General Education Electives (GNED)
Fall 2026

Oshawa On-Campus General Education Electives (GNED)					
Course Code	**Course Title**	**CRN**	**Day**	**Start Time**	**End Time**
GNED 1495	Talkin' 'Bout My Generation	13711	Monday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1506	Natural Disasters	13712	Monday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1325	Deconstructing Superheros	13685	Monday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1418	The History of Video Games	13695	Monday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1118	No More Drama: Conflict & Dispute Resolution	13652	Monday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1228	Science Fiction & Philosophy: Time Travel, Superintelligence & Beyond	13680	Monday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1512	Paranormal & Pseudoscience	13716	Monday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1143	Creativity, a Personal Understanding	13671	Tuesday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1112	Healthy Habits from Around the World	13651	Tuesday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1530	Welcome to the Future: Unravelling the Mysteries of STEM	13724	Tuesday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1430	Canada & The World	13697	Tuesday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1404	Popular Culture & the Media	13688	Tuesday	16:10	18:00
GNED 1527	Artificial Intelligence	16326	Tuesday	16:10	18:00
GNED 1118	No More Drama: Conflict & Dispute Resolution	13653	Wednesday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1478	Beer Through the Ages	13710	Wednesday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1132	Get Happy! The Pursuit of Happiness and the Science of Positive Psychology	13667	Wednesday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1448	Humanity's Destiny	13702	Wednesday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1222	Making Monsters	13678	Wednesday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1324	Sustainable Development	13684	Wednesday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1108	Human Relations	13650	Wednesday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1462	Global Leader	13703	Wednesday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1412	World Religions	13694	Wednesday	16:10	18:00
GNED 1435	Deviance	13699	Thursday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13656	Thursday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1527	Artificial Intelligence	13721	Thursday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1522	You Are What you Eat	13720	Thursday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1527	Artificial Intelligence	13722	Thursday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1140	Economics in the Real World: Making Sense of Current Events and Trends	13670	Thursday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1528	Written in Bones: Lives and Lifestyles through Bioarchaeology	13723	Thursday	16:10	18:00
GNED 1520	Big History: The Story of the Universe	13719	Friday	8:10	10:00
GNED 1125	Gender and Sexuality	13665	Friday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1403	A Short History of the World	13687	Friday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1435	Deviance	13698	Friday	2:10	16:00

General Education Electives (GNED)

Fall 2026

Online (Asynchronous) General Education Electives (GNED)		
Course Code	**Course Title**	**CRN**
GNED 1106	Psychology: Understanding Ourselves and Others	13647
GNED 1106	Psychology: Understanding Ourselves and Others	13648
GNED 1106	Psychology: Understanding Ourselves and Others	13649
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13654
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13655
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13657
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13658
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13659
GNED 1119	Money Matters	13660
GNED 1120	Stress, Wellness & Nutrition	13661
GNED 1120	Stress, Wellness & Nutrition	13662
GNED 1120	Stress, Wellness & Nutrition	13663
GNED 1120	Stress, Wellness & Nutrition	13664
GNED 1132	Get Happy! The Pursuit of Happiness and the Science of Positive Psychology	13666
GNED 1132	Get Happy! The Pursuit of Happiness and the Science of Positive Psychology	13668
GNED 1137	Fear	13669
GNED 1204	History of Popular Music	13672
GNED 1204	History of Popular Music	13673
GNED 1213	Hero's Journey – Frodo, Luke and Harry	13674
GNED 1216	Stories of Diverse Media	13676
GNED 1216	Stories of Diverse Media	13677
GNED 1320	Social Innovation: Becoming a Changemaker	13683
GNED 1403	A Short History of the World	13686
GNED 1407	Introduction to Sociology	13689
GNED 1407	Introduction to Sociology	13690
GNED 1411	Social Media and Society	13691
GNED 1411	Social Media and Society	13692
GNED 1411	Social Media and Society	13693
GNED 1438	Hip Hop: History, Culture & Society	13700
GNED 1441	Food for Thought	13701
GNED 1465	Youth & Social Regulation	13704
GNED 1466	Organized Crime	13705
GNED 1466	Organized Crime	16286
GNED 1468	Sociology of the Family	13706
GNED 1468	Sociology of the Family	13707
GNED 1468	Sociology of the Family	13708
GNED 1471	Geography Matters: Connecting People & Places in our Globalized World	13709
GNED 1508	Digital Learner	13713
GNED 1509	Astronomy: Exploring the Night Sky	13714
GNED 1512	Paranormal & Pseudoscience	13715
GNED 1515	World Mysteries	13717
GNED 1515	World Mysteries	13718
GNED 1532	Skullduggary: Inside Your Brain	13725

General Education Electives (GNED)

Fall 2026

Whitby On-Campus General Education Electives (GNED)					
Course Code	**Course Title**	**CRN**	**Day**	**Start time**	**End Time**
GNED 1222	Making Monsters	14921	Monday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1324	Sustainable Development	14923	Monday	12:10	14:00
GNED 1205	The Social Impact of Rock & Roll	14920	Tuesday	17:10	19:00
GNED 1112	Healthy Habits from Around the World	14919	Wednesday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1435	Deviance	14925	Wednesday	10:10	12:00
GNED 1325	Deconstructing Superheros	14924	Thursday	14:10	16:00
GNED 1520	Big History: The Story of the Universe	14926	Thursday	14:10	16:00

