

Quantitative Reasoning

Objectives

The quantitative reasoning requirement has been established to develop students' abilities to collect, summarize, and analyze numerical data; to make abstract concepts operational; and to think critically about the accuracy and soundness of conclusions based on data or on mathematical models. Quantitative reasoning courses usually embed methodological training in their subject matter. These courses vary widely in the skills that are emphasized, but they usually include one or more of the following:

- A.** Learning to read, construct, interpret, and evaluate tables, graphs, and charts.
- B.** Developing quantitative measures of physical, behavioral, or social phenomena.
- C.** Using mathematical models to express causal relationships and to explore the implications of changed assumptions or proposed solutions to problems in the physical or social world.

D. Collecting and organizing numerical data from archives, surveys, lab experiments, or other sources.

E. Testing hypotheses, using experimental or statistical controls.

F. Assessing the limitations of research, such as the reliability and validity of measures, adequacy of experimental design, sample size and quality, and alternative hypotheses and interpretations.

Each Brandeis undergraduate is required to take one course from the approved list of quantitative reasoning courses. This list may change, so students should consult the most recent list of approved courses in the *Course Schedule* to assure that they will receive requirement credit. (Naturally, students will not be denied credit retroactively if a course taken to fulfill the requirement is later dropped from the list.)

Courses with an asterisk (*) satisfy the quantitative reasoning requirement only when they are taken with the corresponding lab.

Courses of Instruction

Anthropology

ANTH 110a
Introduction to Human Evolution

Biochemistry

BCHM 100a
Introductory Biochemistry

Biology

BIOL 22a*
(formerly BIBC 22a*)
Genetics and Molecular Biology

Chemistry

CHSC 5a
The Magnitude of Things and How on Earth They Matter

CHSC 6a
Forensic Science: Col. Mustard, Candlestick, Billiard Room

CHSC 8b
Chemistry and Art

CHEM 11a
General Chemistry: Principles of Material Evolution

CHEM 11b
General Chemistry: Principles of Material Evolution

CHEM 15a
Honors General Chemistry, Lectures

CHEM 15b
Honors General Chemistry, Lectures

CHEM 150b
Special Topics in Chemistry

Computer Science

COSI 21a*
Data Structures and the Fundamentals of Computing

COSI 21b*
Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs

Economics

ECON 2a
Introduction to Economics

ECON 83a
Statistics for Economic Analysis

ECON 135a
Industrial Organization

ECON 184b
Econometrics

History

HIST 127b
Household and Family in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe (1300-1800)

Legal Studies

LGLS 138b
Science on Trial

Mathematics

MATH 8a
Introduction to Probability and Statistics

MATH 36a
Probability

MATH 36b
Mathematical Statistics

Near Eastern and Judaic Studies

NEJS 165a
(formerly NEJS 170b)
Analyzing the American Jewish Community

Physics

PHSC 2b
Introductory Astronomy

PHSC 4a
Science and Development

PHSC 7b
Technology and the Management of Public Risk

PHSC 9b
Introduction to Physics

PHYS 10a
Physics for the Life Sciences I

PHYS 10b
Physics for the Life Sciences II

PHYS 11a
Basic Physics I

PHYS 11b
Basic Physics II

PHYS 15a
Honors Basic Physics I

PHYS 15b
Honors Basic Physics II

Psychology

PSYC 51a
Statistics

PSYC 52a
Experimental Psychology

Sociology

SOC 106a
Issues in Law and Society

SOC 115a
Class Structure and Consciousness

SOC 181a
Quantitative Methods of Social Inquiry

SOC 183a
Evaluation of Evidence in Quantitative Research

SOC 190b
On the Caring of the Medical Care System

University Seminars in Humanistic Inquiries

Objectives

The University Seminars in Humanistic Inquiries (USEM) are special courses specifically designed for first-year students and intended as a foundation for their studies at Brandeis. The primary objective is to offer a small seminar environment where students, under the close guidance of faculty, can engage major texts from ancient times to the present. The topics and texts of the seminars are extremely broad-ranging and come from every school of the University; such diversity allows students and faculty to focus on subjects in which they have a particular interest. The seminars are also quite consciously interdisciplinary: although taught by faculty from regular departments, the seminars seek to transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries and to address important problems from a much broader perspective. That approach is indeed integral to the mission of humanistic inquiry, which seeks to address fundamental and enduring questions of human existence.

The seminars are also skill-oriented. At one level, they seek to develop writing and analytical skills; seminar discussions, under faculty guidance, will help students to formulate key questions and to construct a critical analysis of the author's assumptions, evidence, and argumentation.

University Seminars that are designated as "USEM+W" (e.g. USEM 90a+W) may be used to satisfy Option I of the first year writing requirement. These courses provide an additional hour of writing instruction per week and periodic individual tutorials under the guidance of a trained teaching assistant. This targeted writing instruction should appeal particularly to students who wish to sharpen the writing skills required for academic work at the University, as well as for their later professional careers.

Courses of Instruction

USEM 1b Jewish Literatures in Eastern Europe

Enrollment limited to 18.

The emergence of a modern literary consciousness was one of the results of the breakup of traditional Jewish society. Examines some of the leading Jewish writers in Eastern Europe who wrote in Hebrew, Yiddish, Polish, or Russian. Mr. Polonsky (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 2b+W Body Languages

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

When Madonna asks, "Do you know what it feels like for a girl in the world?" she appeals to the notion that the male body represents the standard human form and experience. But does it? Students examine how the image of the female body in Western literature, art, film, and music has been used in a variety of situations to express a number of ideas, from deference to difference.

Ms. Harder (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 3a Slavery, Religion, and Women

Enrollment limited to 18.

Slavery is the most extreme form of power that one human being can exercise over another. Religion aims to express humanity's highest ethical aspirations. How, then, does religion support slavery? Are enslaved women treated differently than enslaved men? Do slave-holding women exercise their power differently than slave-holding men? To answer these questions, female slave narratives, pro-slavery biblical interpretation, American slave religion, and biblical, early Christian, and early Rabbinic statues and teachings are examined.

