

B. Thank You For the Music: What Music Journalism Can Teach Us About Culture

Tuesdays, 6:00-8:30PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

It is impossible to imagine our lives without music. It surrounds us constantly – we blast it out loud in our cars, pipe it directly to our brains via headphones, and even hear it inside our heads. But have you ever thought about *how* you consume music, and the impact that has had on your identity? In this course, you'll engage in music journalism through a variety of approaches: analyzing music through a more critical lens, exploring how music relates to both the personal and the culture at large, and looking at how the ways in which we talk about music also affect the ways we listen to it. *No musical knowledge is required – you absolutely do not need to know how to play an instrument!*

Ethan Lam is a junior majoring in Engineering Psychology

Lola Nedic is a junior majoring in Clinical Psychology

C. Presidential Campaigns: The Evolution of Strategy and Tactics

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Have you ever wondered how presidential elections are really won? Do you have burning questions about the upcoming 2020 campaign? Will it be anything like campaigns of the past? This seminar explores how presidential campaigns have evolved, the strategies and tactics needed to win, and how the 2020 election will play out over the course of the semester.

Jack Waisel is a senior majoring in Political Science

D. Multimedia Storytelling

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

What is the history of storytelling and how have different forms of storytelling come together to create something entirely new? Where do we see multimedia storytelling in our everyday lives and where can it go from here? This course will explore the history and evolution of storytelling and the ever-growing landscape of multimedia storytelling. Students will be encouraged to engage in multimedia storytelling projects of their own to push the limits of media and their creativity.

Casey Chiang is a senior majoring in Cognitive Brain Science and Interdisciplinary Studies (Methods of Storytelling)

E. Drugs of Pop Culture: The Effect on the Body and Society

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

How do recreational drugs affect our bodies, and what impact have these drugs had on our society? For the purposes of this course, drugs of pop culture are those that are consumed for recreational purposes, and are found in popular art, music, and media. For each drug we study, we will discuss the processes occurring when it reacts with the body as well as its lasting impact. We will also consider how the drug is depicted in culture, as well as the political movements it has been associated with.

Rafael Madera is a senior majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

F. Ingesting the Food Industry

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Does food media influence our interactions with food, or do our choices guide media? Do trends drive us, or do we drive them? In this course we will cast a wide net into the food industry to discuss topics like gender equality, food insecurity, the globalized food system, health trends, and our consumption of food media. Most simply, we will explore how and why food matters to us.

Paige Chamberlain is a senior majoring in Biology

Lucy Simon is a senior majoring in Anthropology with a minor in Food Systems and Nutrition

G. Netflix and Networking: Leadership Through the Lens of TV

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

All of us project leadership differently. How will your unique style of leadership, both the skills you currently possess and those you might develop, influence who you are as a Tufts student and beyond? In this course we will explore the different environments where leadership presents itself, the variety of leadership styles that exist, and how we can each position and market ourselves in the dynamic environments we are exposed to as college students. This is all while taking a deeper look at some of our favorite TV characters.

Kenar Haratunian is a senior majoring in Cognitive Brain Science

Sophia Song is a senior majoring in International Relations

H. Deconstructing "Avatar: the Last Airbender"

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Water. Earth. Fire. Air. Long ago, the four nations lived together in harmony, then everything changed when the Fire Nation attacked... So what happened? Touching on topics from war to spirituality to martial arts, this class dives into the universe of the hit animated show *Avatar* and contends with the effects of war, cultural conflict, and questions of morality. By dissecting, discussing, and learning about the show's influences, creation, and artistry, and its contribution to Asian American representation, we will uncover the depths of this hilarious and complex "kid's show." Ultimately, students will learn about themselves and the world, perhaps discovering how to master its elements as well as the forces within themselves.

Emma Downs is a junior majoring in Drama and Political Science

J. Historical Fact Versus Historical Fiction In Pop Culture

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Can historical fiction teach us about the past, or is it only a reflection of modern culture? Is any historical fiction wholly accurate? What does it mean for Danish actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau to play both Jaime Lannister, a medieval knight, and Horus, an Egyptian god? Through analyzing historical sources and historical fiction, this seminar will investigate these questions and more, grappling with representation, historical accuracy, and what the future of historical fiction should be.

Mikayla Barreiro is a senior majoring in Classical Studies and History

Carolina Penagos is a junior majoring in Classical Studies and History

K. Urban Livability: A Guide to the Modern City

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Are you obsessed with cities? Can't stand them? Either way, cities have been around for thousands of years and they're not going away anytime soon. The goal of this course is to explore the what, how and why of cities. Using history, anthropology, sociology, architecture, and environmental studies we'll explore exactly what makes a city tick. Topics will cover everything from sustainable parks, to fashion and food, to what makes the best sidewalk café as we ask, how do cities function and how do people fit into that structure?

Elizabeth Maguire is a senior majoring in History with a minor in urban studies. She recently studied abroad in Copenhagen.

