CIS Course Titles and Descriptions
SPRING 2027

BUSN 480, Senior Seminar Business Ethics. This 3-credit course, to be taken during the student's senior year, is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of addressing ethical issues which arise in all aspects of business and in the interface between business activity and institutions, and the larger society which they serve. The theme of the course is that "business" is an inherently ethical practice, one which is governed by moral norms that shape the very purpose and nature of business activity and institutions, not an "add on" or a "second bottom line." ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) designation*.*** Instructor: Leithauser and Steverson

CLAS 432, CIS: Greece, Rome & US Politics. Instructor: Oosterhuis

COMM 432, CIS: Storytelling for Social Change. Instructor: Morehouse

EDTE 432, CIS: Advocacy and Policy. Engaging with the community, students will develop a skill set for advocacy and leadership to contribute to a more peaceful and equitable world. With a background understanding of their own personal biases, students will engage with a vulnerable learning community to determine emergent issues that impact their success in education, build a context of the surrounding history and current efforts that impact it, then develop a plan and engage in advocacy to address the needs of an underserved population. The course includes a legislative bootcamp and features guest speakers from various political and educational organizations. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Girtz

ENTR 402 / HONS 402, Ethic and Moral Leadership. ***Fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) designation*.*** Instructor: Steverson

ENVS 358/PHIL 458, Environmental Ethics. The detailed philosophical study of humanity's understanding of its relationship to the natural environment, concentrating on historically prominent conceptions of that relationship, and the philosophical foundation of the contemporary environment movement. Open only to ENVS students. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Rogers

FILM 432, PHIL 432, CIS: Philosophy in Film. See description below PHIL 432. Instructor: Bradley

HEAL 455/HONS 455/PHIL 432, Health Care Ethics. See description below PHIL 432. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Ciaffa, Kulp

HIST 432, CIS: US Society, Politics, Culture 1980-2040. Students taking this CIS will engage the question: What is our role in the world, now and moving forward? In order to answer this question, we will look at how the world itself is changing and then focus on a central problem: why future generations need us to be what Jonas Salk called “good ancestors.” Being a good ancestor starts with “historical consciousness” ¾ the recognition that we exist within the flow of time from past to present to future. If we affirm that we are connected to each other in the present moment but also to those who came before us and to those who will come after us, then we might ask: What conditions from the recent past have we inherited? What challenges and opportunities are we facing today? What will the world look like as we move into the future? Instructor: Rast

HONS 432, CIS: The Examined Life. Open only to HONS students. Instructor: Schmidt

HONS 432, CIS: Reality & Representation. Instructor: Stover

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INST 432, CIS: Global Conflict & Humanitarian Action. What happens when the call for humanitarian action intensifies, just as the institutions meant to uphold it falter? This course explores how tensions between war, relief and international governance shape responses to humanitarian crises across the world. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Global Studies (GS) designation*.*** Instructor: Dwonch

PHIL 432/PHIL 485/FILM 432, CIS: Philosophy in Film. This is an inter-disciplinary course that looks at the way philosophical questions and ideas are portrayed in contemporary film. This is the interpretive key we will use to look back, review, and integrate some of what you have encountered in your Core classes at Gonzaga, while beginning to think about how that formation will shape the way you approach the rest of your life. Thus, the intersection of film and philosophy is an opening onto an even more radically inter-disciplinary conversation that will include religious studies, history, and science. In particular, the course will have three foci. In the first section, we look at the way the development of character is integrated into a flourishing human life. This naturally leads to our second focus, namely, the question of our place in the cosmos and our relation to the divine. Finally, we will move to a more theological register and ask about the relation between the world and God, with a particular interest in the way contemporary science and religion speak about the sacred. Instructor: Bradley

PHIL 432 / HEAL 455 / HONS 455, CIS: Health Care Ethics. This course will survey a range of ethical issues pertaining to the health care professions. After examining some introductory material concerning philosophical ethics, we will proceed into three main sections of material. Section 1 will examine professional obligations, the doctor-patient relationship, and the role of nurses. Core issues here include paternalism and patient autonomy, beneficence and medical altruism, informed consent, and confidentiality. Section 2 will examine end of life care and will include discussion of euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, surrogate decision-making, medical futility, and advance directives. Section 3 will focus on ethical issues concerning human reproduction, including abortion, artificial procreation, surrogacy, and genetic manipulation. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion***. Instructors: Ciaffa, Kulp

