



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

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OFFICE OF FIRST-YEAR STUDIES

**FYS 129**

**Freshmen Seminar Classes**

Fall 2016 Course Offerings Book

# Welcome Letter

First-Year Students,

Welcome to the University of Tennessee! This book will be your detailed guide to exploring the various FYS 129 courses that are offered in the Fall of 2016. We have divided the courses by the college where the professor teaches.

If you have any questions about the various courses, feel free to email the professor at their email address or First-Year Studies at [firstyear@utk.edu](mailto:firstyear@utk.edu). We hope you find something interesting!

With Volunteer Pride,

*First-Year Studies Team*

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# College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

## Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science

### CSI Knoxville – 1863

Robert Freeland | rfreelan@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Thursdays 3:40pm – 4:55pm

CRN: 46578



**Course Description:** In November of 1863, Gen. Longstreet's divisions attacked Knoxville, leaving Confederate dead littering the slopes of Ft. Sanders. Cal Johnson, a former slave who would become Knoxville's first black millionaire, received \$1 for each Confederate body retrieved from the battlefield and buried in mass graves near Knoxville's Old City. Who are the Union men (prisoners) who are buried in a mass grave nearby from the earlier Confederate occupation of Knoxville? We will use ground-penetrating radar and satellite mapping to delineate the lost boundaries of these mass graves. This is an outside surveying course along with historical investigative research of murder, cover-up, and retribution.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Freeland is Professor of Biosystems Engineering at The University of Tennessee and teaches courses in land surveying, engineering modeling, and mapping. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor. His research interests are geophysics and precision mapping technologies as applied to precision agriculture.

### Gardening for Life

Joanne Logan | loganj@utk.edu

Meeting Time: First Session, Tuesdays 3:40pm – 5:30pm

CRN: 49360



**Course Description:** Did your family have a food garden? Are you trying to live more sustainably? Gardening is a form of exercise, and is as restful for the mind as meditation. Food gardening saves money, enhances local ecosystems, promotes our local economies, and helps us eat more healthily. Come learn what food gardening is all about by experiencing it first hand with an intensive garden plot in the UT Institute of Agriculture Kitchen Garden. Polish your cooking skills at the UT Culinary Institute as we learn to prepare a delicious meal using fresh vegetables and herbs. Contribute to the local community through service projects at the Beardsley Community Farm and the Pond Gap Community Garden.

**Professor Information:** Joanne Logan has directed the Environmental and Soil Sciences major since 2001. She serves on both the UT Sustainability Working Group and the Campus Committee for the Environment. She is the faculty mentor for the Sustainability Living and Learning Community (The Greenhouse). She regularly volunteers at the Beardsley Community Farm and the Pond Gap Community & School Garden. She teaches several classes with environmental themes: Waters and Civilizations and Environmental Climatology. She conducts research in Climate Change and Climate Change Education.

## Entomology and Plant Pathology

### A Bug's Life

Jerome Grant | [jgrant@utk.edu](mailto:jgrant@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Thursdays 3:40pm – 4:55pm

CRN: 46572



**Course Description:** What do you get when you mix bugs, people, food, culture, and movies? The answer can be hilarious, fun, and educational. In this seminar, we will examine insects (more commonly referred to as 'bugs') in television, movies, music, literature, art, religion, and even as food to learn how they have shaped our world, influenced our lives and our culture, and affected our history. The animated movie "A Bug's Life" is one of the most popular movies about insects. Other movies and television shows, such as "Fear Factor," "Men in Black," "Starship Troopers," and "X-Files," have fed upon our phobia with insects - more commonly known as 'bugs.' This hands-on (yes, hands-on!) approach will allow you to get up close and personal with insects; you will help to organize and conduct a Cricket Spittin' Contest, an Insect Zoo, and even an Insect Smorgasbord, where bugs are the main menu item (let the eating begin!)- You also will be director, writer, or actor in group YouTube videos examining human reactions to bugs. Your bug journey will even take you into an active bee hive! Fear is not a factor with bugs.

**Professor Information:** I grew up on a small farm in eastern Tennessee. I have always been fascinated with the beauty, intrigue and impacts (both good and bad) of insects. I have molded this fascination with bugs into a profession - I am a Professor of Entomology at the University of Tennessee, with responsibilities in teaching, research, and outreach (all relating to bugs!). I received a B.A. in Biology from Berea College (Kentucky), M.S. in Entomology from the University of Kentucky, and Ph.D. from Clemson University (South Carolina). I am active in outreach programs with kids and adults of all ages, where I can share the wild, wonderful world of insects with anyone who will listen. I encourage students to become passionate about things that interest them and to pursue and nurture that passion in their lives and in their professions. Insects provide many opportunities for sharing science and agriculture, as well as observing nature with people of all ages – from 1 to 100. Every person has a 'bug story', why not use it as a teaching opportunity?

## Movie Kaleidoscope

Ernest Bernard | ebernard@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 5:05pm – 6:20pm

CRN: 46593



**Course Description:** This seminar could be titled, "Greatest Movies You've Never Seen." Movies are rightly called America's great contribution to the visual arts. The films offered are among the most acclaimed of their genres but are rarely seen these days. Most have been preserved by the Library of Congress for their cultural, historical, or aesthetic importance, and nearly all were nominated for one or more Academy Awards. Genres include silent era and pre-Code films, film noir, horror films, westerns, comedies, musicals and courtroom dramas. If a particular movie has a short run-time, a short will be shown that displays a superior aspect of film production.

