

**INTS 3900 – WATER  
CRN # 45310  
Fall 2011  
Burton/Biniiaz  
TR 9-1015 NPLAZA 113B**

**Denise Burton  
125 NPLAZA  
(435)879-4291  
Blackboard Vista Email only  
MW 11-1; T 12-1 and by appt**

**Darl Biniiaz  
125 NPLAZA  
(435)652-7813  
Blackboard Vista Email only  
TBA**

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Maclean, Norman. *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2001.  
978-0226500669

Outwater, Alice. *Water: A Natural History*. New York: Basic Books, 1996. 978-0-465-03780-3

Pearce, Fred. *When the Rivers Run Dry*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2006. 978-0-8070-8573-8

Solomon, Steven. *Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power, and Civilization*. New York: HarperCollins, 2010.  
978-0-06-054830-8

You will also need reliable and regular access to a computer and the internet to succeed in this course. Content will be delivered and all of your assignments will be submitted via Blackboard Vista. If you need help working with Blackboard Vista, come to us (and by “us” we mean Denise) as soon as possible, or go to the Smith Computer Center for instruction.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

INTS 3900: Water is an interdisciplinary exploration of the element of water. Science, religion, literature, art, philosophy, history, geography, ecology and geopolitics are all influenced and affected by this fascinating commonality. While we can learn to live without many things, we, literally, cannot live without water and humanity has always been bound by our ability to control water. In this course we will explore our relationship to water and the far-reaching impact it has on civilization.

INTS 3900 fills the requirement for a topics class for INTS students, and is open to any student with a sense of adventure and curiosity. You must have completed ENGL 1010 with a grade of C or higher, and you must be willing to commit to several hours of reading each week.

Success in INTS 3900 will come to those students who diligently read the assigned material weekly, attend class regularly and participate in class discussions. Curiosity and wonder will go a long way towards motivating students to dig a little deeper and search a little more for the hyperlinks and connections that make interdisciplinary scholarship interesting and enjoyable. Don't be afraid to share with the class when an assignment or discussion "reminds" you of something else. It is those connections that help us to further explore our humanity and interactions with the world around us. Those connections are also vital to achieving a level of interdisciplinary scholarship that we expect our students to reach.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of INTS 3900, students will:

- Appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of knowledge and learning.
- Demonstrate sufficient understanding of the course subject.
- Recognize the unique insights into complex issues that various disciplines can provide.
- Understand the importance of integrating knowledge and perspectives from multiple disciplines in order to illuminate complex subjects and problems.
- Be practiced in synthetic, analytic and complex thinking in engaging with sophisticated concepts, abstract ideas and concrete topics.

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

INTS 3900 is an important building block in the core coursework of the Integrated Studies program. Engaging with a complex, timely topic from a multitude of disciplinary perspectives helps students realize the goals of integrative learning. Upon successful completion of the Integrated Studies program, students will:

- Understand the nature and process of interdisciplinary integration.
- Appreciate the unique advantages of integrative research and learning.
- Recognize how interdisciplinary-based research provides important knowledge and insight into complex problems and issues.

- Understand the nature of disciplinary research and scholarship.
- Identify the distinct theories, epistemologies, methods, concepts, and assumptions of two academic disciplines.
- Conduct scholarly research and writing in two academic disciplines.
- Demonstrate integrative understanding of a topic, problem, or phenomenon from two disciplinary perspectives.

## **CAMPUS POLICIES**

As a public institution of higher learning, we have all kinds of rules and regulations we (students, faculty and staff) must adhere to. Those policies and procedures are outlined in official documents that can be accessed here:

<http://dixie.edu/reg/syllabus/#finals>

In links accessed from that page, you will find information regarding important dates on campus for the semester, the final exam schedule, Writing Center and Disability Resource Center information, and policies and procedures regarding academic honesty and student/faculty conduct. Should there be any question about campus policies and procedures, I will assume you have read the information available online in full.

It cannot be emphasized enough that if you feel you are in need of assistance from the Disability Resource Center you should seek them out immediately upon starting the semester. The sooner I am aware of the need for accommodation, the easier it is to make those accommodations. The help that the DRC offers is free and completely confidential.

