

## Studies in the Arts & Sciences: Society

All students must complete 8 semester hours in Society. Within these 8 semester hours, students must complete classes from at least two different departments. Review the list of classes to determine courses of interest for your first semester at Elon University.

The list of classes below are offered in fall 2024 and will contribute toward completing the Society requirement. This list is subject to change. The most up to date list is available in OnTrack. For more information on how to navigate OnTrack, go to the Office of Academic Advising video tutorials playlist: [How to Use OnTrack](#).

You might notice multiple courses with the abbreviation of CBL in parentheses. These are Community Based Learning Courses that involve some time out in the local community. These also will count as one of your Experiential Learning Requirements.

Course Information		Semester Hours
<b>Anthropology (ANT) 1120: Intro to Cultural Anthropology</b>		<b>4</b>
Cultural anthropology is the comparative exploration of diverse beliefs, practices and material culture of contemporary human societies throughout the world. Inherent to this study is consideration of the historical, political, economic and environmental contexts in which cultures operate. The variety of ways humans define their place in the universe, interact with their physical, social and spiritual environments, and endow their existence with meaning and order are at the core of cultural anthropological inquiry. In this course, students will learn the basic concepts, theories and methods used by anthropologists studying people and culture. Specific topics include cross-cultural patterns of subsistence, marriage and family, social organization, economics, politics, religion, globalization and culture change and the application of anthropology to contemporary social problems.		
<b>Anthropology (ANT) 1140: Intro to Archaeology</b>		<b>4</b>
Introduction to Archaeology presents the current state of archaeology by exploring its historical roots and covers basic archaeological theories, methods and practice. This includes techniques for investigation, recovery, reconstruction, interpretation and preservation, as well as ethical considerations.		
<b>Drama and Theatre Studies (DTS) 1001: Drama, Theatre, and Theory</b>		<b>4</b>
This course combines the study of dramatic literature with the study of theatre history to offer an introduction to a number of the major theories common to the humanities today: from Marxism to feminism, from queer theory to post-colonial theory. As		

such, this class builds a foundation for a liberal arts education as well as points to new directions in which scholars and artists are pursuing through performance the questions of who we are and what is our relationship to the world.

**Economics (ECO) 1000: Principles of Economics**

**4**

An introduction to the fundamentals of both microeconomics and macroeconomics, including supply and demand, the theory of the firm, consumer behavior, macroeconomic equilibrium, unemployment and inflation. The course also introduces students to economic methodology, including creating arguments, empirical verification and policy decision-making.

**Education (EDU) 2110: Education and Society (CBL)**

**4**

The field of education is ripe with potential and fraught with controversy. This interdisciplinary course examines a variety of historical, socio-cultural, ethical, philosophical, and political issues that affect students, families, educators, schools, and communities. Example topics of study include social inequality, immigration, standards and accountability, race/ethnicity, school choice, and international comparisons. An integrated field experience enables students to analyze and interpret how some of the topics under study play out in our local community.

**Environmental Studies (ENS) 1100: Humans and Nature**

**4**

This course introduces a multidisciplinary perspective on environmental issues, concentrating on such topics as the historical transformations of the human relation to nature; understandings of the roots of the current crisis from diverse philosophical and spiritual perspectives; the sociology, politics and economics of environmental issues as they currently stand; and an exploration of our imaginative and expressive (artistic, literary, and poetic) resources for articulating the current crisis and seeing our way beyond it. Field trips and special readings introduce these questions in the context of North Carolina's Piedmont region.

**Geography (GEO) 1210: Global Physical Environments**

**4**

Students will examine the processes that control the spatial distribution of climate, vegetation, soils and landforms. Topics include earth-sun geometry, global energy balance, hydrology, tectonics, weathering and mass wasting, climatic classification and climatographs, arid land and coastal and fluvial geomorphology. Focus will be on the Earth as the home of humans and the impact of humans on their environments.

**Geography (GEO) 1310: The World's Regions**

**4**

This survey of the regions of the world emphasizes place names and environmental and human characteristics that provide both the common traits and the distinctive characteristics of different places. Students analyze change, problems, potentials and alternative futures and use traditional and electronic data sources, atlases and methods of data presentation.

**Geography (GEO) 2500: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems**

**4**

In this course, students will be introduced to the concepts of visualizing, exploring and analyzing spatial data. Through hands-on lab exercises and research projects, students will gain broad experience with analysis and mapping using the latest ArcGIS software. Examples from environmental management, public administration, business and other disciplines are covered.

**Human Service Studies (HSS) 1110: The Art and Science of Human Service Studies (CBL)**

**4**

This course explores the history, values and ethics of the human services profession. Students are introduced to the theoretical approaches to human services work, issues of social justice and the evidence used to guide interventions and policy designed to address human problems.

