Honors Seminars are listed under the course number UGS 200H in the Schedule of Courses. The seminars are 3 credit courses that extend through both Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 semesters. Enroll in the 3 credit UGS 200H section for Fall 2013; the Credit/No Credit grade will be extended and reported at the conclusion of Spring 2014. UGS 200H is intended for students not participating in the Professorial Assistant program.

Section 001 – INTRODUCTION TO MATERIALS RESEARCH IN A SERVICE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: Prof. Boehlert, Chemical Engineering & Material Science, Thursdays, 3:00pm-3:50pm, 2205 Engineering Building

This Citizenship and Leadership Seminar will allow students to learn about one of the most widely used tools in multidisciplinary materials-based research, a scanning electron microscope (SEM). Students will focus on SEM analysis of ceramics, composites, biomaterials, metallic alloys, etc. This honors seminar will also allow the students to use the knowledge they gained to teach K-12 students about SEM in a service-learning for leadership environment. The students will also be responsible for performing a materials-based research project using the SEM and presenting their research through a poster display at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. HRS courses are scheduled for Fall semester but seminar work will continue into the Spring with expected participation the UURAF in April.

Section 003 – INVESTIGATING KEY DETERMINANTS OF HOLISTIC HEALTHCARE QUALITY – IMPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT & POLICY-MAKING: Prof. Nair, Supply Chain Management, Wednesdays, 3:00pm-4:40pm, N021 Business College Complex

Quality of healthcare has been an important topic of consideration among healthcare providers, consumers, and policymakers. In a recent poll conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and National Public Radio, only half of the 1,508 randomly surveyed people in U.S. who have spent time in a hospital in the past year reported that they were very satisfied with their care. The remaining respondents complained about mistakes, poor communication and unresponsive nurses. The results of the survey calls attention to the need for patient-centered care, where healthcare providers holistically consider clinical and experiential dimensions of
quality. In the light of these recent news items and survey results, this research seminar will focus on a holistic examination of healthcare quality by jointly considering the perspectives of healthcare consumers and healthcare service providers. Specifically, by means of survey, ethnographic and secondary data, this research will examine the antecedents that play important role in enhancing the clinical and experiential quality of hospitals. The research would aim at developing a typology for attaining holistic improvement in healthcare quality. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment, but seminar work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. This class does NOT meet on Wednesday, August 28.

Section 004 – THE SANDS OF MARS: Prof. Velbel & Prof. Hampton, Geological Sciences, Wednesdays, 3:00pm-3:50pm, 217 Ernst Bessey Hall

Student participants in this seminar will examine the shapes of sand grains in instrumentally acquired images of sand from the Mars Phoenix Lander landing site on Mars, and terrestrial analogs. Beginning with visual classification methods used by geologists to characterize and describe sediment-grain shapes in the field, student participants will examine a variety of grain types in representative mission images and make preliminary assessments of the transport and deposition/accumulation histories of the sands. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but seminar work will continue into Spring 2014 with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. This class does NOT meet on Wednesday, August 28.

Section 005 – NEW MEDIA MARKETING: MOBILE AND SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS FOR IMPACT: Prof. Coursaris, Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media, Tuesdays, 9:10am-10:00am, 171 Communication Arts Building

The seminar will cover a broad range of topics, from the fundamentals of human-computer interaction to the research methods available for studying new media effects. It will also cover various social media vehicles as means to engage prospective customers. This theoretical foundation will enable students to engage in new media marketing research, investigating such questions as what types of messages work best on Facebook Pages or Twitter in raising awareness about a product or increasing sales, using both survey and experimental methods. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research Forum (UURAF) in April.

Section 006 – POPULAR AND PROFESSIONAL DEBATES OVER VACCINES: Prof. Largent, James Madison, Wednesdays, 9:10am-10:00am, 319L South Case hall

Since the late 1990's, some parents have grown increasingly anxious about the growing numbers of vaccines they are obligated to have administered to their children. Claims about a potential link to autism as well as concerns that some vaccines
might not be as effective as we first thought, have encouraged increasing numbers of parents to refuse to vaccinate their children against a variety of childhood diseases. Students in this course will examine claims that have been made recently about vaccine safety and efficacy by examining popular and professional literature on the subject, including epidemiological studies, laboratory results, papers published in scientific journals, political challenges to mandatory vaccination, and the social and legal framework for challenging mandatory vaccination. Ultimately, students will design and carry out research programs on topics of their choosing and present their findings at the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF). All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. This class does NOT meet on Wednesday, August 28.

