Cal Allen & Adrienne Bloss, Behind the Veil: Islam Revealed

How much do you know about Islam? This course explores the world of Islam from its beginnings in seventh century Arabia to today's headlines. We will examine how Islam has inspired the everyday lives of Muslims living at different times and in different places, including America today. Topics will range from Islamic interpretations of ethics and governance to uniquely Islamic art forms such as calligraphy and miniature painting to Islamic influences on the development of western science and mathematics. Throughout we will look beyond the conflict, chaos, and war that come to Americans in the popular media to reveal the world of Islam.

Sarah Canfield Fuller, Hungry for Hope: Dystopian Literature and Social Activism

*The Hunger Games* (2008) is the most popular recent entry in a global tradition of futuristic novels where the protagonist must confront injustice in a society that has taken a frightening turn. Dystopian novels use their science fiction content to highlight problematic issues of class, race, gender, and politics in the real world, seeking to rouse readers to act in the present. They pose the questions: What went wrong here? What can we do to prevent it happening to us? This course will place Suzanne Collins' work in international context with other works—including *We* (Russia), *Battle Royale* (Japan), and *Parable of the Sower* (US)—that use science fiction to inspire social activism.
DeLyn Celec and Miles Davis, Speaking of Sex: Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation in Global Perspective

Ever wonder why a show like The Bachelor prevails on American television, a reality television show where the winner receives a rose and a marriage proposal? How is gender, sexual orientation, and American culture constructed and constrained in such a snapshot of "reality"? This course asks you to closely examine how you experience gender and sexuality in your everyday life and then challenges you to broaden that experience to exploring how cultures outside the U.S. construct gender identity and sexual orientation. Why are only some kinds of sex legitimated and institutionalized as the proper form of sexuality? Why are only some partnerships considered legitimate or normal? This course provides a framework for addressing questions such as these; together we will look globally to find answers, question those answers, and question our own perceptions of what is “normal.”

Rhonda Colby, Do All the Good You Can

People across the globe navigate their lives based on their principles and passions. Oaths, codes, and creeds are alive in many cultures. What’s yours? We’ll learn principles from the religious roots of Shenandoah University and contrast them with other principles and passions from around the globe. Enjoy the annual Unity Walk in DC, exploring cultural and religious diversity. Visit an Islamic Center, a Jewish synagogue and a Buddhist vihara. Experience sacred tastes and smells you’ve never encountered. Learn how to be confident in your own beliefs without dismissing or disrespecting those of others through interfaith dialogue. Along the way you will discover your own personal code and creed for the life you are forging.

Kelley Crowley, Put on Your Thinking Cap and Create without Pants: How to incorporate deep thinking and creativity into your everyday life.

This class explores how people, places and practices foster human creativity. What is creativity? How can I become more creative? How can we inspire others to greater creativity? What are creative practices around the world? To create without pants is to create without restraints and be creative any time, in any place and in any situation. No pants required. As a creative person you will apply your ideas to your own personal creative endeavors help other with being more creative and develop creative solutions for local, national and international problems. You will work on solutions in groups and as individuals as part of your creativity portfolio. Your portfolio can be used throughout your time at SU as an archive of your best work and ideas over the next four years.

Gina Daddario, Women’s Rights Gone Viral: Through an Online Lens

This course will examine contemporary women’s issues using internet sources such as YouTube, Facebook and twitter. We will consider what makes a video go viral and how activists are using social media to galvanize women around the globe. For example, it was a young woman in Egypt whose videotaped call to action helped attract large pro-democracy crowds to Cairo’s Tahrir Square. Students will work in teams to produce their own social media projects.

Tracy Fitzsimmons and Bethany Galipeau-Konate, Sex, Power and Poverty Among Global Youth

What are the joys and struggles of 12 to 22 year olds across the world? How different might your life be as an 18 year old if you had been born across town or across the globe? Over the course of the semester, we will study the issues of youth across varying cultural, political and economic contexts: Child soldiers in Africa. The anti-violence youth movement in Honduras. Sex-trafficking in India. Teens in the Latin American drug

Ginger Garver, Ghost Stories and Legends

How to stop a zombie? What is a pookah? What is the one way to escape a Cajun werewolf? The answers to these questions and more wisdom on the supernatural await you in the FYS adventure Going Global: Ghosts and Legends. Our class explores the lore of specific cultures as well as the universal themes that unite all cultures from Ireland to Mexico to Eastern Europe. It turns out we all have the same fears, hopes, and dreams. Listen to a real paranormal investigator. Record ghostly voices. Create a project on the Top Ten Haunted Locations.

