GRAND CHALLENGE LEARNING (GCL)

GCL Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/GCL)

Courses

GCL 101  Introduction to Energy Sources  credit: 3 Hours.
Explanation of energy technologies using an elementary approach presupposing no prior scientific or technical background. Coverage of all energy sources including fossil fueled, solar, hydro, and nuclear power. Integral demonstrations and a tour of the University's power plant. Discussion of energy related incidents with emphasis on environmental, economic, and social impact. Credit is not given for both GCL 101 and NPRE 101.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Nat Sci Tech - Phys Sciences
Quantitative Reasoning II

GCL 124  Sustainable Earth  credit: 3 Hours.
Provides an introduction to sustainability that explores how today's human societies can endure in the face of global change, ecosystem degradation, and limited resources. Emphasizes the fundamentals of the physical sciences and the scientific method while also exploring the special impact of sustainability challenges on minority cultures in the U.S.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Nat Sci Tech - Phys Sciences

GCL 125  Health and Wellness in Life Sciences  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Health & Wellness pathway. Introduces students to the fundamentals of life sciences with an emphasis on health & wellness and experiential learning through projects, design-based thinking, community-engaged scholarship, or field trips.
Topics vary by section.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Well
Nat Sci Tech - Life Sciences

GCL 126  Sustainability and Social Science  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Sustainability, Energy & the Environment pathway. Introduction to the fundamentals of social science with an emphasis on environmental sustainability and experiential learning through projects, design-based thinking, community-engaged scholarship, or field trips. Topics vary by section.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci

GCL 127  History and Philosophy of Sustainable Design  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Sustainability, Energy & the Environment pathway Introduction the history of sustainable design practices that prepares students to think about, act upon and share their growing knowledge Focuses on environmental philosophy, and "systems thinking", with an on active, engaged participation in a variety of learning activities, design challenges, and field experiences. Topics vary by section.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Humanities - Hist Phil

GCL 128  Sustainability in Fiction  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Sustainability, Energy & the Environment Pathway. Exploration of how narrative fiction focused on sustainability -- such as "cli-fi" (dystopian fiction about climate change) -- shapes our relation to the natural world. Includes experiential learning projects. Topics vary by section.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Humanities - Lit Arts

GCL 129  Sustainable Design  credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary Grand Challenge Learning pilot course in the Sustainability, Energy & the Environment pathway. Provides an introduction to sustainable art forms, media, and/or the social function of art as it relates to sustainability. Topics vary by section. Each section emphasizes experiential learning through design-based thinking and practice supplemented by field trips and community-engaged scholarship in comparative contexts.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - Non-West

GCL 137  Documenting Inequality  credit: 3 Hours.
Exploration of how economic and social inequality affects the lives of children and minorities in the U.S.--especially in minority communities--through the study of documentary film, photography and other kinds of socially conscious art. Students will watch and critique documentaries made by artists and filmmakers in the areas of Education, Housing, and Law Enforcement; go behind the scenes at the Krannert Art Museum to investigate the museum's documentary holdings; and make their own documentary projects. Final projects will be exhibited in the Krannert Art Museum at the end of the semester. Part of the Grand Challenge Learning Inequality & Cultural Understanding pathway.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - US Minority
GCL 143  Mapping Inequalities  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in Inequality & Cultural Understanding. Immerse students in the history of Inequality in the United States through mapping the geographic, historical, and/or social movement of minority cultures using quantitative and social science methods. Topics vary by section, but each section emphasizes experiential learning through community-engaged scholarship, field-trips, or computer programming projects. No previous computer programming experience is required. No previous computer programming experience is required. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Quantitative Reasoning II
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 144  Stereotypes, Prejudice & Discrimination  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in Inequality & Cultural Understanding provides an interdisciplinary introduction to questions related to societal inequality. Each section emphasizes experiential learning through, for example, field trips or hands-on, community-based research projects. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Beh Sci
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 145  Social Justice and the Arts  credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary Grand Challenge Learning course in the Inequality & Cultural Understanding pathway. Provides an introduction to the social dimensions of art and its use in social justice movements. Each section emphasizes experiential learning through projects, design-based thinking, community-engaged scholarship, or field trips. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Social Beh Sci - Beh Sci
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 146  Fundamental Causes of Disease: The HIV/AIDS Pandemic  credit: 3 Hours.
Examination of the HIV/AIDS pandemic globally and locally. Introduces students to the fundamentals of the socio-demographic tradition, including risk behaviors and contexts and data skills associated with epidemiology. Upon completing the course, students will be better informed about the HIV/AIDS pandemic, familiar with core social science theories, and able to develop and assess public health measures and models in addition to enhanced core academic skills (critical reading skills, note taking, data analysis, and writing). Prerequisite: This course is intended for first and second year students. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci

GCL 147  Social Justice in the Social Sciences  credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary Grand Challenge Learning course in the Inequality and Cultural Understanding Pathway. Exploration of causes and solutions to inequality from a variety of viewpoints, such as sociology, economics, political science, and journalism. Includes experiential learning projects. Topics vary by section. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 148  Historical Perspectives on Social Justice  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Inequality & Cultural Understanding pathway. Focuses on the historical dimensions of Inequality & Cultural Understanding from an interdisciplinary perspective and emphasizes experiential learning through projects, community-engaged scholarship, video conferences with experts and other collaborative classroom activities. Topics vary by section. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Humanities - Hist Phil

