



Fall 2022 Honors College Courses

FIRST YEAR COURSES

HNR 101-001: Technologies, Old and New (Technology LC)

MWF 9:00-9:50 AM

Tamara O'Callaghan

As humans, we are technological by nature. Whether we need to adapt our environment, communicate with one another, or read a course description for a required Honors class, we rely on tools that we or others have designed. And while we love our smartphones and laptops, technologies tend to fade invisibly into the background over time. Just consider our reliance on language, one of our earliest technological tools and one that we consistently take for granted. In this section of HNR 101, we will bring technology to the foreground to examine how the technological “impulse,” its implementation, and its reception impact our ways of reading and writing, and what it means to be literate in a technological world. We will explore our passion for specific technological devices, including smartphones, smartwatches, gaming platforms, and Alexa; our enthusiasm for documenting our lives digitally, including blogs, Instagram, and selfies; our reliance on social media, including TikTok, Pinterest, Snapchat, and Clubhouse; and our desire to “play” with technologies, including board games, video games, and Wordle. By determining how technology shapes us as human beings, we will develop and enhance our skills in designing, building, evaluating, analyzing, and sharing information and ideas that can be expressed through various multimodal technologies, such as writing, speech, audio, video, photos, graphics, webpages, coding, etc. No technological expertise is required...just enthusiastic curiosity and engagement.

HNR 101-002 What Makes Us Human? (Pre-Health/ Pre-Med LC)

MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

Rachel Zlatkin

“What makes us human?” is a question that often leads to discussions about human feelings of empathy or the human capacity for reason. This class participates in this discussion with the additional goal of deepening our concern with the human as embodied. We consider questions, such as:

- What does it mean to treat "the whole person"?
- How does eastern medicine view the body compared to western medicine? What are the most important qualities of the human for these two different perspectives?

- How might logic or a method of examination create a fiction? What is the relationship between the scientific method and cultural beliefs or practices?

This class is designed to provide an exploratory space in which we question the ideas and practices surrounding the human in different medical settings, as well as in our diverse class readings. In the past, medical settings included a tour of the UK Medical School campus at NKU, Lunch and Learns with medical professionals and a visit to St. Elizabeth Hospital, a class in NKU's cadaver lab, and a simulated interaction with a "patient" in the HIC simulation lab.

HNR 101-003 Art, Identity, and the Musical Stage (Arts and Entertainment LC)

MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

Cara Wood

For over a century, depictions of U.S. culture in Broadway musicals have helped shape how diverse groups of Americans see themselves, their nation, and their role in the world. Drawing upon the artistic resources of music, poetry, visual design, dancing, and acting, the creators of this distinctively American art form can tackle meaningful issues in ways that are both entertaining and deeply moving. In this class, we will examine how musicals engage in the construction of national identity. We will also consider how musicals' representations of "outsiders" can foster empathy, solidarity, and inclusiveness. Students will have the opportunity to explore intersections of art and identity as they develop independent research projects and share their ideas with peers. No previous musical experience is required.

HNR 101-004 What Makes Us Human? (Pre-Med LC)

MWF 11:00-11:50 AM

Rachel Zlatkin

"What makes us human?" is a question that often leads to discussions about human feelings of empathy or the human capacity for reason. This class participates in this discussion with the additional goal of deepening our concern with the human as embodied. We consider questions, such as:

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- How does eastern medicine view the body compared to western medicine? What are the most important qualities of the human for these two different perspectives?
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HNR 101-005 Entrepreneurship and the Community (Entrepreneurship LC)

MW 2:00-3:15 PM

James Buss

The Honors Entrepreneurship Learning Community explores aspects of both social and business entrepreneurship, as well as intersections between the two. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for special section of ENTP 201 and HNR 101 designed for the students

in this cohort learning community. The Learning Community will welcome guests who are the CEOs of their own companies, social entrepreneurs who have started their own non-profits, and leaders in the entrepreneurship ecosystem of Greater Cincinnati. Students will learn important skills about how to identify regional needs and problems, imagine possibilities, and scale solutions. In the past, students have visited with Cintrifuse in Cincinnati, worked with Flywheel in OTR, and even gained internships before finishing their first year at NKU. While this Learning Community includes a partnership with the Haile US Bank College of Business, students need not be business majors to enroll. The topics and skills that you will develop in this Learning Community can apply to nearly any majors or background.

