

## HASS Exploration (HEX) Program

The HEX Program consists of a group of HASS subjects recommended by MIT faculty to undergraduates as an option to become familiar with various methodologies in the humanities, arts, and social sciences that approach topics from different disciplinary and interdisciplinary viewpoints. HEX subjects have limited enrollment and are team-taught by MIT faculty - presenting students an opportunity for faculty interaction.

All HEX subjects may count towards the HASS Requirement. They can be used towards the Distribution (categories are noted in the online subject listings) or they can be used as a HASS Elective.

### HEX Subjects offered fall 2015



#### **21H.001: How to Stage a Revolution** (HASS-H; CI-H)

Explores fundamental questions about the causes and nature of revolutions by looking at how people overthrow their rulers and establish new governments. Considers a set of major political transformations throughout the world and across centuries to understand the meaning of revolution and evaluate its impact. Examines how revolutionaries have attempted to establish their ideals and realize their goals. Asks whether radical upheavals require bloodshed, violence, or even terror. Seeks to explain why some revolutions succeed and others fail. Materials include the writings of revolutionaries, declarations and constitutions, music, films, art, novels, memoirs, and newspapers.

*C. Horan, C. Leighton, E. Wood*



#### **Global Shakespeares\***

##### **21L.009 Shakespeare** (HASS-H; CI-H)

Global Shakespeares approaches some of the playwright's most enduring works through their vibrant and varied afterlife. Combines close reading of the texts and historical contextualization with a broad range of international performances and perspectives. Focuses on four or five plays drawn from different genres, including *Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Tempest*. Sections will benefit by meeting periodically for films, scene analysis, presentations and more.

*P. Donaldson, S. Raman*

*\*Note subject periodically meets with 21L.010 and is designated as CI-H*



#### **Global Shakespeares\***

##### **21L.010 Writing with Shakespeare** (HASS-H; CI-HW)

William Shakespeare didn't go to college. If he could time-travel like Dr. Who, he would be stunned to find his words on a university syllabus. But he would not be surprised at the way we will be using those words in class, because the study of rhetoric was essential to all education in his day. We too will focus on communication using words, with Shakespeare a capacious model and inspiration for dialogue, self-presentation and writing. Will meet periodically with the other Shakespeare sections for films, scene analysis, presentations and more.

*D. Henderson*

*\*Note subject periodically meets with 21L.009 and is designated as CI-HW*





## --HASS Exploration Program--

### HEX Subjects offered fall 2015

	<p><b>21L.020J/21G.076J: Globalization: Good, Bad, and In-Between (HASS-H; CI-H)</b></p> <p>Examines the cultural paradoxes of contemporary globalization. Studies the cultural, linguistic, social and political impact of globalization across international borders and on specific language communities. Students analyze contending definitions of globalization and principal agents of change, and why some of them engender backlash; learn to distinguish what is considered new, hybrid, and traditional; identify the agents, costs and benefits of global networks; and explore how world citizens preserve cultural specificity. Students also develop cultural literacy through study of second language and culture, research, development of virtual materials, and interactions with MIT's international students. Students cannot receive credit without simultaneous completion of a 9-unit language subject. Preference to freshmen.</p> <p><i>M. Resnick, J. Terrones</i></p>
<p>Macbeth and Banquo Meeting the Witches on the Heath by Théodore Chassériau. Source: <a href="#">the Musée d'Orsay</a>, Paris, France.</p>	<p><b>21M.013J/21L.013J The Supernatural in Music, Literature and Culture (HASS-A; HASS-H; CI-H)</b></p> <p>Explores the relationship between music and the supernatural, focusing on the social history and context of supernatural beliefs as reflected in key literary and musical works from 1600 to the present. Provides an understanding of the place of ambiguity and the role of interpretation in culture, science and art. Explores great works of art by Shakespeare, Verdi, Goethe (in translation), Gounod, Henry James and Benjamin Britten. Readings also include selections from the most recent scholarship on magic and the supernatural. Writing assignments range from web-based projects to analytic essays. No previous experience in music is necessary. Projected guest lectures, musical performances, field trips. Limited to 36.</p> <p><i>M. Fuller, C. Shadle</i></p>
<p>Image courtesy of the <a href="#">Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division</a> (reproduction number, LC-USZ62-67034 (b&amp;w film copy neg. of half stereo).</p>	<p><b>21M.223J/21L.023: Folk Music of the British Isles and North America (HASS-A; CI-H)</b></p> <p>Examines the production, transmission, preservation and the qualities of folk music in the British Isles and North America from the 18th century to the folk revival of the 1960s and the present. Special emphasis on balladry, fiddle styles, and African-American influences. Enrollment limited.</p> <p><i>R. Perry, G. Ruckert</i></p>

