

ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY (Div II)

ANTHROPOLOGY

Chair: Professor James Nolan

- Zaid Adhami, Assistant Professor of Religion and Faculty Affiliate in Anthropology & Sociology; affiliated with: Anthropology and Sociology
- David B. Edwards, James N. Lambert '39 Professor of Anthropology; on leave 2021-2022
- Antonia E. Foias, Preston S. Parish '41 Third Century Professor of Anthropology
- Kim Gutschow, Lecturer in Religion and Anthropology/Sociology; affiliated with: Anthropology and Sociology
- Nicolas C. Howe, Director of CES and the Environmental Studies Program, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and Faculty Affiliate in Anthropology and Sociology; affiliated with: Anthropology and Sociology
- Peter Just, Professor of Anthropology
- Joel Lee, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
- James A. Manigault-Bryant, Chair and Professor of Africana Studies and Faculty Affiliate in Anthropology and Sociology and Religion; affiliated with: Religion Department, Anthropology and Sociology; on leave Spring 2022
- Gregory C. Mitchell, Chair and Associate Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies and Faculty Affiliate in Anthropology/Sociology; affiliated with: Anthropology and Sociology
- James L. Nolan, Chair and Washington Gladden 1859 Professor of Sociology
- Marketa Rulikova, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology
- Olga Shevchenko, Professor of Sociology
- Christina E. Simko, Associate Professor of Sociology; affiliated with: American Studies Program
- Ben Snyder, Assistant Professor of Sociology; on leave 2021-2022
- Phi H Su, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology

The disciplines of anthropology and sociology aim to teach students how to enter into the social/cultural worlds of others, how to grasp those worlds from the viewpoints of their inhabitants, and how to articulate those denizens' habits of mind, worldviews, and values to broader audiences.

Anthropology critically analyzes social forms and practices in all their local and global diversity, illuminating the cultural grounding of the ideologies, narratives, and structures in which we are all implicated. **Archaeology** extends this analysis to social formations of the historical and prehistorical past. **Sociology** studies the nature and trajectories of modernity, examining the intricacies of industrial and post-industrial societies and the dilemmas that confront individuals in modern social systems. These disciplines introduce students to classical and contemporary theories that illuminate the contours and contradictions of social experience. The Anthropology & Sociology program promotes a critical engagement with these theories while at the same time bringing evidence and case studies into conversation with theory.

The Department emphasizes qualitative fieldwork in its many forms. We teach students how to formulate, frame, and address intellectual problems. We also teach students the empirical methods widely used in anthropology, sociology, and other related disciplines, including, but not limited to ethnography, participant observation, interviewing, discourse and visual analysis, archival research, oral history, and archaeological methods.

Because the program emphasizes critical thinking skills to assess social claims made by others, and the application of anthropological and sociological skills to present day concerns, undergraduate training in Anthropology or Sociology has proven invaluable to majors pursuing a range of careers, including public policy, diplomacy, international development, marketing, social media development, K-12 education, journalism, medicine, and law.

MAJORS

The department offers separate majors in both Anthropology and Sociology, with a broad and diverse array of courses in both disciplines. The department is committed, however, to the unity of the social sciences. To this end, Anthropology and Sociology offer joint core courses in methodology and theory, as well as several elective courses in common. All joint courses are designated "ANSO."

Requirements

For the degree in Anthropology or Sociology, students must complete a minimum of nine courses as outlined below:

Core Courses

Majors in both disciplines must take a sequence of four core courses. Three of these are joint (ANSO) courses. The sequences are:

Anthropology

ANTH 101 How to Be Human

Sociology

SOC 101 Invitation to Sociology

Joint Courses

ANSO 205 Ways of Knowing

ANSO 305 Social Theory

ANSO 402 Senior Seminar

Elective Courses

Majors in Anthropology or Sociology must take five elective courses from the course listings of their respective disciplines or from the joint ANSO listings. Two of the courses chosen are normally at the 300 level or above. In close consultation with their departmental advisors, students may take some selected courses from other disciplines to fulfill major requirements in either Anthropology or Sociology.

Majors in each wing of the department are allowed to count up to two courses in the other wing towards fulfillment of their major requirements.

STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS

In addition to the nine total courses required for the major, it is recommended that Anthropology and Sociology majors take Statistics 101 or a comparable course in statistics and data analysis.

AREA STUDIES CONCENTRATION

Students who wish to combine a major in Anthropology or Sociology with an Area Studies concentration are encouraged to do so. Courses taken to satisfy an Area Studies requirement may be counted toward the major with prior approval of a student's departmental advisor. The only exception to this rule is the Area Studies senior seminar, which cannot ordinarily be counted toward the Anthropology or Sociology degree.

LANGUAGE STUDY, STUDY ABROAD, AND WINTER STUDY

Departmental advisors will help interested students integrate a major with study abroad, foreign language study, or field research during the winter study period. The department encourages Williams students to take advantage of established foreign study programs in Egypt, Japan, India, Hong Kong, and other countries. Because some foreign study programs do not offer courses that can be counted toward the Anthropology or Sociology degrees, however, sophomores planning to study abroad in junior year must consult with the departmental advisor before declaring a major.

FAQ

Students **MUST** contact departments/programs **BEFORE** assuming study away credit will be granted toward the major or concentration.

Can your department or program typically pre-approve courses for major/concentration credit?

Yes. In some cases, provisional approval can be granted (students should be sure to contact the department for details). We welcome discussions of curricular plans for those major who travel abroad in their junior year. However, typically, students don't have access to all the salient information until **AFTER** they have taken the course.

What criteria will typically be used/required to determine whether a student may receive major/concentration credit for a course taken while on study away?

Course title and description, and complete syllabus including readings/assignments. The syllabus and readings/assignment information is required in cases when the course title and description are not sufficient to ascertain whether a course should count towards the major. We also request information on course hours.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the number of major/concentration credits that a student might earn through study away?

Yes. We credit two, and in special cases three courses.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the types of courses that can be awarded credit towards your major?

Yes. The expectation is for an intellectually rigorous semester-long course with a paper/exam component.

Are there specific major requirements that cannot be fulfilled while on study away?

Yes. ANSO 205, ANSO 305 and ANSO 402 are almost always taken in the department.

Are there specific major requirements in your department/program that students should be particularly aware of when weighing study away options? (Some examples might include a required course that is always taught in one semester, laboratory requirements.)

Yes. ANSO 305 is offered in the fall and ANSO 205 and ANSO 402 only in the spring. We advise our majors to be aware if they plan to spend all or part of their junior year abroad.

Give examples in which students thought or assumed that courses taken away would count toward the major or concentration and then learned they wouldn't:

In one case, a student had assumed that he could take the equivalent of ANSO 205 abroad, and was disappointed to discover that was not the case. He ended up taking ANSO 205 his senior year.

THE DEGREE WITH HONORS IN ANTHROPOLOGY OR SOCIOLOGY

Honors and highest honors are normally awarded for the completion of a year-long research project that has resulted in an original thesis of high quality. Students wishing to write an honors thesis should engage a member of the department faculty as a Thesis Advisor as soon as possible and must submit a proposal for the thesis for department approval no later than the end of spring reading period of the junior year. If the proposal is approved, they will be permitted to register for Anthropology and Sociology 493-W31-494, during which they will write and defend a thesis. If their overall work in the major continues to be of high quality and the thesis is deemed of a similar quality, they may be awarded honors or highest honors in Anthropology or Sociology.

ANTH 101 (F)(S) How To Be Human (DPE)

Is there such a thing as 'human nature'? This course is an introduction to cultural anthropology (also known as social or socio-cultural anthropology), the study of human society in all its profound variety. Through deep, sustained, systematic participation in and observation of a particular social context, anthropologists seek to comprehend and illuminate the human condition. Anthropologists' insights into the ways in which human institutions—language, economy, religion, social stratification, law, sexuality, art, the state, and many more—are culturally constructed and reproduced have transformed the way the world is understood. Puncturing ethnocentrism, anthropology's attentiveness to the ideas and practices of cultures in every part of the globe vastly enriches the archive of human answers to human problems. The distinctive methods of the discipline enable anthropologists to discover patterns and phenomena not discernible in other modes of enquiry. With such findings anthropologists are able to make critical interventions in public discourse and to demonstrate how deeply we are all shaped by cultural forces.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly posts in response to readings, two group presentations, several short writing exercises, final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 30

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course is an introduction to cultural anthropology and deals extensively with race, ethnicity, religion, gender, etc., as cultural constructs creating social difference, hierarchies of power, and the creation of inequities in communities and societies. Readings in ethnography, social theory, and sociology are designed to give students a deeper appreciation of all these issues.

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 MW 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Peter Just

Spring 2022

LEC Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Joel Lee

ANTH 103 (F) Pyramids, Bones, and Sherds: What is Archaeology?

Anthropology examines not only living societies, but also prehistoric cultures whose remains are found worldwide. This course will present how archaeology reconstructs the various aspects of human society from the physical record of prehistory. How do we study the subsistence and settlement patterns, the political and social organization, and the economy and ideology of prehistoric societies who have left behind mute material

records? The objective of anthropological archaeology is to bring to life these prehistoric cultures through archaeological analysis. The different goals, approaches and methodologies of modern archaeology will be discussed theoretically and then applied to case studies.

Class Format: In the Fall 2020, the course will have a hybrid format. In person and remote students will attend lectures or class discussions during the regular twice-a-week schedule, with an additional synchronous session for remote students to address questions. If remote students cannot attend additional Q&A session, open office hours will also be available.