Ms. Brooten (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 3b Color—Art and Science*Enrollment limited to 18.*

How do we experience and express color in our own lives and in the natural world, and in painting, literature, music, and language? How do we see, perceive, and describe color? How is this evolving? And is our human experience unique?
Mr. Henchman (Chemistry)

USEM 4b Becoming an Educated Person*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Texts about education from a variety of cultures, eras, and individuals are read in an attempt to help students reflect upon the central issues of their experience at Brandeis. Questions asked include: How do we learn? What do we learn? Why? Who teaches us? What is the role of writing and the printed word in different educational traditions? Is the purpose of education to transmit or to change culture, or both? Students are asked to define their own educational goals for college and beyond within the context of writings from Plato to Dewey, and from Australia to Senegal.
Ms. Hale (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 5b Conceptions of the “Good Life”*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores competing conceptions of the “good life” and of moral right and how these conceptions vary within different cultural periods in history; also explores standards for what is good and for justifying claims that one way of life is better than another. Included are conceptions of the “good life” as pleasure (Epicurus), as virtuous activity (Aristotle), as renunciation, as reason (Kant), as utilitarianism (J.S. Mill), as self-assertion (Nietzsche), as faith (Kierkegaard), as aesthetics, and as spirituality.
Ms. Hayim (Sociology)

USEM 6a+W Anatomy and Gender from Antiquity to Modern Times*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Traces changing perceptions of the body and sexual difference from the ancients to Freud and Foucault. Examines relations between men and women, notions of gender and sexualities, and the social construction of decent and indecent behavior in Western culture.
Ms. Kelikian (History)

USEM 7a The Twentieth-Century Political Novel*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Novelists have illumined the ethical complexity and the ideological pressures entangled in political choices. Such texts can also be read as showing how political acts are heightened versions of the tragic limitations embedded in social experience.
Mr. Whitfield (American Studies)

USEM 7b+W The Concept of Time*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Explores the changing concept of time from human and scientific points of view. Topics include ancient and medieval view of time, the Newtonian concept of universal time, and changes brought by relativity and quantum mechanics.

Mr. Bensinger (Physics)

USEM 8a Textual Transformations*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines how literature responds, internally and externally, to the challenge that change poses for the individual and society. Metamorphosis, the transformation of one object into another, is the primary focus within each text studied, but considerable time is also spent in determining how each text relates to the others with which it shares characters, plots, and themes. As multiple versions of a few particular stories are read, only students with a tolerance for repetition and an appreciation for variation should consider enrolling.

Ms. Walker (Classical Studies)

USEM 8b Ancient Lives*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The lives of others hold for us a compelling fascination, perhaps because others seemed to have solved the problems of identity, of separation from and integration with society, and of shaping life into a coherent whole. The readings in this course focus on sharply depicted characters with the dual purpose of understanding how the techniques of literature inform their subject and of learning what ancient authors valued in humanity.

Ms. Walker (Classical Studies)

USEM 9a+W The Wandering Hero in Ancient Literature*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Focuses on the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. Examines such issues as friendship, social responsibility, the meaning of life, mortality and immortality, the difference between the human and divine. Texts are read from Mesopotamia, Greece, Israel, and Canaan, which intersect literally and thematically with the epic, such as *The Odyssey*, *Genesis*, *Aqhat*, *Ecclesiastes*, and selected Sumerian narratives.

Mr. Abusch (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 10a+W The Popular Book*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Explores the social significance of popular books. Examines such books’ historical development, the contemporary industries that produce and market them, and the people who read them. Students discuss how popular books relate to issues such as power, identity, and individualism.

Ms. Miller (Sociology)

USEM 10b Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores the role of mathematics and mathematicians through works of biography, philosophy, popular science, drama, and fiction.

Mr. Diamond (Mathematics)

USEM 11a Risk: What Is It and How Do We Deal With It?*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Risk has been an important feature of our lives for thousands of years. However analyzing risk in a formal way has been an exercise of the last few hundred years—with most of that limited to the last 50. What is “risk” and how has our understanding changed over the centuries? How are the decisions of individuals, groups, and societies altered in risky circumstances? Elementary probability, statistics and decision models, puzzles, and real world applications are examined.
Mr. Dolbear (Economics)

USEM 11b Exchange*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores the concept of “exchange”, and the different types of exchange encountered in daily life and throughout history—Adam and Eve, Native Americans and early settlers, knowledge, drugs, global exchange, bribery, the stock exchange, free speech, Napster, pollution, trading, and more.
Mr. Erbil (Economics)

USEM 12a An American Tragedy: The Wartime Internment of Japanese Americans*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

How are we to understand the United States’s unconstitutional internment of more than 110,000 Japanese Americans in concentration camps after Pearl Harbor? This is a story explored through novels, films, memoirs, poetry, and visual art on the subject.
Ms. Harth (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 12b+W Detective Arts*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

An exploration of selective works of prose fiction and the visual arts based on the proposition that detective fiction can overflow its generic bounds to reach other types of prose fiction and art. Whether or not a given work of fiction features a literal detective, the reader may be positioned as a kind of detective who “solves” the mystery that unravels as the story proceeds to its denouement.

Ms. Harth (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 13a+W America in Black and White: A History of Race in the Workplace.

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Examines the relations between whites and African Americans from the earliest colonial settlements to late 20th-century post-industrial society. Special attention is paid to the encounters between black and white women and men in the work place. Texts include autobiographies, novels, and essays, as well as legal statutes, labor contracts, court cases, and government reports.

Ms. Jones (History)

USEM 14a+W Imagining the Other: Encounters in North America from Columbus to the Revolution

Enrollment limited to 18.

Using North America after Columbus as a case study, examines the problems of understanding and representing people across cultural frontiers. Focuses on the various ways authors have explored and defined boundaries of race, ethnicity, and gender.

Ms. Kamensky (History)

USEM 15a+W Journeys to Enlightenment

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Literature often symbolizes the meaning of existence as a journey from error to truth, from affliction to freedom and enlightenment. Works by Dante, Rabelais, Shakespeare, Blake, Baudelaire, Hesse, and Hurston illustrate visions of human existence that have been entertained from the Middle Ages to the present.

Mr. Kaplan (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 16a The Art of Scientific Investigation

Enrollment limited to 18.

Explores the scope and methods of science. Is scientific investigation art or craft or methodology? The importance of identifying "right" problems. The role of hypothesis, imagination, intuition, and serendipity. The feeling for order behind natural phenomena. Research strategies. Planning and carrying out experiments. "Chance favors the prepared mind." Observation, reason, and error. The scientific temperament. Examples of classic and romantic scientists. Illustrated with examples of great discoveries. Reading: Selected writing of scientists.

