

# HNR 200 A & B: Honors Forum on Christ & Culture

#### Instructor

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Office Hours: By appt. (although I am usually in my office and you are welcome to drop by!)

## **Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to expose students to a broad array of cultural areas and issues in order to help them understand the important role of their faith in developing a discerning response to culture. Students will attend a variety of events and lectures and be challenged to reflect critically upon their messages, particularly in light of their broader liberal education and their developing understanding of the Christian faith. This course is limited to students in the Honors College.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Through their completion of course requirements, students should gain the following:

- A basic conversancy with a variety of prominent issues in contemporary society and culture.
- An appreciation for the complex nature of contemporary issues and problems.
- The capacity to analyze and contextualize contemporary issues with diligence and honesty.
- The ability to assess contemporary society and culture as faithful participants in the Christian theological tradition.

## Requirements

In order to complete HNR 200, each student will:

1. Attend the **Athens & Jerusalem Seminar with Dr. Ellen Charry** on Wednesday, November 9, at 4:00 pm in the Globe Theatre. The seminar is offered to students and faculty throughout the university and provides an opportunity for our community to wrestle collectively with a topic related to Christian vocation and scholarship. The title of Dr. Charry's book is *God and the Art of Happiness*.

Optional elective credit: If students would like to read this book and participate in a discussion group, they should select elective 23 when they reserve their elective events. A free copy of the book will be provided.

- 2. Participate in the **President's Author Series** with Dr. Darren Dochuk, author of *From Bible Belt to Sunbelt: Plain-Folk Religion, Grassroots Politics, and the Rise of Evangelical Conservatism.*Participation includes:
  - o Two discussions with Dr. Hawkins prior to the event:
    - Wednesday, September 21, 5:15-6:30 pm in the Piazza Terrace: Dr. Hawkins will provide an overview of the Sunbelt and its importance to modern American history and culture, which will give you context for reading the book. Bring your dinner.
    - Wednesday, October 19, 5:15-6:30 pm in the Piazza Terrace: Dr. Hawkins will lead a discussion of the book. Bring dinner.
  - Reading Dochuk's book and completing brief reading notes (2-3 typed pages) to be submitted at the second discussion on October 19. Also, submit 3-4 questions to ask at the President's Author Series event. If you prefer, you may submit your notes and questions on Blackboard.
  - Attending the President's Author Series event on Monday, October 24, from 5:30-8:30 pm in Henry West Banquet Room and the Globe Theatre. Come prepared to ask questions of the author about the book.
- 3. Complete at least **six credits** of **elective events** (see the list of elective events at the end of the syllabus).

## Required Reading

Dochuk, Darren. (2010). From Bible Belt to Sunbelt: Plain-Folk Religion, Grassroots Politics, and the Rise of Evangelical Conservatism.

## **Optional Reading**

Charry, Ellen. (2010). *God and the Art of Happiness*. For those interested in participating in an Athens & Jerusalem discussion group for elective credit. To obtain a copy of the book, contact <a href="mailto:honors.forum@indwes.edu">honors.forum@indwes.edu</a>.

## **Participation and Attendance Policies**

#### Athens & Jerusalem Seminar and the President's Author Series

Full participation in these events is mandatory for all HNR 200 students. If a student cannot attend an event, he or she must send an email to honors.forum@indwes.edu at least two weeks in advance, and there will be a make-up assignment.

## **Elective Events**

Participation in **six elective credits** is required. Please see the events list at the end of the syllabus for more information about the credit value of each event. Students may participate in more than six credits of electives, depending upon availability.

#### Release Form

A completed release form is required for participation in any off-campus events. The form is available on Blackboard and on the website where you reserve events (see the section below for details about event reservation). If you select any off-campus events when you reserve an event for Forum, you must complete the release form and return an original, signed copy to the JWHC Office in Goodman 203. The form must be turned in **at least a week before the event**, or we will give your spot to someone else. One form covers all off-campus events each semester.

## Cancellations

You may cancel your reservation up to two weeks before the date of the event, provided that you have a justifiable reason for cancelling. You may also cancel within the two weeks leading up to the event, but you will be responsible for finding another Honors Forum student to take your place. Exceptions for emergency situations will be made on a case-by-case basis.