**Professor Information:** My life-long professional interest has been in the biodiversity of the natural world, both in its description and its measurement. I was born and raised in Detroit and started collecting bugs there when I was 7 but have been a happy resident of Tennessee for more than 35 years. My college degrees are from Michigan State University and the University of Georgia, in Entomology, Nematology and Plant Pathology. Although I do a lot of field work for research projects I take particular satisfaction in microscopy and high-quality imagery. My favorite haunt is the light microscopy facility in my department. Coming from a somewhat artistic family that always watched a lot of movies, this FYS129 course is a natural for me to present.

## The Best of Alfred Hitchcock Films

Robert Trigiano | rtrigian@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 5:45pm – 7:45pm

CRN: 46602



**Course Description:** Alfred Hitchcock was a British film director from the 20s to the 70s and he explored films that could be classified as "thrillers", "drama", "suspense" and "comedy". He is affectionately known as the "Master of Suspense". We will be watching eight of his most notable films (four of them are considering in the top 55 films of all times). See if you can spot his "cameo" appearances in most of the films.

**Professor Information:** I am a plant pathologist (no we don't just kill plants) with an interest in films and I've been a Professor on the 'Ag Campus' for many years. My brother and I would often stay up late on Friday/Saturday nights to watch horror and other scary movies. Among the film topics I enjoy the most are Zombies in Film Since 1968; Social Comment in Science Fiction Films of the 50s and 60s; and most Alfred Hitchcock films.

## Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

### The Science of Basketball Shooting

Mark Fly | markfly@utk.edu

Meeting Time: First Session, Thursdays 2:10pm – 3:25pm

CRN: 46608



**Course Description:** Is there a perfect shooting form in basketball? Of course! What characteristics would perfect shooting form have? Number one would be “simplicity. Simplicity, by necessity, is also the quickest shot. The shot has to be reduced to the “simplest motion” which addresses the three main concerns of basketball shooting: accuracy, efficiency, and speed. We will use physics, biomechanics, geometry, and psychology as you strive for your perfect shooting form. In the process, you will learn about life and the pursuit of excellence.

**Professor Information:** Welcome to my shooting class! Achieving excellence in basketball shooting has been a lifetime passion of mine. It can also be yours! My record is 136 free throws in a row (self-rebounded). I welcome beginners and experienced players. In my other job, I train students in the Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries to be park rangers. By the way, I am an environmental psychologist with a focus on people and nature. What fun!

### The Science of Basketball Shooting

Mark Fly | markfly@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Second Session, Thursdays 2:10pm – 3:25pm

CRN: 49361



**Course Description:** Is there a perfect shooting form in basketball? Of course! What characteristics would perfect shooting form have? Number one would be “simplicity. Simplicity, by necessity, is also the quickest shot. The shot has to be reduced to the “simplest motion” which addresses the three main concerns of basketball shooting: accuracy, efficiency, and speed. We will use physics, biomechanics, geometry, and psychology as you strive for your perfect shooting form. In the process, you will learn about life and the pursuit of excellence.

**Professor Information:** Welcome to my shooting class! Achieving excellence in basketball shooting has been a lifetime passion of mine. It can also be yours! My record is 136 free throws in a row (self-rebounded). I welcome beginners and experienced players. In my other job, I train students in the Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries to be park rangers. By the way, I am an environmental psychologist with a focus on people and nature. What fun!

## College of Arts and Sciences

### Art

#### Controversy + Consensus – Issues in Public Art

Jason Brown | jbrown45@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Fridays 11:15am – 12:05pm

CRN: 51579



**Course Description:** Each week students will discuss controversial public art projects that have been built (or are currently in progress) around the world. With recent developments in Knoxville's public art policies and politics, the class will often frame global issues through local perspectives. Students will learn about art and aesthetics, while engaging other subjects including urban planning, economics, sociology, political science, law and engineering. Sometimes challenging large-scale art projects gain notoriety because of public funding sources, questionable content, or lack of community involvement.

**Professor Information:** Jason Sheridan Brown received his M.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1999, and has been teaching Sculpture at the University of Tennessee since 2001. Brown's artwork has been exhibited nationally, including solo and group exhibits in Arizona, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Recent public art projects include large-scale outdoor sculpture installations at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota; North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville, North Carolina; Josephine Sculpture Park in Frankfort, Kentucky; and Franconia Sculpture Park in Shafer, Minnesota. He is involved in a number of collaborative public art projects in an effort to engage in civic dialogues about individual, community, and place. Throughout his art and teaching, Brown emphasizes interdisciplinary cooperation amongst creative thinkers such as his current traveling exhibitions and curatorial projects with the Land Report Collective. His work engages other disciplines including architecture, ecology and landscape design.

#### Pranks

Beauvais Lyons | blyons@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 5:05pm – 6:20pm

CRN: 46595



**Course Description:** In this course we will study and stage a number of pranks to explore the social, political, ethical and artistic uses of the prank. For the course we complete five projects: (1) a prank letter to a corporation, company of government agency, (2) a group prank in the spirit of Improv Everywhere, (3) an annotated bibliography of three articles from

the Journal of Irreproducible Results,(4) a prank flyer for a campus audience and (5) a final project where we invent a student club/organization. The course is fun yet demanding, as students are asked to be active in discussions and to open to collaboration.

