

HIST 465 Seminar in U.S. History (4 credits)

History seminars involve students (primarily, though not exclusively, majors and minors) with the methodological and historiographical dimensions of research in the seminar's topic. Some topics may be drawn from existing 300-level courses; when this occurs students are able to earn credit for both courses. Students in the seminar will complete and present to other members of the class a significant research project. Majors normally will offer one of their seminar papers as their senior paper.

HIST 475, 476 Experiential Learning (2 credits)

HIST 477, 478 Experiential Learning (4 credits)

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the “Curricula” section of this catalog.

HIST 487, 488 Topics (2 credits)

HIST 489, 490 Topics (4 credits)

The subject matter of these courses will vary from year to year, but will not duplicate existing courses. Descriptions of these courses are available in the Searchable Class Schedule on Murphy Online,

<https://banner.stthomas.edu/pls/banner/prod/bwckschd>.

HIST 491, 492 Research (2 credits)

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HIST 495, 496 Individual Study (2 credits)

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Human Resource Management

See Business Administration

Interdisciplinary Courses (IDSC)

Cross-College Program

Michael C. Jordan, Director of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, director

IDSC 150 Development of the Natural World (4 credits)

Minneapolis and St. Paul owe their existence and location to the Mississippi River. The “Mighty Mississippi” provides the focal point for an integrated exploration of the scientific disciplines of astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology, and physics. The past and present human impact on the water and land is also explored, including environmental and life style sustainability issues. Consisting of lectures, discussions, labs, and field trips, this course is designed for non-science majors and fulfills the laboratory science core requirement. This course also addresses the science content and skills required by the state of Minnesota for elementary and middle school teachers and models an inquiry-based pedagogy.

IDSC 180 English as a Second Language I (4 credits)

Special and individual attention to speaking, writing, reading, listening and study skills. For students whose native language is not English. Offered in fall semester.

IDSC 181 English as a Second Language II (4 credits)

Continuation of IDSC 180. Offered in spring semester.

Prerequisite: IDSC 180 or permission of instructor

IDSC 281 Topics in American Culture (4 credits)

An interdisciplinary approach to a particular period in American life (the 1920s, the 1950s, *etc.*). Course will seek to isolate the basic themes that characterized the cultural life of the period and examine their manifestations in the art, music, literature and popular culture of the era. Particular emphasis will be given to the interdisciplinary perspective in approaching the topic.

IDSC 284 Introduction to Teach Religion (2 credits)

The course includes a six-hour seminar including at least three basic skills related to the act of teaching as well as a year of teaching in a local parish religious education program once a week. The teaching placement is done through consultation with each student and cooperating teachers who have a sound understanding of the life and ministry of teacher education in the church. Specific seminar content will enable students to do the following: define the term “concept” and explain how key concepts are developed by learners; explain the relationship of objectives to overall goals of religious education; define the term “strategy” and develop workable plans for teaching within a typical church/school setting.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into St. John Vianney Seminary

Interdisciplinary Courses

IDSC 287 The German Cultural Heritage (4 credits)

An historic survey of German cultural development from the beginnings in antiquity through the present. Attention is given to significant events in the history of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Liechtenstein and the development of historic events into the living German culture of today. Events and significant achievements in the areas of politics, music, literature, science, philosophy and theology are examined. The course is usually offered online with no classroom meetings.

IDSC 291 The Anatomy of Violence (4 credits)

The purpose of this course is to increase the knowledge and understanding of cultural, racial and interpersonal violence and develop a commitment to promoting a violence-free society. Emphasis is on exploration of the extent, causes and effects of violence and strategies for intervention on the micro and macro levels. Specific areas of study include domestic/partner abuse, child abuse/neglect, peer/date violence, elder abuse, sexual assault/sexual harassment, cultural violence, racism and other systemic oppression. This course fulfills the Human Diversity requirement in the core curriculum.

IDSC 293 Grief, Loss and Coping (4 credits)

This course focuses on understanding loss and grief in the human experience. Emphasis is given to recognizing loss in various forms and to understand grief from different perspectives. Content includes theory from psychology, sociology, social work, and medicine/nursing along with materials from literature, lay persons and a spectrum of multi-cultural influences. Skills are taught for coping with personal loss and for relating in helpful ways to others who are experiencing grief. Special topics related to death and dying in our society including trauma, suicide, child loss and chronic illness are covered. A variety of teaching methods will engage learners to better understand the many influences on grief, loss and coping.

