

# **Creative Minds RAP Course Information Booklet Fall 2023**

**Course Information Organized Alphabetically  
by Course Categories**



University of Colorado  
Boulder



## ART COURSES

**ARTS 1171 - 282R - Photography for Non-Majors - 3 credits**

Taught by Elaine DiFalco

TuTh 9:30-12:00pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

### **Instructor Description**

This course aims to immerse you in the compelling, eclectic, and creative world of photography. During the course of this term, you will learn about the elements that create a well-composed photograph, the terms and tools used in photographic image creation, and techniques and tips to improve your photography. We will also explore the history of photography, the contributions and work of famous photographers, and the ways to critique works of photographic art.

### **About the Instructor**

American singer, composer, and multi-instrumentalist Elaine di Falco has spent much of her music-making career in the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain West, but many of her collaborations have involved musicians residing in Britain, Switzerland, or Italy. Di Falco got her start playing with Phoenix, Arizona punk bands during the 1980s. In Boulder, Colorado, she began collaborating with Hamster Theatre mastermind and Thinking Plague bassist Dave Willey. Entering the orbit of an inimitable community of Rocky Mountain avant-proggers, di Falco replaced vocalist Deborah Perry during Thinking Plague's spring 2008 European mini-tour of France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and Portugal. She moved at least temporarily back to Oregon to attend Western Oregon University through a music composition scholarship. In the late 2000s and into the 21st century she continued making notable contributions to a variety of recordings, however, rather than vanish even momentarily into the world of academia. Several years later di Falco moved to Denton, Texas to pursue graduate studies at the University of North Texas College of Music. She continued her connection with the Colorado rock scene, however, appearing on 2017's *Hoping Against Hope*, the seventh album by Thinking Plague and now is back at the University of Colorado's teaching for Creative Minds RAP.



## **ARTS 1212 - 280R- Painting for Non-Majors - 3 credits**

Taught by Tyler Alpern

MoWe 1:00-3:30pm

### **Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

#### **Instructor Description**

Ideal class for both accomplished artists and complete novices. Explore color, innovation and self expression in this introduction to the field of painting in contemporary art studio practice. A combination of technical work and creative projects will allow students to find their own artistic voice and original style and effectively express themselves in a visual manner. Students will gain valuable academic and life skills through exposure to the creative process, organized design methodology, idea production strategies, discipline, risk taking and coping with frustration and failure. Regular attendance is required.

#### **Student Testimonials**

“Like most people our age, I was so adamant that I sucked at art. I couldn’t draw, much less add color and paint. However I’ve seen so much improvement in my abilities just this year. With your creative inspiration and technique, I saw myself create things I was so proud of.”

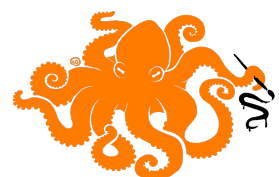
“I had a lot of fun in this class. Tyler was very engaging and made sure everyone participated. He was always there for everyone when needed advice or criticism. The class was overall amazing and taught super well. I loved my experience in the class.”

“The class always had a very supportive environment where everyone's work and opinion was valued.”

“Thank you for being excited about painting and bringing energy to every class. I am very thankful I was able to share this class and painting experience with you and some other classmates. I was able to expand my creative brain and express myself.”

“You encouraged me to be creative and fostered my self confidence. Presenting my art to others and having them love it too felt so good, and it felt even better to have a trained eye look and give praise. Your honesty and support has made me not only a better artist, but a better person and student.”

"I really appreciate all you've done for me this year and the vast amount you've taught me, so thank you for being my professor this year!"