Indigenous General Education Electives (INDG)
Fall 2026

Indigenous General Education Electives (INDG)						
Course Code	**Course Title**	**CRN**	**Mode**	**Day**	**Start time**	**End Time**
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13815	Hybrid	Wednesday	17:10	19:00
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13816	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13817	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13818	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13819	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1473	Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada	13820	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1475	First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture	13821	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1475	First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture	13822	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1475	First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture	13823	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1475	First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture	13824	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1475	First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture	13825	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13827	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13828	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13829	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13830	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13831	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1477	Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era	13832	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1479	The Forgotten People: Exploring Métis Identity	13833	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1479	The Forgotten People: Exploring Métis Identity	13834	Online-asynchronous	N/A		
INDG 1479	The Forgotten People: Exploring Métis Identity	13835	Online-asynchronous	N/A		

Note:
Indigenous General Education Electives (INDG) appear in the program of study as INDG 0000. Students who require an INDG elective will select from one of the options listed above.

Modes:
Hybrid: 2 hour lecture in-class and 1 hour asynchronous content online
Online - asynchronous: content is accessed completely online.

General Education (GNED) Course Descriptions
Fall 2026

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GNED 1205 – The Social Impact of Rock & Roll 7
GNED 1213 - Hero's Journey – Frodo, Luke and Harry 8
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GNED 1228 – Science Fiction & Philosophy 9
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GNED 1324 - Sustainable Development 9
GNED 1325 – Deconstructing Superheroes 10
GNED 1403 – A Short History of the World 10
GNED 1404 – Popular Culture and the Media 10
GNED 1407 – Introduction to Sociology 11
GNED 1411 – Social Media and Society 11
GNED 1412 – World Religions 11
GNED 1418 – The History of Video Games 12
GNED 1426 – Cultural Diversity in Canada 12
GNED 1430 – Canada & The World 12
GNED 1435 – Deviance 13
GNED 1438 – Hip Hop: History, Culture & Society 13
GNED 1441 – Food for Thought 13
GNED 1448 – Humanity's Destiny 14
GNED 1462 – Global Leader 14
GNED 1465 – Youth & Social Regulation 15
GNED 1466 – Organized Crime 15
GNED 1468 – Sociology of the Family 15
GNED 1471 – Geography Matters: Connecting People & Places in our Globalized World 15
GNED 1478 – Beer Through the Ages 16
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GNED 1506 – Natural Disasters 16

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INDG 1473 – Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada....20
INDG 1475 – First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture....20
INDG 1477 – Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era....20
INDG 1479 – The Forgotten People: Exploring Métis Identity....20

GNED 1101 – Reimagining Leadership for a Changing World
Why do many individuals in positions of influence struggle to respond effectively to today's complex and interconnected challenges, such as climate change, the rapid disruption of artificial intelligence, and rising inequity? As understandings of leadership continue to evolve, this course introduces an integrative framework grounded in relationships among self, others, broader systems, and the cosmos. This values-based approach provides practical and reflective tools for understanding oneself while engaging meaningfully with pressing local and global issues. The course invites students to broaden their understanding of leadership by examining power dynamics across social, cultural, generational, and economic contexts. Emphasis is placed on developing the capacity to engage thoughtfully and creatively with complexity, diversity, and change. Through guided reflection and critical inquiry, students will explore their perspectives, values, and assumptions in relation to the world around them. The course supports the development of a personally meaningful approach to contributing to positive change – fostering individual well-being while cultivating a values-informed orientation that advances more equitable and environmentally sustainable communities.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1101: BHRM, BSOC, BSOI, BSOM, EMCC, HRM, HTRU, PPC, RECL, SPAD, SPMN

GNED 1106 – Psychology: Understanding Ourselves and Others
Do you ever wonder why people behave the way they do? What were they thinking? What motivates your own behaviour and thinking? Through experiments, videos, reflections, and other activities, you will better understand how the mind works. Like how you learn and forget things. Or how you can use psychological knowledge to improve your sleep, enhance your understanding of mental health and psychological disorders, and make sense of how people behave in groups. You will even have some choice in how you demonstrate this learning!
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1106: POFD, PPC, PSI

GNED 1108 – Human Relations
Have you ever disagreed with someone? Reacted emotionally? Had a relationship go bust? Questioned someone's behaviour? Or, regretted something you did? Sure you have; we all have. Effectively interacting with others and getting a handle on yourself are pillars of personal and professional success and happiness. Let's therefore embark on a journey of self-discovery and develop essential skills to foster positive human relations. Along the way, gain insights into conflict resolution, intercultural collaboration, and emotional intelligence, among other things, that will equip you to personally and professionally thrive in an interconnected and dynamic world.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1108: EMCC

GNED 1112 – Healthy Habits From Around The World
What makes Italy the world's healthiest country? Why has Finland been crowned the happiest nation for six years running? What is it about the Mediterranean diet that increases one's life expectancy? Wouldn't you love to be healthier, happier, and live longer? Let's take a deep dive into improving human health by exploring wellness practices from around the world. Let's learn about the impact genetics and geography has on our health. Let's discover how we can implement healthy habits practiced globally into our everyday world. You have the opportunity to apply these practices through experimenting and designing a lifestyle project to improve your overall health and wellness.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1112: N/A

