

UNHP 1100 HONORS FORUM TOPICS, SPRING 2020

FROM CUNEIFORM TO CYBERPUNK: THE HISTORY OF INFORMATION IN HUMAN CULTURE

Wednesday, 10:20-11:15 am, (Section 301, CRN 11900)

Dr. Michael Harris, University Libraries

If we are living through the “Information Age,” it begs the question: what is information? As humanity has transformed from an “analog” to “digital” based information culture, how often have we stopped to consider what is arguably this transformative aspect of our society? As college students, you are asked to become literate consumers of information, yet are mostly taught about the current state of information resources. However, to become truly literate consumers, one must understand information’s history and modes of transmission. In this class, we will consider the history of writing and printing; books and computers; wax cylinders and CDs—information in all its forms and formats. Additionally, students will participate in workshop on basic bookbinding as well as an introduction to the library’s creator space--*the sandbox*—along with visits to museums and other repositories of information’s long history.

BEING A FAN OF DISNEY

Monday, 11:30 am-12:25 pm, (Section 302, CRN 11902)

Dr. Cody Havard, Sport & Leisure Commerce

In this forum, we will discuss what it means to be a fan of the Walt Disney brand. Discussions will focus on the history, technology, and innovation of Walt Disney and the Walt Disney Organization, and how the global brand fits into contemporary society.

WOMEN IN SCIENCE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, 2:40-3:35 (Section 303, CRN 25119)

Dr. Emily Puckett, Biological Sciences

We will explore the lives of multiple female scientists through both (auto)biographies and short readings or videos. The goal is to understand how the scientific enterprise has and has not allowed women to participate through the late 1800s to present. We will discuss challenges that women faced but also how these iconoclasts persevered and the specific discoveries they made to diverse scientific fields.

THE CASE AGAINST SUGAR

Tuesday, 2:40 -3:35 pm, (Section 304, CRN 26519)

Dr. Jeffrey Berman, Psychology

This course uses the book by Gary Taubes, *The Case Against Sugar*, as a means of exploring the social context of scientific knowledge and its interplay with medicine, public health policy, political pressures, and commercial interests. In addition to reading and discussing the book, students will read critical reaction to it and the author’s responses. Emphasis is placed on viewing the account of research on sugar as an example of potential social pressures and biases that can occur in any area of scientific inquiry.