

# CUST: CULTURAL STUDIES (UNDERGRADUATE)

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## CUST 1010 Humor in the Workplace (2 Credits)

Examine the nature of humor and the uses of humor as a communication strategy in the workplace, whether office, hospital, or home. Consider the psychological and physiological benefits of humor and learn effective strategies for incorporating humor into workplace settings. Examine culture and gender considerations as well as appropriate uses of humor in communication situations. Assignments include a humor journal and a plan of action to incorporate humor into a recurring workplace situation. This course was previously CUL-222342 Humor in the Workplace.

**Attributes:** Liberal

## CUST 1998 Individualized Studies in Cultural Studies (CUST) (1-8 Credits)

Students have the opportunity to develop individualized studies with their mentor in Cultural Studies (CUST). Please contact your mentor/advisor for more details.

## CUST 2030 Introduction to Critical Thinking (2 Credits)

Learn concepts basic to critical thinking (clear communication, persuasion, argument, fact and opinion, etc.) in a real-world, problem-solving context. This course was previously CUL-232312 Introduction to Critical Thinking. Students cannot take both CUST 2020 and CUST 2030. This course may be used to fulfill educational planning credit with mentor approval.

**Attributes:** Liberal

## CUST 2998 Individualized Studies in Cultural Studies (CUST) (1-8 Credits)

Students have the opportunity to develop individualized studies with their mentor in Cultural Studies (CUST). Please contact your mentor/advisor for more details.

## CUST 3015 Food & Drink in Cultural Context: Advanced (4 Credits)

Learn to consider food and/or drink as examples of cultural practice and cultural expression at an advanced level.

**Attributes:** Humanities Gen Ed, \*Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

## CUST 3021 Women and Humor (4 Credits)

What is women's humor? Why has humor by women been largely resisted or overlooked? This study will examine women's use of humor as a form of social protest. In particular, we will look at the movement away from domestic humor of 19th century writers toward the use of satire by writers of the interwar period to the return of domestic humor in the 1950s and the revisioning of female and feminist humor today. Students will gain knowledge of theories of humor and satire as well as an understanding of the changing role of women in America from the 1850s to the present.

**Attributes:** Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

## CUST 3051 Queer History and Theory (4 Credits)

This course is an advanced exploration of Queer History and Theory. Developed in response to historical and contemporary social structures and systems that have marginalized individuals and groups based on gender and sexuality, queer histories and theories interrogate gender and sexuality in connection with other axes of power, privilege, and oppression such as race and class, in the pursuit of social justice, including the imagining of possible futures. Focusing on queer knowledge production primarily in the United States, the course is organized around social structures and systems, and concepts centered in queer thought such as the state, colonialism, racism, empire and imperialism, militarism and security, science, law and policy, religion, family and kinship, capitalism, labor, language, the body, and media. Students should have previous experience with some gender and sexuality studies course such as Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies, Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Sex and Sexuality: Facts and Fictions, etc. Prerequisites: Students should have previous experience with some gender and sexuality studies course such as Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies, Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Sex and Sexuality: Facts and Fictions, etc. .

**Attributes:** \*Diversity Gen Ed, Liberal

## CUST 3060 Korean Popular Culture: Understanding the Hallyu Wave (4 Credits)

This course explores Korean popular culture, particularly music and television (K-pop and K-drama). The current global popularity of Korean media ("hallyu wave") is analyzed in historical and sociopolitical context. Topics of study include: the formation of national Korean popular culture under Japanese colonization, the impacts of U.S. imperialism on South Korea's entertainment industries, and the growth of K-pop following the 1997 IMF crisis. The course also explores how the genres of K-pop and K-drama are utilized to address contemporary Korean social issues.

**Attributes:** \*Diversity Gen Ed, \*Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

## CUST 3062 Jazz Age Literature Culture (4 Credits)

This course is an exploration of the literature and culture of America in the 1920s, and its relation to other manifestations of the material culture of the time, such as music, film, affluence and celebrity. By the end of the course, students should be more astute as readers, viewers and listeners, more proficient as writers and should have enhanced their insight into the ways in which the literature of the '20s was a product of the cultural, social and political context.

**Attributes:** Liberal

## CUST 3070 Deaf Studies: Advanced (4 Credits)

This is an in-depth study of the field of Deaf Studies that highlights cutting-edge concepts and theories at use in this field. The course will show how Deaf people and sign languages are integral aspects of human diversity and how societies have responded to this diversity across different social, temporal, and cultural moments and movements.

**Attributes:** Liberal

**CUST 3152 Queering American Culture (4 Credits)**

Examine recent and historical forms of cultural representation in the U.S. (e.g., plays, novels, movies, memoirs, television programming, comic strips, and/or other cultural texts) for what they say about LGBTQ+ lives in America. Questions that may be considered include: How have LGBTQ+ people historically been represented in American culture? How do LGBTQ+ people seek to represent themselves? How has LGBTQ+ activism sought to challenge systems and structures of oppression organized around gender, sexuality, race, class, and other aspects of social difference? What does it mean to “queer” American culture? This course was previously CUL-243204 Queering American Culture. Prerequisites: Introduction to LGBTQ+ Studies, Introduction, or general background knowledge of gay and lesbian history and culture. Cross-listed with GSST 3152.

