



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

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OFFICE OF FIRST-YEAR STUDIES

**FYS 129**

**Freshmen Seminar Classes**

Spring 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 Spring 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: Second Session, Tuesdays/Thursdays

5:05pm - 6:20pm

CRN: 26178



**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, and teaches courses on land surveying and mapping. He is a licensed professional engineer and land surveyor. He has provided underground surveying services in criminal cases for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, (FBI), Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Nashville District Attorney's Office, and local law enforcement.

### Gardening for Life

Joanne Logan | loganj@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Second Session, Tuesdays 3:40pm – 5:35pm

CRN: 26179



**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 is a faculty member and mentor of Students Promoting Environmental Action in Knoxville. She serves on both the UT Sustainability Working Group and the Campus Committee for the Environment. 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 is the faculty mentor for the Sustainability Living and Learning Community (The Greenhouse). She conducts research in Climate Change and Climate Change Education.

## Entomology and Plant Pathology

### The Southeastern Conference

Mark Windham | mwindham@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Mondays 1:25pm – 2:15pm  
CRN: 26175



**Course Description:** This class will look at why and how the Southeastern Conference formed and the history and traditions of all 14 schools. We will also study why three charter members withdrew from the conference and issues facing the conference today.

**Professor Information:** Mark Windham has been a faculty member at UT for 30 years and a fan of the Southeastern Conference for much longer. Mark has lectured on the history of the SEC throughout the southeast for the last 10 years.

### Zombies in Film Since 1968

Robert Trigiano | rtrigian@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Wednesdays 5:45pm – 7:45pm  
CRN: 26168



**Course Description:** We will view eight films starting with Night of the Living Dead (1968), which is usually thought of the beginning of the "modern" era of zombies, and ending with Warm Bodies (2013). We will note the "evolution" of zombies throughout the years, and see changing roles and "points of view" of zombies. This seminar was offered in Fall semester 2014 and I believe as quite successful.

**Professor Information:** I've been a Professor at UT for the last 30 years and have developed a program in molecular genetics, plant pathology and

biotechnology of ornamental plants. I have been fascinated with science fiction and "horror" films from an early age and have watched this genre of films grow and change over the last 50 years. Join us for a eight film, fun glance of "Zombies in Film Since 1968" -- this is not a seminar for the "faint of heart."

## Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries

### The Science of Basketball Shooting

Mark Fly | markfly@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26155



**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!

### Nature, Outdoor Recreation, and Sustainability

Mark Fly | markfly@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 4:40pm – 5:30pm

CRN: 26154



**Course Description:** We will have interesting and lively discussions about the role of nature, outdoor recreation and sustainability in your life and mine, and ultimately, society. We will engage in outdoor recreation in the Knoxville area and spend a weekend at the farm enjoying nature, recreating, and planning for sustainability. In the process, you will explore the type of life you want to live and develop your own "Principles for Life" and plan for sustainable living.

**Professor Information:** I am an environmental psychologist and study the interrelationship between people and nature. As a Professor in the Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, I train people to be park rangers and

environmental educators, etc. I grew up on a farm on the Duck River (Google it) in Maury County near Columbia, Tennessee and have always been a lover of nature and outdoor recreation. My interests now include living sustainably and off the grid - which I plan to do on the farm someday. I look forward to exploring our mutual interests in nature, outdoor recreation, and sustainability.

## College of Architecture and Design

### Seeing the Unseen

David Fox | [dfox@utk.edu](mailto:dfox@utk.edu)

Meeting Time: First Session, Tuesdays/Thursdays

9:40am – 10:55am

CRN: 26183



**Course Description:** Design is a vast part of our lives and most give little thought to its' influences. Houses, big and small-from the suburbs to downtown-developers and designers spend enormous amounts of time and money on these and products, spaces, and ads. Why? Is the answer simply a matter of economics? Or something more? Architecture, interior design, color and materials are only a few 'things' we see but rarely notice. Why? What are their origins? Where are we going and how can this new vision help you make smarter choices? Using social media, assignments will challenge your imagination and creative instincts to expose this invisible realm.

