UNIV 0333. Contemplative Approaches to Living and Dying
One of the central components of a religious tradition are beliefs about the
meaning of human existence—a meaning that is constructed in relation to
the significance of one’s inevitable death, the nature of the afterlife, and
conceptions of salvation. These core beliefs also deeply inform the ethics,
rhythms, and contemplative practices of religious communities. Through an
investigation of four case studies, this course will explore how different
religious traditions orient human life in relationship to a meaningful death.
Particular emphasis will be placed on contemplative practices for skilful
living and dying and on relating to death through rituals.

UNIV 0400. Beyond Narnia: The Literature of C.S. Lewis
C.S. Lewis was one of the most widely read authors of the 20th Century,
yet much of his philosophical, theological and political theories are
unfamiliar. His fiction and philosophical writings will be explored to better
understand his perspective on modern humanity, the relationship of
man to family, the community and the state. C.S. Lewis had a very clear
philosophy on the importance of the individual and how he relates to
the larger social structures. Morality and the role of individuals as they
interface with others around them and their responsibility for working
with society both at community level and at the macro-state level will be
explored.

UNIV 0456. Stages of the Contemplative Path
One common metaphor for human life and self-transformation is the
journey or the path. Contemplative traditions have also employed this
image, offering both concise and expansive maps of the stages of practice
and anticipated end goals of the contemplative life. The study of path
structures allow us to carefully compare the relationship between specific
cognitive, affective, and somatic practices, their resultant states and traits
of human experience, and the meaning and value ascribed to them in
different historical and cultural contexts.

UNIV 0500. A Comparative Phenomenology of Mystical Experience
Mystical experience – personal engagement with an ultimate reality– is
found in virtually all cultures, in explicitly religious and deliberately secular
guises. It has received extraordinarily diverse appraisals: some have
acclaimed it “the only truth there is,” while others have been execrated for
asserting it. This course examines the nature of mystical experience and
the variety of its manifestations in and out of the world’s major religious
traditions. Students will read broadly in primary sources and engage two
contemporary theoretical questions: Is mystical experience conditioned by
exclusively socio-cultural factors? Is it possible to derive an ethic from
mystical experience? Enrollment limited to 16.

UNIV 0701. Fascism: 1933-Present
The resurgence of ethno-nationalist and populist movements has upended
the liberal democratic consensus of the past half century and elicited
comparisons to Weimar Germany. With the rise of a distinctly authoritarian
politics in Europe and America, many have questioned whether we are
witnessing a return of Fascism. As a political worldview believed to have
been defeated at the end of WWII, Fascism nevertheless continues to
represent the anxiety looming over the liberal political order. This class will
examine the intellectual history of Fascism as a politics of identity, from
interwar Europe to the present day and interrogate its meaning today.

UNIV 1001. The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Contested Narratives
We will compare the radically different narratives that Palestinians and
Israelis tell themselves and others about their struggle over Palestine/
Israel. Sources will include historical documents, memoirs, and accounts
of the conflict by Israeli and Palestinian historians. We will read works
of fiction and view films that present the story of the conflict from
different historical and cultural contexts. We will also be able to learn from
Israelis and Palestinians to transcend their conflicting narratives and attain mutual
understanding. All sources in English translation.

SPr UNIV1001 S01 24795 MWF 11:00-11:50(04) (D. Jacobson)
In this course, we will study narrative accounts of 20th-century American incidents in which racism led to the persecution of members of minority groups by means of lynchings, miscarriages of justice, or the placement of people in internment camps: the unjustly conducted trial and lynching of the Jewish factory manager Leo Frank accused of murdering a young girl in Georgia; the kidnapping and murder of African American adolescent Emmett Till in Mississippi; and the internment of Japanese descendants during World War II out of fear that they would aid America's enemies.

Immigrants own over a quarter of newly established businesses, despite accounting for less than 15 percent of the total U.S. population. 45 percent of immigrant business owners are women. These entrepreneurs have developed businesses in various industries including healthcare and medicine, biotech, hospitality, food services, garment and technology. Course traces U.S. history of 18th century immigrant entrepreneurs (Italians, Germans, ethnic and religious affiliated Jews) to more recent entrepreneurs from countries such as China, South Korea, Japan, Iran, Cuba. We examine today’s emerging immigrant entrepreneurs including Mexicans and Filipinos, and among the more recent immigrant groups, including Vietnamese, Cambodians, Ethiopians, Eritreans.

