# HONORS PROGRAM SEMINARS

### Winter 2014

SKILLS DISTRIBUTION

Communication Studies 295C Concurrent/prior enrollment in ANY CMST COURSE

Instructor: Colleen McGoff

Time: 4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays

Oh No...Not Another Team Project!: Communication for Effective Groups and Teams: This is often the reaction by many students to the idea of working in a group or team, whether in class or at work. Yet, participating effectively in group work and team work can not only result in energizing, productive projects, it provides students with experience that is highly valued by employers. This seminar provides students with an opportunity to study and practice communication behaviors needed for effective group work and team work. Students will explore the communication dynamics unique to a group or team context, such as decision making, types of leadership, giving and receiving feedback, verbal and nonverbal communication, and listening. Students will participate in a variety of group and team projects and apply a variety of self and team assessment tools to their work.

### **HUMANITIES DISTRIBUTION**

English 295H Concurrent/prior enrollment in ENGL & 102, ENGL 201, or ENGL 202

Instructor: Tara Hughes

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays

**The Hobbit:** Once upon a time, a young professor named J.R.R. Tolkien, tired of grading exams, wrote on a blank exam page, "In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit." The story that evolved from that sentence has delighted children and adults for over 75 years. In this seminar, we'll explore Tolkien's beloved novel in the context of the literary and cultural influences that inspired its creation. As we seek to deepen our appreciation for Bilbo Baggins' great adventure, our journey will take us to Tolkien's Middle-earth mythology (the "backstory" of *The Hobbit*), ancient European sagas and poetry, biographical and historical accounts, and literary criticism. Students will be asked to participate in class activities and discussions, keep a reading journal, and write a research paper.

#### MATH/SCIENCE DISTRIBUTION

Math 295 Concurrent/prior enrollment in MATH 99 or MATH& 141

Instructor: Jessica Conner

Time: 2:45 p.m. – 4:35 p.m. Thursdays

**Mathematics and Literature:** Many great authors have been inspired by Mathematics. In this seminar, we will read selected works of literature and complete projects exploring the mathematics that inspired the work. Students will have the opportunity to explore topics in algebra, geometry, probability, and number theory and relate them to real and fictional worlds.

## SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE DISTRIBUTION

History 295 Concurrent/prior enrollment in HIST& 118, HIST& 148, or ANY

MUSIC HISTORY COURSE

Instructor: Ed Chatterton

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:50 p.m. Tuesdays

Sex, Drugs, and Rock and Roll: The Role of Popular Music in Societal Change in the U.S. 1954-2013: This course will explore the introduction of rock music in the early 1950's and the conflict this music, targeted specifically to teenagers, brought into traditional American society. We will also investigate the technological innovations in recording, instrumentation, and sound duplication. Another key event for study will be the Beatles and the so-called British invasion of the early 1960's. As the 1960's and the 1970's progressed, we see a number of evolving "subsets" of rock music (for example, folk-rock, acid-rock, revolution-rock, punk-rock, disco, Motown, heavy metal funk, etc.). We will also consider how the prevailing dominant American culture managed to commodify, market, and otherwise control rock music.