**Professor Information:** Beauvais Lyons is a Chancellor's Professor who has taught in the UTK School of Art since 1985. His one-person mock-academic art exhibits have been presented at over 60 galleries and museum in the US, Canada and Europe. He is also responsible for bringing the “Centaur Excavations at Volos” display to the Hodges Library.

## Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

### Adventure Science

Ben Fitzpatrick | benfitz@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Wednesdays 10:10am – 11:00am  
CRN: 46573



**Course Description:** Adventure is the pursuit of unusual, exciting, and often hazardous experience. It usually involves exploration of the unknown. Science is also a quest for knowledge of the unknown. Adventure has often served science, from ancient explorers to modern space science. Science also serves adventure through forensics, search and rescue, and gear technology. We will explore the relationship between science and adventure through reading, discussion, and optional field trips.

**Professor Information:** I am an evolutionary biologist studying population genetics of amphibians and reptiles. I am also a runner and casual student of human evolution.

## Geography

### Cities through the Cinema

Ron Kalafsky | kalafsky@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: First Session, Tuesdays/Thursdays  
2:10pm – 3:25pm  
CRN: 46604



**Course Description:** Films have been used to portray cities across myriad landscapes (e.g. cultural, economic, and social). Consequently, they provide insights into how filmmakers and the general public have viewed urban regions throughout history. In this course, we will use popular and independent films to explore cities, their dynamics, and their representation across different time periods, using examples from New York and Los Angeles, but also exploring world cities such as London and Hong Kong through film.

**Professor Information:** Ron Kalafsky is an associate professor in the Department of Geography. He teaches classes on economic geography, urban geography, and the geography of East Asia, and his research focuses on international trade and industrial location in Japan, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

## Mathematics

### Mathematics and Finances

Luis Finotti | lfinotti@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Mondays 11:15pm - 12:05pm  
CRN: 46591



**Course Description:** After a brief introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions, we will study how to predict values of investments and loans. Several concrete examples will be discussed.

**Professor Information:** Luis Finotti received his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Texas at Austin in 2001. He taught at University of California Santa Barbara and Ohio State University before coming to the University of Tennessee.

### Video Games, Goats, and the Space-Time Continuum

Remus Nicoara | rnicoara@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 2:10pm – 3:25pm  
CRN: 51576



**Course Description:** In this class we will discuss various math and physics concepts, with examples from video games. Some of the topics we will investigate are: the fourth dimension, the space-time continuum, the theory of relativity, fractals, quantum entanglement, and the quantum teleportation of goats. We will also sample various video games and investigate what makes a good game.

**Professor Information:** Remus earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from UCLA, and his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Bucharest, Romania. He is currently the Director of the Math Honors Program at UT. His research is in von Neumann algebras, Hadamard matrices and quantum teleportation. Outside of work, Remus likes to hike, bike and garden while thinking about math. He enjoys meditation, Sci-Fi books, and Hanayama puzzles. He is also an avid gamer and the proud owner of over a dozen video game consoles.

## Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures

### Funny Russian Lit

Stephen Blackwell | sblackwe@utk.edu  
 Meeting Time: Mondays 9:05am – 9:55am  
 CRN: 46583



**Course Description:** Why should Russian Literature always be long and heavy? This mini-course is designed for those who want a taste of the serious side of life but with a dash, or several dashes, of humor. Short works by Pushkin, Gogol, Chekhov, Kharmis, Bulgagov, Nabokov, and others. Brief readings each week.

**Professor Information:** I have been teaching at UT for 20 years, and I love Russian literature and students who get excited about literature! I have published a few books on Vladimir Nabokov.

### 'Worlds' Through Maps

Stefanie Ohnesorg | ohnesorg@utk.edu  
 Meeting Time: Mondays 2:30pm – 3:20pm  
 CRN: 51577



**Course Description:** Understanding and Negotiating 'Worlds' Through Maps: When looking at a globe or a map we may catch ourselves explaining things like “This IS America, this IS China, this IS the Tennessee Valley .... “ while pointing at the depictions in front of us. Statements like this suggest that the boundaries between the representation and what is being represented seem to get blurred in the act of reading the map. As we identify places on a map, the images in front of us invoke associations that make us - as the slippage in language suggests – at least momentarily forget or ignore that the map and what is being represented are not the same. In this course we take a closer look at what a map ‘is’ (and what it is ‘not’). While doing so, we will develop a framework that will enable students to understand maps as cultural constructs that need to be ‘read’ by not only focusing on what is being depicted but by also paying attention to the layers of meaning that become apparent by realizing what is omitted and/or (literally or symbolically) moved to the margins.

**Professor Information:** Stefanie Ohnesorg is an associate professor in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. Her areas of research include German literature and cultures of the 18th and 19th centuries, travel literature, and women’s literature.

