

# INTERNATIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY COURSES

SPRING 2025

## GENERAL SEMINARS



University Housing  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

### IS 110-001 CULTURAL EXPRESSION IN THE ARAB WORLD: FOLKTALES AND POETRY



A brief introduction to the Arab World & the twenty-two countries that are members of the “League of the Arab Countries”, then goes on to two aspects: folktales and poetry. There will be a brief introduction and examples from a number of countries to each topic. Following each introduction, students will present on the topic from the different regions and countries of the Arab World.

M. MUSTAFA. TUE 5:30-6:20PM. CONOVER HOUSE DEN (110 CONOVER KRONSHAGE).  
TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

### IS 110-002 HOPE AND COMPASSION IN THE NORDIC CONTEXT



More precisely, Hope and Compassion through Nordic Performance. Performance here is broadly defined. We will look at gender performance, the performance of history, political performance, or theatrical performance, just to name a few. We will be looking at several of these and how they are expressed in the Nordic countries, how the Nordic countries are similar, but definitely not the same, and how they compare to performing these genre in the United States.

S. MELLOR. TUE 4-4:50PM. 1312 VAN HISE. TAUGHT IN ENGLISH.



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## IS 110-003 CHOCOLATE AROUND THE WORLD



Can a foodstuff give us hope? How compassionate are the practices used to produce, distribute, and market food in this country and others? Explore these questions with the help of your tastebuds as we learn about globally-sourced chocolates available in the U.S. Repeats fall seminar of the same title; students should not take it twice in the same year.

C. D'ETCHEVERRY. FRI 3-3:50PM. SHOWERMAN HOUSE DEN (101 SHOWERMAN KRONSHAGE). TAUGHT IN ENGLISH.

## IS 110-004 A MINDFUL EXPLORATION OF CHINA: CULTIVATE CULTURAL HUMILITY, AWARENESS, AND COMPETENCE



In a world with diverse languages and cultures, it is critical to form relationships with other people with an attitude of respect, the intention of honoring their values and practices, and a willingness to learn. This course invites students to cultivate this critical ability, through cross-cultural discussions on selected topics of China, mindfulness practices, and an ongoing process of self-exploration and self-reflection. Students will gain a deeper understanding of China, of themselves, and an appreciation and respect for the multifaceted components of each individual.

T. ZHANG. WED 5:30-6:20PM. ROSE TAYLOR ROOM (202 SHOWERMAN KRONSHAGE). TAUGHT IN ENGLISH.

NOTE: MANDARIN CHINESE SPEAKERS WELCOMED, ACCOMMODATED IN BREAK-OUT GROUPS.



## IS 110-006 HARRY POTTER AND (GLOBAL) CULTURE



In this class, we will use the Harry Potter series as a vehicle to gain a better cultural understanding of ourselves and others. J.K. Rowling was a student of languages and together we will satisfy our curiosity regarding the many clues embedded in names and spells throughout the text. We will explore what the Wizarding World has to tell us about our own customs and cultures.

**S. BRANTLY MON 5:30-6:20 PM. BRADLEY SOCIAL BASEMENT. TAUGHT IN ENGLISH. NOTE: THIS SEMINAR IS CO-HOSTED BY BRADLEY LEARNING COMMUNITY.**

## IS 110-007 HOPE AS RESISTANCE IN THE THIRD REICH



German resistance following Hitler's rise to power in 1933 took on many forms. In this seminar we will explore the ways in which individuals and groups resisted the Nazi regime (1933-1945) with hopes of ending this fascist dictatorship. Various resistance groups comprised of men and women of every possible origin. We will spend a good portion of the seminar viewing film excerpts and examining authentic documents from the Gedenkstätte Deutscher Widerstand (German Resistance Memorial Center).

**J. LARSON-GUENETTE. THU 6-6:50PM. 818 VAN HISE. GERMAN SPEAKERS WELCOMED, ACCOMMODATED IN BREAK-OUT GROUPS.**





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## LANGUAGE COMMUNITY SEMINARS

### IS 210-002 "NIHON" AND ME



Each individual's journey towards Japanese learning is distinct. What is your reason for being interested in learning Japanese? How has learning Japanese changed your life? Which Japanese culture in particular do you tend toward?

Y. SHIMIZU. THU 2-2:50PM. SHOWERMAN HOUSE DEN (101 SHOWERMAN KRONSHAGE). TAUGHT IN MIX OF JAPANESE AND ENGLISH.

### IS 210-003 KOREAN IN LAKESHORE



Students are invited to continue honing their Korean language skills and cultural awareness through discussions based on authentic materials, including short films, short stories, and current events in Korea. This seminar invites students to experience Korean language and culture through various mediums each week.

S. GAGNON. MON 4-4:50PM. SHOWERMAN HOUSE DEN (101 SHOWERMAN KRONSHAGE). TAUGHT IN MIX OF KOREAN AND ENGLISH.

### IS 210-004 HOPE & IMAGINED FUTURES IN STORIES OF (IM)MIGRATION II



Continued exploration of how Spanish-speaking (im)migrants to the U.S. imagine futures for themselves, their families, and communities through storytelling of various sorts. Our exploration will be based in historical and contemporary accounts (in video, audio and/or written form) of (im)migration to and settlement in the Upper Midwestern U.S.

C. STAFFORD. TUE 4-4:50PM. ROSE TAYLOR ROOM (202 SHOWERMAN KRONSHAGE). TAUGHT IN SPANISH.



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## IS 210-005 HOPE IN RUSSIAN CINEMA



We will watch and discuss Soviet and Russian films that address the themes of hope and compassion from various points of view: race and ethnicity, disability, 'otherness', war.

K. EVANS-ROMAINE. TUE 4-4:50PM. 1334 VAN HISE. TAUGHT IN RUSSIAN.

Note: There are no language community seminars (IS 210) for students from the Chinese and German Language Communities. Please see the list of General Seminars for the related offerings, where you can practice your language skills in break-out groups.

Thank you for your interest in taking one of our seminar classes. If you have any questions regarding these seminar courses, or if you require accommodations, please contact Leo Schauer (Program Manager of the International Learning Community) at [leo.schauer@wisc.edu](mailto:leo.schauer@wisc.edu). Alternatively, you may call him at (608) 890-3964. At UW-Madison, we value inclusion and access for all students.