RT Good and Terri Ward, Stop Thinking! Can we dare say that at a University?

Oprah does it! So did Albert Einstein! Hugh Jackman does it too! As does Sheryl Crow! Politicians do it (Bill and Hilary Clinton), Athletes did it (Phil Jackson & the Chicago Bulls), and Business leaders too (Steve Jobs)! Singers like Katy Perry, Moby, Tina Turner and Paul McCartney all do it! As do comedians Ellen DeGeneres and Jerry Seinfeld! And the list could go on! Think about any group of people you admire and among them will probably be people who meditate. In fact, possibly you do too! Whether you do or don’t, meditation – known in academia as contemplative learning – is a great way to find your center, open your perspective and cultivate a different way of learning about your world! Join Dr. RT Good for the First Year Seminar course, “Awakening Your Contemplative Mind – An Alternative Way of Knowing Your World,” in which you will be asked let go of your usual way of learning to allow for the training of attention and way of the heart. No matter your experience, all who have a sincere interest are welcome!

Paula Grajdeanu, The Universal Language of Numbers: Games, Puzzles & Beyond

Whether we go shopping, call a friend, build a house, search the internet or plan a vacation, we are using number-related principles to get things done. Often called the universal language of numbers, mathematics is everywhere, deeply affecting the way we live our daily lives. In this course, key mathematical concepts are explored, across times and across countries, through interactive games, puzzles or hands-on activities. While (re)discovering how much fun numbers can be, we will also develop an appreciation and understanding of how mathematical ideas are used to solve complex everyday life problems, turn ideas into reality and reshape the world around us.

T. Grant Lewis, Into the Wilderness: Exploring the Role of Wilderness in Cultural Rites of Passage

A rite of passage is a ritual event that marks a person's transition from one status to another, and are considered being associated with theories of socialization. These rites function by ritually marking the transition of someone to full group membership within a community setting. These rites also link individuals to the community, and in many cultures, the community to the broader and more potent spiritual world. Throughout centuries, people of many cultures have gone into the wilderness to mark life transitions and seek guidance. While the rites fall under a variety of terms, such as vision quests or walkabout, individuals are afforded an opportunity to find time alone, exposure to the elements in an unfamiliar place, a radical shift in self and world, a trial and a gift, and a ritual death and rebirth. This course will explore a variety of diverse cultures and how the essence of wilderness has been a milieu for these rites to occur in both ancient and modern times. Time will be spent in the field to directly experience and explore the essence of wilderness.
Geraldine Kiefer: World Views in Art: Beliefs, Art and Culture in Southeast Asia
This course will focus on the art, culture and history primarily of the Indian subcontinent, with units devoted to Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, court (Maharaja) and if time permits, contemporary art. Art forms to be studied include temples, paintings, decorative arts, costume and prints. Featured will be a Carnatic saxophone concert by Dr. Sumanth Swaminathan with mridangam and violin accompaniment. Beyond experiencing this music, in this class students will explore the history of arts associated with religion by doing one or more of the following: interactive installations, performances, dressing in costume, and creating works of two- and three-dimensional art. Possible field trips will include the Freer and Sackler galleries in Washington D.C., a Buddhist temple and the Durga Hindu temple in Fairfax. Richly textural, coloristic, and eye--popping, Indian art will forever change your opinions on what art is and how it can open new dimensions of spirit and life.

Karrin Lukacs, No Girls Allowed: A global look at equality in education
In October 2012, Malala Yousafzai was shot while on her way to school. Why? Because she was an outspoken advocate of education for girls, she became a target for the Taliban and others hoping to silence her influence. Since the attack, Malala has gone on to become “the most famous teenager in the world” and has even been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. In this FYS, we will learn more about Malala – and others like her – and then work to address the challenges faced by girls around the world.

Michael Maher, Appalachia to Tibet: Traditional Music and the Sense of Place
This course examines how traditional music defines a sense of place, home and belonging within a global community. Using music of Appalachia as a model, music of other cultures will be explored for their ability to define a sense of place.