## Music

### Jazzing it Up Around the World

Miroslav Hristov | hristov@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 1:25pm – 2:15pm

CRN: 49355



**Course Description:** In the early 20th-century, African-American musicians gave birth to one of the world's most beloved musical genre, jazz. Even in the United States, jazz forms have always been greatly varied, and include many sub-genres such as ragtime, blues, big band, swing, and others. It is no wonder that the rest of the world has adopted this complex, yet universally appealing musical style to create new and exciting musical idioms such as bossa nova (Brazil), Latin jazz, Humppa (Finland), and Manila Sounds (Philippines). In this course, we will discover these diverse forms of jazz from around the world by listening to the music, and learning about the origins of those fusions.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Miroslav Hristov is Founder and Co-Director of the University of Tennessee School of Music's Annual Violin Festival where over 100 participants gather to attend lectures, master classes, and perform alongside world-renowned guest artists. He is also Founder and Director of the University of Tennessee's Ready for the World Music Series, which brings renowned artists to perform and talk about musical styles and literature from diverse regions around the world, emphasizing each region's contribution to western classical music.

## Political Science

### American Policy on TV

David Houston | dhouston@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Thursdays 11:10am – 12:25pm

CRN: 49354



**Course Description:** What are the arguments on competing sides of policy debates? Who are the official and unofficial actors in government? We will use the hit television series "The West wing" to illustrate some of the contemporary controversies over public policy. Watch as the Bartlett Administration engages and battles Congress, interest groups, religious leaders, and public opinion to craft effective and politically acceptable public policy. Among the issues we will see see President Bartlett and his staff wrestle with are: hate crimes, the death penalty, school prayer, immigration, and even eliminating the penny from U.S. currency and the shape of the world map.

**Professor Information:** I have been teaching courses and conducting research on public policy and public administration for over 25 years. Among the questions that have directed my teaching and research is: what shapes the

policies that are formally adopted by government? I have focused on the importance of how an issue is framed and how the targets of policy are portrayed as being keys to policy formation.

### Harry Potter and Culture

Pat Freeland | pfreelan@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Mondays 1:25pm – 2:15pm  
CRN: 46585



**Course Description:** This class examines the cultural components of the Harry Potter series and the Hunger Games. The books and films are very popular and have generated considerable speculation regarding their societal impact. This class examines concepts such as law and politics, status, gender, education, and religion in light of the Harry Potter and hunger Games books and films.

**Professor Information:** Patricia Freeland is a professor of Political Science. She teaches and conducts research in American politics, public policy and public administration.

### The Electoral College

Anthony Nownes | anownes@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 9:40am – 10:55am  
CRN: 51573



**Course Description:** This seminar will ask: What is the Electoral College? Why does it exist? What impact does it have on the outcome of our presidential elections? These questions are particularly relevant during this election year.

**Professor Information:** Anthony Nownes is a professor of political science, whose research focuses on interest groups and lobbying in the United States.

## Psychology

### How We Think

Todd Freeberg | tfreeber@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Wednesdays 11:15am – 12:05pm  
CRN: 46587



**Course Description:** This particular section of FYS 129 addresses how we go about making decisions – both large and small – that affect our lives. Over the semester, we will read and discuss

Daniel Kahneman's book, "Thinking, Fast and Slow" – Kahneman is the 2002 winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics for his work on decision making. The structure of the course will largely be determined by students in the class. The goal is for us all to understand better how we make the choices we make, and how we can make better decisions.

**Professor Information:** I am in the Biological Psychology research area in my department, and I study social behavior and vocal signaling in birds. I have been interested in decision-making for a long time, from a comparative perspective.

## Sociology

### American Protest Music

Scott Frey | rfrey2@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Thursdays 12:40pm – 1:55pm

CRN: 46576



**Course Description:** American protest music addresses poverty and inequality, racism, sexism, homophobia, other forms of intolerance, environmental problems, and war in its efforts to promote social justice. Whether it is Billie Holiday addressing lynching, Woody Guthrie lamenting about the Dust Bowl, or Rage Against the Machine, Green Day and Bruce Springsteen commenting on war and economic injustice, American protest songs reveal and explore the social tensions in American society at specific points in time. Attention centers on over thirty important protest songs that define the period from the Great Depression of the 1930s to the present. Songs will be reviewed in terms of content and what they reveal about their time and larger social tensions in the American experience.

**Professor Information:** R. Scott Frey is a Professor of Sociology and Co-director of the Center for the Study of Social Justice at the University of Tennessee. His areas of interest are environmental sociology, development and globalization, and comparative/historical sociology. He has contributed chapters to recent books on environmental issues and he has published in numerous periodicals. He is currently preparing a book on the globalization of health, safety, and environmental risks with a focus on Asia.

### Sociology and Science Fiction Films: Artificial Intelligence

Harry F. Dahms | hdahms@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 2:10pm – 3:25pm

CRN: 46599



**Course Description:** Science-fiction film as an art-form and a type of entertainment (a genre) experiments with visions of alternative and future societies, and presents mind-games (thought experiments) about what could be, what should be, what might be, and/or what will be. Focusing on films, we will examine how the various sub- genres of science fiction relate to themes that sociologists typically have been interested in, and how different types of science-fiction address themes and convey messages relating to future possibilities and threats. On the one hand, the range of sociologically relevant themes in science-fiction is enormous; on the other hand—and this constitutes a very telling paradox—there is a dearth of utopian science fiction, and sociologists rarely deal with either science-fiction or films, or the future, except in a very general sense. We will focus especially on depictions of possible consequences resulting from artificial intelligence.

**Professor Information:** Ph.D., New School for Social Research, New York, 1993. At University of Tennessee-Knoxville since 2004. Previously taught at Florida State University (1993-2004), University of Goettingen, Germany (1999-2000), and he has been an affiliate lecturer at University of Innsbruck, Austria, since 2010. Interests: classical, contemporary and critical theory, economic sociology, history of ideas, comparative sociology, and sociology and science-fiction film (special focus: The Matrix Trilogy). Director of the International Social Theory Consortium; and Co-Chair of the Committee on Social Theory at University of Tennessee since 2013.