**Professor Information:** This is my twenty-fifth year at the University of Tennessee where I coordinate the beginning, first year design studios and, sometimes, second year architecture studios focusing on various aspects of design development. Before coming to UT in 1991, I worked in Washington DC, Arkansas and Mississippi on mostly a wide variety of projects, big and small. I am also a painter, furniture designer, artist and writer. In the spring of 2013 I taught courses at the Krakow Polytechnic as a Fulbright scholar where the studio work was an exploration of digital applications to architectural design and presentation.

# College of Arts and Sciences

## Art

### Mind::Games

Cary Staples | staples@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26163



**Course Description:** “Books are good at telling us things. Lectures are good at telling us things. You are not making a book or a lecture. You are making a game. Games are good at showing us things.” Jesse Schell, game designer. Together we will explore the use of video games as media to create a complex, immersive environment to provoke thought and encourage discussion. Students will play, critique and comment on video games designed to entertain, educate and challenge our perspective as global citizens.

**Professor Information:** Professor Staples teaches Design in the School of Art. Her curiosity has lead her to work on interdisciplinary projects with physics, English, astronomy, biology, engineering, and music, especially opera. She is currently working on research project with her undergraduate students to develop a game to support the French 111 classes. She is also very good at origami.

## Earth and Planetary Sciences

### Restoring Nature

Michael Mckinney | mmckinne@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26162



**Course Description:** This course will focus on experiencing positive actions that are being taken to reduce or repair the human impact on the natural environment. We will take brief trips to see firsthand how this is being done at localities near UT. This will include trips to: a restored mining quarry (Ijams Nature Center), a solar power station (Ijams Nature Center), an urban creek (Second Creek), a composting facility, and a recycling facility downtown. Several guest speakers from the sustainability community will visit including the UT Sustainability manager, the UT recycling coordinator and leaders from UT student environmental groups.

**Professor Information:** I have been at UT for 30 years. I am Director of the Environmental Studies Program and Sustainability major. I advise the student

environmental club, SPEAK. I enjoy hiking and spending time in wilderness areas, and have written many articles and books about environmental topics.

## Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

### Are We Born to Run?

Ben Fitzpatrick | benfitz@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26681



**Course Description:** We will review the evidence for the idea that humans have evolved as supreme distance runners. We will also read about the practice and importance of running in modern life.

**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

12:40pm – 1:55pm

CRN: 26182

**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.

## Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures

### Gaming and/as Learning

Sebastien Dubreil | sd@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26156



**Course Description:** This course will examine what makes games, and video games in particular, such effective learning tools. We will take a close look at game design as well as principles of gaming to envision how we could redesign classrooms and courses to construct more effective learning environments.

**Professor Information:** Sébastien Dubreil is an Associate Professor of French, Francophone Studies, and Applied Linguistics in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. His primary research interest is in Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL) and the teaching of culture. He recently participated in the OIT mobile learning pilot project and was appointed the 2014-2015 OIT Faculty Fellow. He is currently interested in investigating what educators can learn from games to amplify what they do in the classroom and has been involved in designing a couple of place-based mobile games.

## Music

### Jazzing it up Around the World!

Miroslav Hristov | hristov@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26157



**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](mailto:dhouston@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 3:40pm – 4:55pm  
CRN: 26159



**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 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.

### From Breaking Bad to Blue Bloods

Michael Fitzgerald | [mfitzge1@utk.edu](mailto:mfitzge1@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Mondays 9:05am – 9:55am  
CRN: 26169



**Course Description:** This seminar is an extensive and intensive exploration of Hollywood's America as it appears over time in popular contemporary television series. This course will systematically analyze the images of American society, and their implications, that emerge from such long-running hit TV series as Breaking Bad, Friends, Sex and the City, How I Met Your Mother, Law and Order, 24, The West Wing, Mad Men, House of Cards, Scandal, and Blue Bloods.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Michael Fitzgerald is a professor of Political Science. He specializes in American politics and government with an emphasis on teaching undergraduate courses on the presidency, popular culture and American

politics, and the mass media and politics. He is a long-time faculty participant in the Cinema Studies and the American Studies programs.

