



List updated 6/22/2022

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFO ABOUT HONOR SEMINARS

Seminars are restricted to students currently enrolled in the College Honors Program through College of Letters and Science, or students in the College of Creative Studies.

Honor Seminars (INT 84's) are **two-unit** courses that provide an opportunity for research exploration in various disciplines and consider advanced studies beyond college. Honor seminars are for **First and Second-year students**. To earn honors credit, seminars must be completed with a **letter grade** of B or higher. **Eligible students may take 8 units maximum of INT 84 seminars.**

- **NO ADD CODES** will be given out for Honors Seminars. Please **DO NOT** email the instructor asking for one. Except for INT 84AH, this is by instructor approval with Professor Bibilashivili.
- **INT 84 Honors Seminars are lower-division and designed with First and Second-year students in mind. If you are a First or Second-year students in the Letters & Science Honors Program but have "Senior" standing due to units, you may request an exception to bypass this "Senior" unit restriction by emailing me at kvonderlieth@ucsb.edu *If you email me for a bypass - Please include your PERM & which "3" INT 84's you would like to bypass the unit restriction. Once a student receives the bypass, you must still enroll through GOLD during your active pass time, space remaining. A bypass does not override the unit cap in a given pass time of 10 units during Pass1.**
- **If you are in your Third or Fourth-year, you are NOT eligible to bypass the Senior unit standing restriction. No exceptions. Please read our website about the other opportunities to gain honor experiences. Like honor contracts, auto courses, etc.**

***Please note if your class is not a 10-week course the add/drop deadline may be earlier.**

FALL 2022 Honors Seminars

INT 84AD - "Human Rights Advocacy"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** FRIT
- **Instructor:** Claudio Fogu

- **Instructor Email:** claudiofogu@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 2:00-3:50 in Phelps 5316
- **Enroll Code:** 56028

Course Description: This seminar is designed for students who are interested in merging ethical-political activism with knowledge-building practices. In collaboration with the organization Scholars at Risk (SAR) students will work as the case-responsible entity for a scholar who is being persecuted for his/her ideas and freedom of expression in a foreign country. Students enrolled are expected to improve skills in preparing reports, developing blogs, creating video and multimedia presentations, working with NGOs and government officials, and generating public awareness and interest.

Bio: Claudio Fogu is Professor of Italian Studies at UCSB. He has published widely on various fields of interest, ranging from the philosophy of history and memory studies, to the cultural history of Italian modernism and fascism. From the intersection of these various lines of interests have emerged his first monograph *The Historic Imaginary. Politics of History in Fascist Italy* (University of Toronto Press, 2003), and three co-edited volumes: *The Politics of Memory in Postwar Europe* (Duke UP, 2006), *Metahistory's Fortieth Anniversary (Storia e Storiografia)*, (2015), and *Probing the Ethics of Holocaust Culture* (Harvard UP, 2016). More recently, Fogu has turned his scholarly attention to develop a Mediterranean approach to Italian history which has resulted in his latest monograph, *The Fishing Net and the Spider Web. Mediterranean Imaginaries and the Making of Italians* (2020).

INT 84AH - "INT 84AH: Special Relativity for Pedestrians "

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Physics
- **Instructor:** Tengiz Bibilashvili
- **Instructor Email:** tbib@physics.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday 5:00-6:50 in PHELP 1440 ***Open to Physics, Math, Statistics, Chemistry and COE students. If you are not interested in one of these majors and still have interest in the class, please email Professor B.**
- **Enroll Code:** 56176

Course Description: The goal of the seminar is to teach Special Relativity (SR) using Einstein Notation (EN). The class is designed for enthusiastic students with no or little background in SR. Prerequisite Physics 8, or Physics 21, or at least concurrent enrollment in Physics 21. First we will see how EN is used in non-relativistic physics. Then we will learn SR using EN. At the end we will explore how relativistic kinematics is used in High Energy Experiments (HEX) in colliders (like LHC). Good grasp of EN will prepare students to better understand General Covariance of Physics laws like Maxwell's equations in Electromagnetism.