## Theatre

### Meditation for Academic Success

Kenton Yeager | kyeager2@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Fridays 10:10am – 11:00am

CRN: 46592



**Course Description:** There are a multitude of studies showing increased academic performance as a result of practicing meditation techniques. This course will explore a variety of meditation and visualization techniques from multiple cultures, including styles from India, China, Japan, Vietnam, and Tibet. This cross cultural look at diverse mind focusing techniques is designed to help the student find what style works for their individual needs and interests. The course will emphasize the utilization of these practices to increase academic performance, boost personal peace and help generate a happier life.

**Professor Information:** Kenton Yeager is a tenured professor and the head of the Graduate Lighting Design Program in the Department of Theatre. He has been involved in visualization/meditation/mindfulness techniques, the martial

arts, and eastern philosophy for the past 35 years and is currently the Director of Teacher Training for The American Meditation Society.

### Unlocking the Creative Mind

Casey Sams | jsams1@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Fridays 9:05am – 9:55am

CRN: 51575



**Course Description:** What do we mean when we talk about creativity? What are the benefits and drawbacks of being creative? What are the hallmarks of a creative person? Why do some people seem to continue to be creative throughout their lives and others seem to lose their creative spark in adulthood? Can we develop creativity, or is it innate? How do we “set the stage” for our own creativity to be expressed?

**Professor Information:** Casey teaches acting and movement for the theatre department, and is a Choreographer and Director with The Clarence Brown Theatre.

## College of Business Administration

### Business Analytics and Statistics

### The Question of God

Robert Mee | rmee@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 12:20pm – 1:10pm

CRN: 51574



**Course Description:** This seminar compares two different worldviews: the secular skepticism of Sigmund Freud and the religious belief of C. S. Lewis. Our primary text is Armand Nicholi’s book, *The Question of God*, which compares the lives and writings of Freud and Lewis. We will also read Freud’s *The Future of an Illusion* and Lewis’s *Mere Christianity*. A PBS documentary featuring Nicholi and other Freud and Lewis experts provides an engaging introduction to these influential thinkers.

**Professor Information:** Robert Mee is a professor of Business Analytics & Statistics and a former department head, with expertise in experimental design. He earned a Bachelor’s degree from Georgia Institute of Technology and M.S. and PhD degrees in Statistics from Iowa State University. He taught in Texas and Alabama before joining the faculty here. Currently he is pursuing opportunities

to teach in China. In addition to exploring arguments for different world views, he particularly enjoys views from mountain tops!

## College of Communication and Information

### Advertising and Public Relations

#### Dissecting Families

Sally McMillan | [sjcmill@utk.edu](mailto:sjcmill@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 10:10am – 11:00am

CRN: 46580



**Course Description:** The goal of dissection is to gain an understanding of internal parts and how things work. You may have dissected frogs in high school; now you can learn how to dissect families. The seminar will focus on surveys, interviews, storytelling, and people rather than scalpels, clamps, formaldehyde, and frogs. You will get certified as an undergraduate researcher and learn some basic social science research techniques. You will work on a project that explores how access to resources across multiple generations in families influences our ability to learn. Your research, combined with readings and discussions, are designed to help you understand how to build on your resource base to achieve success in college and in life.

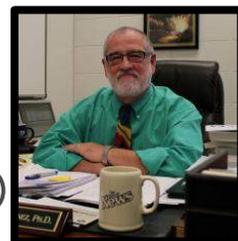
**Professor Information:** Sally J. McMillan is a Professor of Advertising and Public Relations at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. She teaches both advertising and public relations classes to undergraduate and graduate students. Her research explores the impact of new communication technologies on individuals, organizations and society; examines factors that lead to academic success for students from diverse backgrounds; and evaluates approaches to communicating with underserved populations about health.

### Journalism and Electronic Media

#### Freedom Sings

Michael Martinez | [mtmartinez@utk.edu](mailto:mtmartinez@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 12:40pm – 1:55pm



CRN: 46582

**Course Description:** "Freedom Sings," a program of the First Amendment Center in Nashville, is a traveling roadshow comprised of an all-star cast of musicians that features music that has been banned or censored or has sounded a call for social change. We will listen to the songs of "Freedom Sings," analyze and discuss the lyrics of 15 songs and what impact they may have on society.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Michael T. Martinez is an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Electronic Media who teaches media law, media ethics and sports reporting. He spent 26 years working as a journalist before joining the academy.

### How to Argue (Without Yelling or Punching)

Mark Harmon | mdharmon@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 2:30pm – 3:20pm

CRN: 46586



**Course Description:** Not all arguments are created equal. Some are strong and persuasive. Some are weak or even deceptive. Students will learn how to make and how to counter arguments, practicing on each other and on the published or presented arguments from others.

**Professor Information:** Professor Mark D. Harmon teaches courses in journalism and electronic media. He is a former TV news producer, former Knox County Commissioner, and current newspaper columnist.

