

## **BAYLOR HONORS PROGRAM: FIRST-YEAR HONORS SEMINARS AND OTHER FRESHMAN HONORS CLASSES: FALL 2023**

First-Year Seminars (FYS) are introductory courses in the Honors Program curriculum; most incoming Honors Program students will participate in one of these highly recommended seminars during their first semester at Baylor. These small classes typically enroll 12-18 students, and they allow enrollees and professors to explore the themes of the course through reading, discussion, research, and writing. Some of these seminars count towards distribution requirements on the Arts and Sciences core curriculum, and a few may substitute for other required courses via petitions that are arranged through the Honors Program office.

Classes with an “N” section number (e.g., FYS 1399.N2) satisfy a student’s New Student Experience (NSE) requirement through an integrated syllabus. Students may have more than one NSE on their schedule.

**NOTE: CLASS AVAILABILITY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. YOUR ADVISOR WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE MOST ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE LIST OF HONORS CLASSES WHEN YOU MEET.**

### **Philosophy and Politics**

**Dr. Stacey Hibbs**

**MWF 12:20-1:10 PM**

**FYS 1399.N1 (CRN 48762) or PHI 1308.H1 (CRN 45697)**

This course uses important texts from the history of political philosophy to teach students how to think about politics in a philosophical rather than an ideological way. Students will engage in intense class discussions on some of the major themes that political philosophers have taken up: What is the connection between politics and the good life? Are there legitimate and illegitimate forms of government? What are we to make the founding of the American political order? Can we identify the strengths and weaknesses of American democracy? Writers to be read will span history, covering texts written by the Ancients (e.g., Aristotle), to the Middle Ages (Machiavelli) to the Modern (Locke, Tocqueville, Haidt).

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *Pre-Law, Philosophy, Political Theory, Writing Development, Critical Thinking.*

### **Literary Bible: Old Testament**

**Dr. Phil Donnelly**

**MW 1:00-2:15 PM**

**FYS 1399.N3 (CRN 37176)**

Why is the Bible not a systematic theology textbook? Why is it important that divine revelation uses the specific forms of narrative, dramatic, and lyric writing? The Bible is the foundational document for the history and canon of English literature, and the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament, is the chief source of the Bible’s influence on English literature. How does the Bible’s use of language engage the imagination to address both the head and heart of readers? The primary text which we will use is the Authorized or King James version of the Bible, often described as the greatest prose classic in the English language.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *English, History, Classics, Humanities, Philosophy and Religion, Aesthetics, Christianity.*

**May be petitioned** to count as GTX 1301.

## Doubt, Faith, and the Pursuit of Truth

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**Dr. Charity Anderson**  
PHI 1301.H1

**MW 1:00-2:15 PM**

We all want answers, but rarely examine the questions we ask. How do we question well? Is there such a thing as a bad question? Can I be confident in what I know? In this course, we will look at these and other central philosophical questions, using close readings of classical and contemporary texts as our starting points — works from Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, and Hume, among others, then moving to modern authors such as C.S. Lewis. Classes will be discussion based — composed of very little to no lecture. Instead, we will wrestle with big ideas and hard questions through Socratic dialogue.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *Faith and Reason, Ideas, Philosophy, Self-Knowledge, Epistemology*

## (Big) Reputation: Navigating Gossip, Scandal, and Ambition

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**Dr. Matt Anderson**  
FYS 1399.N2

**MW 1:00-2:15 PM**

This is not a course about Taylor Swift. But we will think about what reputation is and what role it plays in our lives. From navigating friendships to finding employment to live on the internet, how we think about reputation structures everything humans do—and the ethical questions surrounding reputation are some of the most pervasive and interesting questions we can think about. Specifically, this course will address: honor, shame, ambition, suspicion, defamation, fraternal correction, gossip, slander, scandal, stigma, social media, and #metoo. We might read selections from: Homer, Plato, Aristotle, Virgil, Augustine, Aquinas, Dante, Chaucer, Anthony Trollope, the United States Supreme Court, and contemporary philosophy.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *Business, marketing, popular culture, media, philosophy, sociology, psychology.*

