5. **Magic Realism and Fantasy in Literature and Film** - Richard Kristen email

   2/5 time?

   This seminar is directed to all sophomores but particularly those who are interested in literature, film, multiculturalism, and the Americas. The class will read fantastic literature from Mexico and South America by such masters of prose as Gabriel García Márquez, Jorge Luis Borges, Silvina Ocampo, and Juan Rulfo. Although this is primarily a literature class, it also considers the social, historical, and artistic contexts of the texts studied. Classroom discussion will be in English and students may read the course texts in Spanish or in English translation. We will explore the roots of Magic Realism in narratives of exploration and conquest, Spanish folklore, and medieval romances of knights errant. We will take advantage of the three hour format for the course to take field trips to nearby sites such as Pecos National Monument that are evocative of the times and places portrayed in the novels and short stories. Contemporary film adaptations of masterpieces of Magic Realism will complement the reading and will be critically evaluated.

6. **Language and the Postmodern Cosmos** - Greg Glazner - Friday AM

   The way we use language affects how we conceive of "the cosmos." In Language and the Postmodern Cosmos, we will read samplings of contemporary poetry, science writing (especially Big Bang cosmology), philosophy, and anthropology to explore some of the many different ways language can address the cosmos. David Abram's book The Spell of the Sensuous will be the primary text.

   Are we locked in a "prison house of language," unable to get beyond what the arbitrary rules of language trap us into saying? Can language still be connected deeply to the universe? Can poetry stretch language to "show what can't otherwise be said"? In short, is the search for a "cosmic connection" still viable in the 21st century? These key questions will guide us through the course.

7. **Acoustic Ecology** - Steven Miller – Friday AM

   This course-through listening, reading, discussion, lectures, and individual creative & research projects-will investigate the changing relationships between humans and their surrounding sonic environments. The basis for the semester will be developed by learning how we communicate through the hearing mechanism. The primary focus will be to gain a clearer understanding of the effects of the sonic environment on the human species, as individuals and as larger societies, and to understand the ways in which humans are responsible for the drastic changes in the sonic environment, primarily since the advent of
electronic and electroacoustic media technology. By understanding the processes of acoustic communication and the ecology of the acoustic environment, we will be in a better position to make optimum use of the remaining beneficial acoustic environments, and to possibly re-think the present course of media technology and its uses.

7. **Theories of Power: from the Enlightenment to Postmodernism** Grazia Peduzzi – Friday 1:00-3:50 - email 2/6 title?
This seminar will explore the origins of Western philosophical and political thought about liberalism and democracy in the eighteenth century, the development of political theory in the nineteenth century, and the contemporary challenges raised by feminism, multiculturalism and globalization. Readings will include authors such as Locke, Jefferson, Rousseau, Tocqueville, Marx, Foucault, Habermas.

9. **Ten Questions: A Sociological Perspective** - Linda Sunseri 9:00 – 3:50 Friday
What does it mean to be human? Why are people unequal in society? Are human beings really free? Why is there misery in the world? Does the individual really make a difference? The seminar will explore these and other essential questions about human society. For insight we will draw on the ideas of Durkheim, Marx, Wever, Mead, Berger and other sociologists. The goal is to help students learn to appreciate the value of the Sociological Imagination in viewing our world and ourselves.