

# Extrdepartmental

The following section includes courses of interest to students in various disciplines.

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## **EXTD 102 Humanity 101: Origins; Ethics; Destinations**

*Rogers (History)*

How did human life come about? Did a god or gods create us? Are we an evolutionary adaptation? What are the potential ethical implications if humanity was created by some divine force or by accident? How might the origins of human life affect our understanding of death or any possible afterlife? This course invites first-year students to read, discuss, and compare influential works of literature, art, and music from antiquity to the present that raise similar questions about humanity's origins, the ethical implications of those origins, and death. The objective of this course is to provide first-year students with a broader framework of profound reflection upon humanity's existential questions before they have embarked upon their disciplinary paths.

Prerequisite: Open to first-year students only.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## **EXTD 106 Women in Science: Their Lives and Work**

*Wolfson (Chemistry)*

This course will explore the pursuit of science by women in twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We will focus on women's participation in scientific areas of science and their day-to-day experiences. Among the issues to be addressed—through biographies, oral histories, statistics, and scientific papers—are the nature of scientific work and differences among fields, women's accomplishments and recognition in the sciences, and barriers to success. We will consider theories concerning women's involvement in the scientific enterprise and how these theories have changed over time.

Prerequisite: None. Open to first-year students only.

Distribution: Social and Behavioral Analysis

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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## **EXTD 115 Introduction to Botanical Art**

*Roche (Friends of Horticulture) and Govan (Friends of Horticulture)*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** "If you can paint a leaf, you can paint the world" (Ruskin). This course will focus on the roles of botanical art in fine art and science, both historically and in the present day. Students will study the exacting skills demanded of the artist, through study of examples in Wellesley College Library's Special Collections and in practical applications. In the Wellesley College's Ferguson Greenhouses, students will obtain grounding in botanical knowledge, basic instruction in representational drawing and color study, as well as an appreciation of the knowledge of the botanical illustrator, as scientist and artist. *Mandatory credit/noncredit. Not offered every year. Subject to Dean's Office approval.*

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: None

Semester: N/O

Unit: 0.5

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## **EXTD 160 Introduction to Engineering Science**

*Turbak (Computer Science; Olin course taught on Wellesley campus)*

Introduction to Engineering Science is offered to students who are intrigued by engineering as a philosophy or a career. It is meant to help students get a taste of engineering. The course is project-based and hands-on and will also have a design-and-prototyping component. Students will explore four concepts central to engineering: effort and flow—how power flows between interacting objects regardless of their domain; transduction—the bidirectional transformation of effort and flow from one domain to another; state—how systems remember the past; and the powerful idea of feedback—used in almost all engineered devices to bring about desired behavior despite undesired disturbances.

Prerequisite: PHYS 107 or the equivalent or by permission of the instructors.

Distribution: None

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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## **EXTD 215 W.E.B. Du Bois: Public Intellectual**

*Rollins (Africana Studies)*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** This course will explore Du Bois's life, times and contributions, as a scholar, an advocate and activist. Special attention will be given to his work for women's rights, decolonization, racial justice, and economic reform. Du Bois's thinking on these and other issues will be revealed in selections from the Atlanta University studies, *The Philadelphia Negro*, *The Souls of Black Folks*, *Darkwater*, *The World and Africa*, as well as editorials in *The Crisis* and other articles. Du Bois's autobiography and Levering Lewis's biography will provide the foundation for understanding Du Bois's life and times. While most of the readings will be nonfiction, some of Du Bois's creative writing will also be included. The documentary, *W.E.B. Du Bois: A Biography in Four Voices*, will complement the readings.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Epistemology and Cognition

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

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As of 8/10/09

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### **EXTD 310 Ethics and Difference**

*Prabhu (French)*

**NOT OFFERED IN 2009-10.** A course on the idea of difference in historical perspective; focuses on ethical aspects of claiming/identifying difference. Study of difference in texts by the philosophers of the Enlightenment, journals or personal papers of voyagers and colonial administrators, fiction, reflections on method by anthropologists, twentieth-century critical/philosophical work, and medical ethics. Emphasizes critical thought and expression. Focuses on methods for close reading/study to generate and develop research questions. Individual assignments based on students' interests/disciplines. Possible themes of difference include gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, class, disability, and differential power in individual or group relationships.

Prerequisite: Open to seniors; juniors by permission of the instructor.

Distribution: Religion, Ethics, and Moral Philosophy

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

### **Marine Studies Consortium Courses**

The Marine Studies Consortium offers courses focusing on a variety of aquatic topics. These courses are taught at neighboring institutions and are open to a limited number of Wellesley students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

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### **EXTD 123 Water Resources Planning and Management**

A comprehensive introduction to the economics and ecology of water supply and water pollution control. Topics include watershed management, groundwater and wetlands protection, and wastewater treatment. The inherent difficulty in applying static laws and regulations to a dynamic natural resource such as water is a recurring theme. *Offered by the Marine Studies Consortium.*

Prerequisite: None. Open to students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

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### **EXTD 126 Maritime History**

This course is an introduction to New England's maritime history, with secondary emphasis on its relationship to the coastal ecosystem. The course will survey the sea's legacy from the earliest seventeenth-century fishing settlements to the shipbuilding and commerce of today. Course themes will include historical, political, and economic developments. Field trips will explore the rich resources of the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts; the *USS Constitution*, Boston, Massachusetts; and Mystic Seaport, Connecticut. *Offered by the Marine Studies Consortium.*

Prerequisite: None. Open to students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

Distribution: None

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **EXTD 128 Coastal Zone Management**

This course presents a survey of the coastal environment, its physical characteristics, natural systems, economic uses, and development pressures. Lectures examine strategies formulated in the U.S. for land and water-resource management in the coastal zone. The roles of federal, state, and local government, environmental groups, and resource users are also explored. Finally, by comparing coastal-zone management problems in the U.S. to those elsewhere in the world, students gain a global perspective. *Offered by the Marine Studies Consortium.*

Prerequisite: None. Open to students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

Distribution: None

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **EXTD 225 Biology of Fishes**

This upper-level survey course covers the evolution, systematics, anatomy, physiology, and behavior of freshwater, marine, and anadromous fishes from temperate to tropical environments. The course also examines the diversity of fish interactions in aquatic communities: predator/prey relationships, host/symbiont interactions, and the various roles of fishes as herbivores. Study of inter- and intra-specific predator-prey relationships among fish populations in aquatic communities integrates principles of ecology. *Offered by the Marine Studies Consortium.*

Prerequisite: One year of general biology and two upper-level biology courses. Open to students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

Distribution: None

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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### **EXTD 226 Biology of Whales**

This upper-level course examines the biology and conservation of cetaceans: whales, dolphins, and porpoises. Topics include physiology, population biology, life history analysis, molecular genetics, morphology, distributional ecology, and social behavior. Lectures first focus on the biology of cetaceans and how they are adapted to the marine environment. Subsequent lectures use case studies to review how biological principles can be applied to the conservation of a wide range of cetacean species. *Offered by the Marine Studies Consortium.*

Prerequisite: One year of general biology and two upper-level biology courses. Open to students by permission of the consortium representative, Marianne Moore, Department of Biological Sciences.

Distribution: None

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

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