**LIBB 2510 – 281R - Investigating Art, Culture and Visual Literacy through  
Drawing - 3 credits**

Taught by Tyler Alpern

MoWe 3:35-4:50pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Elective**

**Instructor Description**

Express yourself and make your mark! Learn to draw or draw better and be inspired by and be able to deconstruct and analyze images that bombard us on social media, in advertising, and from diverse sources such as street art and tattoos. Dive into the creative process and challenge yourself to develop ideas and strive for excellence no matter what your major or career choice. Risk taking, coping with and overcoming frustration, learning from failure, and creative problem solving are skills that will help you become more innovative, flexible, marketable and adaptable to navigate inevitable change and career challenges.

**Student testimonials**

“Tyler was very engaging and he truly wanted to help students and push them to be their best. Going into this class I wasn't sure if my art skills were good enough to be successful in this class, but Tyler did an outstanding job of helping every student, no matter what level of art they were capable of, do their best, push them to strive for better, and help them see their potential.”

“I really enjoyed this class. I learned so much about drawing and pushing my limits. You are a great teacher and I like how you structured the class.”

“Tyler Alpern was an amazing professor. His passion for art was made clear during my time in his class, and this enthusiasm spread to every student in the room. He always came to class eager to teach us about his passion.”

“Professor Alpern was one of the most inspiring people I have ever met. He gave so much passion and value to his class and lectures. I loved having this class in person and being able to grow my understanding of the world through art. I would take this course again because I truly enjoyed it !”



## **LIBB 2500 – 280R Special Topics: Digital Media Art – 3 credits**

Taught by Elaine DiFalco

TuTh 3:30-6:00pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Elective**

### **Course Description**

This class explores the vast interpretations of digital art through creative projects, discussions, and virtual field trips. By learning to use different design software students will create everything from short films to digital illustrations, and web designs to immersive installations. Together we will explore the role digital art has in the media we consume through tv, film, social media, and more, as well as our place within the digital art landscape. Explore the fundamentals of design and digital media through a highly interactive and creation- based class.

### **About the Instructor**

American singer, composer, and multi-instrumentalist Elaine di Falco has spent much of her music-making career in the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain West, but many of her collaborations have involved musicians residing in Britain, Switzerland, or Italy. Di Falco got her start playing with Phoenix, Arizona punk bands during the 1980s. In Boulder, Colorado, she began collaborating with Hamster Theatre mastermind and Thinking Plague bassist Dave Willey. Entering the orbit of an inimitable community of Rocky Mountain avant-proggers, di Falco replaced vocalist Deborah Perry during Thinking Plague's spring 2008 European mini-tour of France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and Portugal. She moved at least temporarily back to Oregon to attend Western Oregon University through a music composition scholarship. In the late 2000s and into the 21st century she continued making notable contributions to a variety of recordings, however, rather than vanish even momentarily into the world of academia. Several years later di Falco moved to Denton, Texas to pursue graduate studies at the University of North Texas College of Music. She continued her connection with the Colorado rock scene, however, appearing on 2017's *Hoping Against Hope*, the seventh album by Thinking Plague and now is back at the University of Colorado's teaching for Creative Minds RAP.



## CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES COURSES

**LIBB 1600 – 280R Gender and Film – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Karen Auvinen

TuTh 3:30-4:45pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**  
**Arts & Sciences General Education: Diversity-U.S. Perspective**  
**Arts & Hum: Arts & Expression**

### **Instructor Description**

This course examines depictions of femininity, masculinity, sexuality, class, ethnicity and race on film. We begin by exploring the formulaic Hollywood film and its massive influence by first looking at the kinds of stereotypes it circulates about specific people and/or groups, and then by examining films that shatter these stereotypes and seek authentic expressions of identity, human diversity, and experience. Students will learn the ways in which film influences our perceptions about each other and will expand the range of each student's understanding of the experience of individuals and groups who have been marginalized in society.

### **Student Testimonials**

"Being in such a close environment with a small amount of students, made me comfortable speaking in class and in getting to know you. Karen is accepting, funny, kind, and encouraged us to work hard. Learning about how films can shape our social environment has helped me in recognizing these themes and will be useful in my future academic career."