GNED 1118 – No More Drama: Conflict & Resolution
Occasional conflict is a natural aspect of interpersonal relationships—whether at school, in the workplace, at home or beyond. Conflict does not need to be something we fear or resist. Whatever the cause of disagreements between people, conflicts can be resolved in constructive ways—without all the drama. Learners will explore theoretical insights, practical strategies, interest-based methods, and essential conflict communication behaviours for successfully resolving, and even preventing, conflicts in various situations.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1118: PPC

GNED 1119 – Money Matters
What do YOU want to do...Today? Tomorrow? In a few years? It takes more than money to get what you want out of life. Why? Because hope alone doesn't make dreams come true. Goals do! Planning ahead will turn your dollars into something you can drive, live or retire in down the track. Start setting your goals today. Remember, when you plan, YOU save! We all have various amounts of money, but we spend and save it differently. The better we understand money, the more of it we will have. Start your journey to financial success! This course will provide a general overview of a wide variety of money topics including budgeting, expenses, debt, saving, retirement and insurance among others. Understanding how each of these topics work together and relate to one another can help in laying the groundwork of a solid financial foundation. Students in this course will be evaluated using quizzes, assignments, worksheets, and participation in discussion items.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1119: N/A

GNED 1120 – Stress, Wellness & Nutrition
Stress plays a massive role in our personal and professional lives, so learning how best to address it is vital to our long-term health. Both stress and relaxation have the power to trigger molecular changes throughout the body that can either make us more susceptible to illness or generate increased resilience. In this course, students will explore the Dimensions of Wellness, and be exposed to various tools for self-regulation, such as meditation and yoga. They will also develop and execute a personalized physical wellness plan. By the end of the semester, individuals will have gained invaluable insight into what is needed to improve and/or maintain their holistic health across the lifespan in order to better protect themselves from both internal and external stressors. [Approximately one hour per week of on-campus gym activities and/or fitness classes are required in both the first and second half of the course (scheduling determined by student)].
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1120: EMCC, FIT, OFAD, OFEF, OFEX, OFHF, OFHS, PNFL, PNII, POFD, PPC, PSI, RECL

GNED 1125 – Gender & Sexuality
Students in this course will explore a variety of issues surrounding gender and sexuality in contemporary Western society: gender socialization, social and cultural norms, rape culture, sexual shaming, the impact of religion & politics on gender and sexuality, constructs of masculinity and sexual deviance. Through an interactive blend of lectures, discussions and debates, students will broaden and challenge their understanding of the role(s) of both gender and sexuality in media, politics, religion and popular culture. Ultimately, this course seeks to analyze the shifting landscape of gender and sexual politics and its relevance in this particularly important, controversial time in human history.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1125: N/A

GNED 1132 - Get Happy! The Pursuit of Happiness and the Science of Positive Psychology
It could be said that one of the main goals in life is to “be happy”, but what does that really mean and how do we achieve that goal? Positive Psychology is a newer branch of psychology that seeks to answer those very questions, as well as to provide us with a pathway for our own, personal happiness. Wouldn’t you love to develop a greater understanding of how long-term happiness differs from the short-term happiness we get from empty actions, like buying “stuff”? We explore and debate reasons for the decline in our happiness levels, including the rise in both materialism and technology. We increase our awareness of how personal happiness is dependent upon our relationships with other people, as well as discover how happiness can be derived from healthy, sexual relationships, both with ourselves and others. And because happiness needs to be experienced, not just discussed; you have the opportunity to put the science into meaningful action through goal setting, weekly activities and experiments. At the culmination of the course, participants will have the opportunity to contribute to a Happiness Project and put their joy into practice!
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1132: N/A

GNED 1137 – Fear
Fear has robbed people of their true potential and while we were made to soar like eagles, many of us will end up scratching like chickens. This course aims to take a critical look at external factors in the media, society and personal interactions that have contributed to this debilitating phenomenon known as fear. We will expose messages that we have received and look at how they have influenced the decisions we currently make. Students will evaluate external messages that have prohibited them from achieving their true potential. Through online discussions, video analysis, article reviews and self-reflective exercises, students will identify how fear is constructed
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1137: N/A

GNED 1140 – Economics in the Real World: Making Sense of Current Events and Trends
From the price of your morning cup of coffee to the fluctuations of the stock market, economics affects nearly every aspect of our daily lives. But don't worry, we won't be drowning in complex equations and graphs here. Instead, we'll be taking a hands-on approach, exploring real-world examples and using relatable language, and interactive activities to understand economic concepts. So come join us on this exciting journey into the world of everyday economics. It's sure to be an enlightening experience!
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1140: ACCT, ACTU, BACC, BACT, BESB, BETU, BFCC, BFNC, BFND, BHRC, BHRM, BMKC, BMKG, BSOC, BSOI, BSOM, FINC, FNTU, HRM, HRTU, MKTU, MRKG, SCOP, SCTU

GNED 1143 – Creativity, A Personal understanding
Students will have the opportunity to study creativity from a personal perspective. By looking at topics such as creative thinking, creative problem solving, and improving creativity, students will explore the context, psychology and science behind creativity. Students will have the opportunity to link course content and examine their own creative processes through on-line and in-class discussions, reflections, and a creative problem-solving assignment. Students will also be evaluated by short quizzes, a creativity assignment, in-process activities, and a final summative assignment.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1143: INDR

