

INTERDEPARTMENTAL (INTR)

The following programs and groups of courses are interdepartmental in nature and appear in this section or at the designated catalog pages:

Program in African-American Studies (pages 129-130)

Program in East Asian Studies (pages 160-161)

Program in Environmental Studies (pages 177-179)

Program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (pages 209-210)

Program in Poverty and Human Capability Studies (pages 237-238)

Program in Women's Studies (page 264-265)

Global Studies Emphasis: Interdepartmental 131, 132, 296 (this page)

Jury Advocacy: Interdepartmental 231, 431 (this page)

Nonlinear Dynamics: Interdepartmental 210 (this page)

Society and the Professions (Ethics): Interdepartmental 341, 342, 344, 345 (page 200)

Statistical and Technical Literacy: Interdepartmental 201, 202 (page 200)

Honors: Interdepartmental 493 (page 200)

Global Studies Emphasis

Interdepartmental 131 (3)—Geography of Human Culture

This course explores the ways human societies create and transform their social and physical environments by examining five major themes of geography: population, language, religion, settlement, and economic activity. Global to regional case studies are used to develop factual background and information skills that enable students to understand the spatial aspects of human existence, in particular the numbers and distribution of humans, past and present. Appropriate technological applications, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), support data analysis and presentation. *Staff.*

Not offered in 2008-2009

Interdepartmental 132 (3)—Contemporary Global Issues

Issues such as biodiversity, globalization, public health, human rights, and geopolitical conflict are increasingly understood as the complex interplay of history, culture, and geography. This course examines global issues and emphasizes why future responses to such potentially widespread problems will require a global perspective. Attention is given to how differences in culture, regional histories, political and economic institutions, and the physical characteristics of geography converge to shape the issues and complicate international responses. Appropriate technological applications, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), will support data analysis and presentation. *Staff.*

Not offered in 2008-2009

Interdepartmental 296 (6 or 3-3)—Spring Institute in Culture and Society

A topical seminar that focuses on an interdisciplinary examination of a given society through formal study and direct exposure to its people and culture. The seminar takes place in the target location during the Spring Institute, for which six credits are awarded or three in INTR 296 and three in the discipline of the instructor. May be repeated for credit with permission and if the topic and location of the seminar are different. (FDR or GE designation to be determined each year.) *Staff.*

Spring

Jury Advocacy

Interdepartmental 231 (1)—Introduction to Jury Advocacy

Pass/fail basis only. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Introduction to the jury system, federal rules of evidence, and trial practice. Participants are introduced to the legal, practical, and policy implications of jury advocacy in the United States, and put that learning into practice through role plays as both witness and advocate. Members of the intercollegiate mock-trial team are selected from those who complete the courses successfully. *Belmont.*

Fall

Interdepartmental 431 (1)—Tutorial in Trial Preparation and Procedure

Pass/fail basis only. Prerequisites: Interdepartmental 231 and permission of the instructor. Preparation for and participation in intercollegiate mock-trial competitions. Participants prepare a case based on an assigned set of facts and assume roles of both lawyer and witness in the classroom and competition. May be repeated with instructor's permissions for a maximum of three credits toward degree requirements. *Belmont.*

Winter

Nonlinear Dynamics

Interdepartmental 210 (3)—Introduction to Nonlinear Dynamics

Prerequisites: Mathematics 101, and either permission of the instructor or four credits chosen from Biology 111 and 113; Chemistry 106, 111; Geology 100, 101; or Physics 111 and 113. An interdisciplinary introduction to nonlinear dynamics. This course emphasizes the basic mathematical methodology needed for more advanced applications of dynamical concepts to a variety of scientific disciplines. Theoretical concepts are presented in the context of an extensive set of examples from many disciplines, but especially from the life sciences. Methodologies and examples include applications to continuous and discrete systems using both analytical and numerical methods. *Eason.*

Offered when interest is expressed and departmental resources permit.

Society and the Professions (Ethics)
(see p. 98)**Interdepartmental 341 (Philosophy 341) (3)—
Medical Ethics**

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. An examination of the issues arising out of the human impact of modern biomedical research and practice. Specific issues are selected from among the following: abortion, contraception, death and dying, experimentation/research, genetics, in vitro fertilization, mental retardation, public health/community medicine, science/technology, transplantation and patients' rights. (HU, GE4c) *Cooper.*

Winter

**Interdepartmental 342 (Philosophy 342) (3)—
Legal Ethics**

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. An examination of the issues associated with lawyers' roles in society and their impact upon and obligations to the client, the court, and the legal profession. The course also addresses questions of the role and function of law and the adversary system. (HU, GE4c) *Cooper.*

Winter

**Interdepartmental 344 (Journalism 344) (3)—
Ethics of Journalism**

Prerequisite: Junior standing. A study of the moral issues arising from the practice of modern journalism and communications. Includes examination of philosophical and theoretical foundations of ethics, the place and role of journalism in the larger society, and moral choices in the newsroom. Topics include: First Amendment freedoms, privacy, confidentiality of sources, conflicts of interest, cooperation with law enforcement, free press/fair trial, photojournalism, and issues of accountability. Appropriate for non-majors. *Wasserman.*

Fall, Winter

**Interdepartmental 345 (Business
Administration 345) (3)—Business Ethics**

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. An examination of the moral and ethical issues associated with management policy and executive decisions. The course examines the basic approaches to moral reasoning; macro-moral issues concerning the justice of economic systems; and micro-moral issues such as the following: conflict of interest, whistle blowing, discrimination in employment, product safety, environment, and advertising. *Cooper, Jackson.*

Fall

Statistical and Technical Literacy**Interdepartmental 201 (1)—Information
Technology Literacy**

Pass/Fail only. Required of all Williams School majors. MUST be completed by the beginning of the fall term of the junior year. Through the use of interactive online tutorials, students gain proficiency in and a working knowledge of five distinct areas of information technology literacy: Windows Operating System, spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel), word processing (Microsoft Word), presentation software (Microsoft PowerPoint), and basic networking (the Washington and Lee network, basic Web browsing, and Novell GroupWise). All lessons, exercises, practice exams and exams are performed online. This course is a corequisite or prerequisite to Interdepartmental 202. *Staff (administrator).*

Fall, Winter, Spring

Interdepartmental 202 (4)—Applied Statistics

Prerequisite or corequisite: Interdepartmental 201. An examination of the principal applications of statistics in accounting, economics, management, and politics. Topics include descriptive statistics, probability, estimation, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis. *Staff.*

Fall, Winter

Honors**Interdepartmental 493 (3-3)—University Scholars
Honors**

Open only to members of the University Scholars program completing interdisciplinary honors work or majoring in a department without an honors program. All departments involved must review and approve the final thesis.

Fall-Winter