Mr. Lowenstein (Biochemistry)

USEM 17a+W Through a Gendered Lens: Women and Men in Modern Jewish Culture

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Gender roles are changing rapidly in modern Jewish society. Engages students in an interdisciplinary investigation of the roots of these changes. Examines male and female roles in pre-modern European Jewish culture and the transformations in gender relations, education, family and religious life that took place during the Haskalah (Enlightenment) Movement of the 19th century and up to the start of the Holocaust. Readings are drawn from fiction, poetry, and autobiography originally written in Yiddish and Hebrew and from recent studies in cultural history.

Ms. Kellman (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 18a+W Understanding Evil and Human Destiny

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Designed to introduce students to some of the Western classics that deal with the impact of evil on human destiny. Suffering, justice, and death is studied in their relationship with God, the world, and history.

Mr. Kimelman (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 18b+W Latinos in the United States: Constructing Transitional Identities

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Latinos are now the largest minority in the United States. They come from many different countries, socioeconomic backgrounds, and ethnic groups. Some are recent immigrants, others have lived here for generations. Does it make sense to lump them together into one category? Analyzing texts such as historical documents, memoirs, novels, poems, and films, this course examines how group identity/ies have been constructed by and for people of Latin American descent over the past century.

Ms. Arrom (History)

USEM 19a The Hungry Soul: Eating and the Perfection of Our Nature

Enrollment limited to 18.

Eating is a necessity, yet we are forbidden to eat other human beings. Does this mean biology must admit something "immaterial," like a soul? What is the relationship between *bio*-logy and *onto*-logy, (Aristotle) the study of "being-qua-being"?

Mr. Yourgrau (Philosophy)

USEM 19b Political Truths and Modern Fictions

Enrollment limited to 18.

Explores a series of modern works of fiction with an eye to the particular insights that they provide into the nature of various political phenomena, e.g., class conflict, violence, and bureaucracy, and to what it is about fiction in general that allows us to think about politics, character and social relationships together. Authors include Conrad, Kafka, Baldwin, Camus, Saramago, Kundera, Voinovich, Lampedusa, al-Shaykh, and Lessing.

Ms. Smiley (Philosophy)

USEM 20a From Colonies to Independent State-Decolonization in Comparative Perspective

Enrollment limited to 18.

The middle of the 20th century was a time of political, social, and economic upheaval globally. Colonies of European powers embarked on the path to independence, struggling to define new identities. Struggles over power, identity, race, and class characterize the decolonization experience of developing countries. The decolonization experience using (primarily) literature and political writings is examined. The experience of Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean are covered. Texts include Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth and A Dying Colonialism*; Jean-Paul Sartre, *Colonialism and Neocolonialism*; speeches of Amilcar Cabral; Edward Said, *Orientalism*; George Orwell, *Burmese Days*; Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*; VS Naipaul, *A Bend in the River*; Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa*. Where appropriate the course uses films (Indochine, The Battle of Algiers, etc.) to provide a different perspective on decolonization.

Ms. Thorne (Politics)

USEM 20b Art and the Asian City: Tokyo, Shanghai, Hong Kong

Enrollment limited to 18.

Studies the evolution of the urban environment in three modern Asian cities and its impact on the visual arts. Examines the city as the financial and cultural hub of the nation, as well as the site of clashing cultural identities, personal anxieties, and civic crises.

Ms. Wong (Fine Arts)

USEM 21b Language and Identity

Enrollment limited to 18.

Explores how who we are is reflected in the language we use and examines the ways in which language influences our perception of ourselves. Topics include the role of metaphor in the expression of identity, issues related to bilingualism, cultural identity, gender, and language.

Ms. Chevalier (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 22a+W Right and Left in Europe from 1900 to the Present

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Reviews the main political families of 20th-century Europe and their 19th-century ancestries. Using original texts, novels, and documentaries to examine the ideas and followers of each movement, it introduces the participants to analytical tools as well as to modern history.

Mr. Jankowski (History)

USEM 23a Opera as Drama

Enrollment limited to 18.

Explores the literary, theatrical, and musical dimensions of opera. The course may be organized in one of several ways, e.g., by historical period, by thematic considerations, by composer or group of composers, by librettist or librettists, or by literary sources.

Messrs. Keiler or McGrade (Music)

USEM 24a Greeks Bearing Gifts

Enrollment limited to 18.

Offers a metaphorical journey through several major literary works of the ancient Greeks to discover their artistic and philosophical contributions to Western thought. Focuses on humanity, morality, and the enduring significance of these texts for our own moral consciousness.

Ms. Koloski-Ostrow (Classical Studies)

USEM 25a Reading Between the Lines: Freedom of Conscience and Persecution

Enrollment limited to 18.

Traces different cases of intellectual expression exercised under illiberal conditions of censorship and persecutions. Organized chronologically, beginning with Plato's account of his teacher's execution under Athenian democracy, and closing with 20th-century reassessments of the freedoms of conscience and expression.

Mr. Sheppard (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 26a Property in the Information Age

Enrollment limited to 18.

Examines the history and future of such concepts as copyrights, copylefts, patents, licensing, public domain, fair-use, interfaces, caching, framing, work-for-hire, joint tenancy, digital cash, software freedom, upgrades, wares, electronic read-once books and DIVX movies, in a collective effort to understand what, exactly, is the information age doing to the core human idea of property.

Mr. Pollack (Computer Science)

USEM 26b Everyday Activity

Enrollment limited to 18.

Examines various frameworks for describing everyday activity. "Everyday activity" refers to such common behaviors as riding a subway, attending a movie, buying groceries, playing a CD, doing the laundry, and carrying on a conversation. Focuses on models of skill acquisition and problem-solving, the nature of activity and planning, and the role of culture in everyday activity.

Mr. Alterman (Computer Science)

USEM 27b Coming into One's Own: Sources of the Self in Modern Literature

Enrollment limited to 18.

With the collapse of the old imagery of hierarchy and harmony, individuals who have been cut loose from their social moorings require new images and symbols in order to orient themselves in the world. Explores problems of acting in a world where the outward signs denoting inner life are no longer believed to be adequate and where definite limits and fixed principles are missing.

Mr. Teuber (Philosophy)

USEM 28a Let's Play a Game

Enrollment limited to 18.

Mathematically and literarily, Explores the dichotomy between games like Chess, Go, Backgammon, or Tic-tac-toe, where all players know everything, and ones like Poker, Rock-paper-scissors, or nuclear proliferation, where players must make decisions lacking some information.

