Center for Civic Engagement

Community Based Learning Classes, Fall 2014
Fulfills the Gen-Ed Off Campus Experience Requirement

CBL classes foster the ability to connect academic learning with action in the world. These classes require students to work with off-campus community organizations. They seek to benefit their partner organization and our shared community by addressing a need or strengthening a capacity that serves the common good.

**PAST 306 Selected topics in Pan-African Studies: Black and Brown Power Movements/SPAN 375 Community Based Learning The U.S. Latino/a Experience**
(Professor Elias Ortega-Aponte Tuesday-Thursday 9:25-10:40)

This course explores the radical politics of Black and Brown Power Movements during the 1960s and 1970s as they were expressed through acts of mobilization, protest, and the arts and their relevance for community building and civic engagement practices today. In this course, students will work towards integrating their learning on the conditions that gave rise to Black and Brown Power politics and the strategies in developing “Serve the People Programs,” to combat the effects of racism, poverty, police brutality, cultural marginalization, and gender inequality among others with community based learning and service in partnership with community partners. This course requires a commitment of two hours a week of participation in a community partner organization. Course taught in English. **CLA-Diversity US, OFFC**

**ENGL 356 Advanced Studies in American Literature of the 20th Century: Food Justice Literature Community Based Learning**
(Professor Summer Harrison Monday-Wednesday 9:25-10:40)

This course examines the intersection of food, justice, and U.S. literature in order to understand how our ideas of food have shaped and been shaped by American literary traditions. We will explore issues like farming, animal ethics, advertising, the culture of food, food justice/sovereignty and the political history of food in the U.S. Throughout the course we will consider questions such as: How is food represented in U.S. literature? How have our stories about food changed over time? What ethical, political, and cultural issues are at stake in the production and consumption of food? This course has a CBL designation and will require students to participate in a community project to promote food justice in the area (probably Morristown). **CLA-Writing Intensive. Counts as ESS elective, OFFC**

**ESS 382 Advanced Topics in Environmental Science**
(Professor Lisa Jordon Monday-Wednesday 9:25-10:40)

Advanced GIS is a project-centered course enabling students with basic GIS skills to complete formal research papers and posters for professional presentation. Students will advance GIS skills in the areas of modeling, spatial statistics, space-time analysis, and advanced data visualization. Students will be paired with organizations to conduct research on very applied and pressing topics, using spatial data and GIS analytical tools. Course projects will work with the following programs, including, but not limited to: EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), USAID’s Famine Early Warning Systems (FEWSNET), the Peace Research Institute’s Conflict Data Project (ACLED), and local and national health agencies (such as the VA and CDC). **Prerequisite: ESS 302/BIOL 302, Introduction to GIS, OFFC**

**ECON 250 SELECTED TOPICS IN ECONOMICS - POLITICAL ECONOMY OF NON-PROFITS**
(Professor Jennifer Olmsted Tuesday-Thursday 12:15-1:30)

Why and how are non-profits different than for profit firms? How does the political economy in which they are situated shape non-profit decision making? This course explores the types of economic decisions a broad range of small and large non-profit organizations (e.g. museums, educational institutions, development agencies, grass roots organizations, etc.) are required to make. Learn why a deep understanding of economic principles is crucial to determining the success of non-profits. All non-profits have to successfully navigate economic challenges, which are shaped by political realities, while struggling with how to be economically functional without focusing on profit maximization as their primary goal. The approach in this class will be interdisciplinary and experiential: students participate in a community-based project involving a non-profit organization facing a particular economic challenge. **CLA-OFFC**