Bio: Dr. B aka Tengiz Bibilashvili earned his Ph. D. at Tbilisi State University. His Ph. D. thesis was about Non-equilibrium Quantum Field Diagrammatic. Later he focused on teaching physics and he prepared several Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal winners at the International Physics Olympiads based on physics problem solving.

INT 84BC - "Yoga: Theory, Culture & Practice"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Black Studies
- **Instructor:** Roberto Strongman
- **Instructor Email:** rstrongman@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Monday 2:00-3:50 in ARTS 1349
- **Enroll Code:** 27516

Course Description: Yoga is a Sanskrit term that can be best translated as "Integration." The course aims to develop an integral understanding of the history of yogic knowledges with roots in South Asia, creolization with XIX Century European body culture during the era of British imperialism, and a capitalist and often culturally-appropriative global spread in the late XX Century and beyond. This historical and philosophical material will be "yoked" (a cognate of "yoga") with a physical asana practice: the class will be organized in weekly two-hour sessions, with the first hour devoted to lecture, presentation, discussion and journal writing and the second hour to a physical postural and breathing practice thematically wedded to the readings. As such, the deeper, even metaphysical, goal of the course will be to bring "union" to the budding scholar, fomenting a balanced, equanimous and holistic body-mind.

Bio: Ph.D. Literature (UCSD 2003). I am a scholar of embodiment, specializing in trance states. My latest book "Queering Black Atlantic Religions" (Duke UP, 2019) speaks to my interest in fomenting an awareness of the unity within the body-mind construct, the goal of "yoga." In addition to my academic credentials, I am also certified as a massage therapist by the state of California and as a yoga instructor at the 500-hour level (the highest recognizable credential in the field).

In addition to my academic credentials, I am also certified as a massage therapist by the state of California and as a yoga instructor at the 500-hour level (the highest recognizable credential in the field).

INT 84CE - "Clown Business"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Theater & Dance
- **Instructor:** Daniel Stein
- **Instructor Email:** daniel_stein@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Thursday 2:00-3:50 in TD-W 1507
- **Enroll Code:** 27557

Course Description: This course explores finding the personal freedom and confidence to speak your mind from your authentic self. You will use clown, theatre, and your imagination to engage and enchant your audience, whether of one or one hundred.

Your curiosity is the only prerequisite for this course.

This is a safe nonjudgmental space where you will get to play with your imagination to build confidence and poise in interacting with others. The pleasure of stretching is not limited to your muscles, you can also stretch your mind and imagination.

Each of you has been working your entire life to become what you are today. Freedom to be who you are comes from within. This class aims to empower you to allow yourself to own your freedom by practicing seeing further than your assumptions and clearer than your fear. Everyone makes assumptions and everyone experiences fear. What we can do is train ourselves to use them as a springboard to go beyond them.

There is a reason people go to see theater and plays. PLAY (P – Practice, L – Laughing, A – At, Y – Yourself) is not only one of the roots of joy it can also be the foundation of discovery.

Bio: Daniel Stein – Senior Lecturer - SOE-AY

Teaches Movement for the Actor and Devising Original Work Theatre & Dance Dept.

Curator of the ANNUAL PARTICLE COLLIDER FESTIVAL

After studying in the Professional Actors Training Program at Carnegie-Mellon University, notably with Jewel Walker, Daniel went to Paris, France to study with Etienne Decroux, becoming M. Decroux’s frequent translator. Subsequently making his home in Paris for 20 years, Daniel started his professional career as an actor with the French National Theatre. His solo performances have toured in more than 30 countries, as well as in theatres such as the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center here in the United States. He has taught master classes throughout the world at institutions such as Juilliard School of Drama and The Shanghai Theatre Academy. Daniel has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the United States/Japan Commission, the Pew Charitable Trust, and is a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow.