Requirements/Evaluation: class presentations, two 12-15pp analytical papers, midterm and final exams

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: First and second year students.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Antonia E. Foias

ANTH 134 (S) Leaving the World Behind: The Literature of Reclusion (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: ANTH 134 CHIN 134 COMP 134 REL 134

Secondary Cross-listing

Living in a time of political and social turmoil, Confucius told his followers: "When the realm has the Way, show yourself; when it lacks the way, hide." Reclusion here is a moral choice, justified by the ethical decline of the state. But it could also be a mortal necessity in a period in which government service was a distinctly hazardous pursuit. In other contexts becoming a hermit could instead be figured as aesthetic stance meant to preserve one's artistic integrity against the dominant claims of society. This course looks at the literature of reclusion—living a life of seclusion from society—in a range of different cultures and periods, from ancient China to contemporary America. With sources that include poems, essays, novels, and films, we will investigate a set of issues surrounding radical seclusion. What different forms does reclusion take? Can one be a hermit without being completely separated from society? What is the relationship between hermits and the state—to what extent does one depend on the other? What are the philosophical and moral implications of eremitism? Is separating oneself from human society an inherently immoral act? What is the relationship between reclusion and technology in the contemporary world? What is the nature of solitude and can it be experienced in a group (for example, in contemporary "intentional communities")? While most of our work will focus on textual analysis, there will be an experiential component to the course as well. Each student will design and implement their own experiment in (short-term) eremitism.

Class Format: experiential component

Requirements/Evaluation: tutorial papers, responses, and an individual project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students, Chinese majors, Religion majors, Anthropology majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 134 (D1) CHIN 134 (D1) COMP 134 (D1) REL 134 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will write a 5- to 7-page paper every other week for a total of five papers. On weeks in which they are not writing, they will critique their partner's paper. Papers will receive substantial writing-based feedback from both the instructor and partner.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course provides students with the opportunity to analyze the shaping of social differences and dynamics of unequal power. Acts of reclusion are often ways that individuals can challenge the dominance of the state and other structures of authority indirectly. Modes of reclusion can differ substantially depending on the social standing of the recluse. These are issues that we will examine in the course.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 138 (F) Spectacular Sex (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: WGSS 138 ANTH 138

Secondary Cross-listing

From Beyoncé's Coachella performance to Donald Trump's social media antics, spectacles captivate us. Spectacles may be live shows, media events, or even everyday performances ranging from interactive advertisements to viral video sensations. But what are the uses of spectacle? Why are some compelling while others fall flat? How do spectacles control society or maintain social norms? And, importantly for our purposes, how does spectacle shape gender in society? Or from another angle, how does sexuality infuse spectacle? This tutorial introduces students to theories of spectacle ranging from the ancient Greeks to Marxist-inspired thinkers in the 20th century. In particular, we will examine how feminist thinkers have contributed to this literature and how theories of spectacle relate to questions of gender and sexuality. Our weekly readings focus on pairings of theoretical readings with writing on popular cultural examples and case studies. Some possible topics include sporting events, charity ad campaigns, music videos, political events, and social media.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly response papers; students will also select past papers to develop and rewrite as more formal essays

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students; a statement of interest will be solicited from pre-registrants

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 138 (D2) ANTH 138 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This course requires significant attention to the craft of writing. Essential to this craft is the process of editing and rewriting materials with feedback from peers and professors. Students are expected to focus on improving analytical skills, critical thinking, and argumentation through attention to the writing process. They are also expected to give meaningful critical feedback on the writing of their peers. Students will select past response papers for development and rewriting.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course deals substantively with questions about privilege and power as they interact along the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class, ability, and other axes of difference.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 162 (S) Languages of East Asia

Cross-listings: CHIN 162 ANTH 162 ASIA 162 GBST 162

Secondary Cross-listing

A survey of the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages in their linguistic and cultural context. Working with various types of multimedia including audio, video, animation, and texts, we'll take up the phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicon of these three major East Asian languages, including also their history and writing systems as well as how they function in the societies where they are spoken. Though the emphasis of the course is on linguistic description and analysis, there will also be an applied component, as part of which we'll learn several dozen common expressions in each language. Some of the questions to be discussed are: What are the similarities and differences among these three languages? How are and how aren't they related? How did the modern standard form of each develop and what is its relationship to any non-standard languages or dialects? How do these three languages reflect sociolinguistic phenomena such as gender, class, and politeness? How do the writing systems of these languages function and what is the role of Chinese characters in them? What has been the influence of Classical Chinese on Modern Chinese, Japanese, and Korean? How have these languages changed due to influence from English and other languages? And what are the prospects for their future development, including the influence of computers and digital communications? The last few class sessions will be devoted to minority languages of East Asia as well as oral presentations by the students. While this course is not intended as a comprehensive introduction to linguistics, it does introduce many basic terms and concepts from that discipline.

Class Format: combination of lecture, discussion, and language practice

Requirements/Evaluation: six quizzes, three 2- to 3-page papers, an oral presentation, and an 8- to 10-page term paper

Prerequisites: none (lectures, class discussions, and readings in English; no prior background in linguistics or any Asian language required)

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: open to all with preference to first-year students and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

CHIN 162 (D1) ANTH 162 (D2) ASIA 162 (D1) GBST 162 (D2)

Attributes: Linguistics

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 MW 8:25 pm - 9:40 pm Cornelius C. Kubler

ANTH 208 (S) The U.S. and Afghanistan: A Post-Mortem (DPE)

Cross-listings: ASIA 208 GBST 208 ASST 208 ANTH 208 PSCI 220

Primary Cross-listing

The United States attacked and defeated the Afghan Taliban regime over in the course of a few short weeks in 2001. Within a few years, the finality of that victory was brought into question as the Taliban regrouped and eventually reasserted itself as a formidable guerilla army that the U.S. military could not easily defeat. At the same time that it was facing a more difficult military challenge than anticipated, the United States got bogged down in the process of nation-building, as well as efforts at social reform. This course examines the history of American involvement in Afghanistan, beginning with the Cold War when the U.S. used Afghanistan as a test case for new models of political modernization and economic development. We will go on to discuss the U.S. support for Islamist political parties during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s and the consequent rise of the Taliban, and the role of Afghanistan in the September 11th attacks and the "War on Terror" that followed. The course will conclude with a consideration of the impact and legacy of the two decades of nation-building and social reform carried out by the United States since 9/11.

Requirements/Evaluation: grading will be determined by class participation, two short essays, and a 15-page research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors, Global Studies concentrators, Political Science and Asian Studies majors will get preference

Expected Class Size: 15-20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ASIA 208 (D2) GBST 208 (D2) ASST 208 (D2) ANTH 208 (D2) PSCI 220 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Among the topics relevant to power and difference to be considered in this course are the American support and later disavowal of Islamist political parties to advance US geopolitical goals, public relations efforts "to save Afghan women" after 9/11, and the uses and misuses of American military, economic, and political power to build a western-style democratic government and bring western-oriented social reforms to a society radically different from U.S. society.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 212 (F) Foundations of China

Cross-listings: REL 218 ANTH 212 GBST 212 HIST 214 ASIA 211 CHIN 214

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines the foundational period of Chinese civilization, from the earliest evidence of human activity in the geographical region we now call China, through the end of the Han dynasty in the early third-century CE. This is the period that saw the creation and spread of the Chinese script (a writing system that would be the dominant one in East Asia for thousands of years), the teachings of Confucius (whose ideas continue to play a role in the lives of billions of people today), the construction of the Great Wall (which is not, as it turns out, visible from space), and the creation of the imperial bureaucratic system (that was, in essence, the progenitor of the modern bureaucratic state). We will proceed chronologically but focus on a set of thematic topics, including language and writing, religion and philosophy, art and architecture, politics and economics, and science and

technology. While this course is entitled "Foundations of China," we will take a critical perspective on narratives, both Chinese and Western, that see Chinese history as an unbroken history of a single "civilization."

Requirements/Evaluation: short writing assignments (approximately 750-1000 words each), quizzes, a mid-term, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 40

Enrollment Preferences: Chinese majors, History majors, Religion majors, and Anthropology majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 218 (D2) ANTH 212 (D2) GBST 212 (D2) HIST 214 (D2) ASIA 211 (D1) CHIN 214 (D1)

Attributes: HIST Group B Electives - Asia HIST Group P Electives - Premodern

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 MWF 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm Christopher M. B. Nugent

ANTH 214 (F) The Rise and Fall of Civilizations

Cross-listings: ANTH 214 ENVI 224

Primary Cross-listing

Over the centuries, philosophers and historians have asked how societies evolved from simple hunter-gatherer bands to complex urban civilizations. Human prehistory and history have shown the repeated cycles of the rise, expansion and collapse of early civilizations in both the Old and New World. What do the similarities and differences in the development of these first civilizations tell us about the nature of societal change, civilization and the state, and human society itself? The course will examine these issues through an introductory survey of the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, Mesoamerica and South America. Classical and modern theories on the nature, origin, and development of the state will be reviewed in light of the archaeological evidence.

Class Format: Class discussion and debates will complement lecture with powerpoint presentation. In the Fall 2020, the course will have a hybrid format. In person and remote students will attend lectures or class discussions during the regular twice-a-week schedule, with an additional synchronous session for remote students to address questions. If remote students cannot attend additional Q&A session, open office hours will also be available.

Requirements/Evaluation: midterm, final exam, 15pp analytical paper, two quizzes

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: First and second years.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 214 (D2) ENVI 224 (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Antonia E. Foias

ANTH 215 (F) Performance Ethnography (DPE)

Cross-listings: GBST 215 DANC 214 ANTH 215 AMST 214 THEA 215

Secondary Cross-listing

The course aims to explore the theory, practice, and ethics of ethnographic research with a focus on dance, movement, and performance. Traditionally considered to be a method of research in anthropology, ethnography is the descriptive and analytical study of a particular community through fieldwork, where the researcher immerses herself in the culture of the people that she researches. In this course students will be introduced to (i) critical theory that grounds ethnography as a research methodology, (ii) readings in ethnographic studies of dance and performance practices from different parts of the world, and (iii) field research in the local community for their own ethnographic projects. This is primarily a discussion-based seminar course and may include fieldwork, attendance at live performances, film screenings, workshop with guest artists etc. No previous dance or performance experience is assumed or required.

