Examples of Potential “Connections” Courses

Note: These courses are examples of courses that might be adapted to meet the “Connections” requirements and learning outcomes. This is not meant to be a comprehensive list. The courses are chosen from those that might be useful for the physical/applied sciences/ professional disciplines since faculty in those disciplines have had the most questions about what kinds of courses might be developed as “Connections” courses in the WKU Colonnade Plan.

AT WKU:

AMS 355. SYSTEMS DESIGN. (3) Prerequisite: MATH 116. A comprehensive study of manufacturing organizations and their administration involving facilities layout, design of work systems, forecasting and decision making, planning for facilities and equipment. (Note: This course is for the Technology Management major or non-AMS majors.)

AMS 401. CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN ARCHITECTURE AND MANUFACTURING. (1) Prerequisite: Senior standing. Contemporary issues reflecting current and emerging technologies, policies and practices in architecture and manufacturing will be studied. Guest presenters from business and industry will be presenting lectures. Students will prepare a series of papers representing their own investigation.

AMS 430. TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION/TEAM BUILDING. (3) Prerequisite: Junior standing. This course will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of industrial supervision. Students will develop the skills, knowledge, and philosophies required to function in a highly technical, industrial environment in a supervisory capacity. Content includes a study of leadership, management, management-labor relations, supervisory intuition, and various legal issues. (course fee)

AMS 475. SELECTED TOPICS IN INDUSTRY. (1-3) Prerequisite: Junior standing. Varying topics of significant interest and current developments in manufacturing technology. (course fee)

*BIOL 302. HUMAN BIOLOGY. (3) A survey of body systems with special emphasis on human reproduction, embryological development and infectious diseases. Designed for non-science majors.

DMT 346. ARCHITECTURE AND CULTURE. (3) Prerequisite: Honors participation or 3.2 gpa required. The study of architecture as an integral component of world culture. Attention is focused on the interdisciplinary nature of architecture, its development as a reflection of beliefs, and its use as a setting for interaction and cultural ritual. [GEN ED-E]

ECON 491. HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT. (3) Prerequisites: ECON 202 and 203 or consent of instructor. The origin and development of economic thought with emphasis on the contribution of political economy to the behavioral sciences.
Examples of Potential “Connections” Courses

HCA 347. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS. (3) Prerequisite: ENG 100. Cross country comparisons, including concepts of illness and healing within different cultural contexts; differing approaches to critical issues including access, quality of care, and cost containment; and methods of organization, financing and structuring of providers in various countries.

PHIL 320. ETHICS. (3) Prerequisite: One course in philosophy or sophomore status. An introduction to ethical issues using classical and contemporary texts. Among issues that may be treated are justice, rights, responsibilities, punishment, and obligations regarding the environment. [GEN ED B-II]

PHIL 321. MORALITY AND BUSINESS. (3) An introduction to the study of moral choice in the business world. Topics include ethical foundations of business practice in general and criteria for evaluating the moral dimensions of issues such as relations with consumers, environmental impact, quality of work life, hiring, advertising, price setting, and corporate governance. [GEN ED B-II]

PHIL 322. BIOMEDICAL ETHICS. (3) A philosophical analysis of ethical problems in biomedical practice and research, including patients’ rights, professional responsibilities, death and dying, health care allocation, and reproductive technologies. [GEN ED B-II]

PHIL 323. SOCIAL ETHICS. (3) Prerequisites: One course in Religious Studies or Philosophy or junior status. Perspectives and issues involved in the public pursuit of justice in a religiously and philosophically diverse society. One short field trip. Equivalent to RELS 323: Social Ethics. [GEN ED B-II]

PSY 350. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY. (3) Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. A general introduction to social psychology for majors and non-majors in psychology. The psychology of how people think about and relate to others. Topics include love, altruism, aggression, conformity, behavior in groups, leadership, intergroup conflict, aggression, prejudice, and persuasion. [GEN ED C]
Examples of Potential “Connections” Courses

At other universities:

(Eastern KY. U.) Nursing Science NSC 370 Health Disparities. (3) A.
Prerequisite: junior standing or departmental approval. Explores the social, economic, political and historical context of health disparities experienced by groups with an emphasis on racial/ethnic, gender and socioeconomic aggregates. Explores contributing factors and potential solutions to domestic and global health disparities. Gen. Ed. VIII.

