How do people make sense of themselves, their experience and their place in the world of others? What new insights can we gain on those identities and meanings through the disciplinary methods of history, the sciences, the arts or the humanities? How are those concepts influenced by values and contexts — such as family, region, religion, class, race or gender — that we inherit from our culture?

In this introductory course for the Graduate Liberal Studies program, we will read an interdisciplinary range of historical and contemporary texts in order to discuss aspects of the modern self. Our focus for the Spring 2014 version of the Self in the World is the experience of embodiment: How does the fact of being bodily creatures affect our sense of ourselves and our understanding of the world? Issues we address may include sensation; perception; cognition; the relationship between soul, mind and brain; medicine; bodily abilities, limitations, adaptations and transformations; development, aging and death; sexuality; gender; race and ethnicity.

Our ultimate goal is to explore how scholars think, read and write, with particular attention to: 1) the critical analysis so vital to graduate level work; and 2) the reading and writing skills necessary for interdisciplinary study.

Course Requirements (details posted on the Sakai course site under Assignments)

- Seminar participation will form a significant part of the grade. This includes keeping up with readings, maintaining good communication, and regular active participation both in our classroom discussions and in our online forum discussions on Sakai.

- Two short papers (2 pages; 3 pages)

- Proposal for your research paper

- Annotated bibliography relevant to your research paper and containing a minimum of six scholarly sources.

- Research paper (10-15 pages). Your paper grade will also take into account your oral presentation at the end of semester.

Grade Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short papers</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper (incl. proposal &amp; oral presentation)</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated bibliography</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Required Reading

I. Books you need to obtain


II. Films to view (on reserve at Lilly Library)


III. Readings available on the course Sakai site


## Schedule in Brief

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>Poe (optional reading)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>Shelley; IDS Intro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Porter, Hawkes; IDS Thinking Critically</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>Shakespeare, Sennett; IDS Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>Haddon, Happé; IDS Reading &amp; Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 6</td>
<td><strong>Library Research Session (023 Bostock)</strong>; Graff &amp; Birkenstein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Paper Two due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>District Nine, de Vignemont; IDS Reading &amp; Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Feb 20</td>
<td><em>Faculty Guest Deby Gold</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleiren &amp; vanZoelen, Haddow; IDS Writing Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td><strong>Library Research Session (023 Bostock)</strong>; Proposal Workshop – draft proposals due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 6</td>
<td>Edson; IDS Sentences &amp; Paragraphs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 13</td>
<td>[No Class]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 20</td>
<td><em>Faculty Guest Donna Zapf</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capek, Hutcheon, Segal; IDS Sentences &amp; Paragraphs</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mar 26</td>
<td>Annotated Bib due</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mar 27</td>
<td>Student presentations; IDS Sentences &amp; Paragraphs</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>Student presentations; IDS Argument &amp; Rhetoric</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 10</td>
<td>Student presentations; Course wrap up and evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Final Research Paper due</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Detailed Course Schedule

I. Historical Perspectives

Week 0 (optional pre-course reading)

Reading

Week 1 (Jan 9) “My Own Spirit Let Loose From the Grave”: The Anxieties of Embodiment

Readings
- Mary Shelley. Frankenstein, plus introduction and 2-3 essays of your choice from the Norton Critical Edition. (fiction)

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
- Intro: The Scholarly Worldview

Week 2 (Jan 16) Mind, Body and Soul: Shifting Understandings of Bodily Existence

Readings
- Gail Hawkes. Sex & Pleasure in Western Culture, Chapter 4. “Sex, the Body and Desire in the Premodern Period.” (sociology) [Sakai]

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
- Thinking Critically

Paper One (Close Reading)
Due in Dropbox Noon
Wednesday, Jan 22
Week 3 (Jan 23) Excision and Exclusion: Divisions of the Flesh and the Body Politic

Readings

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
- Scholarly Writing I: The Essay

II. Embodiment, Consciousness and Transformation

Week 4 (Jan 30) The Embodied Mind: Brains, Cognition and Selfhood

Readings
- Francesca Happé, “Parts and Wholes, Meaning and Minds: Central Coherence and Its Relation to Theory of Mind” (2000) (cognitive sciences/psychiatry) [Sakai]

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
- Reading Like a Scholar

Week 5 (Feb 6)

Library Research Session I -- with Greta Boers and Carson Holloway (meet in 023 Bostock)

Reading
- Graff and Birkenstein. *They Say I Say: the Moves That Matter in Academic Writing*

Paper Two (Short Paper)
Due in Dropbox Noon
Wednesday, Feb 12

Week 6 (Feb 13) Self/Other/Thing: Embodiment, Transformation and Identity

Viewing/Reading
- Neill Blomkamp, *District Nine*. (film) [on reserve at Lilly Library; class screening TBA]
- Frédérique de Vignemont, “Embodiment, Ownership and Disownership” (2011) (cognitive sciences/philosophy) [Sakai]

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
- Reading Like a Scholar
III. The Limitations of the Body

Week 7  (Feb 20)  Death, Embodiment & Organ Donation

  *Faculty Guest: Dr. Debby Gold, Psychology & Sociology*

Readings:
  - Cleiren & vanZoelen, "Post-Mortem Organ Donation and Grief: A Study of Consent, Refusal and Well-Being in Bereavement." (social sciences) [Sakai]
  - Gillian Haddow, "Death, Embodiment & Organ Transplant." (social sciences) [Sakai]

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
  - Scholarly Writing I: The Writing Process

  Research Paper Proposal  
  Due Feb 27:  
  bring 6 copies for class.

Week 8  (Feb 27)

  Library Research Session II -- with Greta Boers and Carson Holloway (meet in 023 Bostock)

  Paper proposal workshop

Week 9  (Mar 6)  Memento Mori: Facing the Failure of the Flesh

  Reading
  - Margaret Edson.  *Wit.* (drama)

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
  - Scholarly Writing II: Sentences and Paragraphs

---/--------/--------/---------- (no class March 13: Spring Break) --------/--------/--------/---
Week 10 (Mar 20) Performing Immortality: Leos Janacek’s The Makropulos Case

Faculty Guest: Dr. Donna Zapf, Musicology

Readings
• Karel Capek. The Makropulos Secret. (drama)
• Linda & Michael Hutcheon. Opera: The Art of Dying excerpt. [Sakai]
• David Segal. “This Man Is Not a Cyborg Yet.” [Sakai]

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
• Scholarly Writing II: Sentences and Paragraphs

V. Student presentations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Annotated Bibliography</th>
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<tr>
<td>Due in Dropbox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon Wednesday, Mar 26</td>
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Week 11 (Mar 27)

Student presentations

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
• Scholarly Writing II: Sentences and Paragraphs

Week 12 (Apr 3)

Student presentations

The Interdisciplinary Scholar [Sakai]
• Scholarly Writing II: Argumentation and Rhetoric

Week 13 (Apr 10)

Student presentations

Course wrap up and evaluation

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Final Research Paper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due in Dropbox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon Thursday, Apr 17</td>
</tr>
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