College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

Child and Family Studies

## Romantic Relationships

Spencer Olmstead | [solmstead@utk.edu](mailto:solmstead@utk.edu)  
 Meeting Time: Thursdays 9:40am – 10:55am  
 CRN: 46598



**Course Description:** Participating students will learn about the foundation of building healthy romantic relationships. Personal awareness, relationship awareness, and communication skills are taught using a variety of mediums including activities, video clips, demonstrations, small and large group discussion, and practice. Personal awareness focuses on long-term personal and relationship goals, family background, gender, and personality. Relationship awareness focuses on expectations, smart love, commitment, and decision making. Communication skills include taking a “time out,” focused listening, XYZ statements, and the speaker-listener technique.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Olmstead is an assistant professor in the Department of Child and Family Studies. His area of research and teaching focuses on young adults romantic and sexual relationships. He teaches the Human Sexuality Course and has a background in relationship education and couple and family therapy.

## Educational Psychology and Counseling

### Alcohol, Drugs, and the College Student

Jennifer Morrow | [jamorrow@utk.edu](mailto:jamorrow@utk.edu)  
 Meeting Time: Wednesdays 4:40pm – 5:30pm  
 CRN: 46574



**Course Description:** Students in the seminar will review common myths and discuss relevant research on the use of alcohol and drugs in the college environment. Students will engage in a variety of activities such as small-group discussion, critique of media, debates, demonstrations, and presentations throughout the seminar.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Morrow is a faculty member in Evaluation, Statistics, and Measurement and has been at the University of Tennessee since 2007. She has conducted numerous projects investigating college student drinking and drug use as well as evaluating educational programs on alcohol and drug prevention. She loves to travel and is a self-described Starbucks addict.

### Creatively Connect with Youth

Melinda Gibbons | [mgibbon2@utk.edu](mailto:mgibbon2@utk.edu)  
 Meeting Time: First Session, Mondays/Wednesdays  
 9:05am – 9:55am



CRN: 46605

**Course Description:** Thinking about a career working with children or adolescents? In this interactive class, we will discuss various creative methods for connecting with children and adolescents. We will explore the use of picture books, drawing, games, music, and toys to help youth feel more comfortable and to build relationships with adults.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Gibbons teaches in the Counselor Education program, training students to become school or mental health counselors, and currently serves as coordinator for the doctoral program. She has been at UT since 2006. Her research interests include career development across the lifespan, parent education level and career development, and school counseling best practices.

### Groups: Where Do I Fit In?

Joel Diambra | [jdiambra@utk.edu](mailto:jdiambra@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Mondays 11:15am – 12:05pm

CRN: 46584



**Course Description:** In this course students will explore groups and observe and reflect upon group dynamics. Students will gain an experiential understanding of group purpose, development, and dynamics. Some group dynamics include group process components, group developmental stages, group members' roles and behaviors, and beneficial factors of group work.

**Professor Information:** I'm a husband and a dad (24 year-old UT Sport Studies master's student and 21 year-old Radford (VA) Dance & Recreation and Tourism Junior). I currently serve as Associate Department Head and the Director of Graduate Studies for our Department (Educational Psychology and Counseling). As a licensed professional counselor and clinical supervisor, I enjoy conducting group therapy sessions and group supervision sessions. Group dynamics and "the power of group" never ceases to amaze me.

### Qualitative Research Methods:

#### Putting My People-Watching and Chatterbox Skills to Use

Lauren Moret | [lmoret@utk.edu](mailto:lmoret@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Mondays 12:20pm – 1:10pm

CRN: 46596



**Course Description:** Has anyone ever told you "You're too talkative," "You're a good people watcher," or "You see things that other people don't see?" If so, you may have the skills needed to begin learning more formally about designing and

doing Qualitative Social Science Research. In this Qualitative Research (QUAL) seminar, you will learn about some history and foundations to QUAL, methods to enacting this work, and how to best navigate tensions of the field often related to this work. If you like to talk to people and/or you are skilled with people watching, AND you like a little theory to drive what you do, this may be the right class for you!

**Professor Information:** Lauren Moret is an Assistant Professor in the Evaluation, Statistics, and Measurement Program with a focus on Qualitative Research Methodology. Moret is a trained conflict mediator with current research interests that include the teaching and learning practices of leaders across diversities, oppression awareness and reduction processes used in organizations, and supports for the growth of author reflexivity and transparency of the qualitative research process. She loves to cook, eat foods from many cultures, and spend time outside.

## Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies

### Big Idols, Big Falls

Steven Waller | swaller2@utk.edu

Meeting Time: First Session, Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:40pm – 1:55pm

CRN: 49359



**Course Description:** The course will examine the rise and fall of high visibility collegiate and professional athletes and entertainers in the public square. The theological concepts of sin, shame, grace, compassion, forgiveness, redemption and restoration will be interwoven into the study of the plight of each athlete.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Steven Waller is an associate professor in the department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies. He teaches Personnel Management, Organizational Behavior, Administration of Recreation Services, Research Methods and Religion and Sport in Global Society in the graduate program. His research interest include barriers to career mobility for minorities and women; organizational evil; and religious socialization as a constraint to leisure and sport participation. Dr. Waller hobbies are listening to great music, traveling and hanging with good friends and family.

### Inside Tennessee Athletics

Robin Hardin | robh@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 10:10am – 11:00am

CRN: 46588



**Course Description:** This seminar offers an inside look at

collegiate athletics at the University of Tennessee. The role of the NCAA and issues associated with collegiate athletics are examined as well. Emphasis is placed on interacting with athletic department employees and touring athletic department facilities.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Robin Hardin is a professor in the Sport Management program at the University of Tennessee. His research interests include all areas of intercollegiate athletics in particular governance and consumer behavior. He also is part of the official statistics team for football and men's and women's basketball at Tennessee.

