

ARTS & SCIENCES - GENERAL (A&S)

Courses

A&S 100 Methodologies In Liberal Arts & Sciences: Theories & Application Credits: 3

This three hour course is designed for freshmen and transfer students, to be taken during their first semester of study at UMKC. The curriculum provides students an introduction to the major disciplines and methodologies of the liberal arts and sciences (the humanities, social sciences, and sciences), including sessions on choosing majors and careers. Additional emphases will include learning to use the library, writing and computational skills, oral presentations, cultural diversity, stress management, and study strategies.

A&S 115 Career Possibilities Credit: 1

This course introduces career development as a complex process of self-assessment and decision-making. Students analyze their personal interests motivation, conduct self-assessment, identify their personal values, and discuss ethical considerations as they relate to possible career choices. Visiting professionals will provide insight into career options as students explore possible career paths.

A&S 210 Cross-Cultural Interaction: Experience and Understanding Credits: 3

This course focuses on the social and cultural context of interactional patterns. U.S. and international students are paired in academic activities to encourage mutual understanding and self-awareness. They will draw on a variety of resources and learning modalities to examine aspects of their own and one another's societies, cultures, religions, and family relations. Making use of intercultural theories, students will reflect upon and explore cultural myths and stereotypes and develop a general understanding of cultural similarities and differences.

A&S 215 Career Explorations Credit: 1

The primary focus of this course is to complete an in-depth self-assessment and the generation of personalized list of career paths. Personal values will inform these possibilities, which are then explored through job shadowing, informational interviews, visiting lecturers, and independent career research. Ethical considerations of chosen career paths are explored. Students reflect on the professional experiences of others and relate them to their own personal values.

Prerequisites: A&S 115.

A&S 310 Cross-Cultural Interaction II: Social Relations Credits: 3

This course will match international students with U.S. students to prepare them to interact more effectively in multilingual and/or intercultural settings. Students learn through readings on cultural theory and cultural relations, in-class small group activities, discussions and lectures, how issues of identity, such as age, sexual orientation, and ethnicity; impact cross-cultural interaction. Papers written for this course will help students integrate theory with previous experience, leading to an understanding of oppression in cross-cultural interaction.

Prerequisites: A&S 210.

A&S 315 Career Methods Credit: 1

In this course students begin to map out the realization of their career paths. They analyze their career choices, how these choices inform their life plans, articulate the ethical and moral requirements of these careers, and understand how their personal values and strengths match these requirements. Independent career research and entry preparation along with job shadowing, informational interviews, mock interviews, and other preparations required for the selected career choices are included in this class.

Prerequisites: A&S 215.

A&S 350 Special Topics Credits: 1-4

An undergraduate course designed to deal with a topic which is not available in the regular course offerings.

A&S 400 Special Readings/Topics Credits: 1-6

A&S 415 The Aging Body: Causes and Consequences Credits: 3

This course will explore biological changes that occur with aging. Plasticity, frailty, stress, coping, and chronic illness will be viewed through the bio-psycho-social lens. Biomedical discoveries and implications for the future of aging will be discussed.

A&S 490 Special Topics Credits: 1-3

Intensive reading and/or research in an area selected by the student in consultation with the instructor. By permission only.

A&S 492 Field Practicum In Aging Credits: 3-8

Students spend 180-480 contact hours in a field placement with supervision in a community agency or organization which services or advocates for older persons, and keep a journal documenting and reflecting on the practicum activities and experiences particularly as they relate to gerontological theory and research.