### Harry Potter and Culture

Pat Freeland | pfreelan@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Mondays 2:30pm – 3:20pm  
CRN: 26165



**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: Thursdays 11:10am – 12:25pm  
CRN: 26166



**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:** I am a professor of political science who teaches courses in American government and politics.

## Psychology

### Animal Rights – the Key Issues

Todd Freeberg | tfreeber@utk.edu  
Meeting Time: Thursdays 3:40pm – 4:55pm  
CRN: 26160



**Course Description:** This section of FYS 129 will focus on ethical questions related to human use of non-human animals. The class will be heavily discussion-oriented. Specific topics to

be discussed will depend upon the interests of students in the class. In previous semesters we have discussed ethical issues in a wide range of topics, including vegetarianism, hunting, research on animals, animals in zoos, conservation biology, and philosophical and religious views of ethics regarding animals.

**Professor Information:** Todd Freeberg is a professor in the Department of Psychology and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. His area of research is animal behavior, with a focus on social groups and communication in songbird species. He has been interested in ethical issues related to human (and humane!) use of animals since his high school days.

## Theatre

### Meditation for Academic Success

Kenton Yeager | kyeager2@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Fridays 9:05am – 9:55am

CRN: 26173



**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.

# College of Communication and Information

## Advertising and Public Relations

### Nanny, Mamaw, and Me

Sally McMillan | sjmcmill@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Mondays 3:35pm – 4:25pm

CRN: 26170



**Course Description:** This seminar will explore how access to resources does or does not change from one generation of to the next and how access to those resources influences our ability to learn. The class will read and discuss the book *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* to learn about the importance of resources such as: finances, emotions, cognitive abilities, spirituality, physical capabilities, support systems, role models, and knowledge of hidden rules. The professor will share her own family stories and will help students understand and build on the stories of their own families and/or core support groups.

**Professor Information:** Sally McMillan teaches both the practice and the theory of advertising and public relations. She conducts research about factors that lead to academic success for students from diverse backgrounds and about the impact of new communication technologies on individuals, organizations and society. Her parents were both first generation college students who went on to professional careers in science and education. Her grandparents were immigrants, tradespeople, and service workers.

## Journalism and Electronic Media

### Fast and Furious: The Robin Hoods of Modern Times

Michael Martinez | mtmartinez@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Wednesdays 2:30pm – 4:25pm

CRN: 26677



**Course Description:** If you are a "gear head," this class is for you. We will watch the "Fast and Furious" movies, including "Furious 7" that was released in April of 2015, and discuss how they relate to society. Can "bad guys" have a code of honor that they will not cross? Can "bad guys" do good things? Can an "outlaw" be a hero? How important is family? We will discuss the ramifications to society.

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

joining the academy. In his spare time, he is a closet "gear head" growing up in the muscle car era and is not afraid to get his hands greasy.

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

Mark Harmon | mdharmon@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26161



**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:** Mark D. Harmon is a professor in the School of Journalism and Electronic Media, College of Communication and Information. He has worked as a television producer, radio reporter, and newspaper columnist. He has been honored by the Society of Professional Journalists with a national award for column writing. He has a long career in speech and debate activities.

### Radio and Television Sports

Norman Swan | samswan@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26180



**Course Description:** This course provides students with an introduction to the field of sports broadcasting. Students will learn how to begin now to gain professional experience at WUTK-FM, TV sports, ESPN/SEC Network and more. They will hear from professional sports broadcasters and tour broadcasting facilities. In addition, students will perform radio and TV sportscasts and perhaps a baseball play-by-play.

**Professor Information:** I teach courses in TV News Reporting and Sports Broadcasting. I worked as a broadcast journalist for a number of years in Missouri and Minnesota before becoming an educator. In the area of sports I have been a sports reporter, sports anchor, and college football and basketball play-by-play announcer. I have a passion for baseball, especially the St. Louis Cardinals.