## Child Migration in the Western Hemisphere

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**Dr. Victor Hinojosa**  
FYS 1399.N5 (CRN 45902)

**TR 11:00-12:15 PM**

Since 2013, more than 850,000 children and families have fled Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras and sought asylum in the United States. This course seeks to understand the causes, characteristics, and consequences of this migration by examining why these children and families flee, what happens to them along the journey, and their prospects upon arrival in the United States.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *International Studies, Social Work, Family Studies, Political Science, Latin American Studies, Current Events, Sociology, Poverty and Justice Studies.*

## British Novels of the 1890s

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**Dr. Lynne Hinojosa**  
FYS 1399.N6 (CRN 47003)

**TR 9:30-10:45 AM**

What do detective fiction, modern gothic fiction, dystopian fiction, science fiction, and Christian fantasy have in common? These novel genres all increasingly became popular in England in the 1890s, when European imperialism was spreading across the globe, women's movements were beginning to take hold, and Victorian moral and religious ways of thinking were facing new pressures from advances in science and technology. In this course we will read a variety of British novels (and novellas)

published in the 1890s, paying special attention to the ways they portray and respond to Christianity, imperialism, gender, science, and social and moral norms. Students will also have the opportunity to use collections housed in Baylor's Armstrong Browning Library. Texts may include: Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*; Bram Stoker's *Dracula*; Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw*; William Morris's *News from Nowhere*; H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine* or *The War of the Worlds*; Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*; and George MacDonald's *Lilith: A Romance*.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** Literature; History; Reading and Writing; Psychology; Religion, English; Philosophy, Great Texts.

## Foundations of Western Civilization

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**Dr. Ken Jones**

**MWF 1:25-2:15 PM**

**FYS 1399.N8 (CRN 42667) or CLA 1300.H1 (CRN 48588)**

This course will explore the foundations of Western Civilization from the world of the ancient Greeks and Romans through the Middle Ages. Attention will also be given to the civilizations of ancient Mesopotamia and Persia. The reading will be taken mostly from primary sources: documents and literary works from the civilizations under discussion. As a study of various civilizations, the class is interdisciplinary and will touch on history, literature, philosophy, politics, culture, myth, law, and religion. A deeper understanding of the issues that face our contemporary society will come from understanding the origins and beginnings from which it grew.

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *History, Classics, Intercultural Relations, International Studies, Critical Thinking.*

## Code Blue! Leading as a Doctor

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**Dr. Sparky Matthews**

**MWF 10:10-11:00 AM**

**FYS 1399.N10 (CRN 47005)**

This course focuses on the principles of leadership necessary to become a successful physician in today's rapidly changing world of medicine. Taught by a physician that was himself a Baylor University premed student, students will spend time learning how a physician thinks, the rubric for medical decision making, and the ethical basis for dealing with difficult decisions and mistakes. As the title "Code Blue" implies, physicians are required to make rapid, life-and-death decisions on a regular basis. This course will begin to build the student's decision-making process that will eventually be frozen into habit. There is no prerequisite medical knowledge required. The ideal class participant is a premed student that knows little about the world of medicine or what it means to be a physician. This course is the first step in developing the student into a leader of character in the world of medicine. One-on-one mentoring with Dr. Matthews is an additional feature of this course and may extend (at the student's discretion) beyond the semester.

***This seminar is reserved for students residing in the HRC.***

**Topical Areas of Interest:** *Pre-medicine, leadership, medical ethics, medical humanities.*

## Honors Classes for Fall 2023

Note: This list of Honors classes is subject to change. Your Honors advisor will have the most up-to-date information.

Sorted by type. / Upper-level Honors units in bold.

Mixed/Cluster Honors classes shaded lighter.

