Spring 2026 Wicked Festival Detailed Program

Organized by Course Prefix, then Course Number and Title, then Professor's Surname

BIOL 229: Ecology (Wicked Ecological Problems) ◊ Dr. Chet Bhatta

- 5-1 Let's SPOT the Damage! The Effects of the Spotted Lanternfly—Maylen Johnson, Alaysha Lang, Kynslee Blankenship, Morgan Prine, Ruby Estes, Zora Richardson
- 5-10 Streams Under Siege: Small Stream Health in the Age of Mountaintop Removal—Jack Martin, Charles Davis, Joseph Caylor
- 5-20 Where Did Our Fish Go? What Brook Trout Habitat Shift Tells Us About Climate Change in Central Appalachia—Andrew Burchette, Alston Jones, Stevie Freeman, Anthony Hairston, Josie Cline, Adam Rowell
- 6-38 Forests Under Siege: The Ecological Consequences of the Emerald Ash Borer—Raven Smith, Addison Gilliam, Ariawyn Lyons, Aubrey Hatch, Natalie Barnett, Tiffany Little

ENGL 306: Professional Writing ◊ Professor Jessica Mattox

- 5-3 Radford University Housing Crisis—Kareem Muhayman, Joshua Poslusny, Stella Fredrick
- 5-12 Balancing Safety and Rights: Solutions to Gun Violence in America—Hudson Lynch, Ryn Simmerson, Nathan Morrow
- 5-22 Young Minds Matter—Julia Good, Jordan Ellison, Anaken McIntosh
- 6-4 Social Media and Its Effects on Adolescent Minds—Owen DeWalt, Graham Workman, Ian Williams
- 6-31 The Sports Gambling Epidemic: How Sports Betting Affects More than Just the Gambler—Evan Patterson, John Kesterson, Kylie Leahy

GEOG 140: Intro to Environmental Studies ◊ Dr. Naveen Joseph

- 5-4 Impacts of Commercial Fishing in the Atlantic Ocean—Chloe Rorrer, Iana Graham, Caiden Jones, Sally Ford
- 5-13 The Evil Twin: Unmasking the Wicked Problem of Ocean Acidification—Allyson Hinchee and Ashleigh Wilson
- 5-23 Beach and Coral Reef Conservation— Tori Zimmerman, Lilian Cook, Kalani Corpuz, Alora Larsen, Makayla Toler, Jillian Andrews
- 5-29 Increasing Need for Support and Recognition to Special Education—Dashawna Dodson, Jakiyla Watson, Jaylen Lamb
- 5-34 Confidentiality and FERPA for Special Education—Addison Poston, Emma Masten, Addie Shelton
- 6-5 Invasive Animal Species: Cats on the Loose—Tonya Cardwell, Sara Viers, Daniel Hillard, Christopher Amoroso, Marissa Sherman, Natalie Hurless
- 6-12 National Park Overcrowding and Environmental Damage—Charles Dance, Alex Armbrister, Owen Armbrister, Justin Fryday, Jace Henson
- 6-19 Effect of Climate Change on Penguins in Antarctica—Jacey Underwood, Lilonda Falls, Bridgitte Hammond, Hailey Barnson, Kaden Hall, Mallory Barbour
- 6-25 Creating inclusive environments for students with special needs and disabilities—Talaya Beatty
- 6-30 Data Centers and Water Scarcity Concern: A case study in Loudoun County—Jacob McKinney, Alyssa Smith, Haley Snow, Tara Phillips, Teresa Frasch, Harry Cheung

INST 490: International Studies Capstone—Sustainable Development ◊ Dr. Tay Keong Tan

- 5-6 The Indus Waters Dispute: When Geopolitics Threatens a Lifeline- Jakob Genest and Adam Futerman
- 5-15 Final Straw: How China's Rare Earth Monopoly is Impacting International, Environmental, and Social Issues – Kate Stefanelli and Caitriona Rogan
- 5-25 Fast Fashion: The Cost of Looking "Bonita"– Jalyn Waller and Kole Kienzle
- 5-31 Algorithmic Bias and Gender Inequality: AI's Role in Perpetuating Discrimination – Chase Kibler and Avery Bowers
- 5-36 The Plastic Pollution Crisis: From Microplastics in Human Blood to Ocean Garbage Patches– LeRon Howard and Katelyn Pilo
- 6-7 Narwhal Decline in a Rapidly Warming Arctic: Complexity of the Sixth Mass Extinction – Sophie Magson and Nicholas Bond
- 6-14 When the Land Disappears: Climate-Induced Displacement in Bangladesh– Kat Steadman and Hilary Fangna
- 6-21 The Rise of Drones in Military Conflicts: Asymmetric Warfare, Civilian Casualties, and Arms Proliferation – Stephen Jaje and Damar Vaccianna

- 6-27 Reforming the UN: The "Rathole" of Retaliation– Jin-Xin Parlow and Jordan Purcell

PHIL 115: Wicked Problems (Honors) (Sections 01 and 02) ◊ Dr. Steven Fesmire

- 5-9 Team I— Keely Newman, Hassan Al-Qattan, Ali Craig, Logan Lewis
- 5-18 Team II—Delaney Donivan, Jack Hammond, Daniel Kuykendall, Kamryn Lee
- 6-10 Team III: Healing a fractured world: Exploring the decline in student success— Ryan Tarvin, Jacey Underwood, Carter McClain, Eden Clark
- 6-17 Team IV—Luna Valero-Molina, Bianca Hernandez, Mylah Miles, Emily Brown, Will Stimpson
- 6-23 Team V: The Problems That Can't Be Solved (And How to Handle them Anyway): The Case of Child Agricultural Labor—Ray Vinayagamurthy, Meghan Smith, Annie Pinto Kossa, Logan Hamilton
- 6-29 Team VI: Tangled Issues, Tough Solutions: Wicked Problems and Accountability— Michelle Manning, Ella Shuler, Aniya Ford, Elizabeth Garcia, David Munoz

