Fall 2024 Natural Science Colloquia



Deep Yet Accessible Problems in Math

James Cossey HONOR 370 – 001 MWF 9:40 am – 10:30 am

We sometimes give students the impression that getting through the Calculus sequence is the be-all and end-all of math. But there is so much more to math than that – including many deep, yet easily accessible (and fun!) problems that have nothing to do with calculus. We'll explore twin primes, stable marriages, and let the Harlem Globetrotters of the future put our brains back where they belong. People will die in a duel, a grown man will cry, and we'll save Rand-McNally money on ink. No math background beyond high school algebra is needed – just come open-minded.

The Great Debate: Nature Vs. Nurture

Sarah Psihountakis HONOR 370 – 002 TTH 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm Canceled

Carrected

Global Environmental Issues

Michael Dunbar HONOR 370 – 003 TTH 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

HONOR 370 - 004 TTH 5:15 pm - 6:30 pm

As the human population grows towards 8 billion, what kind of lasting impact do we have? During the semester we'll be exploring how our unsustainable lifestyles have impacted the earth's natural resources, species, environments, and offer a prognosis for the future. Our discussions, proposals and debates will examine how to confront some of these issues and how we can act on a local and personal level.

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The Psychology of Physical Activity

Alan Kornspan HONOR 370 - 005 T 7:45am – 9:00am (Hybrid)

HONOR 370 - 006 (Hybrid) T 9:15am - 10:30pm

HONOR 370 – 008 (Online asynchronous)

The focus of this course is on the psychology of physical activity within the context of natural science. The course will cover scientific methodology and scientific writing utilized in the psychology of physical activity. The colloquium will be divided into two main sections. The first section introduces the historical and contemporary developments of the science of the psychology of physical activity. The second part of the course examines various phenomenon related to the science of flow states, stress, anxiety, and arousal in sports and exercise. Interactive applied activities will be provided throughout the course to help students understand how the science of the psychology of physical activity can be applied to sports and exercise.

Technoculture and Society

Robert Williams HONOR 370 - 007 M 3:30pm -4:45pm (Hybrid)

Focusing on the intersection between Culture, Political Economy, Science, and Technology, this colloquium introduces students to their relationship with this growing techno-entanglement. Students will explore ways in which people interact with the environment - both built and natural, and with one another by examining sociocultural processes such as science and technology, race and social inequalities, bodies and medicine, social aspects of climate change, political power, policies that legislate human interactions with the natural world, and global ecological futures. Students will also participate in the virtual application of ethnographic frameworks to contemporary environmental issues and the writing of papers to report their findings.

The Science of Science Fiction

Andrew Knoll HONOR 370 - 009 MW 2:00pm – 3:15pm

This class will explore how science fiction media influences science, technology, and society.