Class Format: community-based field work

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, reading responses, fieldwork and field notes, short papers, and final essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

GBST 215 (D2) DANC 214 (D1) ANTH 215 (D2) AMST 214 (D1) THEA 215 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course focuses on ethnographic research with an emphasis on the ethics of doing ethnography in field sites and making performances based on that research. In fieldwork and performance work, there is a difference in social, cultural, and political (broadly conceived) power between researcher and interlocutors. In the course, students' critical analytical skills are developed for them to be self-reflective about these power differentials and to address issues of social inequality.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 216 (S) Urbanism in the Ancient World

Cross-listings: ANTH 216 GBST 216

Primary Cross-listing

This is a course on cities in the ancient world, which will examine four major ancient urban centers (Nineveh and Nimrud, Iraq; Teotihuacan, Mexico; and Angkor, Cambodia) and end with a sustained, in-depth exploration of urbanism in prehispanic Maya civilization. As more and more people move into cities across the world, human societies are becoming forever transformed. This transformation into an urban globalized world has ancient roots at the beginning of the first civilizations in Euroasia and the Americas. We will delve into the nature of the urban transformation by first exploring sociological and anthropological definitions of urbanism, and recent studies of modern urbanism. We will look at Nineveh, Nimrud, Teotihuacan, and Angkor to consider how ancient urbanism was distinct from modern cities, while at the same time, ancient urbanites had to deal with similar issues as residents of modern cities. We will then examine in more depth the cities of prehispanic Maya civilization, answering such questions as: how different were Maya cities from other premodern ones? Is there one type of Maya city or many? How different was life in Maya cities from life in Maya villages? What were the power structures of Maya cities? How common were immigrants and slaves in these ancient cities?

Requirements/Evaluation: 5-page papers every other week, oral responses on alternate weeks; tutorial attendance is required

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores; or majors in Anthropology or Sociology

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 216 (D2) GBST 216 (D2)

Attributes: GBST Urbanizing World Electives

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 219 (S) The Art and Archeology of Maya Civilization

Cross-listings: ARTH 209 ANTH 219

Primary Cross-listing

The ancient Maya civilization was one of the most sophisticated and complex cultures of prehispanic Central America. Its complex calendrics, astronomy, mathematics, art and hieroglyphic writing system are celebrated worldwide. The course will examine the trajectory and nature of ancient Maya civilization from the combined perspectives of archaeology and art history. The origins and evolution of the Maya states during the Preclassic period (1000 B.C.-A.D. 250) will be explored through the rich archaeological remains and Preclassic art styles. The Classic Maya civilization (A.D. 250-1000) will then be presented through a detailed survey of the archaeology, art and hieroglyphic texts of this period. Finally, the collapse of Classic Maya civilization and its transformation and endurance during the Postclassic period and under early Spanish rule (A.D. 1000-1600) will be critically evaluated through a review of the archaeological, iconographic, and ethnohistorical evidence.

Class Format: lecture/discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: midterm and final exams, hieroglyphic project, 15pp research paper

Prerequisites: none, but an introductory ARTH or ANTH course recommended

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology/Sociology and Art History majors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 209 (D2) ANTH 219 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 222 (F) Heroes, Saints and Celebrity

Cross-listings: REL 273 ANTH 222

Primary Cross-listing

This course examines the ways in which cultures select, ritually celebrate, institutionally harness, and ultimately devour people designated as 'extraordinary'. We will begin by considering cultural archetypes and theories of the hero and how heroism has been understood in different eras and cultural contexts. Using Weber's theory of charisma as a foundation, we will look at a number of specific case studies to evaluate the relationship between individual creativity and action and the demands of social conformity and control. Finally, we will examine how charisma is commoditized in the form of the celebrity in contemporary American culture.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two short response papers, research paper, final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 273 (D2) ANTH 222 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 223 (S) Ethnic Minorities in China: Past and Present (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 223 CHIN 223

Secondary Cross-listing

According to the most recent census conducted in China in 2010, of the 1.3 billion population of China, more than 110 million (8.49%) were ethnic minorities (shaoshu minzu). Most of the minority groups reside in autonomous regions and districts, which constitute 64% of China's total acreage.

This course introduces students to the multiethnic aspect of China's past and present. We will ask the central question of "what is *minzu*" and address various topics such as the minority-group identification project; the definition of *minzu* (translated as "ethnic group," "nationality," or "race" by different scholars); the intersections between language, religion, tourism, diaspora and ethnicity; historical sino-centric views about "foreigners" and "barbarians" as well as the roles that "barbarians" have played in China's long history. We will examine how social differences and hierarchy are constructed and discuss how power plays in the shaping of "ethnicity." A multidisciplinary approach will be adopted for the course, taking in sources from anthropology, history, literature, ethnic studies, and cultural studies. Throughout the course, the pedagogical techniques of "intercultural dialogue" will be adopted to encourage students to discuss their own ethnic experiences and compare ethnic minority issues in China with similar issues in the United States. Students are also encouraged to come up with real-world solutions and strategies to deal with issues of racism, bias, and discrimination.

Class Format: The course will be offered remotely and adopt a learner-centered, quasi-tutorial format. Every week students will view recorded lectures and participate in an online discussion forum asynchronously. In addition, students will be placed into smaller groups and meet with the instructor once a week for synchronous discussions.

Requirements/Evaluation: class attendance, weekly quizzes, active participation in both the online discussion forum and in-class meetings, two short (5-page) response papers, and one final research paper (10-12 pages).

Prerequisites: none, open to all students; no knowledge of Chinese language required

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: current and prospective majors in the Department of Asian Studies, then to first-years

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: books and reading packet

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 223 (D2) CHIN 223 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: We explore the interactions between "power" and "ethnicity," "center" and "periphery" in the Chinese context and compare them with students' own experiences. Students are required to write one short response paper on their personal encounter with the concept of "race" or "ethnicity." For the final research paper, students are required to identify one problem among all the ethnic minority issues in the Chinese context and write a policy recommendation to make real-world changes.

Attributes: ASAM Related Courses GBST East Asian Studies Electives

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 225 (F) Ways of Seeing

This course examines the potential of images for revealing aspects of cultural normally obscured by the written word and for transmitting different, sometimes undervalued insights and knowledge of the social world. The central focus of this course is documentary film, and we will consider both the theory and practice of the documentary in the United States and abroad as it has evolved over time and as it is evident in contemporary filmmaking. In the course of the semester, we will examine some of the ways in which filmmakers, and ethnographic filmmakers in particular, have approached the task of documenting and understanding different aspects of social reality. Among the questions that we will consider are the following: What is the relationship between written texts and images? What is it that documentary films "document?" What is the relationship between images and stories, and should the techniques used in fiction films to construct voice, point of view, identification, narrative sequence, etc. apply as well in the creation of nonfiction films? What is the role of film in anthropology, and how does ethnographic filmmaking relate to anthropology and to the broader documentary film tradition? In the last part of the course, we will consider the proliferation of cell phone videos and platforms such as Youtube and Instagram and their significance for the documentary film genre more generally.

Class Format: The class will be taught remotely and will include pre-recorded lectures, conversations with filmmakers and producers, and weekly online discussions

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly response/critiques of assigned films, a longer written paper (10-12 pages) or video essay of comparable scope

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology/Sociology majors, open to first-year students

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: FMST Core Courses

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 226 (F) Spiritual But Not Religious

Cross-listings: REL 226 ANTH 226

Secondary Cross-listing

Today, more than one in five people in the United States identify as "none" when asked about their religious affiliation. Yet that does not mean that religious sentiment or spirituality is on the decline. On the contrary, talk of "spirituality" is more pervasive than ever in popular discourse. Increasingly Americans claim that they are "spiritual but not religious" or that they prefer "individual religion" over "organized religion." This course seeks to understand and investigate this phenomenon. What is the lived experience of being "spiritual but not religious"? What counts as spirituality? Is there a meaningful distinction between spirituality and religion? What does this distinction assume about the nature of organized religion? What is the history that led us to this ideology of individualized spirituality? And what are the social and political implications of this trend? We will explore these questions and study this phenomenon through an engagement with ethnography (the qualitative research method generally described as "participant-observation"). Over the course of the semester, students will be expected to conduct an ethnographic research project within local communities in Williams College and Williamstown. Alongside our central readings on spirituality, we will also be studying some background in the theory and practice of this methodology. Throughout the semester, students will work together on developing the practical skills necessary to conduct an ethnographic project, and will be gradually executing their own individual projects. This will include: designing a feasible project and research question, selecting research sites and interlocutors, taking field-notes and conducting interviews, and finally analyzing data and writing an ethnographic essay.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular reading responses; semester-long research project with frequent small assignments building up to the final product (15- to 20-page paper)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Expected Class Size: 10-15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 226 (D2) ANTH 226 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 227 (F) Language and Society: What Does Your Speech Say About You?