Course	Sec	CRN	Course Title	Instructor	Days	Time	Max
<b>Honors Chapel Options</b>							
CHA 1087	121	48541	Faith & the Healing Profession	Burleson/Whitt/Moniz	MW	1010 AM	50
<i>~ CHA 1087-121 is open to any Honors College student pursuing a pre-health educational goal.</i>							
<b>Business Degree and Majors</b>							
ACC 2303	H1	44782	Financial Accounting-HNR	Carpenter, Don	TR	200 PM	71
<i># ACC 2303 recommended for BBF &amp; Hankamer Scholars. Needs dept. approval (contact Marion Palomino). Hon. section does NOT require accounting lab.</i>							
ECO 1380	H1	46897	Intro Econ Analysis/Policy HNR	Mencken, Kimberly	MW	100 PM	5
ECO 1380	H2	46900	Intro Econ Analysis/Policy HNR	North, Charles	MW	100 PM	39
ECO 1380	H3	46898	Intro Econ Analysis/Policy HNR	North, Charles	MW	230 PM	39
<i>* ECO 1380-H1 is recommended for Hankamer Scholars. ECO 1380-H2 &amp; H3 are for BBF and UNSC. Most business students take ECO 2306/2307.</i>							
ECO 2306	H1	46905	Princ of Microeconomics-HNR	Ward, Zachary	TR	200 PM	5
ECO 2307	H1	40597	Princ of Macroeconomics-HNR	Ssozi, John	MWF	1010 AM	5
<b>Business for non-majors</b>							
ECO 1305	H1	27743	Issues in Economics-HNR	Klein, Sandra	TR	1100 AM	5
<i>* ECO 1305 does not count for a business degree. Business majors are advised to take ECO 2306 or 2307.</i>							
<i>Students who take ECO 1305 may not take ECO 2306 for credit.</i>							
<b>Classics &amp; Languages</b>							
CLA 1300	H1	48588	Fnd of Wstrn Civilization HNR	Jones, Kenneth	MWF	125 PM	0
GRK 1301	H1	42753	Elementary Greek I-HNR	Fish, Jeffrey	MWF	905 AM	19
LAT 1301	H1	10598	Elementary Latin I-HNR	Hanchey, Daniel	MWF	905 AM	19
<b>Fine Arts/Music</b>							
ARTH 1300	H1	42545	Intro to Art (N-Major)-HNR	Morrison, Jerolyn	MWF	1010 AM	10
FDM 1303	H1	18190	Intro Mass Communication HNR	Korpi, Michael	TR	930 AM	4
JOU 1303	H1	12768	Intro Mass Communication HNR	Korpi, Michael	TR	930 AM	1
<i>* FDM 1303/JOU 1303 are cross listed courses, i.e., the same class. Either satisfies the communication literacy req. for the BA/BS/BFA degree.</i>							
FDM 1304	H1	32322	Sight, Sound, and Motion-HNR	Sheldon, Zachary	TR	1230 PM	5
<i>^ FDM 1304-H1 is for Film &amp; Digital Media majors and pre-majors</i>							
MUS 1301	H3	42504	Theory I-HNR	Vagts, Andrew	MWF	1010 AM	6
MUS 1321	H1	42669	Engaging with Music-HNR	Parler, Samuel	TR	930 AM	5
MUS 2301	H3	40661	Theory III-HNR	Fleming, Amy	MWF	1010 AM	3
<i>* MUS 1302 and MUS 2302 are for music majors; MUS 1321 satisfies the fine arts req. for the BA/BS/BFA degree</i>							
THEA 1306	H1	47380	Introduction to Theatre - HNR	Popp, Merritt	MWF	1115 AM	5
<b>Required Great Texts</b>							
GTX 2301	N	Various	Ancient Intellectual Tradition	Various	TR	1230 PM	19
<i>* First-year University Scholars will take GTX 2301 in a "U" section in the fall term. BIC students do not need to take GTX.</i>							
<i>* With an Honors contract, CLA 2301, Literature of Ancient Greece, can replace GTX 2301 for Honors credit.</i>							
<b>Humanities and Social Sciences (except Religion)</b>							
PSC 1387	H1	42363	US Const,Interp,Am Pol Exp HNR	Ward, Lee	TR	1230 PM	16
<b>Religion</b>							
REL 1310	H1	44715	The Christian Scriptures-HNR	Chike, Julian	MWF	1115 AM	29

