

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

SPRING 2024 Course Booklet

CONTACT US:

(305)284-8783

malsadmissions@miami.edu

mals.miami.edu



MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAM
SPRING 2024 COURSES
JANUARY 16 – MAY 8, 2024

MLS 612-1U	“Rise & Fall of the American Dream”	#3872
Professor George Wilson		
Tuesday	6:35 pm – 9:20 pm	Merrick 309

This course analyzes changes in the opportunity structure in the U.S. over the last 150 years. Changes in opportunities across the residential, educational and employment spheres has been drastic and has dramatically affected individual and family socioeconomic trajectories. Through underlying infrastructural changes, coupled with policy developments, we will untangle the causes of generally, the drastic reduction/loss of opportunities to reach socioeconomic heights long-considered to be an important basis for the perception that America is truly the land of opportunity.

MLS 613-Y3	“Global Climate Change”	#3970
Professor Shouraseni Roy		
Asynchronous	NA	Online

This interdisciplinary course covers the tools and insights from economic analysis, environmental science, and statistics that inform our understanding of climate change impacts, the design of mitigation and adaptation policies, and the implementation of these policies. Students will be actively engaged in exploring the scientific and economic issues underlying the threat of global climate change and the institutions engaged in negotiating an international response.

Note: We are in the process of converting MLS 613 to a required core class for MALS to fulfil the science requirement.

MLS 625-4K	“Black Protest Leaders in America”	#
Professor Marvin Dawkins		
Wednesday	6:35 pm – 9:20 pm	

This course examines Black protest leaders in America through the lens of biography and by focusing on the qualities and effectiveness of selected, well-known Black protest leaders from the early 20th century to the present. Such leaders as Booker T. Washington, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. Dubois, Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., A. Philip Randolph, James Farmer, Martin Luther King, Jr., Ella Baker, Roy Wilkins, Huey P. Newton, Bobby Seale, Shirley Chisholm, Jesse Jackson, Sr., Stokely Carmichael (Kwame Ture) and Al Sharpton, among others, will be critically examined. A particular focus will be on the social, political and historical settings and circumstances surrounding their leadership, as well as protest organizations they created or in which they participated. Students will engage in readings and discussion, along with viewing video documentaries, and developing individual projects on Black protest leaders and organizations. The primary aim of this course is to enhance knowledge related to the significant role played by the many Black protest leaders who contributed, positively, to progress achieved by African-descent people in American society.

MLS 631-KL
Professor Henry Green
Monday

“Spirituality & Education”

6:35 pm – 9:20 pm

#3846

Merrick 214 F

This course explores the nature of spirituality and the differences from religion. Sacred literature, music and images from varied traditions (eastern and western) will be gleaned both for instructional as well as inspirational values. By focusing on spiritual literacy, several themes will be addressed such as charity, spiritual practice and community service. The course is limited to 12 students.

MLS 696-01
Professor Daniel Pals
Arranged

Directed Readings

#3062

A Directed Readings course allows you to work independently with a MALS professor, researching a topic of your choice. Professor Pals will be the advisor for all Directed Readings in Religion. For any other topic, you must find a professor in that field that is willing to act as your advisor. Only students with a 3.0 GPA or higher will be able to enroll in a Directed Readings course. In order to register for the course you will need to submit a 2 page proposal along with a bibliography of 10 academic sources, at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the semester. The final paper must be a minimum of 15 pages, and be submitted to both the professor and the MALS office on the first day of final exams. Hard copies only will be accepted. Proposals must be given to both the professor and IPS office before registering, and at least 2 weeks before classes begin. Students are allowed two directed readings courses during their studies in the Program.

*MALS Directed Readings Papers Due at end of Semester *

MLS 815 -01
Professor Daniel Pals
Arranged

MALS Project

#3064

The student working on his/her MALS project enrolls for credit, not to exceed 6, as determined by his/her advisor. Credit is not awarded until the project has been accepted.

Before registering for a MALS Project students must submit a proposal and meet with the Director to discuss the project.