PHIL 432 / SOSJ 410, CIS: Theories of Solidarity & Social Justice. One of the most primary features of being human is that we live our lives in communities, interacting with others. To govern these intersections, we utilize one of our most ancient concepts: justice. Justice determines the distributions of goods and opportunities in societies and prescribes the actions that are permitted and prohibited. We appeal to justice to set our limits and facilitate our possibilities, both as individuals and as communities.

As Gonzaga students, you are all members of a Jesuit community that takes as its mission to develop students to be persons for and with others. These persons are committed to pursuing "social justice" and being in "solidarity with the poor and vulnerable." It is here that this course is situated, so that we may better examine what these concepts mean and how we may work in pursuit of these goals. This course also directly addresses the 4th Year University Core theme: "Considering the possible." With regard to justice in our world: what can you do, what will you do, what must you do?

At the end of the course students will be able to articulate and critically assess multiple perspectives on justice, argue in favor of the conception they find most plausible, and utilize this conception to address moral issues in our world raised by the structures of our societies. In short, you will be well-prepared to advocate for justice and act in solidarity with the most vulnerable in our world. ***Fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) Designation Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Weidel

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PHIL 485/FILM 432/PHIL 432, Philosophy in Film. See description above PHIL 432. Instructor: Bradley

PHIL 491, Philosophy of Performance. See description below THEA 432. Instructor: Layne

RELI 432, CIS: Care for the Person & Planet. The CIS invites students to integrate their Gonzaga education through personal stewardship and environmental sustainability in anticipation of being professionally successful and spiritually attuned. Embracing the Core Year Four Question, "imagining the possible, what is our role in the world," students will practice integrative principles in a classroom session and through a variety of optional activities including cycling, hiking, walking, and other physical activities desired by students that allow for a grounding of the active person and the stewardship of one's environment. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Starbuck

SOSJ 410, CIS: Theories Solidarity & Social Justice. See description above PHIL 432. Instructor: Weidel

THEA 432, CIS Philosophy of Performance. Devoted to creating a student written, produced and performed adaptation of a classical text of the Humanities (Sp23 Plato's Symposium, Sp25 Nietzsche's Thus Spoke Zarathustra), Philosophy in Performance allows members to 1) explore the philosophical theories of a foundational text while providing students with the tools to 2) transform it into an original stage production. Each student applies their own diverse interests, concerns, and talents to the creative process, building a community of thinkers committed to bringing "philosophy/humanities to life." This represents a non-hierarchical, artistic, and intellectual mode of pedagogy known as "distributed creativity," focused on conducting interdisciplinary research, wherein students activate the transformative power of the liberal arts. Instructors: Layne

WGST 410/432, CIS: Gender and Media Activism. Far from being a modern innovation, activists addressing social inequality around gender and sexuality have long been using media to organize and advocate for change. In this course, we'll explore the different ways activists use print, film, radio, data, and even games to raise awareness. What are the benefits and limitations of media activism? How do these creators use media tools to imagine a new and more equitable world? Throughout the semester, students will explore developing content in different mediums, culminating with a final project to create a resource for their community. ***Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.*** Instructor: Dame-Griff

*** Designations:** To fulfill university core requirements, students must complete 2 Writing-Enriched (WE) designated courses (in addition to Writing), 1 Global Studies (GS) designated course (in addition to World/Comparative Religion), and 1 Social Justice (SJ) designated course. Designations double-count. That is, students completing a CIS with a designation, get credit for the CIS and fulfill the designation it carries. Transfer students with 45 or more credits have a reduced designation requirement (1 WE, and 2 total of either 1 WE, 1 GS, and/or 1 SJ), and students with 60 or more credits, including AA/AS-T degree holders, are not required to fulfill the designation requirements.