REL 1310	H2	16653	The Christian Scriptures-HNR	Parsons, Mikeal	TR	1230 PM	19
* REL 1350-H1 with Dr. Chike is restricted to students living in the HRC. Section H2 is open to all Honors Program students.							
<b>Pre-med / Science</b>							
BIO 1305	H1	44200	Mod Concepts Bioscience	Pitts, Ronald	MW	230 PM	50
* Special supplemental instruction (i.e., tutoring) for Honors Biology meets at 4 pm on Thursday.							
CHE 1301	H1	44367	Bas Prin Mod Chemistry I-HNR	McGrath, Thomas	TR	200 PM	48
CHE 1301	H2	46575	Bas Prin Mod Chemistry I-HNR	McGrath, Thomas	TR	930 AM	48
MTH 1321	H1	46723	Calculus I HNR	Ryden, David	MWF	125 PM	28
PHY 1420	H1	48437	General Physics I HNR	Dittmann, Jay	MWF	905 AM	19
<b>Science for non-Science Majors</b>							
CHE 1405	H1	12018	Chemistry & Society-HNR	Demesa, Maricel	MW	735 AM	2
* CHE 1405 is NOT on the approved A&S Scientific Method distribution list for students who enter Baylor during or after the Fall 2019 term.							

## DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME HONORS CLASSES

### SCIENCES:

Students with a strong background in the sciences who are enrolled in a science-related or pre-health academic plan should consider taking at least one of their science classes for Honors this fall. This will better prepare students for scientific research and preparation for professional exams.

**Note to students living in Earle Hall:** Because of a scheduling conflict between Honors Biology and the B2C Chemistry class, students in the B2C program in Earle Hall with a sufficient Chemistry background should take CHE 1301-H1 (meeting Tuesday/Thursday at 2:00 pm) for their Honors science class.

### **BIO 1305-H1**

**Pitts**

This introductory biology course will focus on the unifying principles common to all levels of biological organization, with emphasis on cell biology, metabolism, and genetics. These topics will be taught using real world examples from current issues in biology. The instructors will use active learning strategies to engage the students in activities such as classroom discussions, peer learning, case studies, data analysis, and problem solving. Students will be challenged to connect concepts across a variety of content areas and apply their knowledge to investigate biological questions.

### **WHICH BIO CLASS SHOULD YOU TAKE?** (Guidance from the Biology Dept.)

- Students who **score a 4 on the AP Biology exam AND** who believe that their BIO knowledge is strong
  - ➔ Retake BIO 1305-H1 (forgoing AP credit) [recommended], or
  - ➔ Register for BIO 1306 in a non-Honors section (if available) or
  - ➔ Take a math/statistics class or another class to prepare for the MCAT (if premed)
- Students who **score a 5 on the AP Biology exam AND** who believe that their BIO knowledge is strong
  - ➔ Retake BIO 1305-H1 (forgoing AP credit) [recommended], or
  - ➔ Begin Physics sequence or
  - ➔ Take a math/statistics class or another class to prepare for the MCAT (if premed)
- Students who completed a **strong BIO course (not anatomy/physiology) during one of the last 2 years** of high school (whether AP or not)
  - ➔ Enroll in BIO 1305 Honors.
- Students who have **not completed high school BIO coursework in the last 2 years** of high school or who for any reason feel ill-prepared to join BIO 1305 Honors
  - ➔ Enroll in BIO 1305 regular sections.