# College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

## Child and Family Studies

### Sex on Campus

Spencer Olmstead | [solmstead@utk.edu](mailto:solmstead@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 12:40pm – 1:55pm  
CRN: 26158



**Course Description:** The purpose of this seminar is to promote the sexual health and wellbeing of first year college students through informed and intentional sexual decision making. Classes will focus on college students' romantic and sexual relationships and will cover several topics, including: sexual decision making, committed and casual sexual relationships (hookups, friends with benefits, and booty calls), prophylactics and contraception, sexually transmitted infections, the process of sexual consent, the college drinking culture, and more. Teaching includes a variety of activities, discussions, videos/multimedia, and guest visitors with expertise on sexual health.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Olmstead's main area is on young adult romantic and sexual relationships. He teaches the Human Sexuality class and has published several articles in this area. He is devoted to promoting positive sexuality and responsible sexual and relationship decision making among young adults.

## Educational Psychology and Counseling

### Alcohol, Drugs, and the College Student

Jennifer Morrow | [jamorrow@utk.edu](mailto:jamorrow@utk.edu)  
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 6:30pm – 7:45pm  
CRN: 26158



**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.

### Groups: How and Where Do I Fit In?

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

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

CRN: 26172



**Course Description:** We all participate in and impact groups on a daily basis, whether our involvement is intentional or unintentional. In fact, you recently joined a fairly large group - you're a UT Volunteer now! If you are here, you have chosen to take this course, so you are now a group course member. Welcome! This course will introduce group dynamics and encourage you to consider these dynamics and your interactions as a group member within groups. Much of the course instruction will be experiential and we will engage in a number of group activities. Some aspects of group dynamics that will be covered include group stages, roles we take in group, leader qualities and styles, and effectively dealing with challenging group members.

**Professor Information:** Hi, I've been at UTK as a professor for 15 years now. At UTK I've taught undergraduate students, organized field experiences for human service students, coordinated our PhD program in Counselor Education and Supervision, and most recently serve as Associate Department Head and Director of Graduate Studies in our Educational Psychology and Counseling Department. I am fascinated by and enjoy "the power of groups" and the unique aspects that occur when we gather together as a collective. I have been teaching group counseling for master's students and advanced group counseling for doctoral students for years. It is my favorite course to teach. I promise you an interactive and experiential group class which will help you consider yourself, the influence you have on others in group, their influence on you, and how and where you belong in groups, especially here at UTK.

### Who Do You Think You Are?

Shawn Spurgeon | [sspurgeon@utk.edu](mailto:sspurgeon@utk.edu)

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

CRN: 26181



**Course Description:** This seminar is designed to give students an opportunity to understand how a genogram can be used to diagram familial relationships. The genogram is a tool used in the counseling profession to diagram relationship dynamics. Students will learn the basic concepts of using a genogram and then have an opportunity to explore and better understand the relationships that exist within their own family systems. They will also review

relevant family systems in the media and use the genogram technique to gain a better understanding of those relationships.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Shawn L. Spurgeon is an Associate Professor of Counselor Education at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, currently serving as Coordinator of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. He has published articles on African American male development and Professor Counselor identity development and has presented at several national and regional conferences on these subjects.

## Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies

### Kendrick Lamar, Urban Prophet?

Steven Waller | swaller2@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26111



**Course Description:** Kendrick Lamar is one of the most influential hip-hop artists of second decade of the 21st century. He has gained critical acclaim for his lyrics but also his social consciousness. This course will examine his development as a prolific lyricist, entertainer, cultural icon, and power broker. As a part of the course students will critique his music (past and current), discuss its cultural meaning and assess its social impact.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Steven Waller teaches in sport management program but also has taught several courses in the area of leisure studies. Dr. Waller also studies how popular cultural including hip-hop music influences lifestyles and sport. He recently taught a popular First Year Studies course entitled "Jay-Z: Life, Lyrics, & Legacy."

## Nutrition

### Diet and Body Health

Guoxun Chen | gchen6@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26174



**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.

### Fat Talks

Ling Zhao | lzha07@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26167



**Course Description:** Fat talks give introduction to the obesity problem the country is facing, its impact on health, the relationships of body fat and dietary fat (i.e., nutrition and obesity), and newly discovered brown fat in adult human. More importantly, we will discuss what the obesity research is about and how obesity research can lead to strategies for obesity treatment and prevention. Regardless whether you are interested in biomedical careers or not, you will find this topic relevant, informative, and interesting.