Summers have seen him in Seoul, S. Korea devising original work with 18 Korean actors from “Flying Off the Cliff” Theatre Co. as well as teaching Generating New Performance Material and Creativity to students at Embodied Poetics, London, England. <https://www.embodiedpoetics.org>

Prior to finding his artistic home here at UCSB he spent seven years at Brown University as Head of Movement and Physical Theatre for their MFA Professional Actor Training Program and before that over a decade at Dell’Arte International School of Physical Theatre in Blue Lake, CA. serving as School Director and core instructor. He is thrilled to be part of this wonderful UCSB BFA Theatre program.

For more information visit PoeticDynamics.com

INT 84CS - “The World’s Worst Poetry”

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Comparative Literature
- **Instructor:** Thomas Mazanec
- **Instructor Email:** mazanec@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Thursday 2:00-3:50 in HSSB 4202
- **Enroll Code:** 56010

Course Description: In this course, students will read a selection of poems that have, at various times and places, been considered “the worst.” In so doing, we will explore the grounds on which negative literary judgments are made, and how these standards shift as the social, historical, and political forces that shape them change. Primary readings of “bad” poetry and judgments on them from many literary traditions will be available in English translation, accompanied by secondary readings that introduce major trends in literary theory. For the final project, students will write the worst poem they can imagine, accompanied by a critical essay explaining why it should be considered bad. These poems will be read aloud in a bad poetry slam open to the public.

Bio: Thomas Mazanec is assistant professor of East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at UCSB. He regularly teaches classes on translation, Chinese literature, Classical Chinese language, and Buddhism. He is the author of many scholarly articles on Chinese poetry, and his book *Poet-Monks: The Invention of Buddhist Poetry in Late Medieval China* is forthcoming from Cornell University Press. Among other projects, he is currently co-editing *The Worst Chinese Poetry: A Critical Anthology* with colleagues Xiaorong Li and Hangping Xu.

INT 84CT - "Chronic Pain: Theory and Recovery Techniques"

- **Seminar Type:** Honors
- **Department:** Physics
- **Instructor:** Paul Hansma
- **Instructor Email:** phansma@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Wednesday - 4:00-5:50 in GIRV 2110
- **Enroll Code:** 56069

Course Description: Chronic pain and pain-related disability in the United States costs \$560-\$650 billion dollars, far exceeding the costs of cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes. Fortunately there have been recent research breakthroughs in understanding Chronic Pain through fMRI, functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging, and Quantitative Electroencephalogram (EEG) Source Localization. These breakthroughs have stimulated new, effective approaches for reducing or eliminating chronic pain based on retraining the brain.

A group here at UCSB consisting of Professors Paul Hansma, Linda Petzold, Michael Miller, and Chancellor Yang and their students has been working to develop gadgets to help in retraining the brain. They have had good success so far, not only in helping students and others retrain their brains to reduce or eliminate chronic pain, but also in developing new biofeedback devices to help. The devices help people learn how to get out of sympathetic nervous system activation (fight or flight). This helps them break the fear-pain cycle that stabilizes and increases chronic pain.

This seminar will begin with background information on the subject from published articles and other sources. This background information will be discussed in the seminar. These discussions will lead to new lines of investigation to understand chronic pain. This seminar will then involve students in this ongoing effort to not only understand chronic pain, but to use that understanding in helping people reduce or eliminate chronic pain. Opportunities will include, according to the student's abilities: research into the fast moving field of effective strategies, working to evolve more effective ways to use our prototype devices, working with subjects to help them understand how to use the devices, developing software that is more effective for retraining the brain, developing protocols that motivate people to use the devices, developing new devices, and, hopefully, new directions that cannot be anticipated.

Bio: Paul Hansma, PhD, is a physicist at the University of California, Santa Barbara and a researcher in the Neuroscience Research Institute. His inventions include Atomic Force Microscopes that function with samples in air or fluid, which have been commercialized by Digital Instruments (now Bruker) and Asylum Research (now part of Oxford Instruments), the Scanning Ion Conductance Microscope, and Bone Diagnostic Instruments including the Osteoprobe® commercialized by Active Life Scientific. It had been used on over 3,000 patients by 2015. The OsteoProbe® obtained European regulatory approval, is now CE Marked, has been used on over 3,000 patients. The FDA approved it in 2021 and it is now being used by local physicians. His current research focus is on devices to quantify and reduce chronic pain as a part of a brain retraining program that includes education and activities. He has over 350 publications, with over 50,000 citations and an H factor of 113.