Cross-listings: ANTH 227 ARAB 227

Secondary Cross-listing

Sociolinguistics is the study of how aspects of society influence the way language is used by the society members. In this course, we will examine the inter-relationships between the way language is used in various social contexts affecting that usage. How and why do languages change? How does language reflect a person's identity? How does language intersect with power relations among individuals within a society? Does language vary according to gender? How are language varieties formed, and what determines their status within speech communities? How and why do speakers code-switch among different varieties? These are some key questions that we will examine in this class, drawing on readings that focus on different languages.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, response essays, assignments, article presentation, variation paper, final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: seniors, students who need to fulfill Arabic major or Anthropology major requirements, students interested in linguistics

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 227 (D2) ARAB 227 (D1)

Attributes: Linguistics

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 228 (F) Jihad

Most studies of the global jihad movement focus on ideology, operations, and strategy. Numerous studies have also focused on the individual psychology of those who join jihad groups. Often ignored are the cultural dimensions of Islamic jihad. This course examines both the "global" culture of jihad--those cultural elements of the movement that are common across national and linguistic borders--and the particular ways in which jihadi groups reflect and respond to the local cultures in which they operate. Among the topics to be considered are the ways in which jihad adherents use ritual, poetry, graphic imagery, dress and grooming codes, music, film, social media, dream interpretation, and mythology to fix their place in the world and advance their political and social agendas. The course will also examine the role of violence in creating a distinctive and exclusionary social milieu within jihad groups and in defining the relationship between these groups and the societies that surround and, in some cases, support them. Of particular interest for the course will be the ways in which cultural elements of jihadi groups and the jihadi "lifestyle" are mobilized to attract new recruits to the jihadi movement.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, four short and informal blog posts (1-page each), two longer response papers (2- to 3-pages each), one research paper (12- to 15-pages)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors and students who have taken one or more Anthropology or Sociology courses

Expected Class Size: 12-15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 232 (S) Town and Gown: Investigating the Relationship of College and Community

Team-taught by an anthropologist and a journalist, this course investigates the relationship between Williams College and the surrounding communities of Northern Berkshire County via ethnographic/journalistic research conducted by students. The course will look at several case studies centered on "town-gown" relations in different eras and locations in order to contextualize and provide comparative material for understanding the relationship of Williams to its neighboring communities. Among the topics to be considered and possibly investigated will be the social and economic effects of colleges on local communities, the role of alcohol and athletics in town/gown relations, and how the increasing corporatization of academic institutions has changed the nature of town-gown interactions and the place and role of institutions of higher education in their communities. The focus of the course will be on student research, and a large percentage of class time will be devoted to learning the basic techniques of ethnographic and journalistic research, including interviewing, oral historical research, survey research, and participant-observation. Each student will conduct a major research project of their own devising, which will culminate in an investigative report and a public presentation.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, research exercises, major ethnographic research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 233 (S) Spiritual Crossroads: Religious Life in Southeast Asia

Cross-listings: ANTH 233 ASST 233 REL 253 ASIA 233

Primary Cross-listing

No region of the world presents a richer tapestry of religious beliefs, practices, and institutions than Southeast Asia. Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam are all to be found and all of them interpenetrate and contend with each other and with a deep undergirding of animism, shamanism, and mystical folk belief systems. This course will survey these religious traditions through time and space, looking in particular at the growing tension between religion and the state as fundamentalism and religious militancy have spread into the region in recent times. All of Southeast Asia will be covered, but particular attention will be devoted to Indonesia, where religious blending and the growth of new fundamentalism are both especially marked.

Requirements/Evaluation: midterm, short essays, term paper

Prerequisites: none; open to non-majors

Enrollment Limit: 19

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 233 (D2) ASST 233 (D2) REL 253 (D2) ASIA 233 (D2)

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies Electives

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 235 (F) Refugees and Migrants

An overflow of refugees to the EU and alarmist electoral campaign rhetoric in the U.S. have intensified the issue of international migration around the world. Right- and left-wing politicians and their constituents, human rights activists and state officials, journalists and NGOs discuss, argue, and mull over causes and consequences of population change, strategies of migration management, and predicaments of social integration. In this course, we will examine the emerging conditions of international migration. Specifically, we will focus on how contemporary welfare and labor regimes, claims on citizenship rights, immigration rules, public deliberations, and interethnic and racial experience shape the movements of people and affect their lives by controlling their bodies, subjectivities, social networks, health, and labor. We will draw on domestic and international case studies as we examine a controversy surrounding the Arizona immigration law, DACA debates, challenges of a migration crisis in EU, rural-to-urban migration in India, and a complexity of refugee flows in the Caucasus and the Middle East. We will briefly engage with the subtleties of migration estimation, such as the politics of population censuses, and will analyze consequences of immigration on host populations.

Requirements/Evaluation: one midterm, two short policy memos, one research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: seniors and juniors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies Electives

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 240 (S) Work as a Cultural System (DPE)

"You know my reputation," sang Billy Joe Shaver, "I am everything I do." In many ways we are *homo faber*, the species that *makes* its world and we are defined by what we make, by the work we do. This course will undertake a broad survey of work as cultural systems across time and space. How do societies define work, how do they organize it? Who controls the processes of work, who controls the product of work? When is work an act of pure creation and when is it stultifying labor? How is work enabled and how is it compensated? What defines the difference between work and leisure and how are they valued? How does control over access to work, the organization of work, and the appropriation of its products determine difference, power, and equity in a society? These questions will guide an examination of work drawing on works of philosophy, history, ethnography, literature, and film examining people at work ranging from hunter-gatherers to tin miners, from slaves to corporate managers, from merchant mariners in the age of sail to physicians struggling to adapt to computerized medical records.

Requirements/Evaluation: students will compose several response papers, a take-home midterm exam and a final research paper of 15-20 pages

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Access to work, control over the work process, control over the fruits of labor, and compensation for work, are a principal means for creating and maintaining social difference, power, and equity. It is impossible to seriously study the nature of work without discussing these topics. By placing the universal experience of work in a broad spatial and temporal context students will discover an enhanced analytical ability to critically understand their own experiences of work and those of others.

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Peter Just

ANTH 242 (S) The Country and the City in the Classical World

Cross-listings: ANTH 242 ENVI 242 CLAS 242

Secondary Cross-listing

A growing urban-rural divide is defining political discourse around the world. The interrelation and tension between "city" and "countryside" are not new, however, but date back to the time when cities first began. How do cities occupy and transform, interact with and displace rural landscapes? What are the values, stereotypes, and ideals--as well as artistic, literary, and architectural forms--associated with the city and the countryside? What role does one play in the political, social, and economic life of the other? With a focus on ancient Greece and, especially, Rome, this course will combine archaeological evidence and contemporary scholarship with primary sources ranging from Hesiod, Theocritus, Vergil, and Propertius to Cato the Elder, Varro, Vitruvius, and Pliny the Elder, to examine an array of topics including land surveying and colonization; agrarian legislation; the urban food supply; rustic religion in the city; urban parks and gardens; and the concept of the pastoral. Together, we will explore the city and the countryside - not just as places, but also as states of mind. All readings are in translation.

Requirements/Evaluation: informed participation, two short papers (2-5 pages), final paper (8-10 pages)

Prerequisites: none, although prior knowledge of the ancient world will be useful

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: declared and intending majors in Classics and Environmental Studies

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 242 (D1) ENVI 242 (D1) CLAS 242 (D1)

Attributes: ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives GBST Urbanizing World Electives

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 243 (F) Reimagining Rivers (WS)

Cross-listings: ENVI 243 ANTH 243

Secondary Cross-listing

In the era of climate change and widening inequality, how we live with rivers will help define who we are. Rivers are the circulatory systems of civilization, yet for much of modern history they have been treated as little more than sewers, roads, and sources of power. Today they are in crisis. Rivers and the people who rely on them face a multitude of problems, including increased flooding, drought, pollution, and ill-conceived dams. These problems will threaten human rights, public health, political stability, and ecological resilience far into the future unless we learn to manage rivers more justly and sustainably. Can we reimagine rivers before it is too late? This course will pursue this question by examining the social, cultural, and political dimensions of conflict over rivers in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Drawing on scholarship from a wide range of social science and

humanities disciplines and focusing on case studies in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas, it will explore a diverse array of sources: film, fiction, ethnography, history, journalism, and more.

Class Format: This class will be taught in a modified tutorial format, with five groups of three students, each of which will meet for one 75-minute session per week. Sessions will be held in-person and remotely.

Requirements/Evaluation: Each week, each student will either write a 5-page essay on assigned readings or write a 2-page critique of a partner's paper.

Prerequisites: Environmental Studies 101

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Environmental Studies majors and concentrators

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ENVI 243 (D2) ANTH 243 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students take turns writing 5-page essays and 2-page responses to those essays, with each writing 6 in total. For each five-page paper, I meet with the student to discuss technical aspects of the paper and specific ways in which it could be improved. At the end of the semester, students have the option of handing in one revised paper as part of a portfolio of papers from throughout the semester. This enables me to have an ongoing, in-depth discussion with each student about their writing skills.

Attributes: ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives

Fall 2021

TUT Section: T1 TBA Nicolas C. Howe

ANTH 246 (S) India's Identities: Nation, Community, & Individual (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: ASST 246 ASIA 246 REL 246 ANTH 246 WGSS 246

Secondary Cross-listing

This tutorial considers India's multiple and intersecting identities, in relation to climate emergencies, resource scarcities, and ongoing struggles for power and status across very different parts of India. We examine the intersectional identities that produce solidarity and opposition within landscapes always already structured by power and inequity. How do communal and individual identities such as gender, class, caste, sexuality or religion shape social conflict and ongoing struggles for power in India today? We examine key moments in Indian history that that continue to produce social conflict and fluidity such as Partition, the riots in Gujarat, Hyderabad, and Delhi that have shaped the modern landscape of communal identity, as well as the contested border such as Ladakh as well as Jammu & Kashmir. Our readings will include ethnographic, sociological, historical fiction, and oral history. Students choose their own topics to delve into for final weeks of the semester.

