

Highlights: Honors Courses for Spring 2006

Honors 3000/01 (Honors Colloquium)
Alternate Mondays, 2:00-3:40 p.m.

Instructors: Dr. David King and
Dr. Michael Tierce
Dept. of English



Reel Life: *Citizen Kane* in American Cinema, Society, and Myth

For over sixty years, *Citizen Kane* has been referred to as "the greatest film ever made," and it continues to appear at the top of American and international polls. Its memorable lines have entered the English lexicon, and its images have inspired and challenged directors and audiences for decades. At the time of the film's release in 1941, Orson Welles was a 25 year wunderkind who envisioned the developing American cinema as "the greatest toy train set a boy ever had." In making the film, Welles created a new film language that continues to influence filmmakers today. Off the set, he infuriated William Randolph Hearst, one of the most powerful media moguls in the world. Indeed, the feud between Welles and Hearst, between art and commerce, is a story as compelling as the mythical rise and fall of Charles Foster Kane.

This Honors Colloquium considers not only the creation, structure, and innovation of the film, but also places the movie in the cultural and historical contexts that influenced its creation. The course reevaluates Welles' own legacy, and considers the remarkable contributions of cinematographer Gregg Toland, editor Robert Wise, composer Bernard Hermann, and the splendid cast of the Mercury Theater. The course also confronts the perennial struggles for money, power, and artistic autonomy that characterized Welles' own career, as well as that of his Hollywood contemporaries and successors. Ultimately, students will be able to answer for themselves whether the film deserves its reputation, and they will have a greater appreciation for how cinema both reflects and influences American society.

PREREQUISITE: ADMISSION TO THE UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROGRAM. STUDENTS NEED HONORS OFFICE APPROVAL TO REGISTER.



Honors 3000/02 (Honors Colloquium)
Every Wednesday, 9:30-10:20 a.m.

Instructors: Dr. Mary Garner and Dr. Virginia Watson
Department of Mathematics



The Use, Misuse, and Abuse of Statistics

We are bombarded by statistics in the media. Facts such as "The number of children gunned down doubles each year" and "White males account for only a sixth of new workers" are frequently quoted to us, and we are expected to accept them without question. Such "facts," however, can be used to frighten and manipulate. Our knowledge about the world is often based on statistics, and our opinions can be swayed simply by adding zeroes. Join us for an examination how numbers are used, misused, and abused in a variety of settings - the media, political science, social science, and physical science. In this Honors Colloquium, our goal is to become smarter consumers and voters.



Honors 3000/03 (Honors Colloquium)
Every Friday, 2:00-2:50 p.m.

Instructor: Mr. Brian Wooten, Director of Center for Student Leadership
Student Facilitators: JoAnne Carter, Teddi Mathes, Tiffany Roman, RoseAnne Simpson, Wes Staley, Joey Tyson, Ana West



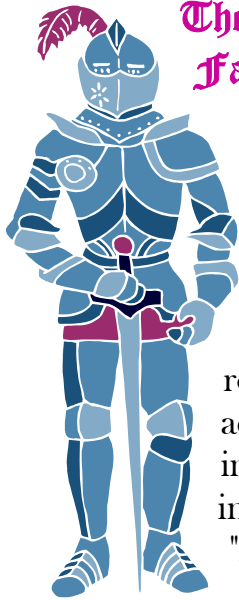
Honors as Leadership

This Colloquium is focused on understanding the nature of leadership as well as providing practical application of leadership skills. It will be facilitated by the Director of the Student Leadership Center and Honors students representing a variety of academic disciplines. The course will provide:

- examination of some of the **contemporary definitions of leadership**, and the opportunity to develop a personal definition;
- exploration of selected **historical and contemporary models of leadership**, and discussion of how individual styles compare to such models;
- understanding of the **responsibilities and privileges of leadership**, including moral and ethical decisions and the use of authority and power;
- examination of the **context of leadership**, with special attention to the relationship between the individual and the group;
- application of the foundational areas of leadership to **practical and real-life situations** within the immediate university environment.

Honors 4490/01 (Honors Seminar)
Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Liza Davis, Honors Director



The Arthurian Legend in Literature and Film: Fact and Fiction

In this course, we will study the evidence for the existence of a historical Arthur as well as medieval and modern expressions of the complex and extensive myth of King Arthur and the Round Table. By reading fictional accounts of his Round Table (ranging from medieval chronicle and romance to modern novels and long poems) and viewing film adaptations of the Arthurian legend, students will achieve insight into the way facts are transformed by the national and individual imagination. The main critical approach will be "myth criticism," and we will look with particular care at the social and cultural "work" the myth does in its successive appearances. Although the primary sources of discussion will be literary (with occasional forays into art and music), the course will look at the use of Arthurian motifs to address *multi*-disciplinary themes and issues.

“Yet some men say in many parts of England that King Arthur is not dead, but had by the will of Our Lord Jesu into another place; and men say that he shall come again, and he shall win the holy cross. I will not say that it shall be so, but rather I will say, here in the world he changed his life. But many men say that there is written upon his tomb this verse:

HIC JACET ARTHURUS, REX QUONDAM REXQUE
FUTURUS

[Here lies Arthur, the Once and Future King].”