## Nutrition

### Diets and Body Health

Guoxun Chen | gchen6@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 3:35pm – 4:25pm

CRN: 46579



**Course Description:** Some people maintain a healthy life style and an ideal body shape, whereas others struggle to loss several pounds or keep a healthy body. The fact that two thirds of the current population is overweight and obese has become a concern of public health. The nutritional, genetic, dietary, cultural, environmental, metabolic, and behavioral factors all have been thought individually or together to contribute to the obesity epidemic. In this one credit hour course, you will learn conceptual mechanisms that link these factors to your health. You will listen to lectures, watch movies, and discuss your own opinions with your classmates and the instructor about the origin, prevention, and treatment of this nutrition/dietary and public health problem.

**Professor Information:** Currently, Dr. Guoxun Chen is an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Dr. Chen got his Ph.D degree and postdoctoral training at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, where he had conducted research projects related to obesity and diabetes for 11 years. After he finished his postdoctoral training in the lab of Nobel Laureates, Drs. Michael Brown and Joseph Goldstein, he became a faculty member in the Department of Nutrition at UTK in 2006. Since then, Dr. Chen has been investigating the roles of vitamin A in the development of obesity, and in the control of glucose and lipid metabolism in health and disease conditions.

## Theory and Practice in Teacher Education

### American Sign Language Linguistics

Jeffrey Davis | jdavis49@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 6:30pm – 7:45pm



CRN: 46577

**Course Description:** This seminar introduces students to American Sign Language (ASL), the 4th most used language in North America, following English, Spanish and French. ASL is used in the US, Canada, parts of the Caribbean, and US territories. There are many different sign languages used world-wide -- almost as many as there are different countries. Also, sign language is well documented for many Native American groups, which was used traditionally to make communication possible between individuals speaking many different languages. Students will learn basic sign language vocabulary & grammar; the cultural diversity of Deaf communities; and the role of sign language in various professions like teaching, interpreting, counseling, law, medicine, as well as others.

**Professor Information:** Professor Jeffrey Davis learned sign language as a child, and has worked as a teacher, interpreter, and researcher of sign language for more than three decades. He has published over thirty articles and chapters on the subjects of linguistics and sign language. The most recent books he authored are: *Hand Talk: Sign Language among American Indian Nations*, Cambridge University Press (2010); and, *Sign Language Interpreting in Multilingual and Multicultural Contexts*, Gallaudet University Press (2010).

### Global Warming: Data Versus the Media

Barry Golden | bwgolden@utk.edu

Meeting Time: First Session, Mondays/Wednesdays 9:05am – 9:55am

CRN: 46606



**Course Description:** In this course, we will learn about how global warming is presented in the media, as well as what climate scientists currently think about the subject. In class, we will examine segments of TV debates, movies, and documentaries from various sources. We will directly examine much of the primary data used by scientists. Become climate literate quickly so that you can discuss this subject in other classes and at the dinner table!

**Professor Information:** Dr. Golden's focus is on climate change education. He studies how students of various ages best learn about the nuances of climate change and other complicated (& presumably controversial) branches of science!

### Race in the Media

Chonika Coleman-King | ccolem21@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Fridays 9:05am – 9:55am

CRN: 46597



**Course Description:** In this seminar, students will examine media coverage of racial issues, with a specific focus on issues that have occurred over the last few years. We will also examine the role of technology and social media in sharing stories about race and facilitating discussions on race in new ways. As a class, we will examine links between historical and contemporary issues examined through media such as music, movies and video clips, online articles, books and articles, and social networking sites.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Coleman-King recently published a book entitled, *The (Re-) Making of a Black American: Tracing the Racial and Ethnic Socialization of Caribbean American Youth* which documents the complex interplay between race, class, and immigrant status and the role of schools and communities in helping students develop their racial and ethnic identities. Dr. Coleman-King is currently Assistant Professor of Urban-Multicultural Education at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where she prepares pre-service teachers and interns to teach with an emphasis on social justice in schools that serve poor children, Children of Color, and ethnic and linguistic minorities.

### Superheroes & US Society

Stergios Botzakis | sbotzaki@utk.edu

Meeting Time: First Session, Tuesdays 2:10pm –  
3:25pm  
CRN: 46607



**Course Description:** Superheroes are one of the USA's original contributions to world culture. They have also been likened to a modern mythology. In this class we look at the origins of these characters and then at how they have evolved over the decades. We will read some original works, watch various media versions, including movies, cartoons, and television programs in order to examine what makes superheroes tick and also how they reflect us and our world.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Stergios Botzakis is an associate professor of adolescent literacy in the Theory and Practice in Teacher Education Department at The University of Tennessee. He received his doctorate from the University of Georgia in 2006, and prior to that he spent five years teaching middle school reading, English, and study skills in Baltimore and the Boston area. His research interests include secondary education, popular culture, and media literacy.

