

## Interesting Electives

These electives can be taken by any JMU student with  
no previously declared major or minor  
(As recommended by the Psychology Peer Advisors)

### **CSD 420 - Introduction to Sign Language** (offered fall and spring)

3 credits.

Provides an introduction to American Sign Language, the deaf community and English-based signed systems.

### **DANC 140. Elementary Modern Dance** (offered fall and spring)

2 credits.

Emphasis on modern dance technique and fundamentals of improvisation and choreography. May be repeated for credit.

*"I found it was just a really great way to de-stress and focus on a class that involved a different kind of work. Definitely do-able for people with little experience dancing!" – Ashley, PPA*

### **DANC 143. International Folk Dance (0, 4).** (offered fall)

2 credits.

Traditional folk dance steps and international folk dances. Emphasis on dances from eastern and western Europe, Mexico and Israel. May be repeated for credit.

### **DANC 144. Ballroom Dance (0, 4).** (generally offered fall and spring)

2 credits.

Ballroom dance skills including steps, styling and leading, and following for American and Latin ballroom dance forms.

### **GEOG 200. Geography: The Global Dimension.** (offered fall, spring and summer)

3 credits.

This course promotes global understanding through the study of humans, their institutions and processes, and the resulting interactions between humans and the environment. The course will include the study of Western and non-Western peoples and their social, cultural, political and economic relationships.

### **GEOG/GEOL 310. Environmental Issues.** (offered fall spring and summer)

1-4 repeatable credits, no limit.

Courses cover environmental issues such as air pollution, forest and wildlife management, water, resource management, soils and land use, and energy and the environment (among other topics). Courses examine the interface between humans and environmental systems while addressing the impact of social, economic and political systems and activities on the environment. May be repeated as course content changes.

**GEOL 115. Earth Systems and Climate Change.** (offered fall and spring)

*3 credits.*

This course explores cycles, trends and abrupt events in the Earth system. Analyses of the geologic record and global climate models provide perspective for understanding paleo climate and future climate changes, including global warming. Current hypotheses for causes of climate change are evaluated, including plate tectonics, orbital cyclicity, variations in the sun's strength and human activities. The two reoccurring questions of this class are: What are Earth's climate stories? How do we know?

**IS 202. Orientation to Career and Life Planning.** (must be a freshman)

*1 credit.*

A short orientation course designed to prepare students for transition into higher learning education programs. Specific content includes accessing career resources, career decision-making skills, self-awareness and life planning.

**IS 275 - Dollars and Sense -** (offered fall and spring)

*3 credits.*

This practical course will review the affect a personal philosophy on money, and management of personal finances, has on all aspects of life when it comes to securing the American Dream. Students will learn real life skills in the areas of eliminating debt, creating a budget, understanding investments and insurance, saving money, planning for retirement, shopping for a house and other topics dealing with financial issues faced in daily life.

**ISAT 473. Local Agriculture and Farm Internships**

The objectives for this course include understanding local ecology and its impacts on farming, as well as how farming impacts local ecology; practicing diversified farming techniques; understanding how small-scale farms operate as businesses; examining localization and slow-food movements and recognizing the impacts of globalized or industrial food and fiber production; identifying the strengths and limitations of small-scale farming. *Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.*

**ISCI 104: Scientific Perspectives: Fly Fishing & The Environment** (offered spring)

This class gives students the opportunity to learn how to fly fish for eight weeks. The class meets once a week and is just one hour long.

**ISCI 104: Scientific Perspectives: Exploring the Night Sky** (offered spring)

*1 credit*

A study of topics selected to allow students to participate in scientific problem-solving approaches to knowledge.

**KIN 122-180. Basic Instruction Activities (0, 2).** (offered fall and spring)

*1 credit.*

The following courses provide basic instruction in the activities listed:

**121, Flying Disc Sports; 122, Road Cycling; 123, Mountain Cycling; 124, Basic Rock Climbing and Experiential Activities; 125, Tennis; 126, Golf; 128, Fencing; 129, Badminton; 131, Basic Skiing or Snowboarding; 133, Bowling; 138, Racquetball; 139, Basic Paddle Sports: Canoeing or Kayaking; 140, Basic Swimming; 145, Strength Training and Cardiovascular Conditioning; 148, Jogging; 149, Group Fitness, 151, Swim Conditioning; 152, Lifesaving Lifeguarding; 156, Scuba and Skin Diving; 157, Self Defense for Women; 158, Aikido; 159, Basic Aerobic Kickboxing; 162, Intermediate Swimming; 163, Intermediate Tennis; 170, Fitness Instructor Training; 174, Water Safety Instructor; 175, Wilderness First Aid; 176, Introduction to Adventure Trip Leading; 177, Basic Group Fitness Instructor Training; 178, Group Fitness Instructor Training: Mind and Body; 179, Volleyball; 180, Soccer.**

*May be taken credit/no credit only.*

*For more specific course information, contact the department office (568-6145). Fees are required in certain courses to cover equipment and/or facility rental. Please refer to MyMadison for prevailing fees. The university reserves the right to cancel any class should suitable facilities be unavailable and to alter fees in the event of unusual inflation. Students must furnish their own transportation to bowling, canoeing, golf and skiing classes.*

**MUS 204. History of Rock.** (offered fall)

*3 credits.*

History of rock is a music appreciation course designed to develop an understanding of both musical and cultural roots of rock music and the ability to hear a direct relationship between those roots and current popular music. A major component of the course is a survey of the history of 20th century American popular music.

**MUI 221. Survey of Music Industry**

An overview of the recording, entertainment and performing arts industries including an examination of the historical, aesthetic and commercial developments of the music industry in the United States.

**NPS/FAM/GERN/SOWK 375. Grant Writing for Agencies.**

(Override Required. Must sign-up in HHS # 2127; x-listed FAM/GERN/NPS 375)

*3 credits.*

Emphasizing active learning, this course teaches the basics of grant and proposal writing. Efficient research, persuasive prose and the importance of relationships are stressed. Private and corporate philanthropy and government grants are examined.

**SOCI/WMST 337. Sociology of Gender.**

*3 credits.*

Examination of theories of sex role development, the roles of men and women in society and gender as a social construction.

**THEA 210. Introduction to Theatre. 3 credits.**

Study of the theatre as an art form. Emphasis on introducing students to a broad spectrum of theatrical activity and opinion. Consideration of the components that comprise a theatre event including acting, directing, design, costuming, lighting and playwriting.

*“If you are interested in theatre, this is a fun elective to take that lets you explore some of the different aspects within theatre!” - Nataly, PPA*