## **IMPORTANT DATES ON CAMPUS:**

Aug 22	Classes Begin
Aug 24	Last day to add without signature and drop classes online
Aug 29	DROP/AUDIT fee begins (\$10 per class)
Sep 5	Labor Day Holiday (no classes)
Sep 6	\$50 Late registration/payment fee
Sep 12	Pell Grant Census
Sep 12	Last day to drop without receiving a “W” grade
Sep 13	Courses dropped for non-payment

Sep 16	Last day to ADD classes
Sep 30	Fall GRADUATION application deadline
Oct 12	Mid-term grades due
Oct 13-14	Fall Break (no classes)
Oct 17	Last day to Drop/Audit classes
Nov 11	Last day for complete withdrawal from all classes
Nov 14	Spring 2012 Registration begins
Nov 15	Career Day (no classes before 4:00pm)
Nov 23-25	Thanksgiving Break (no classes)
Dec 9	Classes End
Dec 12-16	Final Exams

## **CLASSROOM POLICIES**

Our coursework revolves around the shared experiences of reading assignments, short lectures, video resources, and classroom discussion. While we will only take roll sporadically, your grade will be affected by missing class, if only because your writing assignments will reflect your disconnect from the ideas we are working with. Make friends with someone who you can trust to take good notes when you need to be gone. Since all of our assignments are submitted online, there will be no need to make accommodation for school-sponsored absences.

With that said, sometimes athletes and other student representatives are booked into hotel rooms that do not have internet access. You are responsible for getting your assignments submitted on time, regardless of the arrangements made by the athletic or other departments. If there is any doubt about having access to BBV while you are on the road, do the assignments before you leave. Prep checks will not be offered after the submission date and time has passed. If you experience a medical or family emergency, proper documentation will be required, and alternate assignments will be issued on an individual basis.

As this is a discussion and experience based class, I am anticipating and expecting our class time to sometimes include lively discussion, which may mean that your classmates introduce ideas and opinions that you do not agree with. While your opinion is always valid, please be aware that being rude, dismissive, or abusive while expressing that opinion will not only make you look foolish, but will result in your removal from our class.

In keeping with the college's desire to fully utilize Blackboard Vista and make everyone's campus experience more uniform, we will use the Blackboard Email tool for communication in this class. This tool is easy to use and gives you access to us and to each other in a secure environment that doesn't risk your emails to a spam filter or typo in the address box. Ask for a demonstration of how to use the Email tool if you have questions. We will also use Blackboard Vista for Course Content delivery and Weblinks when appropriate. Please check in on Blackboard often for announcements and content.

### **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

We expect each student in this course to come to class prepared, alert, and on time. Sleeping in the classroom, even during video presentations, is detrimental to your reputation with the instructors. In addition, cell phone use in the classroom, even on silent mode, is inappropriate. Computers are not forbidden, but all too often they function as a distraction rather than a learning tool, so please be cautious in your dependence upon them. Food and drink are allowed if you can partake without distracting other students or drawing attention to yourself. Students who repeatedly fail to engage with the class or become disruptive will be asked to leave the classroom. Please be considerate of the instructors and your fellow students. In return, you can expect us to be prepared, engaged and on time, to return assignments in a timely fashion with helpful feedback when appropriate, and to manage the classroom in a manner that allows learning to take place.

### **GRADE SCALE AND CORRESPONDING GPA**

A	94.0 and above	4	C	74.0 – 76.9	2
A-	90.0 – 93.9	3.7	C-	70.0 – 73.9	1.7
B+	87.0 – 89.9	3.3	D+	67.0 – 69.9	1.3
B	84.0 – 86.9	3	D	64.0 – 66.9	1
B-	80.0 – 83.9	2.7	D-	60.0 – 63.9	.7
C+	77.0 – 79.9	2.3	F	59.9 and below	0

### **ASSIGNMENT BREAKDOWN**

Prep Checks (online)	30%
Review/Responses (online)	30%
Final Exam	40%

Your grades will always be available to you in Blackboard Vista, and midterm grades will be posted when required by the college. You can obtain a grade report for academic or athletic requirements at any time by printing out the page in Blackboard Vista labeled “My Grades” and bringing it to one of us for a signature.

## **ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

Prep checks are quizzes taken online, through the BBV tool labeled “Assessments.” Each quiz is made up of a variety of question types, designed to encourage you to do the assigned reading before coming to class. The reading load for this class is considerable, so quizzes are assigned several times a week, beginning immediately. **THE FIRST PREP CHECK IS DUE BEFORE OUR NEXT CLASS MEETING.** You will be responsible for Sunday evening quizzes **EVERY** week throughout the semester, even when we are on Fall Break and Thanksgiving. It is easy to do well on the quizzes by keeping up with the reading, but also easy to fall behind. If you are going to be out of town when a quiz is due, take it early.

