture, our interest will be international, looking at ways in which personal stories contribute to political histories. In focusing on topics of “social justice,” we will consider such questions as environmental justice, racial justice, women’s rights, children, immigration, and refugees.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Literatures of the Roma (Gypsies); From Imagination to Self-Representation

Anita Tarnai, Bard College

Term: September 8, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Fascination with the Roma (Gypsies) have resulted in a plethora of works produced over centuries by non-Roma authors. These works, in turn, have shaped societal perceptions and norms of engagement and played a central role in the fictitious and exceedingly negative

stereotyping and persecution of the Roma. Little attention has been paid to the literature and art produced by the Roma to counter their exoticized and often dehumanizing images and allow for their self-representation. The course provides an opportunity for students to examine stereotypes associated with the Roma as well as engage with primary resources (poetry, prose, essays, art) produced by Roma authors and also drawn from collective forms of Romani art (fairy tales and songs). Students will explore themes of “the other,” identity, class, race, gender, location (and dislocation) and time, and the often overlooked experiences of Romani slavery and the Holocaust, amongst others. Teamwork is promoted through active engagement with the texts and through the application of interview and translation skills (workshops will be provided) to the cross-network collaborative projects. Students will have the choice to either interview Roma writers, authors or other significant cultural figures or translate a short text written by a Roma author that is not available in English. The course is an OSUN network collaborative course that engages students from Bard College and Central European University in cross-network collaboration.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Mapping the World with QGIS

Viktor Lagutov, Central European University

Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: September 18, 2024 – December 4, 2024

Levels: 300-Level; 400-Level; Masters-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 2:45 AM - 4:10 AM EDT

The course will introduce QGIS, the most popular open-source free GIS package, and its use for geospatial data visualization (mapping). Participants will develop basic understanding of spatially referenced data and familiarize themselves with GIS mapping principles. The online sessions followed by individual work will equip participants with both theoretical understanding and practical skills in visualizing societal and environmental phenomena.

Prerequisites: No experience in GIS is required, but basic computer skills are expected.

Credits: 2 US / 4 ECTS

Philosophy as Therapy

Anton Markoc, American University of Central Asia

Term: September 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 12:50 AM - 1:05 AM EDT

This course examines ancient Greek and Roman philosophical classics in line with the therapeutic tradition of philosophy. We shall engage with selected works of Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus, Seneca, and Marcus Aurelius, along with contemporary scholarly essays by Pierre Hadot, Anthony Kenny, Myles Burnyeat, Julia Annas, Martha Nussbaum, and Michel Foucault. Prerequisites: First Year Seminar and/or English Composition or an equivalent freshman course.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Public International Law and the UN System

Kamila Mateeva, American University of Central Asia

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Thursday 5:35 AM - 6:50 AM EDT

This course introduces students to the basic concepts and problems of international public law and the connection of those to the fundamentals that the UN System established.

International law commonly is defined as the rules, principles and norms, which govern the interaction among states, many of which originated from the establishment of the League of Nations so as the United Nations international organization.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Law or Philosophy of Law or any Basics of Law course.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Race and Ethnicity in Global Perspective

Uzi Baram, Bard College

Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 3, 2024 – December 19, 2024

Levels: 100-Level; 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 8:30 AM - 9:50 AM EDT

At some point in our lives all of us are asked to check a box. Around the world, different countries have different ways to organize social variation, but all have some category of social identity that is either racial, ethnic, or some other categorization. We will consider the historical development of the race concept that prioritizes physical features, explore approaches focused on lineage or other social factors, explore the implications of racism and ethnocentrism as well as consider different models for ethnic identity. The scope of the course is global; the central concern is social identity today.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Regenerative Practices: Ecovillage Design and Permaculture

Olga Tarabashkina, American University of Central Asia

Food Studies Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 13, 2024

Levels: 200-Level; 300-Level; Masters-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM EDT

The Regenerative Practices: Ecovillage Design and Permaculture was born out of the experiences of long existing communities and cutting edge educators and transformative and participatory learning in order to share how to create a new way of living with low environmental impact and high quality of life, bringing together the four areas of regeneration: social, ecological, economic, and culture/worldview.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Russia Paradox: Intellectual History of the Russian Empire(s)

Victor Apryshchenko, Bard College

Term: September 12, 2024 – December 19, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Thursday 9:10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

This course explores the contradictions and myths associated with the Russian Empire in its pre-Soviet and Soviet periods. It uses intellectual history as a prism through which to explore challenges and contradictions of the notion of empire, and the implications of ideological hegemony and practices such as Russification within multi-ethnic and multi-cultural states. The course concludes with an exploration of the uses and abuses of historical memory in the Soviet and Putin eras, and examines how the Putin regime is the heir of the Soviet state in terms of its ideologies, institutions, and international aggressions.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Science Communication

Maria Avxentevskaya, Bard College Berlin

Term: September 4, 2024 – December 11, 2024

Levels: 200-Level; 300-Level

Day/Time: Wednesday 9:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Making sense of scientific information is part of our lives. News media mention many scientific details that require interpretation. Scientists seek to convey their insights to the public and policymakers. This course focuses on how to bring science and society into cooperation. We examine social and scientific issues and learn how to craft science stories and podcasts in collaboration with journalists and artists. Students work on their own pieces and collaborate on a shared online project.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Social Cohesion and Peace Building

Azizul Hoque, BRAC University

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: July 15, 2024 – October 31, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Tuesday; Wednesday; Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM EDT

Instructor: Azizul Hoque, BRAC University

This course teaches students core concepts of social differences, social cohesion, peace, and conflict

resolution. It explores existing literature, equipping students with tools to identify and develop conflict

resolution strategies. Students will examine barriers and facilitators to peace from historical, sociological, ethnographic, and institutional perspectives. Through reflective activities, civic engagement, and group work, students will analyse how social constructs impact communities.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Social Entrepreneurship