**Human Service Studies (HSS) 1150: American Sign Language I**

**4**

This course is designed to introduce the basics of American Sign Language (ASL) and to facilitate an essential understanding of Deaf culture. Though perceived by some as simply a disabled population, members of Deaf community celebrate their shared history, traditions, values, and beliefs. This course introduces students to the unique language that unites this community and explores the sense of identity that is based on much more than hearing loss. Class activities will focus on the manual alphabet, concept sign vocabulary, introductory grammatical features of ASL, receptive and expressive skills, and common usage practices. Emphasis will be placed on the appropriate use of signs and finger-spelling as they occur within the local Deaf community, providing the means by which the students can come to better know and appreciate this diverse group of people.

**Leadership Studies (LED) 2100: Foundations of Leadership Studies (CBL)**

**4**

This course is designed as an introduction to Leadership Studies, which is based on the intersection of many disciplines: psychology, political science, philosophy, history, sociology and management, among others. The class will explore the basic principles and various definitions and theories of leadership and will analyze examples of leadership in action. Students will examine leadership concepts within the context of their own lives and begin to define a personal leadership style.

<b>Public Health Studies (PHS) 2010: Introduction to Public Health Studies</b>	<b>4</b>
<p>This course is an introductory survey of public health issues and opportunities. Students will gain a thorough understanding of public health, its influence on the health of the world, environmental and behavioral influences on the health of the public in the United States, and the broad scope of career options for professionals in the field of public health. This course includes a historical context for a discussion of current trends, emerging health issues and global practices.</p>	
<b>Political Science (POL) 1110: American Government</b>	<b>4</b>
<p>This course serves as an introduction to the national political system including the legislative, executive and judicial branches, the Constitution, political parties, interest groups, public opinion and public policy issues.</p>	
<b>Political Science (POL) 1120: North Carolina Student Legislature</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>This is an experiential course, which promotes active participation in the North Carolina Student Legislature, debate of public issues and organizational involvement at the university and state-wide level.</p>	
<b>Political Science (POL) 1140: Model United Nations</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>Through experiential learning activities, students gain insight into the issues of the United Nations, diplomacy and international politics.</p>	
<b>Political Science (POL) 1200: Intro to Political Thought</b>	<b>4</b>
<p>This is a reading, writing, and discussion intensive course that introduces students to the history of political thought through an engagement with important political texts spanning the ancient, modern, and contemporary periods in the West. We will ask hard questions about justice, truth, virtue, happiness and the good life, individual and common good, the foundations of political societies, the origins and work of inequality, the value of freedom, subjection, subjectivity and citizenship, morality, and many others. In addition to looking to more traditional “canonical” voices within the discipline of political theory (Plato, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Nietzsche), this course examines the critical interventions staged by feminist and critical race scholars (Wollstonecraft, W.E.B Du Bois, Carole Pateman, Simone de Beauvoir, and bell hooks) into the ongoing conversations and debates shaping contemporary political thought.</p>	
<b>Political Science (POL) 1410: International Relations</b>	<b>4</b>

This course gives students a basic appreciation for our world and examines political issues such as the role of power and international law in the international system and economic, social and cultural features of the world.

**Political Science (POL) 1610: Comparative Politics**

4

This introduction to the central concepts of comparative politics and to the major types of contemporary political systems may include Britain, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, China, Mexico and the post-Soviet independent states of Eurasia.

**Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) 1100: Wealth, Power, and the Public Good**

4

This course introduces students to some of the central ideas, arguments, and approaches that ground inquiry in the interdisciplinary field of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) – a program of study that offers an integrated approach to understanding historical and contemporary dynamics of wealth and power in relation to moral reflection. At the center of PPE is the examination of value and values (economic, political, and moral) and the ways that different systems of valuing are contested and enacted.

The PPE approach brings together intersecting and overlapping concerns relative to wealth, power, and the public purpose, and examines them as both practical and moral questions. As an interdisciplinary field, PPE is uniquely situated to ask normative questions in relation to political and economic practices, to consider the moral and political dimensions of economic activity, and to draw connections between issues that are of collective concern – locally, nationally, and globally. This introductory course draws from classic and contemporary texts in Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics. We will examine a range of perspectives on key concepts, institutions, and values that are fundamental to political and economic life, including: power, order, and the authority of the state; democracy and collective action; private property and the operation of markets; individual motivations and behavior in relation to commercial and social exchange; and the relation of values like freedom, equality, and justice to contested understandings of the public good.

**Poverty and Social Justice (PSJ) 1100: Intro to Poverty Studies**

4

This broad-based multi-disciplinary course is the foundation course for the Poverty and Social Justice (PSJ) minor. It provides an introduction to the current state of global and domestic poverty as well as focusing on how poverty is both measured and theorized. We will examine foundational theories present in poverty discussions (e.g. theories of justice, foundational economic theories and concepts, relevant cultural theories) that students will encounter and use throughout the PSJ program. This material will provide the foundation for understanding, navigating, and assessing the elective work in the minor and it will also provide an essential base level of knowledge for student's internship experiences.