Review Responses are short essays submitted every Friday evening throughout the semester, **BEGINNING THIS WEEK**, and continuing, even on Fall Break and Thanksgiving. You can’t respond adequately to these questions without attending class, so it will be difficult to “get ahead” in this area. Consequently, there is a “late submission” window of 48 hours for these responses. Responses submitted in the “late submission” period will be marked down 20% (4 points) from the earned grade. After the 48 hours have passed, the assignment will be closed. Submissions will be on BBV, through the “Assignments” tool, and essays should be attached to the submission form as PDFs so they can be read easily. **ASSIGNMENTS THAT ARE NOT SUBMITTED AS PDFs WILL NOT BE READ.**

The Final Exam will be a take home exam, based on the vocabulary that we acquire through the semester and the major themes and ideas that we discuss. Active participation and keeping up with the reading and writing assignments will prepare you for the Final Exam. The Final Exam will be submitted in our classroom, on paper, during the scheduled Final Exam period.

	<b>SUNDAY EVENING PREP</b> Submitted by 11:59pm	<b>TUESDAY PREP</b> Submitted by 9:00am	<b>THURSDAY PREP</b> Submitted by 9:00am	<b>FRIDAY TOPIC RESPONSE</b> Submitted by 11:59pm
<b>Week 1</b> 8/22-8/27		Intro to Class – Review Syllabus	Outwater 1&2 to p33 QUIZ	Week 1 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 2</b> 8/28-9/3	Solomon 7 p157-179 QUIZ	Pearce 8 p219-258 QUIZ	Solomon 10 p249-265 Outwater 9 p133-148 “Cryptosporidium” QUIZ	Week 2 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 3</b> 9/4-9/10	Solomon 8 p180-210 QUIZ	“Qoranic Symbolism” “Water in Islam” Solomon 15 p384-416 QUIZ	“Water in the Bible” “Water in Judaism and Christianity” QUIZ	Week 3 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 4</b> 9/11-9/17	Solomon 9 p211-248 QUIZ	Solomon 11 p266-301 QUIZ	“The Odyssey XII” QUIZ	Week 4 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 5</b> 9/18-9/24	Outwater 3&4 p35-66 QUIZ	“Water: What’s So Special About It?” QUIZ	Pearce 3 67-106 “Water:Tough Love” QUIZ	Week 5 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 6</b> 9/25-10/1	Outwater 5&6 p67-100 QUIZ	“Earliest Predictions” QUIZ	“Sea’s Greatest Killer” QUIZ	Week 6 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 7</b> 10/2-10/8	Solomon 12 p302-321 Outwater 8 p117-132 QUIZ	Powell Chapters QUIZ	Solomon 13 p322-366 Outwater 7 p101-116 Pearce 5 p131-154 QUIZ	Week 7 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 8</b> 10/9-10/15	Solomon 14 p367-383 QUIZ	Pearce 1 p3-34 QUIZ	<b>NO CLASS – FALL BREAK</b>	Week 8 Response SUBMIT ONLINE

<b>Week 9</b> 10/16- 10/22	No Quiz	<u>A River Runs Through It</u> pp 1-51 QUIZ	<u>A River Runs Through It</u> Pp 51-end QUIZ	Week 9 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 10</b> 10/23- 10/29	Solomon 17 p448-end QUIZ	Pearce 6 p155-184 QUIZ	"Law of the River" and "Protecting Indigenous Rights" QUIZ	Week 10 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 11</b> 10/30-11/5	Pearce 9-10 p259-312 QUIZ	"Lake Powell Packet" QUIZ	No Quiz	Week 11 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 12</b> 11/6-11/12	Pearce 2 p35-66 QUIZ	No Quiz	"The Liquefaction of Desire" QUIZ	Week 12 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 13</b> 11/13- 11/19	Solomon 16 p417-447 QUIZ	<b>CAREER DAY - NO CLASS</b>	"Siddhartha" 3 chapter excerpt QUIZ	Week 13 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 14</b> 11/20- 11/26	Pearce 7 p185-218 QUIZ	TBA QUIZ	<b>THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS</b>	Week 14 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 15</b> 11/27-12/3	Outwater 10-11 p149- 186 QUIZ	"Aesthetic Issues" and "Global Challenges" and "Water Taste" QUIZ	"Water Poetry Packet" QUIZ	Week 15 Response SUBMIT ONLINE
<b>Week 16</b> 12/4-12/9	Pearce 4 p107-131 QUIZ	No Quiz	No Quiz – Review and Recap HANDOUT FINAL EXAM	
<b>FINAL EXAM</b> <b>Submit in Classroom</b> <b>Thursday, December 15 8:00am</b>				