GNED 1204 – History of Popular Music
The history of Rock and Roll is synonymous with the history of popular music. Popular music has a number of elements: it appeals to a large percentage of the population; it is familiar and widely heard; and it is profitable. Leading up to the early 1950s, American music experienced the merging of a variety of musical styles that blurred racial, economic, geographic, cultural and class boundaries. According to historian Michael Campbell, "…the marketplace dictated the rules, for better or worse." The music became known as Rock and Roll and would reflect, and even shape, mainstream culture, politics and economics in America and abroad. Through readings, lectures, the use of historical audio and video recordings, discussions, and group work, students will examine the thematic growth of popular music, paying attention to music industry structure, technological innovations, and social and political impetus.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1204: N/A

GNED 1205 – The Social Impact of Rock & Roll
The Social Impact of Rock & Roll examines the effect that rock and roll music had on the twentieth century, as well as how it continues to define our society today. Exploring the early, humble roots of this music, we will trace how it became the single most influential element of Western Culture. Although Rock and Roll is alive and well and continues to evolve with each generation, the time period this course concentrates on is from the days of Tin Pan Alley through to the end of the explosive 1960s.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1205: N/A

GNED 1213 - Hero's Journey – Frodo, Luke and Harry
This course will examine the timeless and enduring theme of the hero's journey as expressed in The Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, and Harry Potter series. What is it about this narrative that continues to draw our imagination? What are its roots in ancient mythology and legend? What is the impact of the visualization capabilities of film on our experience of these stories? These questions will be examined through an exploration of legend, literature, and film. Familiarity with the stories of these three narratives (through books and/or movies) will be assumed—the course will not require the student to read all the books. However, students will compare one of the books under study to the film version in relation to one element of literature in a research assignment. The course is delivered 100% online and requires students to manage their own time and workload in order to be successful.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1213: N/A

GNED 1216 - Stories of Diverse Media
This course will familiarize students with a selection of stories that traverse not only several types of art forms but also different historical and cultural moments. Why are some stories re-told and others not? How does the medium in which something is expressed affect one's perception of a particular story? Investigating myth, novels, plays, film, graphic novels, and television shows, the course explores several questions implied by the translation from one medium to another.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1216: N/A

GNED 1222 – Making Monsters
A society is defined by what it fears. From the inhuman shapes taken on by Jews in Nazi propaganda to the radio broadcasts likening Tutsis to cockroaches in Rwanda, governments throughout history have turned minorities into monsters in order to excuse terrible actions. This course aims to explore how and why monsters are created in societies. We begin by examining the mythology of several societies around the world to explore what their monsters say about what the societies they come from. Building on this, we will examine what it means to be a monster through fiction using movies and horror novels. The course will then focus on what it means to call a human a monster by examining examples from history where people were considered monsters. In addition, this course will use video games, role-play, and primary sources to understand how good people can be convinced to do bad things and become monsters themselves. Through discussion and reflection, students will learn the critical thinking skills to evaluate the messages they receive from government and media. Students will also develop a greater empathy with their fellow humans to resist the bigotry and violence associated with dehumanizing other human beings.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1222: N/A

GNED 1228 – Science Fiction & Philosophy
Could you be living in a computer simulation? Could humans create an artificial being that is intelligent and self-aware? Is artificial intelligence dangerous? Would it be possible to travel back in time, meet your soulmate, and realize you have become your own grandparent? If you could build a just society from the stuff of imagination, what would it look like? We will examine these mind-bending questions and more through the works of renowned science fiction writers. Students will unravel, dissect, and critique the assumptions and arguments hidden within science fiction short stories and films. In so doing, they will investigate what it means to be human, the nature of knowledge, reality, and morality, and our responsibilities surrounding our technological creations.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1228: N/A

GNED 1320 - Social Innovation: Becoming a Changemaker
Social innovation refers to new ideas, strategies or interventions that resolve existing social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges in more effective and sustainable ways than before. This course will explore the emergence of social innovation and examine the novel ways that some of the world's most pressing problems are being addressed. Students will gain an overview of what social innovations are, how they function and how they can be developed. Key concepts, theories, frameworks, and emerging trends for creating, developing, supporting, and enabling social innovation in Canada and abroad will be discussed. Students will have an opportunity to identify a social problem of interest, develop innovative solutions to this problem, and will gain the knowledge needed to become successful changemakers in their own communities.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1320: N/A

GNED 1324 - Sustainable Development
In 2015, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all member states as a framework for understanding and addressing complex social, economic and environmental challenges at the global and local levels. Durham College is a signatory and active member of the SDG Accord, which includes over 700 education networks and post-secondary institutions committed to working together to meet the key challenges set out in the 17 SDGs. This course introduces students to the UN SDGs as a guide for understanding sustainable development. Students will explore all 17 SDGs through a thematic approach, examining the interconnections between social, economic, environmental, and governance within the framework of sustainable development. Themes to be explored cover human development and built systems (poverty, health, education, inequality, economic activity, and sustainable communities), as well as environmental systems and global implementation (emphasizing water, energy, climate change, ecosystems, governance, and international partnerships). These concepts are explored through case studies and real-world examples at both global and local levels.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1324: N/A