UNIV 1100. Imagining an Equitable University.
The course studies moments over the past half century in which the University was faced with a need to be more inclusive, with an emphasis on issues of race and gender. Our goal is to create an alternative history of Brown that enables new voices to evaluate how the process of governance has worked. Participation by President Simmons depends on her availability. Interested students should apply using the application found at http://www.brown.edu/administration/presidential_seminar/applications. Applications are due by April 30th.

UNIV 1110. The Theory and Teaching of Problem Solving.
What is a problem and how do you solve one? What relationship exists between problem-solving and teaching? This course is designed for STEM students who are teaching/will teach and are interested in improving their problem-solving and teaching. You will gain the skills that will aid you in your own learning, promote learning in others, improve communication and problem-solving capabilities, and prepare you to engage more deeply in diverse learning spaces. In the final weeks of the course you will apply concepts to a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning project that focuses on improving/examining problem-solving and/or teaching in your field. S/NC

UNIV 1111. Unmasked: Together We Gather.
This unique, not-for-credit course is a way to connect students and build community via intellectual discussion on a variety of relevant themes and contemporary ideas. We shall consider the following questions (among others): How has Covid-19 effected our sense of freedom? Is anger a prerequisite for social activism towards racial justice? What is political success in this extremely polarized moment? Is power always hierarchical? All Brown students may attend any number of the meetings. Each session will highlight a different theme (e.g. Freedom, Power, Love, Loneliness, Hope, Success, Rage, Death, etc.) and feature a brief reflection by the professor, a presentation by a group of students on a topic related to the theme, and a discussion for all participants.

Considers the ethical tradition in the sciences, and the ways in which ethical issues are engaged in science. Readings and case study examples are drawn from a range of fields, including engineering, chemistry, physics, astronomy and the biological sciences. The seminar has been designated with NSF funding, and is being co-taught at Brown University, Zhejiang University in China and the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay. The three sections of this seminar will meet together to share international perspectives several times during the semester. Enrollment limited to 25. Not open to freshmen.

UNIV 1207. Eco-Entrepreneurship.
Environmental, business, and social opportunities are often seen as being at odds. This course is a hands-on, interactive journey to explore bringing an impactful idea for an environmental product/service/solution into the world and designing a business plan to do so. You will identify an environmental area of opportunity, learn how to focus on the problem before the solution, identify the key stakeholders including your users/customers, and build a business model. You will look at the triple bottom line, and learn new tools, best practices, and frameworks to breathe life into your solution and make it viable. Instructions for submitting a personal statement before enrolling will be available in the syllabus.

UNIV 1400. The Cultural History of Disability Minorities in the United States.
Due to the efforts of people with disabilities to secure their civil rights, "disability" has begun to be perceived as a social identity and role rather than solely a medical condition. This course analyzes the cultural history of disability, giving attention to cross-cultural comparisons. Broad topics include: concepts of disability; disability and bioethics; images of disability in film, the media, art, and literature; and political movements of people with disabilities.

UNIV 1520. The Shaping of World Views.
To many students, an exclusive emphasis on specialized studies fragments the "world" in which they live. A widespread feeling of loss pervades the minds of students who often come to universities to learn right from wrong, to distinguish what is true from what is false, but who realize at the end of four years that they have deconstructed their freshman beliefs, values, and ideologies, but have created nothing to replace them. This course examines the diversity of worldviews both synchronically and diachronically and surveys various explanations for such diversity. Enrollment limited to 30. Conducted in English. Spr UNIV1520 501 25810 MWF 2:00-2:50(07) (O. Almeida)

UNIV 1700. Transformation of the Research University.
This seminar will focus on recent transformations of the academic, instructional and administrative character of the elite American research universities. Emphasis will be on selected pressure points (such as research funding, diversity, technology, market influence) that drive change and shape the future.

UNIV 1702. Discrimination and Public Policy.
This course examines structural discrimination and interpersonal discrimination as possible drivers of race, gender, and social class inequalities primarily within the U.S. but also in other parts of the world. Key questions involve: What is (and what is not) discrimination? How do social scientists measure discrimination? What do differing methods allow us (and not allow us) to say about the existence and mechanisms of discrimination? What are the consequences of discrimination? What are possible policy approaches to addressing discrimination?

This course is designed for master's students. This half-credit course provides an overview of a range of skills to prepare entering master's students for success in their academic program and in their career. The course engages faculty and staff from across the university, to both provide training in key skills and to give students connections to useful resources to support them throughout their program. Students will develop a foundation for professional career development and career searches, as well as becoming familiar with many of the resources available at Brown to support their professional development.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Helvetica was used instead of Arial.
The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.