Section 007 – THE MSU EATS TODAY PROJECT: Prof. Bucquerox, School of Journalism, Tuesdays, 3:00pm-4:20pm, 239 Communication Arts Building

Historical Research and Multimedia Storytelling. Students will have an opportunity to search historical records for undiscovered documents related to the famous America Eats project from the Great Depression, where famous authors and photographers told the stories of people in groups and their foodways. Students will also work in teams to employ multimedia storytelling to document the stories of groups on campus and their food culture, using text, photography, video and other digital techniques. The resulting stories and recipes will be published on a website devoted to the project. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but seminar work will continue into Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April.

Section 008 – STOCK PORTFOLIO DIVERSIFICATION: MYTH OR REALITY?: Prof. Butler, Prof. Tessmer, Finance, Fridays, 8:30am-9:20am, N021 Business College Complex

Do you consider yourself a risk-averse investor? Or do you better describe yourself as a risk-lover stock trader? This seminar gives the opportunity to test yourself with a $1M stock portfolio to be invested on the stock market. The seminar will discuss risk definitions and measurements when related to stock investment. Then, you will be responsible for investing your wealth while carefully controlling the risk level of your portfolio. Various risk management methods will be selected and tested. Time will tell if your method is efficient at reducing risk. Which method performs best and why? Those are the questions this seminar will empirically answer. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April.
Section 009 – VIDEO GAME IMPACTS: PLAY WITH MEANING: Prof. Ratan, Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media, Wednesdays, 3:00pm-4:20pm, 151 Communication Arts Building

Students will learn about the latest research methods and theories on the impacts of playing video games, with a specific emphasis on positive impacts (e.g., health, learning). The class will situate these impacts within theories from long-established media effects research, such as the Social Learning model, as well as theories that apply specifically to newer media, such as the Proteus Effect, which focuses on avatar use. Building on their knowledge of these topics, three student teams will design and conduct their own research studies using three different theoretical perspectives, but all focusing on the same video game (or genre) of interest. The instructor will guide the students through these projects and when possible, will enlist graduate students to serve as consultants to the groups. These research projects will initially result in three separate papers to be presented at the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum, but may also be submitted as one comprehensive article or separately to an academic conference or journal for publication. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. This class does NOT meet on Wednesday, August 28.

Section 010 – THEATRE & GAME ENGINES: RESEARCHING NEW METHODS OF AUDIENCE INTERACTION IN LIVE PERFORMANCE: Prof. Dobbins, Theatre, Tuesdays, 4:10pm-5:00pm, C20 Snyder Hall

Seminar will cover key concepts at the forefront of digital theatre: combining principles of game programming, theatre and film. Students will be introduced to a variety of audience interaction methods currently being used in the field including application development for mobile devices. The goal of this seminar is to equip students with the skills to integrate an artistic and analytic approach to solving problems. All UGS 200H seminars have a Fall enrollment but work will continue into the Spring with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April.

Section 750 – CUBA FSA URBAN SUSTAINABILITY IN CUBA AND MICHIGAN: Prof. Hinojosa, Urban Planning, Arranged, Study Abroad – Havana, Cuba
Participants will study urban sustainability with a specific emphasis on local food issues and urban design. The project will involve seminars and fieldwork in early fall to urban farming and redevelopment sites on campus and in Detroit followed by a study abroad program to Cuba from Dec 13-23. Participants, working in teams with a faculty mentor, will design a research project that addresses the program themes. Sample topics could include analyzing the tourism value of historic preservation, calculating the economic value of local food systems, or assessing the role of local farming in enhancing food security. Regardless of the research topic selected, all students will focus on the issue of sustainability from an interdisciplinary, global perspective by making connections between local, state, and international engagements. Participants enrolling in UGS 200H section 750 have experience with the Spanish language and an interest in learning about other cultures, as well as topics related to sustainability, resource economics, food systems and historic preservation. Participants will develop intercultural competence, improve oral and written skills, and become familiar with various social science research methods. This course will meet in 207/208 Eustace-Cole Hall on some Thursday afternoons prior to travel. All UGS 200H seminars have Fall enrollment but seminar work will continue into the Spring semester with expected participation in the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) in April. Participants must also enroll with UGS 102 section 750 for Spring 2014.