GNED 1325 – Deconstructing Superheroes
Superheroes have abilities that exist only in our imaginations. These fictional powerhouses have been a comic book industry staple for nearly a century and have always been popular. From Superman to Black Panther, Ms. Marvel and Wonder Woman, the depiction of superheroes can represent many ideas and allegories in our own society. Does Superman represent the immigrant story? How does Black Panther help us to understand racial allegories? Are the X-Men representative of a civil rights struggle? Is Wonder Woman connected to feminism? Students explore superheroes through lenses of gender, race, class, and sexuality. Beginning by examining superhero mythology and the comics from which they came, students deconstruct that mythology and determine whether socio-political theoretical frameworks apply to these stories. Through online discussions and close literary readings, students develop critical thinking skills to examine and decode visual and societal messages both within and outside of the superhero comic world. In addition, students explore ideas through unique expressions like a comic and a group podcast, and gain a better cultural understanding of their world and how they can be depowered or empowered by it.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1325: N/A

GNED 1403 – A Short History of the World
Become a more global citizen by exploring the world as one planet through the broad patterns of our shared human history. Our past can reveal much about our present and future. Discover how the modern world was shaped, how globalization is taking hold, and what wisdom this can bring to your life and career choices. This is our story – the human story. It is forward looking and thoroughly modern, an exciting and inspiring big-picture course that includes a student-designed website, dynamic communications-driven assignments, and an engaging “talk show” feature that brings the world to the classroom.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1403: N/A

GNED 1404 – Popular Culture and the Media
In this course, students will answer the question “Who is in Charge?” by using cultural analysis to connect to what’s going on in our society and how it occurs. Students will examine the role of popular culture in maintaining and reproducing the kind of society we live in by critically analyzing the influence of advertising, music and media, views of gender, ethnicity, race, age, class, and sexuality. Participants will learn to question media messaging and the impact messaging has on the way we think, our actions and behaviours. This course will provide participants with an understanding of the 20th century information age and how its many changes has reshaped and improved our daily lives, yet, at the same time has changed the way we find truths. Students will practice applying a critical lens over the course of the semester to in-class discussion, debates, group activity, on-line posts and assignments.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1404: N/A

GNED 1407 – Introduction to Sociology
Have you ever wondered why people behave the way they do, or why certain social rules exist? How does our culture, family, technology, and social media shape who we are? In this course, you'll explore the fascinating world of human society and discover how individuals and groups influence and are influenced by the world around them. We'll examine topics such as socialization, culture, inequality, gender, race and ethnicity, deviance, and family, with special attention to issues facing Canadian society today. Along the way, you'll develop your "sociological imagination" — a powerful tool that helps you see everyday life in a whole new way, while building critical thinking skills you can apply far beyond the classroom.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1407: N/A

GNED 1411 – Social Media and Society
The rise of social media has profoundly changed the global communication landscape and shaped our understanding of ourselves, society, and the world around us. With the advent of social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, TikTok, and Twitter, more and more people connect and collaborate online, and consume, create, and share content in ways we have never seen before. This course will examine social media's historical evolution and affordances and explore its social, cultural, political, and economic impacts. By engaging with social media and critically analyzing emerging issues and topics, students will investigate the complex role of social media in contemporary society.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1411: N/A

GNED 1412 – World Religions
Can you imagine a world without religion? Most of us would probably find it very difficult to do. No wonder; religion has been central to human culture for millennia. And as it looks at the moment, this is not likely to change any time soon. We shall explore the major tenets of five religions: the three Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), Buddhism - a religion without God, and the belief system of the indigenous people of the Navajo. We shall also explore the (often troubled) relationship between religion and science, and the historical influence of religion on human sexuality. Students will be evaluated through a combination of written assignments, tests, and discussions.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1412: N/A

GNED 1418 – The History of Video Games
In this general education course, students are introduced to the historical evolution and impact of video games. This class explores the origins and evolution of games, as well as the key historical figures that have been so influential to this industry. It also explores the impact video games have had on society as they become more firmly entrenched in our lives and our culture. Students will participate in valuable discussion on a wide range of topics, including: the historical perspectives on the adoption of video games. This will include: gaming cultures within various societal groups, ethical considerations in the development, production, and marketing of video games. We will also discuss the influence of new technologies on gaming, the portrayal of race, gender, and sexuality in games, the physical and mental effects of gaming, and the future role of video games. Throughout the course, students will reflect on these themes, engage in discussions with classmates, and present a research topic of their choice to the class.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1418: GART, GDEV

GNED 1426 – Cultural Diversity in Canada
Together, we will critically examine cultural diversity and systemic inequality in Canadian society. Through an exploration of race, gender, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and ability, students will investigate the structures and experiences that shape diverse identities and social relationships. Emphasis will be placed on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and its implications for understanding Indigenous experiences. Drawing on social, legal, and cultural frameworks, students will analyze the impacts of exclusion and privilege, while developing strategies for community empowerment, equity, and inclusion in diverse environments.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1426: EMCC, POFD, PSI

GNED 1430 – Canada & The World
Canada and the World examines the connections and interactions between Canada and the rest of the globe from a historical perspective. Students will learn how an understanding of Canadian history can help them to make sense of current events at home and abroad. The first half of the course follows Canada's evolution from colony, to British-influenced dominion, to fully independent nation, with a focus on how that transition still impacts the lives of Canadians today. In the rest of the course students will learn about themes in Canadian history and how to use that knowledge as a lens to examine modern issues including immigration, peacekeeping and other military actions, Canada's role in the global economy, and a special topic voted on by students each semester.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1430: N/A