Class Format: Meeting weekly in pairs with tutorial partner to discuss texts and student essays.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly writing assignments and tutorial attendance every week

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Majors in Anthropology, Sociology, Religion, Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, concentrators in Asian Studies, STS

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ASST 246 (D2) ASIA 246 (D2) REL 246 (D2) ANTH 246 (D2) WGSS 246 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This tutorial involves weekly essays of 1500 words or oral responses, intensive feedback on writing, and individual writing chats with instruction in the middle of the semester.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course fulfills the Difference, Power, and Equity by theorizing the ways that social power and equity are

sources of struggle and division within Indian society. It analyzes the intersectional identities of class, caste, gender, and religion in shaping differential access to power and equity within India today.

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies Electives PHLH Bioethics + Interpretations of Health WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 249 (F)(S) The Sacred in South Asia

Cross-listings: ANTH 249 ASIA 242 REL 149

Primary Cross-listing

Is religious identity necessarily singular and unambiguous? The jinn - Islamic spirits born of fire - are sought out for their healing and other powers not only by Muslims in India, but by Hindus, Christians and Sikhs, as well. In parts of Bengal statues of the Hindu goddess Durga are traditionally sculpted by Muslim artisans. Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Sri Lanka contain tombs of Muslim Sufi saints and shrines of Hindu deities. South Asia - where a fifth of humanity lives - provides some of the most striking examples of pluralism and religiously composite culture in our contemporary world. Yet at the same time, strident religious majoritarianism has been a defining feature of the politics of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for decades, and haunts Nepal and Bangladesh as well. Are these two modes of religious being - pluralistic and composite on the one hand, singular and majoritarian on the other - reflective of two different conceptions of selfhood? What if we turn from questions of community and identity to questions of unseen power and the sacred? This course is an exploration of lived religion in South Asia. It is simultaneously a study of popular Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam and an introduction to the anthropology of religion. Centered on in-depth studies of popular sites of 'syncretic' ritual practice (shared across religious difference) as well as studies of mass mobilizations that seek to align the religious community with the nation, we approach from multiple angles what the sacred might mean in modernity.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly (1 page) posts on readings, two short (5 page) papers, and one (12-14 page) final research paper.

Prerequisites: Interest in the topic!

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Students in all fields of study are most welcome; if overenrolled, priority will be given to majors in Anthropology, Sociology, Religion and Asian Studies.

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 249 (D2) ASIA 242 (D2) REL 149 (D2)

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies Electives

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 MWF 8:30 am - 9:45 am Joel Lee

Spring 2022

LEC Section: 01 Cancelled

ANTH 255 (F) Buddhism: Ideas and Practices

Cross-listings: ANTH 255 REL 255 ASIA 255

Secondary Cross-listing

This course introduces students to Buddhism by examining its ideas and practices as they have taken place in actual social contexts rather than as disembodied textual objects. After examining the main ideas and narratives of the tradition, we turn our attention to Thailand where we examine how these ideas and narratives have shaped a whole range of practices, from meditation to shamanistic rituals. We then consider the transformations that Buddhism is undergoing in contemporary society, examining the rise of meditation movement, the changing role of monks and laity, the resurgence of the nun order, the rise of Buddhist social activism and the development of new Buddhist social philosophies. We ask questions such as: How can Buddhism adapt to a modern global consumerist society? What are the transformations involved in this process and the role that Buddhism can play in such a global society? Should Buddhists take advantage of the opportunities of this new global culture or should they adopt a critical stance toward its

consumerist values?

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: full attendance and active participation; two essays

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 255 (D2) REL 255 (D2) ASIA 255 (D2)

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies Electives PHIL Related Courses

Fall 2021

LEC Section: 01 MWF 8:30 am - 9:45 am Georges B. Dreyfus

ANTH 256 (F) Buddhism, Sex, & Gender: #MeToo Then and Now (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 256 WGSS 256 REL 256 ASST 256 ASIA 256

Secondary Cross-listing

This course considers the feminist voices that have been part and parcel of Buddhist practices, texts, and institutions for most of its 2500-year history. We will conduct a historical genealogy of Buddhist voices that illustrate the fluid and disruptive role of sex, gender, caste, and class in relation to individual behavior and social relations. How did the Buddha's inner revolution produce a set of practices that both reject and reinforce existing binaries and social hierarchies of sex and gender, and with what effects? We will trace a feminist voice that decries harassment, assault, and systemic sexism within Buddhist communities from the first female disciples (Theri) of the Buddha to the current #MeToo era of embattled toxic masculinity. Along the way, we explore a literary canon that contains misogyny and 'she devils' alongside a rich tapestry of female divinities, transgender fluidity, and female liberation. We pursue an intersectional analysis of Buddhist traditions and texts by considering the multiple forms of social hierarchy--gender, sexuality, race, and class--that Buddhism has attempted to transcend. We begin by considering three women in the Buddha's life--his mother (Maya), his stepmother/aunt (Gotami), and his wife (Yashodhara)--as well as the tales of the first enlightened Buddhist women whose topics include prostitution, patriarchy, sexism, and pathetic husbands, as well as their own decaying bodies and beauty. Our next theme is the myriad ways that gender is both produced and deconstructed in Buddhist discourses on enlightenment and the human body. Our final theme considers a range of monastic memoirs, including a Buddhist black nun who left Harvard to take ordination in Thailand, and a Dutchman who studied Zen in Japan. We close by examining the current debates in the U.S. and Asia that seek to combat systemic racism, sexism, and casteism in Buddhist traditions.

Requirements/Evaluation: class discussion, reading responses (3-4 pages), writing chat, final research paper (12 pages)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology, Religion, Asian Studies, Women's, Gender and Sexuality majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 256 (D2) WGSS 256 (D2) REL 256 (D2) ASST 256 (D2) ASIA 256 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course fulfills DPE because it seeks to theorize the role of difference (gender, sex, class, and race) and intersectionality within Buddhist texts, practices, and institutions. It considers how Buddhist practices and institutions both deconstruct and reproduce social inequality.

Attributes: GBST East Asian Studies Electives WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 262 (S) Language and Power

"A language is a dialect with an army." This (originally Yiddish) aphorism points to ways in which language, often imagined to be a neutral or apolitical medium of communication, proves in practice to be a social domain fully implicated in the operations of power. How do we create community - and social exclusion - by the way that we talk? What role does speech play in the accumulation of cultural capital? How are racism and colonialism sustained or subverted by language practices, and how can speech transform the world? This introduction to linguistic anthropology draws together classic works of linguistic and semiotic theory with studies of the politics of actual speech grounded in rich and particular cultural and historical contexts, from witchcraft accusations in rural France to the partition of Hindi and Urdu in colonial South Asia. Students will gain familiarity with key concepts (speech acts, performatives, code-switching, language ideology), themes and debates in the social scientific study of language. Assignments include regular postings of 1-page critical response papers and an ethnographic project analyzing a series of speech events in our local community.

Requirements/Evaluation: Regular postings of critical response papers and an ethnographic final project.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Students in all fields of study are most welcome. If overenrolled, priority will be given to Anthropology or Sociology majors or final-year students.

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: Linguistics

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 269 (F) Mindfulness Examined: Meditation, Emotion, and Affective Neuroscience (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: REL 269 STS 269 ASIA 269 ANTH 269

Secondary Cross-listing

This course provides a social analysis of and practical engagement with mindfulness in the US today. It considers the modern applications of Buddhist meditation as a tool to improve awareness of the related processes of mind, behavior, and emotions within landscapes structured by racism, sexism, and other systemic inequalities. We consider how mindfulness relates to Buddhist discourses as well as the rapid rise of fields like contemplative neuroscience, affective neuroscience, and integrative neurobiology. How can mindfulness help people communicate more effectively--be they doctors or patients, teachers or students? How has the exploding research on mindfulness and meditation since 2000 help us understand the intersection of human emotions, behaviors, and relationships? We train in a variety of Buddhist meditation practices through the semester including forest bathing, mindfulness, compassion meditation, while unpacking the subjective experience of our minds and emotions first-hand. Students will be asked to train in mindfulness practices the entire semester while studying models of the mind developed by research in clinical and evolutionary psychology, affective neuroscience, and interpersonal neuroscience.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly tutorial papers and discussion

Prerequisites: A prior class or some experience with meditation is recommended

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: ANTH, SOC, REL, ASST majors; PHLH, STS concentrators; seniors and juniors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 269 (D2) STS 269 (D2) ASIA 269 (D2) ANTH 269 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This class will involve weekly tutorial essays or oral responses, intensive written feedback on every essay, and a mid-semester 'writing chat' with the instructor.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class fulfills the Difference, Power, and Equity requirement because it will explore the ways that mindfulness can address the growing epidemic of anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues we find in the US today. We study mindfulness from an intersectional perspective and relate its benefits to intersecting inequities and intergenerational trauma in the US today.

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies Electives PHLH Social Determinants of Health

Fall 2021

TUT Section: T1 TBA Kim Gutschow

ANTH 277 (S) Sensing Society

How does socialization shape sensory perception? Our linguistic upbringing calibrates our hearing: whether we can discern the difference between a dental and a retroflex 't,' for instance. How else do our cultural contexts train us to engage the sensory world - to see in particular ways, to be attuned to particular sounds, to love some smells but be repelled by others, to have a 'discriminating palate'? How are sensory stereotypes - that certain categories of person are less sensitive to pain than others, for example - mobilized in the defense of unequal social orders? What does it mean for an entire class of society to be defined - as is the 'untouchable' in caste society - by reference to a primary sense? This course explores the social life of the senses, investigating how our very perception of the world is socially conditioned and how 'commonsense' about the senses - that 'seeing is believing' while 'hearing voices' is a problem, for instance - are by no means universal, but are historically and culturally produced. Readings include historical, ethnographic and literary accounts of sensory cultures, in and (mostly) beyond North America. Toward critically examining how sensory socialization shapes us, students will maintain a sense-journal, conduct interviews with family members on sensory experience, and generate a sense-map of our Williamstown environment. This is a class plunged in the sounds, flavors and odors that give our social worlds life.