"I enjoy having weekly film and reading assignments. The pace at which we have been taught in class is neither too slow nor too fast. I like how you give us the content that will be on our exams ahead of time so we can prepare as much as we can to succeed in your class."

"I really really love this teacher. I can tell she cares so much about this class and her students. She makes class easy to follow and keeps it interesting. I enjoy the way she teaches and how comfortable she can make the room. I am never afraid to speak out in class or that my opinion may be wrong."



**LIBB 2510 – 280R Special Topics Gangsters in American Cinema – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Tiel Lundy

TuTh 2:00-3:15pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Elective**

**Instructor Description**

Born out of twentieth-century industrialization, the gangster film genre is at once about the possibilities and liabilities, the promises and perils of American social mobility. It is a genre with clear ties to history. Indeed, the genre is not only an account of urban American crime, law and order, but is as well a history of Hollywood itself, from the days preceding the Production Code, to its enforcement, and finally its abandonment. Since the gangster film emerged in the 1930s, it has maintained remarkable popularity, evolving as a ritualistic expression and working out of each generation's ideological conflicts.

**Student Testimonials**

"I learned so much about the history of American immigration and its relationship to gangster films!"

"Dr. Lundy makes me feel like my voice matters. She really listens to students."



## **LIBB 2800 – 280R Horror Films in American Culture – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Tiel Lundy

TuTh 11:00-12:15pm

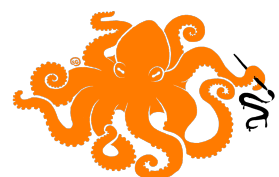
**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

### **Instructor Description**

This course will look at classic and popular American horror films in an historical context in which we will examine the how horror films represent our culture's "collective fears." This course will also provide an analysis of the horror film genre. We will attempt to identify the defining features of the genre and account for the enduring appeal of horror films. We will also consider the contexts in which films are made and consider the reception of horror, studying the marketing of classic horror, the critical reception of the genre and tracing horror's relationship to both 'low-culture' and avant-garde cinema.

### **About the Instructor**

Tiel Lundy (Ph.D. English – University of Denver, 2007) is a Associate Teaching Professor jointly appointed in the Department of Cinema Studies and Moving Image Arts and the Libby Residential Academic Program. Her research and teaching interests traverse literature, film, and material culture. She has written on Jane Campion's 1996 adaptation of Henry James's *The Portrait of A Lady* (1881) as well as William Wyler's 1949 production *The Heiress*, adapted from James's *Washington Square* (1880). More recently, she published an essay on choreographer Busby Berkeley's *Gold Digger* films (2015), and in 2017 she presented her paper "Bosom Buddies: Hollywood and The Lingerie Industry, 1930 – 1949) at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference.





## **HUMN 2100 – Arts, Culture and Media: Pop Culture – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Karen Auvinen

TuTh 12:30-1:45pm

### **Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

#### **Instructor Description:**

Culture and Art are BIG terms most often used to indicate something that is great, lasting, and monolithic. In this course, we'll deconstruct this idea by focusing on the division between so-called high- and low-art and culture through an exploration of Popular Culture.

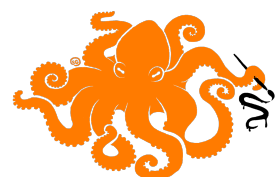
From pop stars to cult movies and superheroes to social media, we'll examine pop culture as an accessible, democratic force in the world. Along the way, our fundamental question will be how do we understand who we are as individuals and as Americans, and how are our values shaped as a result of our interaction with popular culture forms (images, comic books, films, video, TV, social media, etc.)?

#### **Student Testimonials**

"This has been my favorite class I have taken at CU and Karen is an amazing teacher."

"I really enjoyed this class and learned about a lot of new aspects on subjects I have heard of but never went in depth talking about."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed this class and learning from Karen. She structures the class in an efficient way that allows for students to be engaged and reflect on what they are learning, while also incorporating other activities. I always feel very prepared for our exams and she gives specific feedback that helps us improve for the next time. She is a very caring person that has demonstrated lots of empathy for us as students and is someone who I look up to as a role model because she is such a great teacher and person. I have truly learned a lot from this class and enjoyed my experience."