GNED 1435 – Deviance
Wrong. Bad. Illegal. Weird. What is defined as “deviant” in society, and why? From cannabis use to cannibalism, our fascination with behaviours that break social norms is never-ending. In this General Education course, students will explore the nature of deviance from a sociological perspective, including foundational theories to guide our journey through highly subjective and often controversial subject matter. As such, students will be invited to reflect upon their biases and connect their learning to their own lives, local communities, and current events. Major topic areas of this course include violence, sex & gender, cyberdeviance, mental illness, appearance, countercultures, and positive deviance. Within these topics, examples such as gangs, serial killers, sex work, cyberbullying, addiction, body modification, and cults may be discussed. This course will use music, videos, documentaries, newspaper articles, and scholarly sources to examine the complexity of contemporary social issues from a Canadian perspective, including Indigenous knowledge, with historical and cross-cultural comparisons.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1435: N/A

GNED 1438 – Hip Hop: History, Culture & Society
Hip hop has become one of the most popular and influential forms of music currently listened to today. This course will examine hip hop’s early roots in African history and its migration to American soil. From there, the course will chart the evolution of modern hip hop from its birth place in the Bronx up until the present day where it is now a global phenomenon. Along the way, the course will examine hip hop music and culture, and its complex relationship with power, business, class, gender, race and society. Students will also get a better grounding in the four foundational elements of hip hop: MCing, DJing, Graffiti and B-boying. The course will wrap up with an examination of the culture’s current challenges and its future opportunities.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1438: N/A

GNED 1441 – Food for Thought
Students in this course will center on expanding the knowledge of our continually changing food systems through studying academic essays that focus on issues arising from the question, “How should we eat?” There will be a focus on food as fundamental to the human experience, and will introduce students to the shifting interpretations, perspectives, challenges, governance issues, and future visions that shape the ethical issues surrounding food. As a result, this course will heavily examine the benefits of adapting a more environmentally friendly vegetarian lifestyle worldwide. By studying modern issues and developments surrounding food ethics, students will cultivate a new appreciation for where their food supply comes from, how it is brought to their plates, and how to make more conscious food choices that will benefit themselves, others, and the environment.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1441: DENT

GNED 1448 – Humanity's Destiny
We all think about the future. Many of us have dreams for ourselves and our children. In an age when much can change in one lifetime, we may wonder: Where are we going? In this course, a continuation of the popular elective, Short History of the World, students look ahead within the context of the 21st century and beyond, exploring challenges, dilemmas, and opportunities. Using projection technologies and drawing on examples from human history, contemporary futurists, and their own lives, students give concrete thought to their future and how their actions might affect future generations. Assignments include a life plan and a reflection on the enduring drivers of human progress, as well as a dynamic summative project in a medium of choice in which students imagine the world of the near future. What is my vision, my path in today's complicated world? This is an exciting modern course that is also part of Durham College's groundbreaking "global class".
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1448: N/A

GNED 1462 – Global Leader
Through their imagination, their courage, and their determination, they are showing what is possible in today's global world. Come spend some time with these inspiring thinkers and doers from around the world. The insights you gain from the initiatives they are leading, the impact they are having, and the stories of how they have accomplished what they have, will be invaluable for you. Many of them are young; they've faced significant challenges; you might be surprised at what you have in common with them. You will be able to interact with them at length, explore forward-looking leadership skills with them. The classes are held in Durham College's Rotary Global Classroom, a state-of-the-art educational facility that gives you the flexibility to participate in the classes in multiple ways, whatever your learning preference, location, or schedule. The professor, Lon Appleby, is the founder of The Global Class. His area of interest is the human story from a planetary perspective. He teaches all his courses out of the classroom and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the classes. You will come away from this course not only inspired about what education can be today, but most importantly, more ready than you have ever been to meet the complex professional and personal challenges ahead. If you would like to learn more about The Rotary Global Classroom, please go to the homepage of Durham College's website. Lon has also given a TEDx talk about The Global Class, which can be viewed on YouTube at "TEDx Global Class".
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1462: N/A

GNED 1465 – Youth & Social Regulation
This course will explore how the bodies, minds, behaviors and social worlds of youth are regulated in society. This will include the regulation of youth through formal systems – including the criminal justice system (as youth victims and offenders) – and through informal social controls. This course will also explore how youth themselves play a role in shaping and regulating society through social movements and activism. Students will be challenged to get active, mobilizing for a cause of their choice within their community in person and/or through social media.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1465: POFD, PSI

GNED 1466 – Organized Crime
This course will provide students with an understanding of organized crime, its structure and practices. Organizations including motorcycle gangs, Italian and Russian mafia and Latin Cartels will all be examined and the businesses in which they run. Students will look at the development and history of organized crime as well as the government and law enforcement responses. Through a variety of readings, assignments, film reviews and in-depth discussion, students will gain an understanding of the key players and organization as well as societal contributors and will learn to think critically about some of the largely debated areas of organized crime.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1466: N/A

GNED 1468 – Sociology of the Family
What makes a family? How do love, work, culture, and society shape our closest relationships? In this course, we explore relationships and intimacy, parenting and childhood, gender and roles within the family, family diversity, and how families handle change, conflict, and stress. Through real-life examples, discussions, and personal reflection, you'll develop a deeper understanding of how family life is both personal and connected to the world around us.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1468: N/A