**Attributes:** \*Diversity Gen Ed, \*Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 3167 African History & Culture (4 Credits)**

In this multidisciplinary approach to Africa's civilizations and cultures, students will gain knowledge of African history and its interactions with the Western world. Students will gain an understanding of structures, systems, and interrelationships between and across the nations of the continent through an exploration of the history of colonization and its impacts; different geographic regions of the continent; and a variety of literary and journalistic texts. Students also will explore such issues as sustainability and well-being by bringing in shared resources on such topical issues as disease prevention and spread, climate change, family and kinship networks, women and development, religion, and literature. Students engage in discussions, prepare case studies, and write short essays and a research paper, and prepare a visual presentation based on some aspect of their research. This course was previously HIS-243344 African History and Culture. Prerequisites: Introductory coursework in world history, advanced level research and writing skills. Cross-listed with HIST 3010.

**Attributes:** Other World Civilization Gn Ed, \*World Hist & Glb Awncs Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 3182 Exploring Place History: Advanced (4 Credits)**

This advanced level research course gives students an opportunity to propose and carry out a semester long, self-directed, in-depth research agenda. The focus of the research is on place as a community in a geographical location or physical environment. Students can explore the local history of the place where they live (or some other place of interest and research, among other things, a particular topic or period of local history by engaging with historical scholarship, consulting local archives and historical societies and/or interviewing community members who have witnessed local history. Students also will collaborate with others interested in history, the arts, and culture to learn concepts for thinking about place as process, a coming together of nature and culture, the local and global and of issues ranging from gender, class, ethnicity and the environment to modernization, conservation, and preservation. This course was previously HIS-244774 Exploring Place: History.

**Attributes:** Liberal

**CUST 3350 Modern China (4 Credits)**

This study explores the modernization of China's culture, social relations, economy and politics during the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Students may investigate topics such as the collapse of China's imperial order in the face of alien invasion and internal rebellions; political, cultural and economic revolutions inspired by Western models; the history and evolution of the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party since 1949; contemporary controversies regarding expanding democracy and human rights; etc. This course was previously HIS-243324. Prerequisites: Introductory level coursework in modern world history of Pacific Asia history is recommended. Cross-listed with HIST 3350.

**Attributes:** Other World Civilization Gn Ed, \*World Hist & Glb Awncs Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 3380 Nature in American History (4 Credits)**

This course explores the history of changing relationships between American culture and its environment, as that relationship has been manifest physically as well as conceptually. Students will gain familiarity with the main eras and episodes of American history as they relate to American culture's grounding in nature: the European encounter with a (supposedly) virgin wilderness; the rapid exploitation of resources that accompanied westward and industrial expansion; the closing of the frontier and the development of resource conservationism; continued industrialization of the nature-culture relationship through nearly a century of war; the modern tension between economics and a concern for ecological health and balance. This course was previously HIS-243544 Nature in American History. Cross-listed with HIST 3380.

**Attributes:** American History Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 3425 Sex and Sexuality: Facts and Fictions (4 Credits)**

Sex is a matter of intense interest, both personally and academically. This course is about sexuality and the way it has been represented, perceived, and experienced from the nineteenth century through to the present. Students will consider the ways that sexuality has been defined and how it defines categories of identity. Using history, literature, and theory, students will come to a clearer understanding of the ways that sexuality, as a category, has changed over time. Through readings and discussion, students will consider the cultural history of sexuality and its impact on the current sexual climate. A course in gender, sexuality, or psychology would be helpful but there are no specific prerequisite courses. This course was previously Sex and Sexuality in Western Civilization.

**Attributes:** Western Civilization Gen Ed, \*Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 3996 Special Topics in Cultural Studies (1-8 Credits)**

**Attributes:** Liberal

**CUST 3998 Individualized Studies in Cultural Studies (CUST) (1-8 Credits)**

Students have the opportunity to develop individualized studies with their mentor in Cultural Studies (CUST). Please contact your mentor/advisor for more details.

**CUST 4010 Exploring Place: Humanities (4 Credits)**

Learn about the culture of the place you live (or some other place of interest), whether you define that place as a neighborhood, a whole village or town or city, a geographical region, or a watershed. Note: this course overlaps with Exploring Place: Arts and Exploring Place: History. Students interested more in the artistic cultural aspects (including visual culture, say, or music) of place should take Exploring Place: Arts. No more than one of these three should be included in a degree program. This course was previously CUL-224764 Exploring Place: Humanities.

**Attributes:** Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 4020 Medical Humanities (4 Credits)**

This class—which should be of interest to Humanities students, but also to Pre-Med, Nursing, and Health Sciences students, as well as students in other health-related fields—will explore critically important questions about health, illness, and the practice of medicine. We will consider the ways that medical practitioners and patients tell their stories, and locate these in their social, cultural, and historical contexts. We will also consider the ethical questions to which these narratives lead.

**Attributes:** Humanities Gen Ed, \*Humanities Gen Ed, Liberal

**CUST 4996 Special Topics in CUST (1-8 Credits)**

The content of this course will vary by term and section. Students may repeat this course for credit as long as the topic differs. Please refer to the Term Guide for course topic offerings.

**Attributes:** Liberal

**CUST 4998 Individualized Studies in Cultural Studies (CUST) (1-8 Credits)**

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