## **MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE COURSES**

### **DNCE 2501 -280R – African Dance - 2 credits**

Taught by Maputo Mensah

Tu/Th 3:45-5:15pm

### **DNCE 2501 -281R – African Dance - 2 credits**

Taught by Maputo Mensah

Tu/Th 2:00-3:30pm

Taught in CARL E012

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

### **Instructor Description**

In this experience and dance-based course, we look at how African dance and music teaches us not only to move, but about life, such as issues of femininity and masculinity, race, and ethnicity. African dance gives you ways to express yourself and it heals you! Also it gives you strength, happiness and the joy. In it, we learn to care for one another as family, to step out of our comfort zones and become better people and eventually, global citizens.

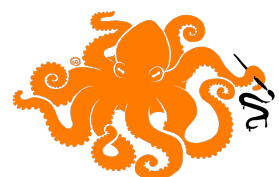
### **Student Testimonials**

“It is a joy to move to live music.”

“This class changed my outlook on life.”

“I was fascinated to watch how simple gestures meant different ideas and concepts to different people. We all come from different walks of life, and our experiences shape us into the people that we are. That being said, when a group of people, such as our class, come together to communicate similar ideas to reach a common goal, making sure everyone is understanding what is being communicated is key.”

“I am happy that I came away from this class with a change that I did not expect to happen: I made friends outside my major.”



## **MUEL 2852-280R – Music in the Rock Era - 3 credits**

Taught by Dr. Michael Barnett

MoWeFr 2:30-3:20pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

### **Instructor Description**

We will trace the development of rock as an art form as well as its cultural significance and saturation. We will consider technological advances, commercialism, record production, rock videos, concerts and festivals, and so on. We will also explore the influence that popular music, as well as other forms of popular culture, exert on various aspects of society such as social justice, human rights and individual liberties. These topics will be approached primarily from musical and cultural standpoints but also from philosophical, sociological, psychological and political standpoints. Additionally, you will be instructed on how to listen more effectively to gain a deeper appreciation for the music we will be studying and enjoying.

### **Student testimonials:**

"I truly felt the passion in Professor Barnett's voice. You could tell he had devoted his life to music and inspiring others with it. I was always intrigued in class and tried never to miss a day since everything he had to say was interesting! I truly enjoyed being in class with him and hope everyone else gets to experience it!"

"Great class. I appreciate your personal perspectives as they differ from the professors in the other disciplines I study at CU."

"Easily one of my favorite classes I have ever taken at CU. The teacher is extremely knowledgeable on the topic, in addition to including his own personal anecdotes, making the lectures very enjoyable to listen to. He supplements so many classes with real videos from rock and roll history. I have learned so much from this class. I never miss a lecture. Awesome class, I would absolutely take more like it! "



## **THTR 1003 – 280R – Acting 1: Introductory Skills - 3 credits**

Taught by Jacob Dresch

Tu/Th 12:00-1:50pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

### **Course Description**

Introductory course designed to explore creativity, collaboration, and communication in the craft of acting. Focuses on basic terms and concepts of psychological realism fundamental to the actors' process through solo work and ensemble exercises. Open to majors and non-majors.

### **About the Instructor**

JACOB DRESCH a classical clown who revels in repertory, has many favorite credits, including "The School for Scandal" (Off-Broadway); "It's A Wonderful Life" (2022 Henry Award Winner), "The Importance of Being Earnest" and "Rumors" (Breckenridge Backstage Theatre); "A Christmas Carol" (Denver Center for the Performing Arts); "The Book of Will," "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," "The Odyssey," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Colorado Shakespeare Festival); "Lend Me a Tenor," "The Foreigner," "The Hound of the Baskervilles," "The Playboy of the Western World," "Julius Caesar" and "Macbeth" (Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival); "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and "Measure for Measure" (Texas Shakespeare Festival); "The Comedy of Errors" (Chautauqua Theater Company); and "Twelfth Night," "Love's Labour's Lost," "Shakespeare in Love" and "The Great Gatsby" (Orlando Shakespeare Theater). Currently serving as an instructor at the New York Film Academy and adjunct professor at DeSales University, Dresch received his MFA from the University of California, Irvine.