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly discussion posts, sensory journal, an 8-page interview-based paper, and a collective sense-mapping project.

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Everyone is most welcome. If overenrolled, anthropology and sociology majors would be given preference.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 W 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm Joel Lee

ANTH 281 (S) The Seeds of Divinity: Exploring Precolumbian Art & Civilization in a Museum Exhibit

Cross-listings: ARTH 281 ANTH 281 REL 280

Primary Cross-listing

For all ancient civilizations, the gods were a powerful force, affecting all aspects of human lives and dominating ancient art. This course will explore concepts of divinity in five civilizations in Precolumbian Central America: Aztec, Maya, Zapotec, Teotihuacan, and Nayarit. The course examines how the broad concept of divinity is materialized in everyday life. We will query how the human body is used as the prism through which concepts about humanity, the human soul and the supernatural are perceived and depicted in the art of these civilizations. This is a project based course, and each student will study one or more art objects from these five civilizations, and consider how these objects could be presented in a museum exhibit.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation; three short papers; 15-page research paper and presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: ANTH, SOC and ARTH majors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 281 (D2) ANTH 281 (D2) REL 280 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 287 (S) Propaganda

We live in the age of mass persuasion. From commercial ads to political campaigns, from mass media "news"-both fake and real-to large scale

movements for social change, we are constantly bombarded by powerful messages that aim to capture, hold, and impact our attention and direct our actions. Drawing on symbolic socio-linguistic analysis, we will examine the institutional and technical apparatus of modern propaganda and will discuss the role of intellectuals, "attention merchants," and receptive audiences in creating the propaganda machine. We will pay special attention to campaigns that aim to overthrow social structures, or to ensure their maintenance and functioning. We will engage with explicit messages received via propagandistic media and implicit directives that aim to silence, obfuscate, and erase. Theoretical discussions will be complemented with intense, in-depth investigations of case studies of persuasive techniques in the Nazi Ministry of Propaganda, Cold war culture wars, Middle Eastern and Post-Soviet regimes, U.S. and Russian electoral and political campaigns. As we explore the overwhelming diversity of persuasive techniques of contemporary propaganda apparatus, we will turn our attention to various ways through which it impacts and molds our individual selves: from organizing dreams and desires to shaping autobiographies. We will conclude the course by creating our own examples of persuasive mass communication.

Requirements/Evaluation: one midterm, one group research project, three short papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: none

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 297 (F) Theorizing Magic

Cross-listings: REL 297 COMP 289 ANTH 297

Secondary Cross-listing

This is a course about magic. It is not about stage magic, sleight of hand, or the art of pulling rabbits out of hats. You will learn no card tricks. But instead we will learn about those people who believed in the reality of certain powers; from the ability to summon good or evil spirits, transform base metals into gold, predict the future, or manipulate matter by thought alone. The problem of how to theorize magic has long been a cause of concern for the natural and social sciences. Many a sociologist and anthropologist has imagined that belief in magic should have vanished with modernity (despite much evidence to the contrary). Meanwhile, philosophers of science have been long fascinated with the demarcation problem-figuring out grounds by which to distinguish legitimate sciences (like astronomy) from their magical or pseudoscientific cousins (like astrology). We will trace these discussions and problematize them by looking at the beliefs of self-defined witches and magicians. This should put us in a position to interrogate the construction of concepts of magic, science, and religion and show how the boundaries between these categories emerged historically. Topics to be discussed will include: the rationality of magic, the fine lines separating magic, science and religion, the persecution of witches, and the role notions of magic and superstition played in European modernization and colonization projects. The tutorial sessions will be customized to student interests, but texts will likely include selections from primary works in translation, such as Cornelius Agrippa's *Occult Philosophy*, Giordano Bruno's *On Magic*, Aleister Crowley's *Magick Liber Aba*, as well as selections from secondary literature, perhaps including Marcel Mauss, *A General Theory of Magic*, Max Weber, "Science as Vocation," Tanya Luhrmann, *Persuasions of the Witches' Craft*, Thomas Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Larry Laudan, "The Demise of the Demarcation Problem," E.E. Evans-Pritchard, *Witchcraft and Oracles*, and *Magic among the Azande*, and/or Kelly Hayes, *Holy Harlots: Femininity, Sexuality and Black Magic in Brazil*.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly writing assignments and tutorial attendance every week

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: potential Religion or Comparative Literature majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 297 (D2) COMP 289 (D1) ANTH 297 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 299 (F) Ritual, Power and Transgression

Cross-listings: REL 274 ANTH 299

Primary Cross-listing

The focus of this course is on the role of ritual in harnessing political power. In the first part of the semester, we examine some of the ways in which different cultures manufacture social order and political power through categories of inclusion and exclusion, clean and dirty, proper and improper, and licit and illicit. We will be particularly attuned to the ways in which these categories are performed through and maintained by rituals and how bodies are deployed in ritual spaces as instruments of persuasion and control. We will also look in depth at a variety of ritual forms, including scapegoating and sacrifice, and how they serve as engines of political control and protest, and we will examine the uses of dead bodies and memorials as vehicles for gaining and maintaining political power and the destruction and desecration of bodies and memorials as a form of political protest and dissent. Throughout the semester, we will be relating theoretical texts and historical cases to current political struggles in this country and abroad.

Class Format: The class will be taught remotely.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, biweekly responses to instructor prompts, three short (500 words) response papers, and one 10- to 12-page (2000-2400 words) research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: ANSO and REL majors, open to first-years

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 274 (D2) ANTH 299 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 301 (S) Sexual Economies (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 301 WGSS 301 AMST 334

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines various forms of sexual labor around the world in order to better understand how gendered and sexual performances are used in a variety of cultures and contexts for material benefit. Our topics include "traditional" forms of sex work such as street prostitution, pornography, and escorting as well as other forms of sexualized performances for benefit such as stripping or camming. We also discuss current issues and debates about discourses of "sex trafficking." Course readings come from a range of fields, but focus most heavily on anthropology, sociology, American studies, and gender studies. The readings for this class will frequently foreground the lived experiences of sex workers from a variety of nations, races, classes, religions, and backgrounds in order to explore the broader social implications of our subject matter. The format is largely discussion-based, with short lectures supplementing the reading with summaries of current scholarly and activist debates. We have a variety of guest speakers to share their diverse lived experiences related to this topic.

Requirements/Evaluation: midterm essay exam, short quizzes, participation, Marco Polo video chat posts

Prerequisites: none, though WGSS 101 and/or 202 may be helpful, but not required

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: based on statement of interest

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 301 (D2) WGSS 301 (D2) AMST 334 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: We pay particular attention to the intersecting questions of race, sexuality, gender, and class as we explore the political economy of commercial sex. The course teaches students to examine the underlying political and economic structures that create systems of privilege and power, thereby complicating questions and assumptions about sexual consent, coercion, agency, and empowerment with particular attention to race and gender in comparative transnational contexts.

Attributes: WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 305 (S) The Gay Menagerie: Gay Male Subcultures (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 305 ANTH 305 AMST 305 THEA 304

Secondary Cross-listing

Bears. Cubs. Otters. Pups. Twinks. Radical Fairies. Leathermen. Mollies. Drag queens. Dandies. Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Gay men, including gay trans men, have organized themselves into various subcultures within their community for centuries. This seminar is devoted to exploring these subcultures in (a mostly US-context) in greater detail using ethnographic texts, anthropological studies, historical accounts (including oral histories), and media. Topics include cruising and flagging, the anthropological significance of gay bars, histories of bath house culture, rural vs urban queer experiences, the ball scene, drag, diva worship, the reclamation of "fabulousness and faggotry," the leadership roles of trans women and effeminate gay men in activist movements, gay gentrification, the growth of gay consumerism/ gay tourism/homonationalism, hierarchies of masculinity in the gay community (i.e., masc for masc culture), HIV/AIDS and the politics of PrEP, chemsex, the role of racialized dating "preferences," genealogies of BDSM and leather culture, sexual health and discourses of "risk," the politics of barebacking and other sexual practices, queering consent, and the effects of hookup apps on gay culture. In addition to lectures, and discussions, there will also be some low-key performance-studies based exercises in queer praxis (e.g., drag workshops, mock debates, animal improvisation, role playing, etc.)

Class Format: There will be some minor performance elements such as workshops during class.

Requirements/Evaluation: Quizzes, journaling assignment, short diva report, 10 page research paper on a gay subcultural group

Prerequisites: None; WGSS 202 (Foundations in Sexuality Studies) will be helpful but is not required

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors; in the event of over-enrollment there statements of interest will be solicited

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 305 (D2) ANTH 305 (D2) AMST 305 (D2) THEA 304 (D1)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the how marginalized communities respond to their oppression through creative forms. It takes as central to its curriculum the role of sexual diversity and the relationship of the gay community to power through the central idiom of "difference."