## College of Engineering

Civil and Environmental Engineering

### Tactical Urbanism



 FIRST-YEAR STUDIES

Christopher Cherry | cherry@utk.edu  
 Meeting Time: Thursdays 9:40am – 10:55am  
 CRN: 46601

**Course Description:** Tactical urbanism involves installing temporary or semi-permanent infrastructure to improve the urban area. This seminar will focus on transportation systems. Can we re-envision our transportation system to be more sustainable and livable? What are some easy experiments we can try to see the effect? We will try to answer these questions and implement some tactical transportation solutions.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Cherry is an associate professor focusing on transportation policy, economics, and safety. Much of his work deals with the role of new technologies in sustainable transportation systems. He also focuses on bicycle and pedestrian issues in urban areas.

## Materials Science & Engineering

### Free Musical Improvisation

David Keffer | dkeffer@utk.edu  
 Meeting Time: Fridays 1:25pm – 2:15pm  
 CRN: 46581



**Course Description:** This seminar examines both the motivations for and expressions of creativity in unconventional directions as present in freely improvised music. The first purpose of the course is to introduce students to the music and musicians of free improvisation, across and between genres, and artists including Derek Bailey, Pauline Oliveros, Keiji Haino, Peter Brötzmann, Anthony Braxton, Cecil Taylor, John Zorn, Nicole Mitchell and many others. The second purpose of the course is to think critically about what drives practitioners of free improvisation to abandon the more conventional expressions of creativity (and therefore all hopes of broad appeal and/or significant commercial gain) in exchange for an “undiluted” artistic vision in the cultural margin. We will also discuss relevant topics such as social forces that led to non-idiomatic improvisation, the esthetic limits of music, the development of an ear for “difficult” music, the validity of various measures of success or merit, where popularity is largely irrelevant, and the essential presence of failure in experimental art forms. Hands-on experimentation with idiophonic instruments is part of the course.

**Professor Information:** David Keffer is a professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, where he uses molecular simulation to understand structure/property relationships in nanostructured materials. He is also an avid student of the music of non-idiomatic improvisation. Since 1995, he

has maintained “An Unofficial Keiji Haino Website”. He has also built his own version of Hans Reichel’s daxophone.

## Libraries

### Learning, Research, and Engagement

#### Introduction to Research

Ingrid Ruffin | [iruffin@utk.edu](mailto:iruffin@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Tuesdays 11:10am – 12:25pm

CRN: 46589

Reserved for Discovery LLC



**Course Description:** The University of Tennessee Knoxville is a Research One university. Research is a core part of the total Vol identity. In this course students will receive exposure to all aspects of the research process (finding, synthesizing, and creating knowledge). This course is open to all UT freshmen, but priority is given for members of the Discovery Living Learning Community.

**Professor Information:** A nine year veteran of the United States Air Force, Ingrid holds a Bachelors of Arts in English, Masters of Arts in English and a Masters of Library and Information Science from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. As a librarian at UT Ingrid is dedicated to ensuring student success.

#### Introduction to Research

Anna Sandelli | [asandell@utk.edu](mailto:asandell@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 11:15am – 12:05pm

CRN: 46590

Reserved for Discovery LLC



**Course Description:** The University of Tennessee Knoxville is a Research One university. Research is a core part of the total Vol identity. In this course students will receive exposure to all aspects of the research process (finding, synthesizing, and creating knowledge). This course is open to all UT freshmen, but priority is given for members of the Discovery Living Learning Community.

**Professor Information:** As a Student Success Librarian, Anna is enthusiastic about helping students learn the tools of college research while adjusting to life at the University of Tennessee. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism & Mass Communication and a Master's of Science in Library Science, both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to graduate school, she also

spent several years working in corporate communications for a global apparel company.

### OUT@UT

Donna Braquet | [dbraquet@utk.edu](mailto:dbraquet@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Mondays 3:35pm – 4:25pm  
CRN:



**Course Description:** Calling all LGBTQIA students and their allies! In this seminar we will discuss issues of identity, equality, and social justice. Students will learn about LGBTQIA issues at UT, in Knoxville, the southeast and the US. Assignments will be will be interactive. Sign up to learn more about the civil rights issues of your generation.

**Professor Information:** Donna has been at UT for 12 years and is the Biology Librarian at Hodges. She is also the director of the Pride Center. She gives Safe Zone workshops in her spare time. She loves seeing students live their true, authentic lives.

## College of Social Work

### Children's Mental Health Service Research Center

### Science vs Pseudo-Science: Claims in Society

John Wodarski | [jwodarsk@utk.edu](mailto:jwodarsk@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Mondays 2:30pm – 3:20pm  
CRN: 51578



**Course Description:** This class will introduce students to the topic of scientific skepticism, the perspective that unusual claims should be supported by unusual levels of evidence. We will discuss a variety of unusual, paranormal and pseudoscientific claims, the available evidence to support them, and ways in which these claims can be legitimately tested. All students will participate in at least one original investigation of a paranormal or pseudoscientific claim, and report on their findings in class. Topics may include ghosts, UFOs, astrology, ESP, Tarot cards, various complementary and alternative medicine and techniques such as Reiki and homeopathy, dowsing, divination, psychic healing, etc.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Wodarski is Professor of Social Work at the University of Tennessee College of Social Work. Dr. Wodarski received his B.S.

degree from Florida State University, the M.S.S.W degree from the University of Tennessee, and the Ph. D. from Washington University in Saint Louis. His main interests include Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Health Behaviors, including research on violence, substance abuse, depression, sexuality, HIV and Viral Hepatitis prevention and employment.