SPRING 2013 SLU INQUIRY COURSES

The SLU Inquiry courses program is composed of small inquiry courses that are aimed at freshman and sophomore students and offer interactive learning experiences. The primary goal of the program is the continuous improvement of the quality of the academic experience for beginning undergraduate students.

EAS 130-01 (26224) Seismology of Nuclear Explosions - This inquiry-based course will emphasize the scientific questions involved in the detection of underground nuclear explosions using seismology. Many other related issues will also be raised and discussed, e.g. the interplay of science and public policy, how political decisions are made, the ratification of Test Ban Treaties, and the difference between explosions and earthquakes.

EAS 134-01 (25213) Is Earth Unique?
To engage students in the debate over whether Earth may be the only habitable planet in the local galaxy (or even the known universe). In doing so, we will focus on what is known about the evolution of Earth and the presence of life, and what conditions may be necessary for intelligent life to develop. Questions will range from practical issues to the theological question of whether religious concepts are transportable to other (unknown) forms of life.

EAS 138-01 (27718) Missouri Climate
This course is an in-depth look into the physical processes which affect the climate of Missouri. Students working in teams will use actual observations to examine the possible relationships between climate phenomena (i.e. El Nino, La Nina, Pacific Decadal Oscillation, teleconnections, and global warming) and the weather patterns over Missouri.

ECON 190-03, 06 (25176, 25178) Principles of Economics
Analysis of how individuals, firms and nations make choices given limited resources. Determinants of decision making in market economies. The political economy of income, employment, and inflation in the aggregate. The role of government and the Federal Reserve. Math 120 highly recommended.

ENGL 260-01 (20559) Introduction to Short Fiction
Introduces students to theoretical and methodological approaches to short fiction including major terms, methods, and concepts.

HIST 111-02 (20153) Origins of the Modern World to 1500
An historical approach to understanding the development of the modern world to 1500. The course will examine ancient civilizations, the Hebrews, Greece, Rome, Christianity, Islam, Byzantium, the Middle Ages, The Renaissance, and encounters between cultures and regions of the globe.

HIST 112-04 (20158) Origins of the Modern World, 1500 to Present
An historical approach to understanding the development of the modern world from 1500
to the present. The course will examine the cross-cultural impact of European expansion, the Protestant and Catholic Reformations, the Scientific Revolution, absolutism, the Enlightenment, the French and Industrial Revolutions, nineteenth and twentieth century thought the World Wars, totalitarian and liberation movements, and the challenges of the new global age.

MATH 124-01 (20825) Mathematics and the Art of M.C. Escher
In this course we will do projects and in-class explorations to understand the mathematics behind M.C. Escher's artwork. We will study the tessellations (also known as tilings) made by Escher. We will develop the necessary geometry to create our own tessellations. We will see how the themes of infinity and non-Euclidean geometry are connected to Escher's work. We'll also see how the fourth dimension influenced Escher, Picasso, and surrealist artists. Further explorations may include the Celtic knot work, perspective in art, spirals and fractals in art.

MATH 125-01 (21094) Math Thinking in the Real World
In this course we will study some of the great ideas of mathematics: infinity, the fourth dimension, prime numbers and chaos. We explore these topics in a variety of ways, sometimes using puzzles to motivate us, and sometimes solving puzzles using the mathematics we study. A variety of often surprising applications arise along the way. The course will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and let you see, in a highly interactive classroom, some fun mathematics that is usually hidden from view in lower division courses.

MATH 126-01 (21095) Statistics Including Sports and Politics
This course will familiarize the student with basic ideas of statistics. These ideas will be introduced and discussed using current events and areas of interest to the students in the class. The course dynamics will include in-class group work and student-faculty interaction. The goals is for a student to be informed about how to analyze and evaluate the large amounts of statistical information encountered on television and in newspapers and magazines.

SOC 120-06 (24024) Introduction to Anthropology
This course examines the human experience from an anthropological perspective by taking an integrated approach. Various subfields of anthropology are explored including: cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, archaeology and linguistics.

SPAN 115-03 (21029) Communication in Spanish II
Continuation of SPAN 110. This courses prepares the student to function in simple situations related to personal interest and daily life. SLU Inquiry sections are taught by full-time faculty who coordinate the courses. These sections are technologically enhanced to facilitate communication beyond the classroom between faculty and students and among students.

SPAN 210-03 (21133) Intermediate Spanish
Continued practice in speaking, emphasis on functional skills. Readings in and discussion
of Spanish culture. SLU Inquiry sections are taught by full-time faculty who coordinate the courses. These sections are technologically enhanced to facilitate communication beyond the classroom between faculty and students and among students.

SPAN 310-01 (21145) Written Communication
The course is primarily concerned with intensive practice reading and writing Spanish. Based on reading and analysis of authentic language samples, students will progress from paragraph to essay writing. Students will also practice applying internalized syntactic structures to new situations and strive to refine communicative strategies for accurate expression of ideas. The course seeks to improve students' self-monitoring skills: writing, revising, and rewriting. Course content emphasizes history and culture(s) of the Spanish-speaking world.

SPAN 315-01 (21150) Oral Communication
Development of fluent oral expression through communicative activities stressing listening comprehension, structural accuracy, and a systematic approach to vocabulary expansion. It is recommended that students take Span 310 concurrently. The course includes communal linguistic and cultural activities outside of class.