GNED 1471 – Geography Matters: Connecting People & Places in our Globalized World
We all know that the world is going global, but what if you are struggling to keep things straight in a world inhabited by close to 8 billion people spread over 200 countries. Add in the environment, climate, and culture and the whole thing becomes completely overwhelming. You start to wonder, how can you expect to work and make decisions in this complex global world. This course goes beyond locating things on maps to understand the interconnectedness of people, places, and environments. Increase your knowledge of what is occurring globally, how it got there, and how it is all connected. Join in and increase your geo-literacy level.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1471: N/A

GNED 1478 – Beer Through the Ages
This course will explore the historical significance of one of the world's most popular beverages: beer. Beer and its pivotal role throughout history will be examined, from its ancient origins to the modern craft brewing resurgence. Students will investigate key historical themes related to beer production, distribution, consumption, and regulation, and will examine how developments in science, technology, industrialization, consolidation, globalization, marketing, and localization have influenced beer and the brewing industry over time.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1478: N/A

GNED 1495 - Talkin' 'Bout My Generation
Are you a "Millennial"? Or a "Gen Z"? Do you feel that labeling people as part of a "generation" is necessary, or even helpful? In this course, you will explore the concept of "generations" and learn about the qualities and influencers of the current living generations, including: The Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials, and Generation Z. You will also explore the sources of intergenerational harmony and conflict and the intersection of sociological generations with other social factors such as income, class, gender, and race.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1495: N/A

GNED 1506 – Natural Disasters
In this course, students will explore major natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, tornadoes, hurricanes, ice storms, floods, and avalanches. They will research and analyze the causes and mechanisms of these events, as well as their impact on individuals and communities. Through online and in-class work, students will demonstrate their understanding of these natural phenomena and their effects from various economic, environmental, social and political themes, both in developing and developed countries.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1506: N/A

GNED 1508 – Digital Learner
In a world shaped by smartphones, streaming, algorithms, and instant access to information, what does it really mean to learn and to keep learning in a digital world? This course is a challenge-based, fully online course that explores how technology is transforming the way we think, focus, communicate, and grow. You'll tackle 10 big questions about your digital life, from managing distractions to building a personal learning system that works for you. Through real-life activities and reflective challenges, you'll uncover your unique learning, strengthen your digital habits, and build the self-awareness and skills needed to thrive in school, work, and life.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1508: N/A

GNED 1509 – Astronomy: Exploring the Night Sky
Imagine looking up at the night sky. Now, pretend you can fly through space faster than light. Suddenly, the sky, that two-dimensional tapestry of light, becomes three-dimensional. You pass the Moon, asteroids, then some planets, then the Sun. Before long, you find yourself whipping past stars many times larger than the Sun like Betelgeuse and Antares, past dazzling nebulae, past alien star systems with planets of their own, and into Andromeda, our closest galactic neighbour…and you still won't have left Earth's cosmic backyard! Even though we can't travel faster than light, we can (and will!) use scientific inquiry to learn about the origin and fate of these mysterious objects, and even peer back in time, using some of the oldest light in the universe, to learn about the birth of the Universe itself. After taking this course, you will always remember to make time to look up!
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1509: N/A

GNED 1512 – Paranormal & Pseudoscience
All topics are explored from a skeptical viewpoint and critical thinking is applied. Students will learn to separate fact from fiction within topics such as astrology, ESP, telepathy, past-life regression, haunted houses, near-death experiences, superstitions, witchcraft, medical pseudoscience, and UFOlogy. What do you believe? Students will examine these paranormal and pseudoscience topics while learning about skepticism, reasons for belief, pseudoscience red flags, critical thinking, and how to evaluate evidence.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1512: N/A

GNED 1515 – World Mysteries
All topics are explored from a skeptical viewpoint and critical thinking is applied. Students will learn to separate fact from fiction within topics such as Stonehenge, the Shroud of Turin, the ancient pyramids, the crystal skulls, the Mayan Ruins, the legend of Atlantis, the Bermuda Triangle, Oak Island, crop circles, and Easter Island. Select real-life unsolved criminal mysteries will also be examined including Jack the Ripper, Jimmy Hoffa, and the assassination of JFK. What do you believe? Students will examine these mystery topics while learning about skepticism, reasons for belief, pseudoscience red flags, critical thinking, and how to evaluate evidence.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1515: N/A

GNED 1520 – Big History: The Story of the Universe
Bang!!! Our universe is born! The early elements of the universe emerge from a cosmic soup of extreme energy, the force of gravity eventually pulling them together into stars and galaxies. Near many of these stars, rocky and gassy spheroids take shape and begin to dance and whirl around them – the planets! On at least one of these planets, single-celled life arises, gradually evolving into beautifully diverse and complex life-forms. One of these life-forms (us!) begins to learn at a staggering speed, and comes to dominate the planet. How did we discover these astounding facts about the universe? What role do human beings play in this story? What is our future as a species? And how does knowing this story change how we think about humanity? To fully answer these questions, we must turn to Big History – an all-encompassing approach to learning about human and natural history from the Big Bang to the present. Become a Big Historian! The universe awaits!
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1520: N/A