INT 84CU - "Science Behind Wall Street and the Insurance Industry"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Statistics and Applied Probability
- **Instructor:** Hal Pedersen
- **Instructor Email:** hpedersen@pstat.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Monday 12:00-1:50 in Sobel Seminar Room - SH 5607F
- **Enroll Code:** 56101

Course Description: We will discuss the science and mathematics behind careers in Wall Street and insurance (actuaries and underwriters). What do these people do, why is it exciting, how is it beneficial to society and what should you study if you want to pursue that career? We will discuss the basic principles and how the mathematics applied. Limitations of the science will also be addressed and we will look at some major failures where major losses occurred.

Bio: Hal W. Pedersen, ASA, MAAA, PhD is one of the world's leading experts on economic scenario generation with more than 20 years academic and industry experience. He is a senior lecturer at the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) where he also serves as director of the actuarial program. Prior to joining UCSB he was a Managing Director with Conning where he led the development of Conning's economic scenario generator and its application to investment risk management. He served as L.A.H. Warren professor of actuarial science at the University of Manitoba from 2003 through 2011 and he was a member of the actuarial faculty at Georgia State University from 1996 through 2001. He is past chair of the Investment Section Council of the Society of Actuaries, current co vice-chair of the Education and Research Section Council of the Society of Actuaries, and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries Economic Scenario Work Group (ESWG).

INT 84CV - "What is life?"

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- **Instructor:** Luc Jaeger
- **Instructor Email:** jaeger@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Tuesday & Thursday 9:00-9:50 in PSBN 4606
- **Enroll Code:** 70631

Course Description: This Honors Seminar is essentially intended to provide a deeper understanding of Life and its origin from scientific, philosophical and Judeo-Christian religious perspectives. Rather than opposing science and religion, this class aims at reconciling these two visions of the world, which both originate from a common quest for truth. Implications for the future of science and civilization will be discussed.

Bio: Dr. Jaeger joined the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department in 2002. He has been full professor since 2012. His highly interdisciplinary research encompasses fields as diverse as RNA biochemistry and biophysics, nucleic acid nanotechnology, astrobiology, synthetic biology and nanomedicine. He is also interested in the dialogue between science and religion. This honors seminar is essentially based on the research he carried out when a fellow scholar at the Notre Dame Institute for Advance study at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, in 2017-2018.

INT 84ZB - “Causes and Consequences of Sea-Level Rise: A Geologic Perspective”

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Earth Science
- **Instructor:** Alex Simms
- **Instructor Email:** asimms@geol.ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Thursday 4:00-4:50 in HSSB 2202 ***with overnight camping trip**
- **Enroll Code:** 27573

Course Description: During this course we will discuss the causes of sea-level rise at several different time scales and its influence on the natural and geologic system. It will include an overnight fieldtrip

Bio: Prof. Simms grew up in Oklahoma and started studying coasts in graduate school at Rice University in Houston, Texas. He has reconstructed past sea levels across four continents including locations within the USA, Antarctica, South Korea, and Scotland.

INT 84ZW - “Climate Changes: insights from the past”

- **Seminar Type:** *Honors*
- **Department:** Earth Science Department
- **Instructor:** Syee Weldeab
- **Instructor Email:** sweldeab@ucsb.edu
- **Day - Time - Room:** Friday 2:00-3:50 in in GIRV 1108
- **Enroll Code:** 56002

Course Description: The focus of this seminar is to show and discuss the manifestation of ongoing climate changes in various parts of Eco-system. The seminar highlights the magnitude and difference of air and ocean warming of in different parts of the globe, sea level rise and ocean acidification, and the impacts of these change on habitats. The Seminar informs how our understanding of past climate changes improve and refine the impact and feedback mechanism of current and future climate changes.

Bio: <https://weldeab.geol.ucsb.edu/>