M. The Mahabharata: An Ancient Epic in Modern Times

Thursdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

What is the Mahabharata and why do we care about it? The overall goal of this course is to explore the story of the Mahabharata, one of two main Hindu epics, and how it relates to our lives in modern Western society. Specifically, we will explore themes of loyalty, jealousy, betrayal, and an ambiguous definition of morality as we compare the world of the epic and today. No previous knowledge of the text is required, only a curiosity as to why it is such an enduring and revered text for Hindus worldwide.

Sidharth Anand is a senior majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

N. Identity and Adornment

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

What is embodied in a piece of personal adornment you wear, whether a pair of earrings, a friendship bracelet, or a ring? In this class we will explore the art-historical meaning, material, and production techniques behind such small objects we wear. By considering what accessories we and others (including those historically and in other parts of the world) choose to wear, everyone will get a deeper sense of who they are and how adornment and identity inform each other.

Maureen Li is a junior majoring in Art History and Cognitive and Brain Sciences. She also has a studio art background.

P. The Elephant in the Room: Situating Ourselves at Tufts and in Higher Education

Wednesdays, 6:00-8:30PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Have you ever wondered why Jumbo is our mascot? How President Monaco became a meme? Why our campus is on this frickin' hill? We've done the research and are ready to explore Tufts' trials and tribulations, both past and present. In this class, we will think critically about Tufts as an institution and our role as students in its legacy by exploring Tufts' history, branding, academics, diversity, and student engagement. We will scour Tufts archives, student publications, and academic texts, and speak with community members through the lenses of political science, economics, sociology, anthropology, history, and American studies.

Jillian Impastato is a senior majoring in Art History and Education

Sarah Wiener is a senior majoring in Philosophy and Political Science

Q. Philosophy in Daily Life

Mondays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

When most people think about philosophy, they picture old guys with beards who are reading confusing, boring books. The point of philosophy, though, is not to reproduce someone else's ideas but to understand your own. Yes, YOU, on the other side of the screen, are already a philosopher. You have your own way of understanding and moving through the world around you. But how often do you stop to consider what your "philosophy" actually is? Do you ever wonder whether there is a better way of living? We don't have all the answers, but over the course of this class, we will help you develop the ability to come up with your own. From FOMO to the Matrix to the American Dream, we will explore a range of subjects that will challenge you to think about who you are, how you perceive reality, and how you make sense of yourself in the context of Tufts and the world at large.

Rachael Totz is a senior majoring in in Sociology and Civic Studies with a minor in Philosophy

Ethan Isenman is a senior majoring in Philosophy with minors in History and Political Science

R. Man's Best Friend: The Psychology of Dogs

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Why do we love our dogs so much? Have you ever wondered what is going on inside your dog's head? Have you heard a little bit about support and service dogs and want to learn more? We will explore the psychology of dogs and how these four-legged creatures have such a therapeutic effect on humans. Our focus will be on three main areas: human psychology and how dogs affect us, dog behavior and emotions, and the training and use of support, therapy, and service dogs. Students will engage with readings and films, guest lecturers, and interactive research projects to delve into these three themes.

Parker Killenberg is a junior majoring in Clinical Psychology and Community Health. She has a nine-year-old Goldendoodle named Murphy.

Jordan Sclar is a junior majoring in Psychology with minors in Child Study and Human Development, Entrepreneurship, and Economics. She has a ten-year-old Goldendoodle named Lucky.

S. How to Flex Your Empathy Muscles

Mondays, 6:00-8:30PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

From the immigration debate and the opioid crisis to a bad breakup and cancel culture, a lack of empathy is often at the core of issues big and small. Building our empathy muscles may be the key to fixing some of the brokenness we see, from our personal lives to national policy. We'll explore empathy as a peacebuilding and problem-solving tool, and come up with strategies to harness the power of empathy to change ourselves, our communities, and the world.

Caroline Wolinsky is a senior majoring in International Relations

T. Sow and Reap: From Cultivation to Consumption

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

From houseplants to climate change, nature is ubiquitous in our lives as individuals and in the larger social structures we are a part of. Nature is often viewed as something wholly separate from and exploited by people, especially in the conversation around climate change. But through engaging with history, societal relations, and other realms of study, a complicated picture emerges in which people are not so cleanly separated from nature. This course seeks to disassemble our existing conceptions in hopes of restructuring the current discourse around not just ecological issues, but also political and economic ones.

Karishma Chouhan is a senior majoring in International Relations and Quantitative Economics

Mykhaylo Chumak is a senior majoring in Political Science, Russian and Eastern European Studies

U. Exploring Cybersecurity: Technology and Policy

Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00PM; 3 semester hours, Pass/Fail grading

Have you ever been annoyed when forced to change your password? Have you wondered how privacy regulation differs between the EU and US? Or maybe you've used a VPN to get a Netflix show only available in Canada. No matter how you've done it, you've come face to face with computer security. This course takes you through the field of cybersecurity, from insider threat and password cracking to the GDPR and other privacy policies, in the hopes of making people aware of how well the web keeps them safe.

James Cameron is a senior majoring in Computer Science

Josefine Tijssen is a senior majoring in Computer Science and International Relations