#### **How to Reserve and Confirm Elective Events**

#### Reservations

Reservations are required for Forum events listed as "Limited" in the events list at the end of this syllabus. To reserve a limited Forum event, visit this web reservation form:

# https://secure.indwes.edu/JWHC/reservation/

We will confirm all requests via email. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

DRIVERS: If you are willing to drive an IWU van for any of the off-campus events, please let us know in the comments box of the reservation form. Drivers will be given first priority. If a driver cannot be found for a certain event, it will be cancelled, and students will be responsible for finding other elective credits. In order to drive for a Forum event, you must be an approved IWU driver. Email honors.forum@indwes.edu for more information.

First Date to Reserve Events: Reservations for elective events will not be accepted prior to <u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 17</u>, at 1:00 pm.

#### **Confirmations**

In order to receive credit for any elective that you have attended, you must confirm your attendance online at:

## https://secure.indwes.edu/JWHC/confirmation/

All confirmations must be made <u>within one week</u> after the date of the event. If you fail to confirm within one week of the event, you will be required to write a two-page reflection paper before receiving credit for the event.

## Attending a "Full" Event

If you would like to attend an event that is already full, you may still attend and receive credit, but must pay your own transportation and event costs. You will be required to provide proof of attendance, so keep your ticket stubs, playbills, etc.

## How Will I Know If You Have Received My Confirmation?

You many visit Blackboard to find out which events you have confirmed and how many electives you have completed. Please allow about two weeks after submitting your confirmation before you expect to see it posted on Blackboard.

#### **Additional Information**

#### **Questions and Concerns**

Please send all Forum-related emails to Taryn Coates and Alicia Feuling at <a href="mailto:honors.forum@indwes.edu">honors.forum@indwes.edu</a>. Taryn and Alicia will check this account regularly, but not daily. In case of an emergency, you may also contact Sara Scheunemann, JWHC Program Coordinator, at ext. 1799, or at sara.scheunemann@indwes.edu.

## Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

Any form of academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism is deemed to be a serious violation of the fabric of our character as a community. As a result, any confirmed case of academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course. The student is then referred to the John Wesley Honors College Committee in order that his or her further standing in that community can be reviewed. Confirmed cases of academic dishonesty/plagiarism are also submitted to the Academic Affairs Office of the College of Arts and Sciences and are thus subject to further review.

## Students with Disabilities

In an effort to meet the aspiration of its mission to develop world changers and to respect federal law, Indiana Wesleyan University provides reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students need to self-identify in order to be eligible for such accommodations. In partnership with faculty members and administrators, staff members in the Center for Student Success coordinate this process. Please contact Mr. Nathan Herring (Student Center 220, ext. 2257) for further assistance.

# **Grading**

This course is graded as credit / no-credit. Students will receive "no credit" if they fail to complete any of the requirements for the course.

Students are required to select *at least 6* elective credits. You must choose at least one service opportunity, one lecture/reading/discussion, and one event from the performing, visual, *or* musical arts.

Note that costs of the events are listed. This information is for students who have signed up for the event after the maximum number of students has been reached, but still wish to attend on their own. If you are signed up for an event with Honors Forum, you will NOT need to pay.

# **Performing Arts**

# 1. Completed Works of Shakespeare Abridged

Saturday, October 1, 2011, 3:00 pm (Depart: 2:15)

Mitchell Theater, Taylor University

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$10

\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

## 2. Tuesdays with Morrie

Friday, October 7, 2011, 7:30 pm

IWU, PPAC, Black Box Theater

Includes mandatory discussion in the Black Box following the performance.

Maximum Students: 15 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$6

## 3. A Midsummer Night's Dream

Saturday, November 12, 2011, 7:30 pm (Depart 6:30 pm)

University Theater, Ball State University

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$7

\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

## 4. The Importance of Being Earnest

Friday, November 18, 2011, **7:30 pm** 

IWU, PPAC, Black Box Theater

Includes mandatory discussion in the Black Box following the performance.

Maximum Students: 15 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$6

## 5. World Lit Trilogy Plays

Wednesday November 30, 2011, 7:00 pm [tentative date]

IWU, Black Box Theater

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

## 6. A Christmas Carol

Friday, December 2, 2011, 8:00 pm (Depart: 7:15)

Mitchell Theater, Taylor University

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$10

\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

#### Visual

# 7. Nature Hike and Tour / Creation of Art Inspired by Nature

Saturday, September 24, 2011, 2-4 pm (Departure 1:15)

Inspired by the nature hike, students will create works of art (poems, photography, painting, sketches, etc.). No work outside of the event itself is expected, but whatever you produce during this time should be turned into the JWHC office. Please bring your own supplies.

Kokomo, Indiana

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2
Cost: FREE
\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

## 8. David Hicks: Identity Crisis Exhibition

Monday, October 3, 2011, 4-6 pm

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Must attend artist's talk at 4:00 pm in Beard 150 to receive credit.