HNR 101-006 The Wicked and the Righteous (Social Justice & Community Engagement LC)

TR 9:25-10:40 AM

Tonya Krouse

People in our world do wicked or bad things all the time. People's motivations for these harmful acts, which range in severity from callous to criminal, may often seem commonplace. How does one become wicked and why? What ideals influence society's rules about appropriate behavior and whose responsibility is it to enforce them? Do bad people get their comeuppance? If a person accused of wicked acts is revealed to be innocent, can they ever truly be vindicated? What happens to the righteous victims who are harmed by the wickedness of others? To what extent is each of us ethically responsible for acting against injustices and wickedness in the world? What empowers us to take either individual or collective action? Most of you, upon entering HNR 101, will have some experience with wickedness, corruption, or evil, based on movies that you have seen, books that you have read, or even real-life people or situations that you have encountered. This course aims to enhance our understanding of the wicked and the righteous by investigating larger social, psychological, moral, and ethical questions about right and wrong, good and evil, and crime and punishment. Beyond this, the course will tie this theme to ideas about social justice, personal responsibility, and avenues for systemic change.

HNR 101-007 What Makes Us Human? (Pre-Nursing LC)

TR 1:40-2:55 PM

Gannon Tagher

"What makes us human?" is a question that often leads to discussions about human feelings of empathy or the human capacity for reason. This class participates in this discussion with the additional goal of deepening our concern with the human as embodied. We consider questions, such as:

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- How does eastern medicine view the body compared to western medicine? What are the most important qualities of the human for these two different perspectives?
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HNR 101-008 Identity, Community, Action (First Generation LC)

TR 10:50-12:05 PM

Tonya Krouse

Who am I? To what extent is my understanding of myself connected to those around me? How can I make a lasting impact on the world that I inhabit? These are the three questions that drive this section of HNR 101, which is a learning community tailored for students who are in the first generation of their families to attend college. This course focuses on the ways in which attending university can transform and empower us, offering us new opportunities to serve the communities that have supported our educational journeys or to dream of futures beyond those communities. Most significantly, students will be encouraged to draw from their experiences to ask questions from original perspectives, envision creative solutions to important problems, to make a positive impact on their communities, and take ownership over their own learning.

HNR 101-009 Movie Making and Myth Making (Film, Media, and Communication LC)

MWF 1:00-1:50 PM

Rachel Zlatkin

This class takes as its subject the practice of movie making and myth making. The film *DUNE*, in all its various film and television productions, serves as our primary source for exploration as we consider the intersection between the production of a film and its meaning.

The class will consider the influence of indigenous cultures on the aesthetics of a production, the multi-dimensional politics of environmental economics, the role of the Mother, and the harried nature of an Emperor-Messiah in the making.

HNR 101-010 Social Justice and Community Engagement (Social Justice and Community Engagement LC)

TR 1:40-2:55 PM

Tonya Krouse

Though most people would say that they want to live in a just world, many do not feel empowered to promote justice in their own communities. What communities matter to you? In what ways could these communities be more just, more inclusive, or more equitable? This section of HNR 102 challenges students to imagine themselves as engaged citizens who have the power to foster justice in all its forms. Connecting ideas about personal responsibility, ethical action, and engaged citizenship to the communities that students inhabit, students will explore different issues connected to social justice and conceive ways to become change-makers in their own communities. The goal of the course is to provide students with the tools to take their learning from the classroom to the real world so that they can address problems of pressing significance, inequalities, and areas of need.

HNR 200-001 The Meaning of Life

W 9:00-9:50 AM

Tonya Krouse

The fifteenth-century poet and orator George Herbert famously declared, "Living well is the best revenge." In the twenty-first century, somebody on the internet created the hashtag #lifegoals, a shorthand way to indicate our aspirations for a life well lived. Throughout history, people have been fascinated by trying to understand what life is and trying to articulate what gives life meaning. What does it mean to live well, or, even, what counts as "life"? From the Ancient

Greeks to the present day, scholars, philosophers, scientists, technologists, and artists have pondered these questions. Not only have they considered life as it connects to humanity and ethics – such as in debates about abortion, gun control, and war – but also, they have investigated life in the physical world, from the life of cells, to the smallest organisms, and to the life of our planet and the universe. In this section of HNR 200, we will explore the meaning of life from a variety of different viewpoints. The course will conclude with a final independent research project of the student's own design.