Mr. Kleber (Mathematics)

USEM 28b Exploring the Boundaries of Identity: Family, Society, and the Construction of Selfhood

Enrollment limited to 18.

Examines the family as an "embattled paradise": a site for the expression of love and power. Relationships between family members (parent and child, husband and wife, siblings) are examined historically and across the life cycle. Intersections between family and society in fostering and constraining autonomy are highlighted.

Ms. Antler (American Studies)

USEM 29a+W From Jewish Shtetl to the New World

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Examines the transformation of Jewish life from its roots in Eastern Europe to its transplantation in America. Focuses on social and religious change, culture, family life, politics, and women's experiences.

Ms. Freeze (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 29b+W Russia, "Herstory": Memory, Identity, and Culture

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Explores the life stories of Russian women (especially Russian Orthodox and Jewish) through memoirs, diaries, novels, and films. Focuses on women's family lives, religion, involvement in revolutionary movements and culture, their role in a new Soviet society, and post-Soviet realities.

Ms. Freeze (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 30b Development of Play, Art, and Creativity

Enrollment limited to 18.

Is there a relation between intrinsic motivation, play, art, and creativity? In this seminar, the possible relation is explored how creativity develops, especially among artists is attempted to be determined. Ideas and writings from developmental psychology, theories of creativity, and the visual arts are used.

Mr. Watson (Psychology)

USEM 31b Religion and Society in the Modern Middle East

Enrollment limited to 18.

Examines the relation between Islam and society in the Modern Middle East through reading and discussion of the writings of prominent Muslim thinkers and leaders. The focus is on Islam's reaction to modernity and on some social, economic, and political issues facing Islamic societies in our times.

Messrs. Levy or Nakash (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 32b+W Crime and Punishment in History

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Examines how America and other Western political communities have defined, represented, and punished crime. Discusses diverse texts—speeches, court cases, memoirs, novels, and films—to develop a critical historical perspective on such concepts as evil, responsibility, and justice.

Mr. Willrich (History)

USEM 33b+W Revisioning the Classics: Then and Now

Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.

Participants read works from the canon of Western civilization and then analyze how these works have been rewritten artistically and reinterpreted theoretically from a 20th-century perspective. It is hoped that, by listening to the dialogue that takes place across the centuries between major texts, students come to a deeper understanding of some of the political, social, and philosophical ideas that have shaped contemporary thought.

Ms. Ratner (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 34a A Haunted America: American Dreamers as Wanderers, Visionaries, Isolates*Enrollment limited to 12.*

In Langston Hughes' poem, *Dream Deferred*, the question is posed "What happens to a dream deferred?" Examines what happens to the 20th-century dreamer lured, often obsessed, and frequently tormented by the promise of the mythic American dream. The class will map an America haunted by various definitions of the dream, its displacement, its erosions, and its reinventions.

Ms. Whelan (English and American Literature)

USEM 34b Agrarian Ideal and Rural Reality in America*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Once, the American farmer embodied economic and political independence. A pastoral impulse persists among urban people. For the last two centuries, however, economic competition and suburban sprawl have undercut country life. Are healthy family farms and attractive rural landscapes mythical, doomed, or an enduring American dream?

Mr. Donahue (American Studies)

USEM 35b Cultural Conflicts Generated by Scientific Milestones*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Scientific milestones have generated major controversies throughout history. Delves into conflicts generated by Galileo's dethroning of the earth, Darwinian evolution, the development of nuclear bomb power and the potential uses of the genome project and animal cloning.

Ms. White (Biology)

USEM 36b Drama and Social Issues*Enrollment limited to 18.*

What are the values and purposes of drama? What drama can tell us about violence and sexuality, about political relationships, and about ourselves is explored, through plays by writers from Sophocles to Calderón to Dorfman.

Ms. Fox (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 37a Myth and Prejudice: Social Attitudes about Language*Enrollment limited to 18.*

As Henry Higgins and Eliza Doolittle knew well, the minute we speak, we are judged and categorized as to our social class, competence, and even intelligence. The sources of some prevalent beliefs about language are examined and whether the value judgments that many of us make on the basis of those beliefs stem from valid assumptions about language or from destructive myths that perpetuate prejudice is questioned.

Ms. Maling (Psychology)

USEM 37b+W Art and Memory*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

A course grounded in the discipline of art history. Primarily focuses on the study of works of art and architecture, and the sites in which they exist. Explores the myriad ways art draws from the memory and the imagination, and may continue to engender memory. Special focus on public art, monuments and memorials, why they are created; the transformation of landscape into art, as art distills a sense of place; discussion of sacred sites; exploration of art that draws on memory in creating after-images of a place visited, or experienced; sketches as aids-memories; and finally art drawn specifically from the imagination, from the world remembered, not depicted.

Ms. Scott (Fine Arts)

USEM 39a On the Road from Homer to Ridley Scott*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The voyage has always played an important role in European and American literature and culture. Analyzes the theme of the voyage as it occurs in written works and in films, pondering questions about why the trip is made and what the "road" in the trip means. Why, for example, does Odysseus in Homer's *Odyssey* embark on his trip? Or why do the title characters in Ridley Scott's film *Thelma and Louise* set off on theirs?

Mr. Randall (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 40a The Future of the Book*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Is there a future for the book? Will the Internet destroy printing as we know it? Popular wisdom now claims that linear narrative is yielding to hypertext, and that books will give way to comic-book screenshots and virtual picto-novellas. This seminar suggests otherwise. Studies the history of the book and the social and linguistic transformations accompanying print in society. These revolutions are traced, giving the student a greater understanding of how digital technologies create possibilities and their social and cultural consequences.

Mr. Pustejovsky (Computer Science)

USEM 40b The Origins of Language*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Where does language come from? The origin and evolution of linguistic abilities in humans is studied. Evidence from psychology, linguistic theory, the cognitive neurosciences, comparative psychology, and computational modeling of evolutionary processes is considered.

Mr. Pustejovsky (Computer Science)

USEM 41a+ W New Ways of Seeing Nature
Enrollment limited to 18.

An introduction to Fractals and Chaos in a non-mathematical manner as a new language to describe and emulate the complexities of nature. The older traditional language of microscopic reductionism is used as a backdrop to illustrate the revolutionary nature of the new language.