Eban Goodstein, Bard College

Sustainability and Leading Change Certificate

Term: September 2, 2024 – December 18, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 10:00 - 11:30 AM EDT

This is a collaborative, global course in social entrepreneurship, where student teams ideate and develop models for social enterprises. Bard students will engage with classes from Palestine, Kyrgyzstan, Bangladesh, Columbia, Taiwan and other countries, through a mixture of synchronous online learning, and in-person labs. Social entrepreneurship is the process of

building new organizations that offer scalable solutions to social and environmental challenges. Social enterprise can be either for-profit, or non-profit, but key is the ambition to address societal problems at scale. The practice of social entrepreneurship explores the full suite of liberal learning: critical analysis, persuasive writing, oral communication, quantitative reasoning, design thinking, and group social dynamics. The course will culminate in a “shark tank for sustainability” among and between teams from the different universities, with winning teams then competing at the Bard MBA’s annual Disrupt to Sustain pitch competition in December. The teaching and learning collaboration will be made possible through the use of Bard MBA Professor Crawford’s cloud-based teaching tool, RebelBase, which supports project-based learning embedded in a collaborative, online entrepreneurial ecosystem. The course will include readings and discussion focused on social issues related to entrepreneurship: drivers of change, from decarbonization to AI; delinking growth from material throughput; urban-based innovation ecosystems; social obstacles to risk-taking; working on multi-disciplinary teams; language, power, race and gender dynamics in entrepreneurship; deconstructing the archetypes of entrepreneurship.

Credits: 4 US / 8 ECTS

Sustainable Local Food in Global Context

Maryann Tebben, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Food Studies Certificate

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 11, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday; Wednesday 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

A core course for the Certificate in Food Studies offered by OSUN in collaboration with the Center for Food Studies at Bard College at Simon's Rock, this course offers an introduction to the theory and practice of sustainable eating in a local food system. The course will consist of classroom discussion of current topics related to sustainable agriculture and food consumption and an experiential component featuring demonstrations and hands-on workshops with farmers and practitioners in students' local communities. We will examine sustainable food and “farm to table” eating from multiple perspectives: consumers, farmers/producers, and policymakers.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

The Black Experience

Lisa Bratton, Tuskegee University

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 6, 2024 – December 15, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM EDT

The course will be a historical and interdisciplinary examination of the 26th Amendment and use it as a prism through which to examine both the history of disenfranchisement and the fight for voting rights in the United States, and the role of college communities in that process.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Universal Human Rights: Ideas and Challenges

Chiahao Hsu, National Sun Yat-sen University

Human Rights Certificate, Public Policy and Economic Analysis Certificate

Term: September 24, 2024 – December 17, 2024

Levels: 100-Level; 200-Level

Day/Time: Monday 9:10 PM - 12:00 AM EDT

Human rights are a complex and debated concept, with questions surrounding their natural and universal nature or social and contextual construction. Despite this, there is broad agreement on the most recognized human rights, including civil and political, economic and social, and cultural rights. Studying human rights history and practice can deepen understanding of their importance and develop critical thinking and analytical skills for applying them to real-world issues.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Women Playwrights Speak Out Loud

Aimée Michel, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:35 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

This course focuses on the marginalized voices of American women playwrights working from the end of the 20th century into the 21st. We will address the historical moment when the plays were written as well as the political, confrontational nature of the writing style and content. Students will partner and lead discussions of the plays. Playwrights include Ntozake

Shange, Maria Irene Fornes, Adrienne Kennedy, Paula Vogel, Suzan-Lori Parks, Beth Henley, Marsha Norman and Lynn Nottage.

Prerequisites: First Year Seminar or a Literature class or with permission of Professor.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Women Write the World

Jennifer Browdy, Bard College at Simon's Rock

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: August 27, 2024 – December 12, 2024

Level: 200-Level

Day/Time: Tuesday; Thursday 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

This course introduces women writers from different cultural backgrounds, representing various facets of global struggles for social and environmental justice, working in a range of literary genres. Writer-activists such as Joy Harjo, Suzanne Simard, Valarie Kaur, Malalai Joya & Jane Goodall showcase ways of melding art and politics into effective rhetorical strategies. Students discuss, analyze, research and try their hands at creative approaches to “writing to right the world.

Prerequisites: College-level English reading and writing.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS

Writing Descriptive Nonfiction

Sonya Huber, Bard College

Civic Engagement Certificate, Human Rights Certificate

Term: September 9, 2024 – November 4, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Monday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

In this class, we will be practicing the skills of reflection, deep description, and personal narrative, which are the fundamental building blocks of good creative writing. This hones our skills in observation and reflection by using the five senses and our insight to capture portraits in words of people we know--others and ourselves, and then to connect these observations with reflection and scenes to tell stories and convey our thoughts and realities.

Credits: 1.5 US / 3 ECTS

Writing Self and World: Exploring Creative Nonfiction

Will Buckingham, Parami University

Term: August 26, 2024 – December 9, 2024

Level: 100-Level

Day/Time: Sunday; Tuesday 9:00 PM - 10:15 PM EDT

In this course, students will explore the challenges of writing creative nonfiction. They will focus on the craft of memoir, the art of literary reportage, and the literary essay. Creative nonfiction the art of “true stories, well-told.” Over the duration of the course, students will form a creative community of writers and readers. They will go from taking their first steps in writing nonfiction to engaging with the global marketplace, pitching their creative nonfiction for publication.

Credits: 3 US / 6 ECTS