## SCIENCE COURSES

### GEOL 1010-280R – Exploring Earth – 3 Credits

Taught by Dr. Lisa Barlow

MoWeFr 1:25 – 2:15pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Natural Sciences**

#### Instructor Description

Geology is everywhere you look, especially if you know how to see! The Earth that we live with is a fascinating and dynamic planet with a rich history of tales to tell. Geology has inspired creatives of all kinds for millennia, and this section of GEOL 1010 will include works of art (sculpture, photography, painting, functional objects ...) to bring an artist's perspective to a conventional introductory Geology course. We'll learn how to recognize different basic mineral and rock types (e.g., alabaster vs. marble in sculpture) and rock types of large features (can you tell the difference between the sedimentary rocks of the Flatirons and the igneous rocks of Yosemite's Half Dome just by looking at images?), how to read topographic and geologic maps, and how to use plate tectonic theory to understand everything from why marine rocks are found at the top of Mount Everest to why some volcanoes are more dangerous (and more aesthetically pleasing) than others. We'll do a lot of armchair travel around the world seeing both beautiful outdoor geology and beautiful human expressions of this amazing planet we live with.

#### Student testimonials

"Dear Dr. B, I can't even begin to express how thankful I am. Your classes were always the best way to start my day. I truly wish everyone shared your passion for the world we live in. I will forever take with me the knowledge I have acquired from your geology classes. Not only am I able to identify every rock I pick up with my mom, but I am incredibly inspired."

"Thank you Dr. B! I learned a lot in this class. Now I can point things out to my friends on road trips to annoy the (heck) out of them. I've always found rocks interesting so I am really happy to have learned so much about them."

"Dr. B, Thank you so much for being such a kind teacher and for always being willing to help me when I was struggling this semester. I'm very glad I took your class because I learned a ton through it! Thank you!"

"Put it this way – I don't need to put my headphones on to play music any more on the long ride to go skiing. I'm looking at the rocks."



**IPHY 2420 – 281R Intro to Nutrition – 3 Credits**

Mo/We/Fr 10:10-11:00am

**IPHY 2420 – 280R Intro to Nutrition – 3 Credits**

Mo/We/Fr 11:15 – 12:15pm

Taught by Dr. Donna Louie

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Natural Sciences**

**Instructor Description**

In this course, you will learn the biology and chemistry behind nutrition, including how your body works, what nutrients you need to stay healthy and perform well, and what happens when you do not eat right. You will learn to evaluate fad diets and maintain a healthy body that includes analyzing your food intake, lifestyle, blood pressure, heart rate, and a mock blood test. By the end of the course, you will have valuable information to share with your friends and family so that you and everyone around you can live a long, healthy life.

Topics discussed frequently in this course will include obesity, eating habits and methods, calorie counting, starvation mode, and other health issues related to nutrition.

**Student Testimonials**

“I loved this class, I found the topic interesting, and it was presented in a very understandable and detailed way to make sure I got the most out of the class. The mini reviews, chapter outlines, and Kahoot sessions were very helpful and allowed me to make notecards on what I should expect on the test. Amazing class and the teacher is so encouraging and always willing to help.”

“Dr. Louie does a very good job of explaining the material and providing opportunities for her students to review with herself and others outside of class time.”

“Dr. Louie is a very nice professor who makes it clear that she wants the best for her students.”