Mr. Canter (Physics)

USEM 41b The Romantic Rebellion*Enrollment limited to 18.*

During the Romantic period in England the values of the pastoral ideal and individualism were seen by many literary figures of the time to be in peril as a result of the industrial revolution and the creation of the urban consumer society. The ensuing Romantic Rebellion, fought in print and in the streets, is followed from its inception 200 years ago up to the present and beyond.

Mr. Canter (Physics)

USEM 42b Experiencing Statistical Thinking*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Uses reading, writing, and discussion, on the one hand, and experimentation, on the other, to delve into the role of statistical thinking in current life. Throughout the semester, the class experiments with materials whose analysis and description require seminar participants to develop statistical concepts for themselves.

Messrs. Fraden or Lange (Physics)

USEM 43b Speaking Truth to Power?: The Intellectual and Social Responsibility.*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Study of key 19th- and 20th-century intellectuals and their precursors from classical antiquity and after, in terms of questions of commitment, responsibility, and complicity.

Mr. Sanders (English and American Literature)

USEM 44a I Spy: Ritual, Spectatorship, and Violence*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Focuses on a central aspect of Western culture: the connection between the I and the eye—the need to watch, to see and be seen; to peek and pry, to be a voyeur, to seek pleasure through watching.

Mr. Mandrell (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 45b Philosophy and Everyday Life*Enrollment limited to 18.*

We think philosophically about moral problems that confront us in our day-to-day lives (something philosophers rarely do). Examples include racist/sexist jokes, white lies, gossip, sexual behavior, smoking, gambling, downloading MP3s, mutual responsibilities of parents and children, charity, drug use, modesty, and politeness.

Mr. Samet (Philosophy)

USEM 46a Feast and Famine: Food and Social Relations*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Food brings together our physical bodies and our capacity for making culture; this has made it a central topic for writers, artists, historians, anthropologists, and others. Examines ways of eating (and *not* eating) that mediate, express, and exemplify relations among people.

Ms. Ferry (Anthropology)

USEM 46b Cities and Cyberspace*Enrollment limited to 18.*

How are cities and cyberspace related? How do anonymity and transiency, characteristics common to both, shape social identity and social relationships? These questions are addressed in an exploration of urbanism and the worlds of computer-mediated communication.

Mr. Jacobson (Anthropology)

USEM 47b Growing Up and Growing Old: Concepts of Masculinity and the Adult Life Cycle*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Using Erik Erikson's theory of the life cycle, explores the difficult transitions in adult life and the various roles men play as they mature from adolescence into adulthood and old age is examined. Topics include the creation of the autonomous self; the search for a vocation and success; the patterns of romance, intimacy, and parenthood; the mid-life crisis; old age; and the confrontation with death.

Mr. Holmberg (Theater Arts)

USEM 48b The Rational and Irrational*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Rationality has often been viewed as humanity's most distinctive and prized possession. Reason is said to elevate us above other living things and to make human existence especially valuable. However critics and detractors have held that there is at bottom a core of irrationality that is indispensable to the meaning of our lives. Explores the scope and limits of human reason from the perspectives of philosophy, psychology, and literature.

Mr. Hirsch (Philosophy)

USEM 49a+W Text and Subtext*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

A close study of eight classics of Western literature and film that explore how their surface contents connect with meanings that they convey only indirectly. The literary works to be examined range from Sophocles to Ibsen. Two film classics will be analyzed on the same basis.

Mr. Binion (History)

USEM 50b Humor*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Often thought of as light reading, humor can also be great literature. Humorous works by writers such as Aristophanes, Shakespeare, Molière, and Mark Twain, among others are read and discussed.

Mr. Gessel (Mathematics)

USEM 51a Faces: Understanding the Influence of Appearance on Social Perception and Social Development*Enrollment limited to 18.*

An interdisciplinary examination of the ubiquity, origins, and consequences of using facial appearance to judge psychological attributes. Attention is given to associations between facial appearance and character in literature and the arts, and to biological, social, and psychological analyses of these associations.

Ms. Zebrowitz (Psychology)

USEM 52a Race and Representation*Enrollment limited to 18.*

As readers of literature and as viewers of film, do we have shared assumptions about the racial and ethnic identities encoded in the texts we receive? How do we learn to "read" categories such as "white," "ethnic," or "mixed," and how is this related to our status as citizens? Narrative and cinematic strategies in 19th- and 20th-century texts are reviewed, paying close attention to issues of assimilation and marginality, racialized constructions of gender, and the politics of interpretation.

Ms. Smith (African and African-American Studies/English and American Literature)

USEM 53a Between Conflict and Cooperation: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Medieval Spain*Enrollment limited to 18.*

An examination of social and intellectual interaction among the three religious communities of medieval Spain focusing on literature, philosophy, and religion (including mysticism). Studies how the interaction of the three faiths helped produce a unique culture.

Mr. Decter (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 53b Conflict and Concord in Near Eastern Myth*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores the themes of chaos and order, war and peace, sickness and wholeness, and death and life in various myths and related texts from ancient Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Syria, Egypt, and Israel.

Mr. Wright (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 54a Ideas of Equality, Systems of Inequality*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines classic and contemporary accounts of equality and inequality in Western and non-Western societies. Influential philosophical texts on equality and inequality are read first, and the these speculative accounts are confronted with empirical evidence from the ancient Near East and from so-called "egalitarian" societies. The origins of an ideology of individual equality in the Western tradition are located and ways that obvious evidence of social inequality is rationalized in contemporary America are examined.

Mr. Parmentier (Anthropology)

USEM 55a Tales of Travel*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Looks at the way travel creates meaning through writing, images, and film. Examines tales of fictional and non-fictional travelers in order to ponder themes of empire, tourism, national identity, natural history, and scientific imperialism.

Ms. Dávila (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 55b Music as Text*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Is music a kind of text? Explore ways in which classical music conveys meaning by considering compositions based on other works of art (for example, an autobiography, novel, or painting). The potential of music to narrate a story and investigate ways in which film uses classical music to help tell a story is considered.

Ms. Owens (Music)

USEM 56b From Vitruvius to Venturi: Study of Architecture through Texts, Theories, and Treatises*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Through texts as varied as the pattern books of Palladio; the memoir *House* by Tracy Kidder; the film and novel *The Fountainhead*; the life of Frank Lloyd Wright; the original notes of architects and the reviews by critics; explores architecture from the ancient to the modern as a metaphor for other humanistic disciplines.