**CHE 1301-H1**

This class will cover the fundamentals of inorganic chemistry and serve as a great springboard for those interested in doing research in chemistry or biochemistry. Students with a strong high-school chemistry background who plan on majoring/concentrating in Chemistry or Biochemistry are encouraged to take this class. NOTE: Dr. McGrath was chosen by the senior class as the 2023 Collins Outstanding Professor.

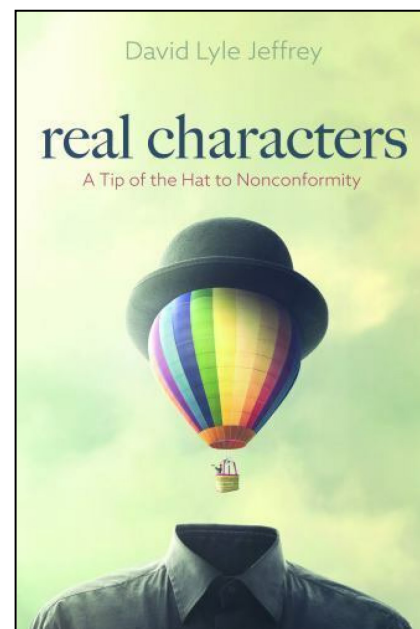
**McGrath****PHY 1420-H1**

One focus of Honors Physics is the development of critical-thinking abilities regarding principles and applications of mechanics, wave motion, sound, and heat. This course will emphasize fundamental concepts and problem solving. Class size is limited to 20 students. Students majoring in engineering, physics/astrophysics, and chemistry are strongly encouraged to consider this class. Previous experience with Calculus I is strongly recommended.

**Dittmann****A NOTE ABOUT THE FRESHMAN READING PROJECT:****Freshman Reading Project****Introduction to the Honors Program**

In preparation for the fall, you will participate in the Freshman Reading Project (FRP). Each year the Honors Program selects a book to be read by all incoming first-year Honors students. The FRP promotes community through the common experience of reading and discussing a thought-provoking text. Please read the book *before* arriving at Baylor. Once on campus, you will engage in a discussion with other students about the themes and ideas gleaned from your reading. **Completion of the Freshman Reading Project is required to remain in the Honors Program.**

This year's reading, *Real Characters: A Tip of the Hat to Nonconformity*, was written by Dr. David Lyle Jeffrey, the much beloved and recently retired Distinguished Professor of Literature and Humanities in the Baylor Honors Program. From the publisher:



*Some of the most interesting and genuinely commendable people in the world are systematically overlooked by our celebrity-obsessed media. This book is a reminder of just what a mistake that is--here you will meet some truly extraordinary people, from subsistence farmers, cattle ranchers, rodeo rascals, a miraculous middle school teacher, and a munificent unlicensed auto mechanic, to Italian Franciscans, out-of-the-box college and university professors, an independent-minded British poet, and a northern timber wolf. All of these characters have something to teach, but they do it in eccentric ways that will challenge your expectations and reward your willingness to break a mold or two yourself.*

You can purchase *Real Characters* at [Wipf and Stock](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Amazon](#), and a variety of other book retailers. **If you order from Wipf and Stock, use the discount code "REAL50" for a 50% discount.**

David Lyle Jeffrey, *Real Characters: A Tip of the Hat to Nonconformity* (Front Porch Republic Books, 2020)

ISBN-13: [978-1725281080](#)

**HRC PPS COURSES – PPS 1100-13, ACCOMPANYING THE IMMIGRANT IN WACO (R 3:00)  
PPS 1100-15, FOOD AND SUSTAINABILITY (W 3:35)**

These service-learning classes can often satisfy a lifetime fitness requirement on BA and BS degree plans.

PPS 1100-13 is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the journey of a Spanish-speaking immigrant in Waco to develop an awareness of the unique and rich community found in the U.S.

PPS 1100-15 invites students to explore the realities of industrial and local food systems, problems and inequities in food access and distribution, and environmental sustainability. Students will have the opportunity to get their hands dirty on the World Hunger Relief Institute Farm in Waco. Students will assist weekly with orchard, garden, livestock, and other farm projects.