Attributes: WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 Cancelled

ANTH 311 (S) Islam and the Critical Study of Secularism (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 311 REL 311

Secondary Cross-listing

Since the Iranian Revolution of 1979, successive Islamist movements have sought to transform Muslim states along religious lines. In Euro-American discourses on political Islam, such blatant disregard for the separation of religion and state is often seen as a tragic failure of secularization. Islam, in other words, is understood as a religion out of place in the modern world. While the global resurgence of religion in the face of much scientific and material progress has tempered scholarly enthusiasm for the secularization thesis, contemporary Islamic religiosity is increasingly viewed as an aberration from the regular course of history. Moreover, as scholars rewrite the script of secularization by unearthing modern secularism's European-Christian heritage, they unwittingly bolster a narrative of civilizational difference between Islam and the secular West. Our understanding of Islam is thus inextricably tied to its oppositional framing as the other of secularism. In this course, we will critically assess Euro-centric representations of Islam as created through canonical and critical discourses on secularism. Rather than assuming a natural opposition between Islam and secularism, we will examine the various modalities of power, institutional formations, habits of thinking, normative presuppositions, and cultural and visceral sensibilities that configure their agonistic relationship. This examination amounts to deconstructing the very category of the secular in its cognitive and sensory dimensions. To accomplish this task, we will rely on the work of Talal Asad and his interlocutors in Religious Studies, Anthropology,

Continental Philosophy, Postcolonial Studies, and Comparative Literature. The course content is divided into 2 modules. Module A: "Theorizations" will examine Euro-centric theories of secularism and problematize their portrayals of Islam as an intrinsically asecural religion. In Module B: "Secularism Beyond Europe," we will read postcolonial critiques of secularization and examine its alternative trajectories in non-European contexts. Crucially, we will shift from a conventional emphasis on the state by comparing Islamic and secular disciplines of subject formation. By the end of the course, students will be able to appreciate how secular legal, political, and cultural institutions have re-defined religion in the modern world. Further, they will be able to discern the ways in which contemporary Islamic movements are both responses to and manifestations of a global secular condition.

Class Format: This course will be conducted online in its entirety and will rely on a combination of synchronous and asynchronous modes of learning. The synchronous component will consist of weekly class meetings via Zoom. A discussion leader will be assigned once a week to present on the week's readings and lead class discussion. The asynchronous component will consist of weekly reading responses (500 words each), 2 essays (1,000 words each), and a final paper (2,500 words)

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly Reading Responses (500 words each): 30%; 2 Essays (1,000 words each): 20%; Attendance and Class Participation: 10%; Term Paper (10 double-spaced pages/2,500 words): 40%. Note: Out of the 13 weekly reading responses, you can choose to skip a maximum of 3

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and seniors.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 311 (D2) REL 311 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course will sensitize students to the intractable difficulties of securing religious freedom, diversity, and tolerance under secular law. Students will gain a nuanced historical understanding of the role of Islam as a political force in postcolonial Muslim societies and its implications for religious minorities. Notably, they will understand how religiously motivated forms of violence and oppression are often deeply imbricated with secular power and institutions.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 322 (F) Waste and Value

Cross-listings: ENVI 322 GBST 322 ANTH 322

Primary Cross-listing

What is trash and what is treasure? In what ways does value depend upon and necessitate waste, and how is the dialectic between the two inflected by culture? When we 'throw away' things at Williams College, where exactly do they go, and who handles them 'down the line'? What are the local and global economies of waste in which we are all embedded and how are they structured by class, race, caste, gender and nation? In this seminar we critically examine the production of waste - both as material and as category - and its role in the production of value, meaning, hierarchy and the environment. Readings include ethnographic accounts of sanitation labor and social hierarchy; studies of the political and environmental consequences of systems of waste management in the colonial period and the present; and theoretical inquiries into the relation between filth and culture, including work by Mary Douglas, Dipesh Chakrabarty and Karl Marx. Geographically the foci are South Asia, Japan, and the United States. There is also a fieldwork component to the course. In fieldtrips we follow the waste streams flowing out of Williams - to an incinerator, a sewage treatment plant, recycling and composting facilities and other sites - and students explore in individual, participant-observation-based research projects the everyday social life of waste in our communities.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular posting of critical response papers, field notes on waste streams, research-based final paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: majors in ANSO, ENVI, ASST

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ENVI 322 (D2) GBST 322 (D2) ANTH 322 (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives

Fall 2021

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Joel Lee

ANTH 323 (F) Democracy and Citizenship in the Age of Multiculturalism (DPE)

Democracy (and its particular implementation in the United States) is regularly taken as an unconditional ideal for the rest of the world. In this class, we will analyze democracy as a culturally and historically specific form of social relations and meanings. We will carefully examine a broad range of phenomena that pertain to democracy--for instance, cultural notions of participation in public life in Post-Socialist Germany or categorization of citizens in contemporary India, attachment to homeland among migrant workers in Russia or transnational rhetoric of Chinese bloggers. By so doing, we will study local meanings, circulating discourses, multiple contestations, and changing forms of power in regimes that are heralded as democratic. Our focus on citizenship (broadly defined)--i.e., a recognized right to be different while being accepted as a part of a national community--will bring to light complex issues in the relationship between the state and its subjects. We will discuss how men and women, the abled and the disabled, the migrants and the natives identify with their statuses and define their place in state structures. Anthropological studies of citizenship and diversity of forms of belonging and identification in democratic states will enable us to understand cleavages of power inequality and conceptual predicaments of social fairness in the contemporary world. Ethnographic studies from around the world will be used to provide specific examples of the ability and failure of democratic regimes to govern their varied populations.

Requirements/Evaluation: one long research paper, three book reports, and seminar discussions

Prerequisites: ANTH 101 or SOC 101 or by permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: juniors and seniors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Through an in-depth examination of case-studies of citizen exclusion and inclusion around the world, the course will foster students' critical engagement with a concept of democracy. Special attention will be paid to a differential access to power on a basis of gender, disability, migration status, and ideological constructions of difference.

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 324 (S) Empires of Antiquity

Cycles of rise and collapse of civilizations are common in our human past. Among the most fascinating cases are those of empires, conquest-based states that encompass a number of different ethnicities, polities and peoples. However, their rise and often rapid collapse begs an important question: how stable have empires been in human prehistory? Are they intrinsically unstable political forms? The course will address these questions by examining the major empires of the Old and New World in pre-modern history: Persian; Assyrian; Mongol; Roman; Qin Chinese; Ottoman; Aztec; and Inca empires. Using readings by political scientists, historians, epigraphers, archaeologists and political anthropologists, we will consider the causes of the expansion and collapse of these empires. We will also explore their sociopolitical and economic structures as mechanisms for their maintenance in order to provide a cross-cultural comparison of the differential success and final decline of all these empires.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: research paper, class presentation and active participation

Prerequisites: none; open to first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: ANSO majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Antonia E. Foias

ANTH 328 (F) Emotions and the Self

Everyone everywhere experiences emotions, and everyone everywhere is faced with the task of conceptualizing a self-hood and its place in the social world. This course analyzes a variety of recent attempts in the social sciences to come to grips with topics that have long been avoided: the nature of the interior experience and an epistemological framework for its cross-cultural comparison. Exploring the borderlands between anthropology, sociology, and psychology, we will bring the tools of ethnographic analysis to bear on central pan-human concepts: emotions and the self. By examining these phenomena as they occur in other cultures, we will be better placed to apprehend and challenge the implicit (and often unconsciously held) assumptions about emotions and the self in our own culture, both in daily life and in academic psychological theory. What are emotions? Are they things--neuro-physiological states--or ideas--sociocultural constructions? How are they to be described; compared? What is the self? How are selves constructed and constituted? How do various cultures respond to categories of emotion and self, and how can we develop a sense of the relationship between self and emotion?

Requirements/Evaluation: typical for that of a tutorial

Prerequisites: none; open to first-year students with instructor's consent

Enrollment Limit: 10

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives

Fall 2021

TUT Section: T1 TBA Peter Just

ANTH 330 (F) The Documentary Project: Ethnography and the Visual Narrative

The goals of ethnography and documentary work overlap. Both strive to communicate a compelling sense of people's lives, and to connect them to broader struggles and issues faced by others. Further, ethnography as a method emphasizes a close and sustained interaction, or "engagement" between the practitioner and her subjects. In this class, students will have the opportunity to practice both engagement and compelling presentation, by working throughout the semester on planning and executing a documentary project. The course will emphasize the use of visual narratives accompanied by text and audio drawn from interviews. Students will practice different types of documentation, and consider techniques for approaching, imaging and interviewing subjects. The practical aspects of developing a project, gaining access, working in unfamiliar environments and editing both visual and audio material will be reviewed. Conceptual topics will include myths about "truth" and "objectivity" in visual media, tensions between the goals of the documentarian and her responsibilities to her subjects, and differences between the documentary and ethnographic point of view. Acceptance into the class requires technical competence in photography or videography (as evidenced by prior coursework or portfolio), and a demonstrated ability to work independently and to commit to a long-term project. Participants should expect to spend significant time working off campus.

Requirements/Evaluation: develop and execute a semester length documentary project under instructor guidance; produce and edit weekly visual and audio content; participate in class critiques

Prerequisites: SOC 236 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Anthropology and Sociology majors

Expected Class Size: 8

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: FMST Core Courses

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 334 (S) Imagining Joseph**Cross-listings:** REL 334 JWST 334 COMP 334 ANTH 334**Primary Cross-listing**

Beloved son, rival brother, faithful servant, dreamer, seer, object of desire, lover, husband, bureaucrat, Joseph is one of the most fully-limned and compelling figures in the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim scriptural traditions. The story of Joseph unfolds over fourteen chapters in the Hebrew Bible, and is the subject of the fourth longest sura in the Qur'an. Through millennia, the story of Joseph has inspired a wealth of interpretations, commentary, apocrypha, re-tellings, and back-story, including an apocryphal book of scripture about Joseph and his wife, Asenath, Sufi poetry about Joseph and Zuleikha (Potiphar's wife), a trilogy by the 20th century German novelist Thomas Mann, a musical by Andrew Lloyd Weber, and many expressions in Western visual art. The course will explore these various expressions, looking to them for the ways in which Joseph has captured the imaginations of peoples and cultures across time and space. The course will be organized as a collaborative seminar in which the class will read the foundational scriptures together, followed by thematic discussions to which students will contribute insights from their own readings of particular peripheral texts. Students will learn the pleasures of close and intense exegetical reading in approaching the Hebrew Bible and Qur'an, as well as the more expansive pleasures of linking post-scriptural expressions together.