Mr. Bernstein (Fine Arts)

USEM 57a+W Freedom and Repression*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Looks at various models of freedom, as well as at how states engage in repression to preserve systems of privilege. Specific cases examine democracy in the United States, colonialism in Africa, and totalitarianism in Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia.

Mr. Cunningham (Sociology)

USEM 57b+W Why Work?*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Mankind has always “worked” but the tasks and their material and social significance have evolved and this evolution is accelerating. Considers how societies in different times and places view work, how different societies parcel out the tasks that individuals perform, how technology and specialization interact and how work is related to experience beyond the workplace. Why do members of affluent societies work as long and as hard as we do? Ms. Carter (Economics)

USEM 58a The Secret Life of Things*Enrollment limited to 18.*

What makes us certain of the difference between inanimate things and living beings? Studies living or life-bearing objects in texts such as *The Aeneid*, Defoe’s *Robinson Crusoe*, Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, film such as *Fitzcarraldo*, and in the theoretical writings of Marx and Mauss. Mr. Plotz (English and American Literature)

USEM 58b+W Animal Kingdoms*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The term “animal kingdom” suggests an analogy between the human and animal worlds. Explores the meaning and significance of the analogy—aesthetically and ideologically—in a wide variety of cultural activities and artifacts with a focus on “high” and “popular” cultures. Mr. Morrison (English and American Literature)

USEM 59a Majorities and Minorities*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores how political philosophers and practitioners from ancient Greece to the contemporary era have dealt with the problem of reconciling the rights of individuals, majority groups, and minorities in democratic political systems. Mr. Burg (Politics)

USEM 59b Educational Philosophy, Politics and Practice*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines the philosophy, history, politics, and impact of education. Introduces the “big ideas” about education throughout history, connects those ideas to modern practice, and asks how those ideas should guide reform in the present. Mr. Teles (Politics)

USEM 60b Art and the Bible*Enrollment limited to 18.*

From prohibition to inspiration, the Bible has had a profound influence on the development of art. Explores the rich and complex relationship between sacred text and image in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic art from antiquity to the present. Mr. McClendon (Fine Arts)

USEM 61a Illness Narratives*Enrollment limited to 18.*

How do people make sense of illness and caring for sick people through stories? Beginning with a historical overview of Western medicine, analyzes illness narratives as a coping device and a means to restore one’s biography. The different viewpoints of health care providers and patients are linked to the broader structural characteristics of the modern health care system. Mr. Timmermans (Sociology)

USEM 62b How Science is Really Done*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Science is seen by many as the “culture of our times,” yet popular misconceptions about science abound. Examines a variety of discoveries to learn how scientists actually go about their work and whether there exists, in fact, a “scientific method.” Ways in which science as a creative activity is linked to pursuits in the humanities. A genuine interest in science is required. Ms. Cohen (Biology)

USEM 61b+W Stigmatized Identities*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Society creates stigmas that can stain one’s reputation. Examines sources and forms of stigmatization and managing stigmatized identities, focusing on deviance, disabilities, and the Hollywood “blacklist.” Investigates stigma through text, film, and firsthand interviews. Mr. Conrad (Sociology)

USEM 62a+W Children’s Literature and the Construction of Childhood*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Whether children’s literature has sought to civilize or to subvert, to moralize or to enchant, it has formed a bedrock for the adult sensibility. Childhood reading reflects the unresolved complexity of the experience of childhood itself as well as larger cultural shifts in values and beliefs. Ms. Miller (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 63a Art and Propaganda: The Persuasive Image*Enrollment limited to 18.*

An investigation of the ways in which visual images in all media have been used to persuade the public to accept certain ideological views. What are the various forms propaganda can take, and what are the methods it uses? Ms. Allara (Fine Arts)

USEM 64b Madness in Western Civilization*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores the meaning of “madness” in Western civilization—how its definition changed over time, how societies have sought to address the problems it raises, and how it has been reflected in literature, art, and law. Mr. Freeze (History)

USEM 65a+W Critique of Erotic Reason*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Perhaps the most prominent literary theme of the last two centuries is love, (especially of the romantic and erotic variety) and marriage. It has amounted to a secular metaphysics of the post-religious age. But is the novel of love still possible in our demystified world? Does it belong to an era and a way of life that has receded into the past? Explores a few classics of this genre together with some philosophical essays from Plato to the present. Works by Jane Austen, Goethe, Stendhal, Flaubert, Musil, Schnitzler, Kundera, Jeanette Winterson and others.

Mr. Dowden (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 66b History of Utopia*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Why imagine utopias? How and why have utopian ideals changed over time? Students read and discuss Plato’s *Republic*, the Christian gospels (King James version), More’s *Utopia*, Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s *Herland*, and an additional utopian novel of their choice. Ms. Irr (English and American Literature)

USEM 67a Politics as Seen through Fiction*Enrollment limited to 18.*

How modern fiction helps us understand the dilemmas of politics, the tensions between ideas and actions, social change, leaders and followers, societies in transition and decay, revolution, law, bureaucracy, and ethnicity. Koestler, Twain, Sartre, Oz, Solzhenitsyn, Kafka, and Greene are read. Format is a highly interactive seminar with several short writing assignments. Mr. Levin (Politics)

USEM 67b Political Biography*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines political leadership as seen through works of biography, autobiography, and biographical fiction. Uses political biography as a source of political ideas and pictures of political and social life. Mr. Levin (Politics)

USEM 68b+W The Art of Living*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

How ought I to live my life? This seminar approaches this question by examining still powerful ancient religious, philosophical, and literary models, as well as the profound challenges posed to them by modern thought and art.

Mr. Powelstock (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 70a Aliens! Foreigners! Immigrants!: Conflicts and Resolutions*Enrollment limited to 15.*

What conflicts are experienced by immigrants and their children? Are these conflicts resolved? How does our society respond to the issues of immigrants? How are these conflicts reflected in the literature of our time and in the popular culture? Through selected texts and interviews with immigrants, explores the conflicts of language and culture, of generational differences, and of economics. The ways in which people and our society struggle with these conflicts and how they are portrayed by these texts is also studied.

Ms. Older (Romance and Comparative Literature)

USEM 71b Right and Society*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Explores theories of the best society, the nature of public and private obligation, the authority of law, and the nature of justice. Focuses on a handful of key texts from the classical and modern periods and examines their different visions of the nature of public duty and public life and their different theories of the role of political life in human destiny.