IDSC 295, 296 Topics (2 credits)

IDSC 297, 298 Topics (4 credits)

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IDSC 310 Washington Semester (16 credits)

The University of St. Thomas is affiliated with the American University's Washington Semester Program, Washington, D.C. Students selected to participate in the program have the option of studying one of the following: American Politics; Economic Policy; Education Policy and Special Education; Foreign Policy; International Business and Trade; International Environment and Development; Journalism; Justice; Peace and Conflict Resolution; Public Law; Transforming Communities; Visual and Performing Arts. The Washington Semester involves seminars, research and internships drawing on governmental and private organization resources in the Washington, D.C. area. Nominations to participate are made by the university, with final acceptance decided by American University.

IDSC 312 Gender and Science (4 credits)

This course examines women's participation in science currently and historically. Students will examine the contributions of women scientists and explore the question: Do women do science differently from men? The course explores the way science is used to study questions related to gender. In this course students will study the ways that scientific work has, at times, been a tool for challenging cultural stereotypes and biases. This course fulfills the Human Diversity requirement in the core curriculum.

IDSC 313 A Vision of Community Action and Change in Guatemala (4 credits)

The majority of this course will occur among the Mayan people of the Guatemalan highlands. Students will study the politics, history, cultures and economy of Guatemala as a case study on some of the major issues facing many Third World countries at the beginning of the 21st century. Particular attention will be given to topics such as Guatemala's struggles over ethnic and national identity, its place in the global economy, its peace process, and the role of the church. Speakers, readings, and field trips will allow students to compare alternative models of social change and human development in the region. Complementing academic engagement with these issues, students will engage in practical service-learning activities that relate to the goals of the course. The class will also follow the VISION Program's six-point philosophy.

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor

IDSC 320 Seminar in the Human Side of Medicine: Patient and Physician (2 credits)

This course will concentrate on learning about how patients, their families, and professionals who care for them experience illness; how stories patients tell become the basis for diagnosis and therapeutic action; what it's like to be a physician; and the therapeutic relationship. Didactic presentations, interactive discussion using stories from patients', students' and the instructor's experience, and related literature will provide the content of the course. Others, including faculty members, professional colleagues, and patients will help provide material for the course work and participate in the discussions.

Prerequisite: Sophomore, junior or senior student interested in a career in medicine or related health profession

IDSC 330 Renaissance Program Internship (0 credit)

Participants in the Renaissance Program complete one internship in a career-related field. Students are encouraged to be creative and to search for inventive ways of implementing a plan of practical work experience. A variety of options and opportunities is available through the Career Center.

IDSC 333 Renaissance Program Studies (4 credits)

In accord with the Renaissance Program's commitment to foster the integration of theoretical and practical learning, the design of this course is to promote the investigation of some theme or problem having a particularly interdisciplinary focus. This course will rely upon concepts and models stemming from both theoretical and practical sources in an attempt to further integrate aspects of these distinct branches of higher learning. Among the types of issues or topics that could fall within the scope of this course are: the meaning and value of work; the nature and place of technology; the relationship of individual to community; views of self – as worker and theoretician; models and parameters of authority.

IDSC 340 Criminal Law and the Social Order (4 credits)

Sources of criminal law and traditions and values of society; characteristics of criminal law and an analysis of these characteristics; criminal responsibility and criminal intent; due process; the law at local, state and federal levels, with an emphasis on Minnesota statutes; public opinion regarding the law and its enforcement.

IDSC 395 Introduction to Pastoral Ministry (2 credits)

This is a semester-long pastoral education program that provides for personal involvement and the practical exercise of pastoral ministry. Designed to implement the church's documents and the U.S. Bishops' Program for Priestly Formation, emphasis is placed on the future pastoral ministry of the student. Each student is placed in one of three broad areas of ministry: family crises; chemical dependency counseling; and death, dying and grief arenas. Training and on-going supervision by qualified professionals is provided.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into St. John Vianney Seminary

IDSC 462 ESTC: Adapt Ecosystem Management (HECUA) (4 credits)

In Adaptive Ecosystem Management students gain a practical hands-on understanding of the basic ecological and physical processes that underlie environmental degradation. They develop a basic understanding of how to set up large and small scale ecological monitoring projects, and how to evaluate environmental decision making on appropriate time and spatial scales.