GNED 1522 – You Are What You Eat
Curious about how food shapes who we are? You Are What You Eat invites you to journey through the world of food and uncover its deep connections to culture, identity, and society. Through an archaeological and anthropological lens, engage with the ways food has shaped human history - from the diets of early foragers to modern food movements. Explore the ways that agriculture, globalization, and technological innovations have transformed our relationship with food, impacting health, sustainability, and social structures. Engaging activities, real-world case studies, and thought-provoking discussions will help you discover how what we eat is shaped by a blend of biology, culture, and history, influencing our health, identity, communities, and environment. Whether you're interested in ancient diets, the cultural significance of feasting and food taboos, or the future of nutrition in a globalized world, this course offers you an opportunity to discover why we truly are what we eat.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1522: N/A

GNED 1527 – Artificial Intelligence
This course explores the idea of artificial intelligence (A.I.) from three different perspectives: scientific, philosophical, and cultural. The scientific perspective provides insight as to how artificial intelligence technologies work, the current limitations, and supposed future potential. The philosophical perspective explores whether A.I. is good or bad, essential or dangerous, and what the future could hold. The cultural angle examines how society views A.I. and whether these views are accurate. Toward the end of the course deeper topics will be introduced including how A.I. compares to human intelligence, the singularity, and futurism.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1527: PPC

GNED 1528 - Written in Bones: Lives and Lifestyles through Bioarchaeology
The food we eat, the water we drink, the hardships we go through, and the activities we engage in all leave their mark on our bones and teeth. Bioarchaeology uses the scientific investigation of human remains to interpret past people's behaviour. This introductory course will give an overview of research methodologies used and types of questions addressed by this discipline. We will start with the basics of identification, such as age, sex, and race (including a discussion of issues surrounding these categorizations). We will cover a variety of health indicators, including signs of stress and deprivation during development, diseases, healed trauma, and violent death. Evidence of voluntary body modifications and activity patterns (from athletes to weavers) will be discussed, along with genetic relationships. We will also explore diet, origin, and mobility, with a focus on stable isotope analysis. The course will end with a discussion of the challenges faced in bioarchaeology today.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1528: N/A

GNED 1530 – Welcome to the Future: Unravelling the Mysteries of STEM
Is Artificial Intelligence changing the world as we know it? Could robots really take over? These questions spark curiosity, and the answers are rooted in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). STEM isn't just for scientists and engineers. It's influencing every part of our daily lives, from how we travel to how we communicate. Wouldn't you like to understand and be comfortable with the technology that's shaping our future? The knowledge of STEM is no longer optional; it's a necessity in today's ever-evolving job market. Join us as we explore the captivating world of STEM. Let's embrace the changes and thrive in this new tech-dominated era.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1530: N/A

GNED 1532 – Skullduggary: Inside Your Brain
Through recent advances in brain imaging, our understanding of the human brain has exploded in the past decade. In this course we will explore the physical layout and function of the brain and sensory systems, how we affect the brain through drugs, diseases of the brain and their treatment through history, and how our new understanding is leading to exciting treatments for brain and sensory disorders. This course will require students to review recent reports of brain research (from popular science sources), summarize their findings, and learn from other students' postings to develop a deeper understanding of both the fragility and plasticity of the human brain.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in GNED 1532: N/A

INDG 1473 – Conflict, Colonization & Courage: First Nations, Métis, & Inuit in Canada
The course will provide students with an introduction to First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada including their diverse histories, cultures, and ways of knowing. Students will challenge pre-conceived ideas and stereotypes about Indigenous people and will learn about the past, present, and future as it relates to Indigenous peoples in Canada. Topics will include Indigenous world view, colonization, treaties, the Indian Act, residential schools, the 60's Scoop, urban issues, intergenerational trauma, resiliency, and reconciliation.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in INDG 1473: BRCM

INDG 1475 – First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Representation in Media and Popular Culture
Pocahontas is a household name, but the true story of her short but powerful life has been buried in myth due in large part to her stereotyped portrayals through fictional works. Indeed, media driven stereotypes like the "Indian princess" or the "noble savage" for example, contribute to our already very distorted view of Indigenous people and culture. This course will provide context for past and current portrayals of Indigenous peoples and topics in literature, film, and media. With a better understanding of Indigenous cultures, histories, and perspectives, students will analyze sources related to, and/or about Indigenous peoples, through a critical lens whilst identifying the failings of the past and the successes of contemporary developments.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in INDG 1475: BRCM

INDG 1477 – Then, Now, Forever - Indigenous Resiliency in the Modern Era
This course will explore the current issues affecting First Nation, Metis, and Inuit populations, and will showcase modern examples of Indigenous resistance, resilience, and resurgence. Students will study the contemporary interactions between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada, environmental concerns (e.g. Trans Mountain pipeline), laws and policies, national issues (e.g. the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls), contemporary movements (e.g. Idle No More), and reconciliation initiatives.
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in INDG 1477: N/A

INDG 1479 – The Forgotten People: Exploring Métis Identity
This course provides an introduction to the Métis and the complexity of emerging Métis identity across Canada today. The focus of the course is on the lives and experiences of Métis people, their ancestral communities, kinship ties, governing systems and contemporary issues, to develop a comprehensive understanding of Métis Nationhood. Important themes include: assimilation, cultural persistence and survival, adaptation and identity. Although it covers broader topics relating to all Métis (e.g. those historically located in Western Canada), course content centres specifically on the Great Lakes Métis (including the modern Ontarian Métis experience).
Note: the following programs are restricted from registering in INDG 1479: N/A