Mr. Burt (English and American Literature)

USEM 72a Victorianism*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Examines the myths and realities of a cultural concept in its 19th century and in its more recent usage. Examines aspects of Victorian society and institutions; beliefs; science, thought, and education; literature, art, architecture, and music; and humor.

Mr. Black (History)

USEM 73a+W Thinking about Infinity*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Explores the attempts of the finite human mind to think about infinity. Readings in mathematics, history of science, philosophy, literature, and art, including Euclid, Plato, Cantor, Poincaré, Einstein, Pascal, Kant, Hegel, Wordsworth, Shelley, Joyce, Beckett, Leonardo, Michaelangelo, and Raphael.

Mr. Flesch (English and American Literature)

USEM 74a Imagining Governance: The Federation and Other Science Fictions*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Science fiction is often described as a way of thinking that helps people to reimagine how society is organized. It supposedly allows its best minds to escape limits set by social convention ("fiction") while holding out the possibility that because of its commitment to "science" imagined society could become a reality.

Ms. Chu (English and American Literature)

USEM 75a+W The United States and Africa*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The first Africans arrived in what is now the United States before the Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts. This seminar analyzes how cultures and people interact in the creation of race and nation. Africa has influenced American economics, speech and music (from spirituals to hip-hop). The United States itself has had "Back to Africa Movements" and elements of the American Civil Rights struggle were used by various African leaders. Some see Africa as an idyllic "Mother-land" free from the evils of the West. Others see it as the home of AIDS, famine, and civil war. However, Africa is not a country, but a continent.

How do we comprehend its diversity? How do Africans see us? A range of materials is used, including Olaudah Equiano's *Narrative*, Manthia Diawara's *In Search of Africa*, Richard Wright's *Black Power*, Marcus Garvey's *Philosophy and Opinions* and Keith Richburg's *Out of America* and Steven Spielberg's film *Amistad*. Mr. Sundiata (African and Afro-American Studies/History)

USEM 75b+W Nature, Art, and Illusion*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

How the physical stimulus, its representation on the eye, and our phenomenal image of it are related, has challenged philosophers, scientists, and artists. Explores this problem historically and in laboratory experiments examining visual illusions in nature and art.

Mr. Morant (Psychology)

USEM 76a+W Law and the Search for Authority*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines how societies seek to justify their basic legal rules. Readings drawn from political, historical, and philosophical works that search for ultimate legal principles in written constitutions, totalitarian authority, custom and tradition, or the fallible capacities of human reason.

Mr. Gaskins (American Studies)

USEM 78b Jews and Gender*Enrollment limited to 18.*

A look at the construction of Jewish sexuality in literature, films, illustrations, caricatures, and posters in the last 150 years as a response to modern theories of race, ethnicity, and nationality.

Mr. Peleg (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 79a Environment as Modern Myth: Books, Movies, and Marketplace*Enrollment limited to 18.*

What role does the natural environment play in our vision of the world? Is it a warm and welcoming womb; a savage, fearsome force; a worldly embodiment of a higher power; a precious resource needing protection from man's destruction; a convenient source of images for product marketing? Explores these divergent images as portrayed in fiction and non-fiction, film and popular culture; and analyzes the relationship between these concepts and our treatment of the natural world.

Ms. Goldin (American Studies / Legal Studies)

USEM 80b Memory and Democratic Prospects in State Damaged Societies*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Examines the prospects for democratic governance in state-damaged societies and how the social memory of catastrophe (war, famine, repression, and genocide) enables or hinders the process of democratic construction or reconstruction. Explores the applicability of the concept of psychic trauma to state-damaged societies and the formation of collective memory.

Mr. Thaxton (Politics)

USEM 81a The Subversiveness of Asking "Why?"*Enrollment limited to 18.*

It is common to wonder *why* people behave as they do. Less common is consideration of the implications of even supposing that the question might be answerable. Considers causal accounts of human actions, and consequences for notions of responsibility and punishment.

Ms. Herzfeld (Chemistry)

USEM 82b+W War in World History*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

How has war affected the course of world history? How different does war look across the ages? How has technological innovation influenced the conduct of war and the evolution of societies? These are the broad questions are addressed.

Mr. Art (Politics)

USEM 83a Critical Thinking*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Learn how to identify, construct, analyze, and evaluate arguments, as well as the common traps and false assumptions that lead to shoddy thinking. Primary objectives are to develop the ability to distinguish good arguments from bad arguments and the ability to reason well.

Mr. Petsko (Biochemistry/Chemistry)

USEM 83b Science in Art*Enrollment limited to 18.*

How do we know whether that painting or that sculpture is "genuine"? Usually it's because we take the word of the museum or of the art dealer. But many works of art are discredited every day as new methods are applied to determine the "fine structure" of a particular artifact. Art objects are looked at critically, from the point of view of the conservator, who has to determine a piece's value before it is bought or is displayed. Ms. Ringe (Chemistry/Biochemistry)

USEM 84a Philosopher's Choice*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The students determine the issues they want to discuss, which are selected from the readings, but the instructor chooses the readings. Everyone in the class will bring only their own experience, instead of any expertise, to the material in the readings. Readings will include works by Ryszard Kapuscinski, Philip Roth, Ckournos, Ben Rogers, Jeffrey Toobin, Bob Woodward, Thomas Mann, Alan Dershowitz, Saul Bellow, John Updike, Homer, and Virginia Woolf.

Mr. Greenberg (Philosophy)

USEM 84b+W The American Immigrant*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

The story of America, from colonial days to our day, is the story of immigration. Explores that story using letters, memoirs, fiction, and film. Through these sources, selected immigrants are accompanied as they leave home, journey to a new land, secure a job, interact with a new culture, and clash with their Americanized children. Mr. Sarna (Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

USEM 85b+W Breaking the Rules: Deviance and Non-Conformity in Pre-Modern Europe*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Explores the ways in which "deviant" behavior was defined and punished by some, but also justified and even celebrated by others in pre-modern Europe. Topics include vagrancy, popular uprisings, witchcraft, religious heresy, and the status of women.

Mr. Sreenivasan (History)

USEM 86b The Art of Seeing Things Invisible*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Our world is largely a creation of vision's capacities. To learn what vision could tell us about ourselves and about other life forms, a variety of perspectives on vision from psychology, art, biology, speculative fiction, comparative zoology, philosophy, and computer science is explored.