IDSC 463 ESTC: Social Dimensions of Environmental Change (HECUA) (4 credits)

In Social Dimensions of Environmental Change students explore how worldviews impact a society's underlying value system regarding the human relationship with the natural world. The course situates local environmental challenges in the context of global sustainability, and encourages students to reflect about the meaning of civic responsibility in local and global contexts.

IDSC 464 ESTC: Field Methods (HECUA) (4 credits)

In the Field Methods course students have an opportunity to work with scientists and community members to conduct research in a methodologically rigorous manner. Students design and carryout either a social science or natural science based field project.

IDSC 465 ESTC: Environmental Internship (HECUA) (4 credits)

In their internships students interact with one of the most active networks of citizens' organizations in the country. Practitioners in the Twin Cities work on a wide range of environmental issues, and Minnesota's environmental policies are among the most progressive in the nation. Internships get students directly involved in this dynamic work.

IDSC 466 City Arts: Reading Seminar (Creating Social Change: Art and Culture in Political, Social, and Historical Context) (HECUA) (4 credits)

Students critically examine the notion of dominant culture and the purposes of art and popular culture. They identify ways in which the arts and popular culture impact urban social issues and create social change. Students gain the tools to become critical analysts as both consumers and producers of art and popular culture.

IDSC 467 City Arts: Field Seminar (Arts Praxis: Social Justice Theory and Practice in the Field) (HECUA) (4 credits)

In the field seminar, students "test" theoretical perspectives by meeting with artists, policy makers, and community activists, as well as attending and participating in art and cultural activities. Students observe how art and popular culture maintain or change social structures.

IDSC 468 City Arts: Internship (HECUA) (4 credits)

Each student works in a half-time internship, with a wide variety of placements available, including arts organizations, artistic groups, and community organizations using the arts in programs and service.

IDSC 469 City Arts: Internship Seminar (HECUA) (4 credits)

Students reflect on their internship experience with other students in the program and connect their real-life experience with the learning taking place in the reading and field seminars.

Interdisciplinary Courses

IDSC 471 MUST Seminar: Research on Urban Issues (HECUA) (4 credits)

MUST focuses on issues of poverty and inequality and ways to address these critical issues. Students explore key institutions that impact urban poverty and inequality, namely the economy, education and welfare. The role of urban sprawl, segregation and racial, class and gender discrimination are also analyzed. Students examine an array of strategies to rebuild the city more equitably.

IDSC 472 MUST Seminar: Field Studies in the Twin Cities (HECUA) (4 credits)

Students meet with a wide variety of community leaders, educators, urban planners, corporate executives and others as a way to connect the theories studied with actual practice in the field.

IDSC 473 MUST: Urban Studies Internship (HECUA) (4 credits)

Each student works in a half-time internship, with a wide variety of placements available, including public, private and community non-profit organizations working on urban issues.

IDSC 474 MUST: Urban Studies Internship Seminar (HECUA) (4 credits)

Students reflect on their internship experience with other students in the program and connect their real-life experience with the learning taking place in the reading and field seminars.

IDSC 475 Experiential Learning: Career Exploration Externship (2 credits)

Students will be placed at work sites throughout the Twin Cities area and beyond where their career interests are matched with the cooperating company's wants and needs. Externs must report to their workplace on at least a half-day basis for four weeks during January term, a minimum of 80 hours "in- place" time on the job. Supervisors at the co-op company will assign specific tasks, duties and projects. The placements will provide students with opportunities to observe, experience and gain a better understanding of the "real world" as it relates to their own interests, values and objectives. Students will work under the direction of a faculty member and will be responsible for additional research and written assignments. This course is offered in January term and the first summer session. May be repeated for a maximum total of 4 credits.

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IDSC 479, 480 Honors Seminar (2 credits)

These interdisciplinary seminars are intended to develop integrating insights through an analysis of topics chosen from different disciplines. Often they are taught by two faculty members or by a visiting lecturer who holds one of the endowed chairs at the university. Although these seminars are part of the Aquinas Scholars program, any student who receives the permission of the instructor(s) may enroll on a space-available basis. (IDSC 479 is used if the seminar has been approved to partially fulfill a requirement in the core curriculum.)

IDSC 481 Seminar in International Studies (4 credits)

Directed readings and discussions on political, economic and historical aspects of the international system and the completion of a major research paper on a specific topic to be chosen in consultation with the instructor. The seminar will feature guest lecturers in political science, economics and history.

IDSC 483, 484 Seminar (2 credits)

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