Honors seminars are all published in the Schedule of Classes under IDSC. Honors seminars all have a course number of IDSC 480. The word “Honors” or an abbreviation of honors, such as “HONR,” is at the beginning of the course title.

Please contact Erica Berglund at berg7582@stthomas.edu if you have any questions.
The purpose of this seminar is to explore the narrative connections between film and music. Films from all over the world will be addressed. The course begins with an introduction to film: its history and practice. Instructors provide the theoretical perspective to film, e.g. the language filmmakers use to create meaning - through editing, cinematography, acting, screenplay - coupled with examining key characteristics of orchestration, and the concept of sound as “interpretation”. Some basic questions we will consider are: What do we learn about a filmmaker's creative decision making through the marriage of film and music? How does the film score reinforce, amplify, identify, or fortify the film? What ideas or expressions are presented and prolonged with the music? How does music enhance these ideas? What issues are in conflict or opposition? How are they illuminated or resolved in the music? How does that influence the ongoing story? How does the musical language reflect the time period/setting of the film? How is it characteristic or unique? How does music reinforce, amplify, identify, and fortify the film? What film techniques are used to express the ideas and themes in the film without the aid of the music?

NOTE: This seminar DOES NOT appear in Class Finder as registration for an experimental seminar is controlled by the faculty member. Please contact Michael S. Paulsen directly if you would like to be enrolled in this seminar.

This seminar examines the most important constitutional issues surrounding Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. The course seminar will involve fairly extensive reading – and student writing – in the areas of history and law. The course will serve both as a study of history and an introduction (for many) to the exciting field of Constitutional Law. Readings will be drawn from the most respected historical account of the Civil War era, original documents – including Lincoln's most important speeches, writings and wartime proclamations – and historic Supreme Court decisions such as Dred Scott and The Prize Cases.