“Professor Louie has illustrated that she genuinely cares about her students and the learning process. It is clear she puts a great amount of effort in her course and teaching efforts. She draws visuals and takes the time to further explain concepts if students do not understand. I learned a great deal in her class, and I can confidently say that she is an excellent teacher.”

“Dr. Louie is super positive and has the best attitude to students and course material. She demonstrates concern for student’s grades and participation, while pushing to further understand the course material and apply it to their everyday lives. I wouldn't change anything about the course.



## **SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES**

**ANTH 2100 - 280R – Intro to Anthropology - 3 credits**

Taught by Dr. Kristen Drybread

TuTh 9:30 - 10:45am

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Social Sciences**

### **Instructor Description**

Cultural anthropology attempts to make unfamiliar customs and behaviors comprehensible, even when they seem utterly strange and exotic. At the same time, the discipline questions the inevitability of beliefs and practices that are so familiar, they appear to be “natural” or “common sense.” Drawing on both classical and contemporary anthropological texts from a broad range of international settings, students in this course will examine the ways people from various cultures make sense of their experiences and organize their social relationships. They will learn to think critically and respectfully about cross-cultural difference while studying topics ranging from sex to sacrifice, and from dreams, to drugs, to dirt.

### **Student Testimonials**

“I also want to say THANK YOU SO MUCH for teaching this class. I gained so much knowledge from it and you are a phenomenal teacher.”

“I cannot thank you enough for this semester. I whole heartedly took so much away from this course; it really was a pleasure to get to have you as an educator.”

“This course has opened my eyes in so many ways. My main take away from has been, overall, to be more critical of the world around me.”



**FARR 2820 - 280R - Future of Spaceship Earth: Meditation and Sustainability for the Person and the Planet**

MoWe 11:30-12:45pm

Taught by Professor Cathy Comstock

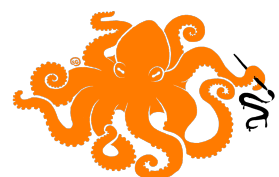
**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution-Arts & Humanities**

Course Description:

Human beings have immense powers as of yet largely untapped in Western culture. By developing the skills of mindfulness and meditation, while learning the best things to put into our body—and the best things not to put in it—we can experience happiness and wholeness in ways we had hardly imagined.

The same is true for the planet. With the right treatment, nature and all its wild beauty can thrive in ways that bring us delight and renewal while sustainably supporting all creatures. This class will help to develop the mental and physical habits that can make life a constant joy, reducing stress while increasing focus, energy and well-being. In the process, we will learn about the latest neuroscience and other research that has proven these possibilities. We'll also learn about the exciting things we can do to bring about healthy ecosystems for nature as well as humans and animals.

For anyone interested, there's also optional volunteer work helping the environment for extra credit.





**ECON 2010-280R – Principles of Microeconomics\***- 4 credits

**ECON 1010 – 281R - Recitation**

Taught by Dr. Dan Zuchengo

TuTh 12:30-1:45pm AND Tu 2:00-2:50pm

\*Students must take both the lecture + Recitation for this class

**Credit: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Social Sciences**

**Departmental Category: Theory and History of Economic Thought**

**MAPS Course: Social Science**

**Instructor Description**

This course looks into our choices and what drives our behavior in today's economy. Since we live in a market economy, we emphasize economic interactions among individuals, business firms, and government, developing a formal model of supply and demand to discuss how and why we make economic decisions, and how our choices affect the economy. The course describes different kinds of markets in our economy and identifies conditions which may cause markets to fail or achieve an efficient solution.



## **HIST 2516 280R – American Through Baseball – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Marty Babicz

MoWeFr 1:25-2:15pm

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Distribution – Arts & Humanities**  
**Department Category: United States: Topical Courses 1**

### **Instructor Description**

This purpose of the course is to arrive at a better understand the history of the United States through the history of baseball. This course examines American History since the Civil War and explores how the social, cultural, economic, and political forces shaping America were reflected in the national pastime. The course also examines the events and people who shaped baseball and looks at how they influenced American society at large.