(Florida State) CGS3066 Web Programming and Design

(3 credit hours)
An overview of Internet communications and information services, as well as the technologies on which the Internet and Web are built. A strong emphasis on Web design, development, and scripting with participants learning the latest tools and techniques for building professional-grade, dynamic, and interactive Web pages and sites. No prerequisite, computer literacy assumed.

(IUPUI) N311 The Digital Paradigm Shift: Effects in International Cultures and Society
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None
Examination of the digital paradigm shift and its global impact on cultures and societies. A study of major paradigm shifts in reference to culture and society as well as the implications for the future. Readings, lectures, class discussions.

(IUPUI) N431 Game On!
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None
An exploration of the evolution, concepts, and impact of video games. Examines the role of games in popular culture, as well as the impact on contemporary notions of interactivity, learning, and storytelling. Includes discussion of console and online games, casual games, Alternate Reality Games, serious games, and others.

N480 Technology and the Law
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None
Provides students with a solid foundation on legal matters that impact new media and informatics, including intellectual property (copyright, patents, trademark, trade secrets), contracts, licensing, privacy, publicity, global legal issues and professional ethics.

(IUPUI) N465 Informatics for Social Change
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None
This course focuses on the theory and practice of service learning at IUPUI. Students will apply the knowledge of their technology expertise area in a service project for the local, state or global community. Projects will be completed through students’ current and developing new media production, information technology, and client-based research skills.

(IUPUI) N485 Seminar in New Media
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None
Current trends, problems, best practices and developments in new media. Students pursue a special interest and share information and experience with the group. This course is an in-depth exploration of topics and issues at the forefront of new media. Seminar format with research papers and class discussion/presentations.
Examples of Potential “Connections” Courses

(IUPUI) N410 History and Theory of Digital Media
Credits: 3
Prerequisite(s): None

Examines the history of computer-based media, technologies, and the digital information age. Topics include studying the historical components and developments, as well as present digital media and research speculation towards the future of digital media and technologies.

(Cornell) MATH 4030 - History of Mathematics

Survey of the development of mathematics from antiquity to the present, with an emphasis on the achievements, problems, and mathematical viewpoints of each historical period and the evolution of such basic concepts as number, geometry, construction, and proof. Readings from original sources in translation. Students are required to give oral and written reports. In addition to the lecture, a problem session (to be arranged) will meet twice a week.

Indiana University:

BIOL–L 300 Social Implications of Biology
(3 cr.) Biological aspects of social problems such as HEY, genetic engineering, population explosion, eugenics, drug abuse, heredity, hazards of irradiation, etc. (Occasionally)

BIOL–L 316 Fundamentals of Human Sexuality
(3 cr.) P: junior standing. An exploration of the anatomical and physiological factors relating to the development of human sexuality with particular emphasis on the biological mechanisms involved in health and disease. (Summer I or II).

Univ. of Maryland:

ASTR 398 -- Special Topics in Astronomy (3 credits)
Prerequisite: junior standing or permission of department. Repeatable to 6 credits if content differs. This course is designed primarily for students not majoring in astronomy and is suitable for non-science students. It will concentrate study in some limited field in astronomy which will vary from semester to semester. Possible subjects for study are the solar system, extragalactic astronomy and cosmology, the inconstant universe.

Tulane:

EENS 3050 – Natural Disasters (3)
Staff: Dr. Nelson
Website: Natural Disasters
An examination of the causes and effects of natural disasters, such as earthquakes, subsidence, coastal erosion, flooding, severe weather (including hurricanes), and meteorite impacts. Also includes a discussion of options available to mitigate disasters.

EENS 3060 – Dinosaurs (3)
Staff: Dr. Parsley

EENS 3800 – Environmental Analysis Lab (3)
Website: Environmental Analysis Laboratory
Environmental Analysis. Introduction to basic analytical techniques commonly used in environmental science, with a focus on aqueous and soil/sediment matrices. Includes determination of solids, alkalinity and hardness, adsorption isotherms, oxygen content, conductivity, as well as spectrometric and chromatographic techniques and soil metals analysis.
Examples of Potential “Connections” Courses

COLQ 4120 – Grand Canyon Colloquium
Website: Grand Canyon Colloquium
This is a May term multi-disciplinary course with emphasis on geology of the Grand Canyon and adjacent Colorado plateau. Course culminates with a 188 mile week-long rafting trip down the Colorado River through Marble and Grand Canyon.