GCL 185  Health, Wellness, and the Black Experience  credit: 3 Hours.
Exploration of issues relating to health in African American communities such as environment, lifestyle, chronic disease, intervention, research, policy, social justice and cultural experience. Includes experiential learning projects as part of the Grand Challenge Learning Initiative. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Well
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 186  Health and Society  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in Health & Wellness. Engages the social dimensions of Health & Wellness from an interdisciplinary perspective and emphasizes experiential learning through projects, design-based thinking, community-engaged scholarship or field-trips. Topics vary by section. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Well
Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci

GCL 187  Morality, Methods, and Medicine: Formal and Philosophical Approaches to Health in Society  credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary, experiential Grand Challenge Learning course in Health & Wellness. Exploration of the ways methodological and moral principles interact to inform policy choices related to health and society; consideration of topics of ethical and public policy concern (e.g., abortion, animal experimentation, drug and trials, organ donation, vaccination, and provision of healthcare), with an emphasis on relevant formal, quantitative tools (e.g., probability, statistics, decision theory, modal logic, and graphical causal modeling). This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Well
Humanities - Hist Phil
Quantitative Reasoning II

GCL 188  Health and Wellness in Literature  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Health & Wellness pathway. Exploration of creative, literary responses to the issue of Health & Wellness from an interdisciplinary perspective with an emphasis on experiential learning. Topics vary by section. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Well
Humanities - Lit Arts
GCL 195  Fictions of Equality  credit: 3 Hours.
Grand Challenge Learning course in the Inequality & Cultural Understanding pathway. Introduces students to how fiction on the topic of inequality shapes social and cultural understanding of the topic. Topics vary by section but each emphasizes experiential learning through, for example, projects, community engaged scholarship, field trips, archival work, or experimental writing.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - Western

GCL 199 Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 3 Hours.
Topics course that varies each semester and by section. The topics offered each semester will be listed in the Class Schedule. May be repeated as topics vary.

GCL 200 Frameworks for Inequality  credit: 3 Hours.
Different disciplines approach issues of inequality in distinct ways. This course presents an interdisciplinary introduction to the study of social inequality. Co-taught by faculty from the arts, humanities, and social sciences, it addresses how inequality related to work, race and ethnicity, gender, urban space, incarceration, global debt and migration relate to one another and across disciplinary boundaries. Presentations by visiting activists will expose students to contemporary social justice efforts to address inequalities. Meets twice per week: on Tuesdays all students meet together, and on Thursdays the class breaks into small seminars, each led by one of the course's main instructors. Credit is not given for both GCL 200 and GCL 201.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 201 Frameworks for Inequality & Cultural Understanding - ACP  credit: 3 Hours.
Frameworks for Inequality & Cultural Understanding introduces students to one of the most urgent social issues of our era: economic and racial inequality. As an innovative course in Grand Challenge Learning, GCL 201 gathers expert faculty from across campus—all renowned for excellent teaching and research. Students will explore inequality across the arts, natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences while earning General Education credit in US Minority Cultures and Humanities & the Arts. GCL 201 meets twice per week: on Tuesday for a lecture that gathers all students and faculty, and Thursdays in seminars of up to 20 students. Through this unique structure, students benefit from the expertise of seven different faculty while joining a seminar with one professor and a small network of peers. Registration for GCL 201 includes the lecture as well as enrollment in one of the participating professor's seminars (for a total of 3 credit hours). Credit is not given for both GCL 201 and GCL 200.
Prerequisite: Completion of campus Composition I requirement.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Advanced Composition
Grand Challenge-Inequality
Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - US Minority

GCL 210 Frameworks for Sustainability, Energy, & the Environment  credit: 3 Hours.
Different disciplines approach issues of sustainability in different ways. This course presents an interdisciplinary introduction to the study of sustainability, energy and the environment. Co-taught by faculty from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, business, and engineering, it addresses how environmental and energy sustainability challenges are not only technical problems but are also social, political and economic ones. Students will be able to evaluate various problems and solutions to enhance energy and environmental sustainability. Meets twice per week: first for a lecture that includes all students and faculty, and next in individual faculty-led seminars. Through this structure, students benefit from the expertise of multiple faculty while participating in a seminar with one professor and a small network of peers. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Sustainability
Humanities -Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - Western

GCL 220 Frameworks for Health & Wellness: Building Healthy Communities  credit: 3 Hours.
Different disciplines approach issues of health and wellness in distinct ways. This class gathers faculty from the life sciences, humanities, and social sciences to help students build a deep understanding of distinct approaches to health that connect with particular lifestyles, families, cultures, and communities. Students will be able to evaluate goals and strategies to enhance health and wellness. Meets twice per week: first for a lecture that includes all students and faculty, and next in individual faculty-led seminars. Through this structure, students benefit from the expertise of multiple faculty while participating in a seminar with one professor and a small network of peers. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Grand Challenge-Health/Wellness
Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - Western

GCL 299 Interdisciplinary Research Experience  credit: 3 Hours.
Introduces students to interdisciplinary research and the skills needed to become an effective researcher. Enables students to conduct authentic research in one of the campus's interdisciplinary research centers under the supervision and mentorship of faculty. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in separate terms up to 6 credit hours if topics vary.
Prerequisite: Registration by permission of instructor.