Meredith Minister, Blood, Milk, Meat, and Wine: Exploring Religion and Food
Everyone eats but how, when, and what we eat are highly contested. From religious laws such as kosher and halal to ethical and health reasons for adopting a vegan or vegetarian diet, understandings of food vary across and within religious and cultural communities. Food choices, therefore, become a central way in which individuals and groups articulate their religious and moral identities. This course explores food rituals and laws in specific religious traditions such as Islam and Christianity as well as the ethics of food choices in both religious and secular contexts.

Diane Painter: Please Accept Me for Who I am: A Global Look at Disability
Students will gain a global awareness about what it means to have a disability in various cultures throughout the world and how different cultures and communities include persons with special needs. Students will examine their own cultural and social identities and understand how those identities shape personal beliefs and attitudes. They will engage in a service learning experience that supports personal engagement with people who have special learning and/or social challenges. Finally, they will articulate a personal philosophy of responsibility for promoting a more just and humane society within a sustainable global environment.

Bryan Pearce-Gonzales: Why Didn't the World End in 2012? Understanding the Ancient Maya
This course is designed as an exploration of some of the ancient civilizations of this American continent. Focusing primarily on the Maya people, the students will explore specific universal aspects of culture such as time, religion, family, and intellectual accomplishments. Through the study of these Mesoamerican peoples and their way of
life, students will articulate a deeper understanding of their “2012” prophecy and why the world did not come to an end.

**Naomi Pitcock and Brenda Johnston, What's the issue with a Little (Skin) Tissue? A Global look at Virginity, Breast Feeding, Circumcision and Other Stuff your Momma Didn't Know**

Certain male and female body tissues have come to represent our inner fabric, morals and values. Tissues that are rarely revealed or discussed hold mysteries that are seldom questioned yet it is commonly believed that these tissues can convey religious preferences, sexual histories, and beliefs regarding wholeness and nature. But can these mysterious structures really display so much information about our past and present lives? The tissues called in to question include specific female and male parts that are suspected of carrying significant weight in terms of one’s moral fiber. This course will utilize a global perspective to unravel, expose, and shatter the myths of the skin we’re in by addressing topics such as virginity, genital mutilation, breast feeding and global perspectives on masculinility.

**Laurel Rodgers and Beth Cantwell, Table Games of the World**

Throughout history, games have played a central role in all cultures. During this course students will explore table games developed by multiple cultures around the world throughout time. Students will discuss how current events influenced the types of games developed and played by people within different time periods and regions. We will explore (and play!) classic games such as Go, Mancala, Chess, Euchre, as well as modern games such as Agricola, Dominion, Clue, and the Game of Life. Students will have the opportunity to research games of interest and present their findings in written, oral, and multi media formats.

**Amy Sarch, Violence Against Women: A Global Perspective**

Domestic and sexual violence against women and girls —from physical abuse to forced marriages to female circumcision to sexual slavery — is shockingly common worldwide and accepted as “normal” within too many societies, including the United States. We will examine the global epidemic of violence against women and girls from the perspectives of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation other social marker’s that impact the manifestations of violence.

**Petra Schweitzer, Remnants of Genocide: Remembering and Preventing**

This course introduces students to a world of genocide and extermination in the Twentieth and Twenty-First-Century. Focusing on atrocities such as “The destruction of the European Jewry,” the Bosnian, Cambodian, Rwandan Genocide or the Genocide of Darfur, students engage in a comparative study within the framework of Crimes against Humanity. The course is divided in three parts: 1) Perpetration against male and female victims, 2) Remembering mass atrocities 3) Joint projects to raise awareness about the need to prevent genocide.

**John Winn: With Liberty and Justice for Most: Exploring the Law in the Age of Twitter**

This course examines differences and similarities between the laws and legal systems of different nations, cultures, and religions. More specifically, it involves study of the different legal systems currently in existence across the globe, including common law, civil law, Islamic law, Chinese law, Hindu law, Tribal and Polynesian (Mui) systems, as well as mixed regimes. The importance of comparative analysis of laws and underlying cultures (and politics) has increased enormously in an age of internationalism, economic globalization and democratization.