<b>Psychology (PSY) 1000: Introduction to Psychology</b>	<b>4</b>
This course surveys central topics in the field, including research methodology, learning and memory processes, social psychology, psychological disorders and personality, and considers cultural issues as appropriate in each of these domains.	
<b>Professional Writing and Rhetoric (PWR) 2100: Professional Writing and Technology Studio</b>	<b>4</b>
This workshop-style course provides intensive practice in rhetorical strategies, audience assessment, writing technologies and media, information and visual design, and project management. This course will introduce students to a variety of writing software packages that are commonly used in the professional world and the multiple ways in which professional writers use them. We will both critique the strengths and limitations of these tools, as well as gain facility with their use through hands-on writing, publishing, digital portfolio, and multimedia projects.	
<b>Professional Writing and Rhetoric (PWR) 2110: Professional Writing and Rhetoric</b>	<b>4</b>
This course is designed to introduce students to the study and practice of professional writing from the perspective of rhetoric, one of the oldest liberal arts. Students will learn about the wide range of possibilities connected to the broad term "professional writing;" understand what assuming a rhetorical perspective on writing means; gain a broad sense of the issues, topics and practices that mark the field of professional writing and rhetoric; become part of the ongoing conversations that make up the field; understand professional writing and rhetoric as a socially situated art and practice; gain some practical hands-on experience through a variety of professional writing projects and integrate scholastic research into reflective professional practice.	
<b>Professional Writing and Rhetoric (PWR) 2130: Publishing and Editing I</b>	<b>4</b>
This course explores the foundations of print culture and what it means to publish texts in terms of the relationships between authors, audience, editors, and gatekeepers, as well as the available means of production and delivery. Students will explore the history of print culture, the rhetorical roles people play in the publishing process, print publishing technologies and processes, and publishing and editing as potential career paths. Students will complete small print documents and professional editing projects for a variety of audiences, using the rhetorical canons of invention, arrangement, and delivery.	
<b>Sociology (SOC 1110): Introductory Sociology</b>	<b>4</b>
This course provides an introduction to basic theoretical principles and research methods of modern sociology, including such issues as the relationship between culture, personality and society; the fundamental forms of social structure; social institutions	

such as religion and the family; and social processes such as deviance and social change. As part of the course, students will be introduced to the ways in which sociology is used to gain a deeper understanding of both current and time-worn social issues as well as helping students to understand the ways in which their lives and identities have been influenced and shaped by social and cultural factors, and also gives consideration to issues pertaining to social responsibility. The course provides a strong foundation, both in terms of practical learning skills and content, for upper level Elon Core Curriculum, as well as upper level sociology courses.

**Sociology (SOC) 2430: Sociology of Education (CBL)**

**4**

Throughout the world, education has become a vast and complex social institution that prepares citizens for the roles demanded by other social institutions, such as the family, government and the economy. Through the different theoretical perspectives, education is analyzed as a key social institution that influences and is influenced by the larger society. This course is designed for students to explore topics such as learning and social class, teacher and parental expectations, learning and gender, ethnicity, the role of education in the acculturation and assimilation process, and the relation between learning and family rearing practices. Therefore, the sociological and cultural aspects relating to public schools will be emphasized. In addition, students will experience firsthand some of the materials covered in class through a required field experience.

**Wellness and Health Education (WHE) 2850: Perspectives in Personal and Global Health**

**4**

This course is designed to explore basic concepts relating to optimal health and well-being from a holistic perspective - the state of health based on the interrelated aspects of mind, body and spirit on individual and global levels. Emphasis is placed on current health issues that affect the emotional, physical, social, intellectual, spiritual and environmental aspects of one's life. This course will explore personal health issues from multiple cultural and global perspectives. Topics related to health, including stress, alcohol and other drugs, physical fitness, nutrition, weight control, disease prevention, sexuality and mental health. This course is designed to cultivate life-long health and well-being through acquisition of knowledge and skills as well as an understanding of individual, community and global responsibility. Students will gain an understanding of the complexity of factors influencing health behavior in order to begin envisioning ways to impact health.

**Women's, Gender, Sexualities Studies (WGS) 1100: Sex and Gender**

**4**

This course addresses the following issues: the difference between sex and gender, how sex and gender are socially constructed, the relationship between sex, gender, and sexuality; and the various types of feminisms. Students will develop and demonstrate the ability to critically explore how these identities intersect with each other as well as with other identities such

as race, class, physical ability, and so on, and consider how their own identities are constructed. This course counts in either Civilization or Society but cannot count in both categories.