### **Student Testimonials**

“Professor Babicz is a very good professor. He goes in depth with the material and is very passionate about it as well. It makes the class fun and interesting and I have learned a lot from him. “

“Professor Babicz is one of the most caring and informed professors I have had at CU. Each and every class, I could tell that HE was interested in what he was teaching and was excited to be lecturing the students.”

“Thank you so much for your work this semester, Professor Babicz. I truly enjoyed this class and believe that the structure of the course corresponds well with the content. I value your knowledge of history and the connection baseball reflects with our past events. This has been a really great class.”



## **WGST 2200-280R – Women, Gender, Literature and the Arts – 3 Credits**

Taught by Dr. Michele D. Simpson

TuTh 11:00-12:15pm

**Credit: Arts Sci Gen Ed: Distribution-Arts Humanities, Arts Sci Gen Ed: Diversity-Global Perspective**

### **Instructor Description**

Please note: In this course, the use of the word “women” is women-inclusive and always includes trans women, always.

Interpretations of women are everywhere in the culture. We will explore the artistic expressions of women – the celebrated and those whose names are lesser known. We will explore the texts of women whose aim is to reach out and touch us in some way(s). Students will learn to consider how geography, race, class, gender, gender identity, and sexuality are linked and how these vectors of intersectionalities are articulated in the arts.

### **Student Testimonials**

“Michele Simpson is one of the best professors/teachers I have had in my school career. She finds ways to connect with her students on a deeper level than just you being another person in a class. She is passionate about her class and it shows. Her passion helps me learn and become more interested. Also, I feel comfortable and safe in her class.”

“Professor Simpson was wonderful. I loved being in this class this semester. She opened my mind up to many things. She was very involved with us and took her time to get to know all of us on a personal level.”

“An amazing instructor and incredibly engaging course. I enjoyed how relevant the content was and how we didn’t shy away from controversial topics but rather embraced the discomfort respectfully.”

“Professor Simpson was incredible at leading discussions amongst students. She made sure that everyone gave their perspective on whatever we were discussing and made sure everyone’s opinions were heard. She very effectively tied in real-world events to our discussions.”



## WRITING COURSES

**WRTG 1150-281R – 1<sup>st</sup> Year Writing & Rhetoric – 3 credits**

TuTh3:30-4:45pm

**WRTG 1150-282R – 1<sup>st</sup> Year Writing & Rhetoric – 3 credits**

TuTh 9:30-10:45am

Taught by Dr. Catherine Kunce

**Credit: Arts & Sciences General Education: Written Communication**

**MAPS: English**

### Course Description

Rhetorically informed introduction to college writing. Focuses on critical analysis, argument, inquiry and information literacy. Taught as a writing workshop, the course places a premium on invention, drafting and thoughtful revision. For placement criteria, see the arts and sciences advising office. May be repeated up to 6 total credit hours.

### About the Instructor

Novelist Catherine Kunce received her Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Denver. A recently completed project involves the transcription and annotation of two nineteenth-century American women writers, one of whom was Edgar Allan Poe's onetime fiancée.

As senior instructor in CU's Program for Writing and Rhetoric, Catherine has relied on the Center of the American West to enhance her teaching. During a class that collected stories told by Boulder-area senior citizens, Patty Limerick treated students to classroom visits and shared her experiences about visiting retirement homes while she was an undergraduate student. Students read with interest Patty's unique thesis about her visits with the elderly, which had gained national media attention. This thesis helped prepare Catherine's students for the rewarding yet challenging experience of dealing with a generation so often neglected and so richly deserving of attention and respect. Another course, Native American Topics, uses *Legacy of Conquest* as a central text. And students can count on the Center's numerous events to invigorate classroom learning. Last fall, for example, Catherine's Native American Topics classes attended the Center's wonderful Native American Skies presentation at CU's Fiske Planetarium.

