

Fall 2025 Natural Science Colloquia



The Great Debate: Nature Vs. Nurture

Sarah Psihountakis

HONOR 370 – 001

Th 9:15am – 10:30am (Hybrid)

The Nature versus Nurture debate has been deeply rooted in the search for what aspects of behavior are either inherited (genetic) or acquired (learned). Is it our genes that impact our behavior or is it our environment? In this course, we will examine the nature versus nurture debate- its origin and how it has influenced future theorists, critically analyze each side of the debate and apply to our own behavioral development, reflect on how genetics and the environment impact overall development, and develop discussion skills within our online classroom environment, emphasizing effective and respectful sharing of personal experiences.

Global Environmental Issues

Michael Dunbar

HONOR 370 – 002

TTh 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

HONOR 370 - 801

TTh 5:15 pm – 6:30 pm

As the human population grows towards 8 billion, what kind of lasting impact do we have? During the semester we'll be exploring how our unsustainable lifestyles have impacted the earth's natural resources, species, environments, and offer a prognosis for the future. Our discussions, proposals and debates will examine how to confront some of these issues and how we can act on a local and personal level.

The Psychology of Physical Activity

Alan Kornspan

HONOR 370 - 003

T 7:45am – 9:00am (Hybrid)

HONOR 370 – 004 (Hybrid)

T 9:15am – 10:30am

HONOR 370 – 501 (Online)

The focus of this course is on the psychology of physical activity within the context of natural science. The course will cover scientific methodology and scientific writing utilized in the psychology of physical activity. The colloquium will be divided into two main sections. The first section introduces the historical and contemporary developments of the science of the psychology of physical activity. The second part of the course examines various phenomenon related to the science of flow states, stress, anxiety, and arousal in sports and exercise. Interactive

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Technoculture and Society

Robert Williams

HONOR 370 – 502 (Online)

Focusing on the intersection between Culture, Political Economy, Science, and Technology, this colloquium introduces students to their relationship with this growing techno-entanglement. Students will explore ways in which people interact with the environment - both built and natural, and with one another by examining sociocultural processes such as science and technology, race and social inequalities, bodies and medicine, social aspects of climate change, political power, policies that legislate human interactions with the natural world, and global ecological futures. Students will also participate in the virtual application of ethnographic frameworks to contemporary environmental issues and the writing of papers to report their findings.