**Professor Information:** Dr. Ling Zhao received her Bachelor of Medicine (BM) with a specialty in Preventative Medicine from Beijing Medical University, and her PhD in Molecular and Biochemical Nutrition from University of California Berkeley. Dr. Zhao teaches nutrition courses to nutrition majors and graduate students. Her laboratory focuses on characterization molecular mechanisms underlying obesity and obesity associated insulin resistance and breast cancer and identification of dietary strategies to prevent obesity and obesity associated diseases.

## Theory and Practice in Teacher Education

### Global Warming: Data Versus the Media

Barry Golden| bwgolden@utk.edu

Meeting Time: Mondays/Wednesdays 9:05am – 9:55am

CRN: 26109



**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:** I am interested in researching how students best learn about climate change. I have been at UTK since 2011 and previously taught high school science in Florida.

### Race and Racism with Dave Chappelle

Judson Laughter| jud.laughter@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26164



**Course Description:** This seminar will help students develop a strong theoretical and historical understanding of race and racism in the United States through discussions centered around comedy sketches by Dave Chappelle. While often seen as controversial, Chappelle uses comedy to discuss important issues in a way that is more approachable than standard lectures or readings. Be warned, this course will broach uncomfortable topics but will strive to develop a safe space for those discussions.

**Professor Information:** Judson C. Laughter earned B.A.s in English and in French from Vanderbilt, then studied English Literature at Keble College of Oxford University. Upon returning to the United States, he taught English, language arts, and music at the middle and high school levels before returning to Vanderbilt's Peabody College to pursue his doctoral degree in Teaching and Learning. He earned his Ph.D. in 2009. Jud's research interests include multicultural teacher education and the preparation of pre-service teachers for the diverse classroom through dialogue and narrative. He teaches courses in middle grades English methods and action research. When not wearing his academic hat, Jud enjoys crossword puzzles, cycling, and traveling.

## Superheroes & US Society

Stergios Botzakis | sbotzaki@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26110



**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 Veterinary Medicine

### Biomedical and Diagnostic Sciences

## So You Want to be a Veterinarian?

Kim Newkirk | knewkirk@utk.edu

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

CRN: 26171



**Course Description:** This course is designed for students considering a career in veterinary medicine. Many different veterinary specialists will come talk about their specialties (surgery, cardiology etc). In many cases there will be demonstrations of commonly used veterinary techniques or observation of real-life cases. (This course will be held in the vet school, so plan extra time in your schedule to get there on time)

**Professor Information:** I am a veterinary pathologist (think CSI for animals). I interpret biopsies from animals and do autopsies on animals that die in the area. I also teach in various courses in the veterinary school curriculum. I started at UT in March 2007.

# Libraries

## Defining Success for Yourself: How to Win at Life

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

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

CRN: 26170



**Course Description:** This course will help participants to create a vision for their own life, develop the goals to make that vision become a reality and identify ways to articulate that vision to garner support from others. We will also discuss the role of failure in success. This is for those people who think that they could do more with themselves if only they knew where to start. This is a class will be active and engaging focused on student needs and development.

**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.

## OUT 2

Donna Braquet | [dbraquet@utk.edu](mailto:dbraquet@utk.edu)

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

CRN: 26682



**Course Description:** Identify along the LGBTQIA spectrum? Want to learn more about UT's and Knoxville's queer history? Sign up for "OUT 2" the spring session of OUT @ UT. A major portion of this class will be researching LGBTQIA history in the South and interviewing students, faculty, staff, alumni, and Knoxville community activists to capture our important history and experiences.

**Professor Information:** Donna wears many hats at UT. She is the Biology Librarian at Hodges Library and works the reference desk. She is also the director of the Pride Center and a special assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Diversity & Inclusion. She has a biology undergraduate degree and a masters in library and information science.