

Students in Tu/Th/F studio are in Monday and Wednesday Liberal Arts sections

Register for one section of S101. Topic descriptions for S101 are below the sections grid.

You have until Jan. 26th to register for your desired section of S101.

After Jan 26th, those not registered will be placed into an open section.

There are no waiting lists, or an add/drop period for S101. Please read through the descriptions carefully before selecting a section.

If a section is closed, move onto your second choice.

You have been placed into a section of THAD-H102 by the Liberal Arts Division Academic Programs Coordinator.

Student Planning: <https://ss.risd.edu/student>

Please follow directions from the registrar's office on how to register for your S101 section:

<https://risdregistrar.wordpress.com/students/registration/freshmen-registration/>

S101 Monday/Wednesday sections - Choose <u>one</u>			
HPSS-S101-01	Akporiaye	International Politics	11:20-12:50
HPSS-S101-03	French	Intro to Social and Cultural Anthropology	9:40-11:10
HPSS-S101-09	Rustin	Intro to American Studies	11:20-12:50
HPSS-S101-21	Yess	Existentialism	9:40-11:10
HPSS-S101-22	Martin	Race and Racism in the United States: A History	11:20-12:50

HPSS-S101 Topic Descriptions

S101-01 International Politics / Alero Akporiaye

MW 11:20-12:50

This course introduces students to critical analysis and writing in the social sciences. You will develop these skills through the study of international politics. Substantively, we explore interests, interactions, and institutions of international and domestic political actors with regard to security and conflict, international political economy, and transnational politics. This course adopts the flipped classroom approach, requiring students to spend one class session a week working remotely and the second class session in in-person guided hands-on activities.

S101-03 Intro to Social and Cultural Anthropology: Ethnography / Lindsay French

MW 9:40-11:10

What IS anthropology? What is ethnography? What kinds of questions do anthropologists ask, how is ethnographic research conducted, and how are ethnographic understandings communicated? This course introduces students to the discipline of social and cultural anthropology by looking at the kind of work anthropologists do, the way we do it, and how we communicate what we learn through our research in both ethnographic writing and film. The goal of the course is to introduce a distinctive way of thinking about human social and cultural differences, and a range of analytic techniques that anthropologists use for making sense of these differences. Readings have been chosen to represent geographical and cultural diversity, as well as several different analytic approaches. Writing assignments ask you to think and write about social and cultural issues the way an anthropologist might. Short papers are designed to build skills in critical reading, analysis, synthesis, and clear exposition, as well as informed interpretation. Writing is understood as a process as much as a product in this class, a means of extending and refining your thinking about a particular topic. Any paper may be re-written to improve your grade as long as it is submitted before the next paper is due.

S101-09 Intro to American Studies: Constructing and Interpreting Archives / Nichole Rustin

MW 11:20-12:50

American Studies is, among other possible frameworks, the study of social and cultural practices in the United States. How are these social and cultural practices identified, researched, and interpreted? In this first-year course, we will explore the foundations of American Studies as a discipline and how it approaches historical and cultural interpretation through the building of archives for its subjects of study. Our primary questions for the semester are: 1) what is interdisciplinarity? 2) what is an archive? 3) how do race, ethnicity, and gender shape an archive and its interpretation? To develop your critical and interpretive abilities, we will learn new ways of practicing aesthetic and cultural criticism that can be applied both historically and in the present moment. Writing assignments may include crafting keywords, book reviews, archive proposals, and short interpretive essays.

S101-21 Existentialism / James Yess

MW 9:40-11:10

This is a course about how to think, write, and read philosophically. Samples of classic philosophical writings in existentialism on topics such as free will, personal identity, subjective value, the existence of God, and the meaning of human existence will be the launching pads for students' oral and written analysis. Philosophical and literary texts in addition to class discussions will be used to encourage close scrutiny of underlying assumptions, logical progression, and how well claims are substantiated. By noting the strengths and weaknesses in the arguments of others and practicing the skill of philosophical argumentation, students will be better able to navigate through the thickets of challenges arising from everyday living as persons of careful thought and considered action.

S101-22 Race and Racism in the United States: A History / CJ Martin

MW 11:20-12:50

The theoretical underpinning for this course is that race is socially and culturally constructed, and as such, mutable/refashionable. We will move chronologically through American history, showing just how ideas about race were refashioned to fit the changing nature of American capitalism, but especially, we will center the ways in which these ideas were always contested by Black Americans, Indigenous Americans, and people of color. It will be broken up into two parts – the first investigating the foundations laid during the period in which slavery dominated the country, and the second discussing effects that are with us today, from Reconstruction onward. Readings center the voices of contestation because they were able to deconstruct ideas about race, and their words and actions give us today a vocabulary and blueprint with which to fight the constantly shifting nature of white supremacy.