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

#### 9. Rod Crossman Exhibition

Monday, October 24, 2011, 4-6 pm

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Must attend artist's talk at 4:00 pm in Beard 150 to receive credit.

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

#### 10. Shawn Morin Exhibition

Monday, November 14, 2011, 4-6 pm

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1 Cost: FREE

# 11. Fall Senior Show

Monday. November 28, 2011, 4-6 pm

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1 Cost: Free

# 12. Bonus: Art Institute in Chicago

Anytime Chicago

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 2 Cost: \$12

#### Musical

## 13. Orchid Ensemble

Monday, September 19, 2011, 7:30 pm

PPAC, Baker Recital Hall, IWU Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

# 14. Shape Note Singing (with Dr. Lance Peeler)

Saturday, October 29, 2011, 9:30-11 am (Departure time 8:45 am)

Kokomo, Indiana

Maximum Students: 11 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: FREE

\*\* Release form required

## 15. Marion Philharmonic Masquerade Ball Dinner Dance

Saturday, October 29, 2011, 7:30 pm (Departure 7:10 pm)

Marion YMCA

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$5

\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

#### 16. Amadeus

Saturday, November 5, 2011, 7:00 pm (Depart: 5:30 pm)

The Palladium, Indianapolis

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$15

\* Driver Needed

\*\* Release form required

## 17. IWW Jazz Ensemble

Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 7:30 pm

PPAC, Auditorium, IWU

Maximum Students: 15 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2 Cost: \$3

## 18. IWU Piano Ensemble

Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 7:30 pm

PPAC, Baker Recital Hall, IWU Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

# 19. IWU Handel's Messiah (following Advent Dinner)

Saturday, December 3, 2011, 7:30m

PPAC, Auditorium, IWU

Maximum Students: 20 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 1 Cost: \$5

## Lectures, Readings, and Discussions

# 20. Faculty Lecture Series: Dr. Blake Neff, "Sibling Rivalry or Redemptive Concern: Five Christian Perspectives of Jewish Salvation"

Monday, September 19, 2011, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

IWU, Noggle 113

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

# 21. Poetry Reading: Dr. Thom Satterly (Taylor's Poet-in-Residence)

Sunday, September 25, 2011, 7:00 pm, departing IWU at 6:40 pm

Gethsemane Episcopal Church, Marion

Maximum Students: 11 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

\*\*\*Release form required for off-campus event

# 22. Faculty Lecture Series: Dr. Steve Lennox "Bede's Use of the Psalms"

Monday, October 3, 2011, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

IWU, Noggle 113

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1
Cost: FREE

# 23. Athens & Jerusalem Book Discussion: Ellen Charry's God and the Art of Happiness

Date TBA, Time TBA

Location TBA

Maximum Students: 10 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: FREE (book is provided)

# 24. Lisa Velthouse Book Reading: Craving Grace (Lisa is a JWHC alumna!)

Tuesday, November 1, **7:30 pm** IWU, PPAC, Blackbox Theatre Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1 Cost: FREE

## **Service Opportunities**

## 25. Gethsemane Episcopal Church Lunchbox

Working with the Peelers and Sara Scheunemann to prepare and serve a meal to underprivileged Marion community members

Sunday, September 25, 8:30 am-1:30 pm (Church service included as well as prep work, serving the meal, and clean-up; will depart campus at 8:30 am)

Gethsemane Episcopal Church, Marion

Maximum Students: 6 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: FREE / Lunch included

\*\*\*Release form required for off-campus event

## 26. Gethsemane Episcopal Church Lunchbox

Working with the Peelers and Sara Scheunemann to prepare and serve a meal to underprivileged Marion community members

Sunday, October 30, 8:30 am-1:30 pm (Church service included as well as prep work, serving the meal, and clean-up; will depart campus at 8:30 am)

Gethsemane Episcopal Church, Marion

Maximum Students: 6 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: FREE / Lunch included

\*\*\*Release form required for off-campus event

## 27. Other Service Opportunity

You may also fulfill this component by completing five hours of service to the Marion community through IWU, the Honors College Student Association, your church, etc. If you need help finding an opportunity, please contact <a href="honors.forum@indwes.edu">honors.forum@indwes.edu</a>. Please ask Sara to approve your choice BEFORE you complete your hours if you select this option. Confirm your service through a note describing what you have done in the comments box on the Honors Forum confirmation page (see How to Reserve and Confirm Events for details).