PHIL 115: Wicked Problems ◊ Dr. Katy Shepard

- 5-5 The Hidden Dangers Of Doom Scrolling For College Students—Aaliyah Hairston
- 5-14 The Health Debt—Miles Reed
- 5-24 The Effects of Absent Parent on Children—Shayla Kekoa and Abby Sheridan
- 5-30 Flu Outbreaks on Campuses--Noah Harris
- 5-35 Homelessness: A Problem Without a Single Answer—Zikya Mills
- 5-17 The Future of AI Self-Preservation—Kevin Jasper
- 6-6 Social Media's Role in Misogyny and Control of Women—Kylie Minter
- 6-13 Seeing Isn't Always Believing: Fake News and Human Sensory Bias—Cadence Bell
- 6-20 The Harmful Effects of Family Vlogging—Carter Safewright
- 6-26 What's wrong with AI? A look into Deepfakes and False Narratives— Draven Vannoy
- 6-32 Stigma around mental health among College Students and how it can affect their professional lives and performance—Johan S. Castaneda
- 6-33 Social Media and its Hidden Consequences—Sathara Kane
- 6-35 Addictions That Start in Adolescence and Worsen Over Time—Claire Hall
- 6-36 Let Us Eat Cake—Dinasti Stallworth
- 6-37 Dual Diagnosis—Savanna Smith
- 6-15 Terms & Conditions: Digital Privacy Doesn't Exist—E'liott Cole
- 6-2 The Closure of USAID: Benefit or Negative for the United States?—Jakob Genest
- 6-39 Effects of Stereotyping Mental Illness-- Madison Childress

- 5-38 The Rejection of Pink in Society: Gender Norms, Misogyny, and Social Identity—Kristodea Appianti
- 6- 39 How Growing Up Around Domestic Violence Affects Future Relationships for Children in the United States—Shelby East
- 5-39 Social Media's Role in Misogyny Towards Young Women and Girls Under the Current Trump Administration—Kylie Minter

POSC 410: Leadership Capstone—Demystifying Leadership ◊ Dr. Tay Keong Tan

- 5-7 The Fentanyl and Opioid Crisis: Leadership in Public Health Emergency Response – Emma Hemphill and Jolie Henagin
- 5-16 The Mental Health Crisis Among Generation Z: Leadership in Youth Well-being – Noor Mirza and Brooklyn Arven
- 5-26 Running Dry: Leadership Challenges in Managing Water Scarcity in the American West – Jackie King and Tyler Carl
- 6-34 The Childcare Affordability Crisis: Leading Economic and Social Policy Reform – Nevaeh Winston Moore and Maggie Fulk
- 5-37 The Student Debt Crisis and Higher Education Affordability: Leading Systemic Reform – Andrew Shelton and Michael Wilkinson
- 6-8 Cybersecurity Threats to Critical Infrastructure: Leadership in National Security - Gabriel Yates and Tanner Muller
- 6-16 Gentrification and displacement, in Gainsboro, Roanoke – Jerrod Traynham and Isaiah Kigwe
- 5-33 Plastic Pollution and the Global Waste Crisis: Leading Environmental Solutions – Evan Patterson and Leiara Malone
- 6-22 Locked in the Loop: Mass Incarceration in America – Tyler Russell and Graham Smith
- 6-28 Social Media Regulation and Youth Protection: Leadership in Digital Governance – Danae Bowyer and Joseph Andrews
- 5-32 Who Will Be Tomorrow's Teachers?: The Crisis of Teacher Shortage in America – Ray Ingegneri

POSC 490: Political Science Capstone—Capitalism and Globalization ◊ Dr. Tay Keong Tan

- 5-8 The Ozempic Face: The GLP-1 Weight-Loss Drug Boom and the Commodification of Health– Erin Torres and Maggie Fulk
- 6-1 The Global Land Grab: Neo-Colonial Resource Extraction and Displacement of Indigenous Peoples – Jakob Genest
- 5-27 Rape Culture and Gender-Based Violence: Patriarchy, Capitalism, and Women's Unpaid Labor – Gabriella Jackman and Gabby Ancrum

- 6-9 From Commons to Commodity: Privatization of Water in the Global South– Adam Hamze and Brendan Stevens

SOCY 370: Environmental Sociology ◊ Dr. Aysha Bodenhamer

- 6-18 Fast Fashion: How Quick Can You Quit?—Taylor Miller, Sarah Luckett, Savannah Stratton
- 5-11 Food Insecurity: College Student Edition—Katie Goodwin, Audrey Adonteng, Kristina Wagner
- 5-21 Consumerism: The Catch 22 of Our Generation—Carly O'Leary, Sara Abbitt, Ciearra Christopher
- 6-3 Lack of Clean Water in Rural Areas—Bridget Amrhein, Noor Mirza, Alana Kronenberg
- 6-11 Implications of Generative Artificial Intelligence Expansion in the United States—Keiko Klisiewecz, Harper Miller, Chloe Jones
- 5-2 This Land is Not for Sale: Privatization and Land Extraction in Appalachia—Layne Landes, Adam Hamze, Amir Watts
- 5-28 Kudzu: Once You See It, You Can't Unsee It—Astrid Holloway, Tonya Cardwell, Ren Kelley
- 6-24 Biting the Nuclear Apple—Lily McConkey and Chase Snead