Mr. Sekuler (Psychology)

USEM 87a+ W Be a Mensch! Write!*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Creativity, memory, emancipation: from fairy tales passed on orally to globally communicated cybertales, humans all over the world create, interpret, and critique stories to leave their indelible mark. Investigates the meaning of reading and writing in Homer's *Odyssey*, Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*, Bernhard Schlink's *The Reader*, and others. Ms. von Mering (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 87b Time*Enrollment limited to 18.*

The approach of a new millennium often causes us to reflect upon our understanding of "time." Through readings of ancient and contemporary literary and non-literary texts, explores the ways in which humans develop, express, research, and project their concepts of "time."

Ms. von Mering (German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

USEM 88a Islands*Enrollment limited to 18.*

Islands are worlds unto themselves, capable of developing singular ecologies and singular "forms of life," yet vulnerable to invasion and swift destruction. Studies the wealth and the fragility of islands, as mythical and as actual places.

Ms. Quinney (English and American Literature)

USEM 88b+W Free Will*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Explores the debates over free will and the limits of human choice that have pervaded literary, philosophical, and religious writing since ancient times. Readings include selections from the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament; Augustine, Luther; Calvin; Shakespeare; Milton; Locke; Edwards; Dostoevsky; Kafka; Beckett.

Ms. Targoff (English and American Literature)

USEM 89a+W Modern Ideas and Modern Identities: America in the 1920s*Enrollment limited to 18. Satisfies Option I of the first-year writing requirement. Meets for four hours per week.*

Present debates about ethnic and gender identity are only the latest in a long argument about the relationship of individuals to their pasts. Examines some notions of identity in American social thought and fiction of the 1920s.

Mr. Engerman (History)

University Writing

The writing requirement is satisfied by completing one of the following options:

Option I: One University Seminar in Humanistic Inquiries Plus Writing (USEM+W) course taken in the first year, plus two writing-intensive courses. The USEM+W course has a fourth hour of instruction focusing on composition that is closely linked, thematically and stylistically, to the academic disciplines that define the context and content of the course.

Option II: One University Writing Seminar (UWS) taken in the first year, plus one writing-intensive course, in addition to a University Seminar in Humanistic Inquiries (also taken in the first year). The UWS is a full-credit course specifically dedicated to writing as a subject in its own right; it treats writing as a multifaceted art and gives students an opportunity to study and experiment with a broad range of writing styles.

All first-year students will thus complete either a USEM+W or a UWS course. Both courses place special emphasis on forms of argumentation. Other areas of attention include critical reading, essay structure, revising, research skills, and proper documentation.

Writing intensive courses are upper-level courses that are offered in departments throughout the University. Normally taken in a student's second or third year, these courses are based in a specific academic discipline and require frequent or regular attention to writing and instruction in the skills of academic writing.

The list of courses that satisfy the writing intensive requirement changes each year. The following list should be considered preliminary, courses that satisfy the requirement in a particular semester are designated "wi" in the course schedule for that semester. When there is a conflict between this *Bulletin* and the *Course Schedule* regarding the designation of a course as writing intensive, then the information in the *Course Schedule* takes precedence. Consult with the director of University writing if in doubt about whether a course satisfies the requirement in a specific semester.

Courses of Instruction

COMP 1a Composition

Prerequisite: Placement by the director of University writing. Enrollment limited to 10 per section. Successful completion of this course does NOT satisfy the first-year writing requirement.

A course in the fundamentals of writing, required as a prerequisite to the first-year writing requirement for selected students identified by the director of university writing. Several sections will be offered in the fall semester.
Staff

UWS ##a and ##b University Writing Seminar

Enrollment limited to 17. Four semester hour credits.

A course in college writing, with stress on writing sound, argumentative essays that demonstrate mechanical and stylistic expertise. This course satisfies Option II of the first-year writing requirement. Offered every semester.
Staff

Writing-Intensive Courses

American Studies

AMST 100a

Classic Texts in the American Culture to 1900

Biology

BIOL 17a

Conservation Biology

BIOL 18a

General Biology Laboratory

BIOL 160b

Human Reproductive and Developmental Biology

Chinese

CHIN 105a

Advanced Conversation and Composition I

CHIN 105b

Advanced Conversation and Composition II

Classical Studies

CLAS 115b

Topics in Greek and Roman History

Economics

ECON 8b

The Global Economy

English

ENG 48a

Sadists, Vampires, and Fallen Angels: The Byronic Figures from Byron to the Present Day

ENG 129a

Writing Workshop (Summer 2003)

ENG 129b

Understanding the Screenplay: A Workshop (Summer 2003)

European Cultural Studies

ECS 100a

European Cultural Studies: The Proseminar (Mr. Dowden only)

French Language and Literature

FREN 106b

L'Art d'écrire: French Composition

German Language and Literature

GER 105a

(formerly GER 50b)

Learning Literature through Language

Hebrew Language and Literature

HBRW 123a (formerly HBRW 110a)

Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature I

HBRW 123b (formerly HBRW 110b)

Introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature II

HBRW 143a (formerly HBRW 111a)

Advanced Survey of Hebrew and Israeli Literature I

HBRW 143b (formerly HBRW 111b)

Advanced Survey of Hebrew and Israeli Literature II

HBRW 146a (formerly HBRW 107a)
The Voices of Jerusalem

HBRW 161b
Israel Today

HBRW 164b (formerly HBRW 104b)
Israeli Theater

HBRW 166b (formerly HBRW 107b)
Portrait of the Israeli Woman

HBRW 170a (formerly HBRW 104a)
Israeli Cinema

History

HIST 51a
History of the United States: 1607-1865

HIST 147a
Imperial Russia

HIST 152b
Salem, 1692

HIST 189a
Topics in the History of Early America
(Summer 2003)

Latin American Studies

LAS 100a
Topics in Latin American Studies

Mathematics

MATH 23b
Introduction to Proofs

Philosophy

PHIL 1a
Introduction to Philosophy
(Mr. Teuber only)

Politics

POL 101a
Parties, Interest Groups, and Public
Opinion
(Summer 2003)

Psychology

PSYC 52a
Research Methods in Psychology
(Ms. Sherman only)

Sociology

SOC 107a
Global Apartheid and Global Social
Movements

Spanish Language and Literature

SPAN 106b
Spanish Composition, Grammar, and
Stylistics

Theater

THA 150a
The American Drama Since 1945