Requirements/Evaluation: 3- to 5-page weekly response papers; 15-page final paper; class participation**Prerequisites:** none**Enrollment Limit:** 12**Enrollment Preferences:** based on responses to a questionnaire**Expected Class Size:** 10**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option**Distributions:** (D2)**This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:**

REL 334 (D2) JWST 334 (D2) COMP 334 (D1) ANTH 334 (D2)

Attributes: JWST Core Electives

Spring 2022

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Peter Just

ANTH 337 (F) Race, Sex & Gender in Brazil (DPE)**Cross-listings:** ANTH 337 WGSS 337**Secondary Cross-listing**

The course introduces students to anthropological literature of Brazil as well as Brazilian novels and films. Its focus is on understanding the history and contemporary culture of Brazil through attention to racial justice, including the country's unique history and legacies of slavery in comparative context. It also examines questions of gender, including the history of feminism in Brazil and current debates related women's equality such as Brazil's abortion laws, domestic violence, sexual tourism, and job opportunities for women. Lastly, we also examine LGBT history in Brazil and dive into writing about queer culture there. NOTE: Students must also commit to registering for a winter study travel course with a trip to Rio de Janeiro, during which time students will visit important historical sites, museums, and relevant cultural attractions. They will also meet collectively with faculty members from several universities and NGOs to learn about the research and projects our Brazilian hosts are engaged in. Students also have their own individual exploratory research projects there related to social justice, which are integral to the seminar. Students should also be aware of the physical demands of the trip, which include extensive walking, some hiking, and exposure to summer heat and the elements in the Atlantic Rainforest. Thanks to the Global Initiatives Venture Fund, the cost of the trip is covered for all students enrolled.

Requirements/Evaluation: research paper and its various components, participation**Prerequisites:** none**Enrollment Limit:** 7**Enrollment Preferences:** students are required to attend an info session and submit an application that includes a statement of interest, finalists will need to complete an interview**Expected Class Size:** 7**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Materials/Lab Fee: The cost of the winter study travel portion is included (i.e., airfare, most meals, lodging, etc.), but costs related to incidental expenses (e.g., souvenirs, drinks), passports, vaccinations, etc. are not and will vary by student.

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 337 (D2) WGSS 337 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This is a class about social justice movements and racial/gender/sexual diversity. It includes experiential learning devoted to these issues and engages questions related to the origins of inequality and prejudice in Brazil.

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies Electives LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect

Fall 2021

SEM Section: 01 W 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm Gregory C. Mitchell

ANTH 350 (F) Queer Tongues & Lavender Linguistics (DPE)

Cross-listings: ANTH 350 AMST 351 WGSS 350

Secondary Cross-listing

This course in linguistics provides an introduction to linguistic anthropology, sociolinguistics, and folklore studies using topics and approaches related to gender and sexuality. It is a methods course based in empirical research principles, but a basic familiarity with the broad strokes of queer/feminist theory may be helpful. One goal of the class will be learning to read and write in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and how to construct and use IPA "change charts." We then build on this as we turn to sociolinguistics as students will learn how to do Discourse Analysis and Conversation Analysis, using WGSS-oriented topics (e.g., upspeak, vocal fry, so-called "gay voice," the gendered nature of turn-taking and interrupting.) We then turn to an extended unit on queer folklore and folklife, learning how anthropologists and folklorists use motif type indexes (e.g., Propp Functions, Thompson Type Index, etc) to study oral narratives and how feminist/queer theorists can use these to analyze gender in folk/fairytales and other stories. We also read several linguistic anthropologists' ethnographies of queer communities' language practices in global context. The semester concludes with a unit on LGBT slang, argots, and profanity.

Requirements/Evaluation: IPA Quizzes (reading/writing), Conversation Analysis/Turntaking Transcription Assignment, Urban Legends Tale Type Analysis, Short Analytical Paper on Feminist/Queer Folk Figures

Prerequisites: None; prior coursework in WGSS may be helpful, but is not required

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: WGSS majors; short statements of interest will be solicited in the event of overenrollment

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 350 (D2) AMST 351 (D2) WGSS 350 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the centrality of power in communication as broken down along axes such as sex, gender, and sexuality. It deliberately takes a canonical field (i.e., linguistic anthropology) that often neglected the gendered nature of communication and puts these questions at the center of the curriculum. Assignments are structured in such a way as to build awareness of the role of gender and sexuality within human interactions and how sociolinguistics reveal power imbalances.

Attributes: WGSS Racial Sexual + Cultural Diversity Courses

Fall 2021

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Gregory C. Mitchell

ANTH 371 (F) Medicine and Campus Health in Disruptive Times (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: STS 370 WGSS 371 ANTH 371

Primary Cross-listing

This class applies the methods and theories of critical medical anthropology and medical sociology to help students design and pursue innovative ethnographic projects that explore campus or community health. How do disruptive moments like COVID-19 serve as focal moments in social history that reveal underlying social inequalities of access, health outcomes, and well-being? Students learn and use an array of ethnographic techniques such as observant participation, interviewing, focus groups, and qualitative surveys building on weekly discussions, feedback, and design exercises to explore our campus and/or wider community. We situate our campus health projects by considering the wider context of power and intersectionality that inflect and structure health and well-being within our community, nation, & world. Our case ethnographies explore how structural racism shapes medical education and healthcare care in the US, how concepts of sexual citizenship can reshape debates on sexual assault on campus, how the spread of US psychiatry inflects the landscape of global mental health across Asia, and how queer activism responds to the HIV/AIDS crisis. We consider the roles of narrative, active listening, and empathy in both medicine and ethnography, while practicing skills that can benefit student researchers and interlocutors, providers as well as patients. Our goal is understand the strengths and limits of qualitative and participatory research within communities always already structured by power, privilege, and engaged practices.

Requirements/Evaluation: Three written fieldnotes, weekly attendance, writing and discussion exercises, & final oral presentations & data visualizations for fieldwork projects.

Prerequisites: A course in Anthropology, Sociology, Science & Technology Studies, or across DIV II is strongly recommended

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Majors in Anthropology, Sociology, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies; Concentrators in Public Health, Science and Technology Studies

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

STS 370 (D2) WGSS 371 (D2) ANTH 371 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: This class assignments includes over 9,000 words of essay assignments, and will help students develop critical writing skills, including use of rhetoric, evidence, argument, synthesizing data, logic, and anticipating counter-arguments.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class examines the intersectionality of race, class, gender, & sexuality in impacting healthcare and health outcomes. It theorizes and explores the ways that intersectionality and implicit bias shapes health and well-being in the community, patient/provider encounters, and efforts to 'improve' community and individual health in the US, Asia, and across the globe.

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses PHLH Methods in Public Health

Fall 2021

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Kim Gutschow

SEM Section: 02 Cancelled

ANTH 397 (F) Independent Study: Anthropology

Anthropology independent study.

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2021

IND Section: 01 TBA James L. Nolan

ANTH 398 (S) Independent Study: Anthropology

Anthropology independent study.

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2022

ANTH 412 (S) Graphic Sex: Queer Ethnographic Writing

Cross-listings: ANTH 412 WGSS 412

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar examines recent and canonical work in queer anthropology, exploring how different cultures construct sexual and gender identities and subjectivities, and what happens when dominant paradigms such as the Euro-American LGBT model become enmeshed in globalization, late capitalism, and consumerism. We begin with a series of case studies highlighting alternative gender and sexual formations in various cultures around the world, emphasizing how these seemingly "authentic" local categories are themselves the products of historical shifts, colonial relations, and political economy. We also examine how these categories overlap, conflict with, subvert, or syncretize with the increasingly global category of "gay." In addition to reading queer ethnographies, we will also learn the methods required for doing ethnography ourselves, including interviewing techniques, participant observation, writing thick description, data analysis, and editing.

Requirements/Evaluation: ethnographic writing assignments (e.g., interviews, field notes, essays, etc.)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors and others with substantial background in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies or Anthropology and Sociology Studies; statements of interest will be solicited

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: WGSS junior/senior seminar

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ANTH 412 (D2) WGSS 412 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

ANTH 493 (F) Senior Thesis: Anthropology

Anthropology senior thesis; this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494).

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2021

HON Section: 01 TBA James L. Nolan

ANTH 494 (S) Senior Thesis: Anthropology

Anthropology senior thesis; this is part of a full-year thesis (493-494).

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2022

HON Section: 01 TBA James L. Nolan

Winter Study -----

ANTH 25 (W) Race, Gender & Sexuality in Brazil

Cross-listings: WGSS 25 ANTH 25

Secondary Cross-listing

This Global Initiatives Venture Fund winter travel course is an extension of WGSS/ANTH 337 and introduces students to anthropological literature of Brazil as well as Brazilian novels and films. Its focus is on understanding the history, political economy, and contemporary culture of Brazil through attention to racial justice, including the country's unique history and legacies of slavery in comparative context. It also examines questions of gender, including the history of feminism in Brazil and current debates related women's equality such as Brazil's abortion laws, domestic violence, sexual tourism, and job opportunities for women. Lastly, we also examine LGBT history in Brazil and dive into writing about queer culture there. That Fall seminar will include nearly three weeks in Rio de Janeiro during winter study and its surrounding environs, during which time students will visit important historical sites, museums, and relevant cultural attractions and meet with prominent journalists, academics, activists, as well as pursue their own projects. Students must have taken the Fall course to enroll in this winter study.

Requirements/Evaluation: travel journal project and final presentation

Prerequisites: WGSS/ANTH 337

Enrollment Limit: 7

Enrollment Preferences: students apply and are interviewed for the Fall course to which this winter course is attached

Grading: pass/fail only

Materials/Lab Fee: none

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 25 ANTH 25

Attributes: TRVL Winter Study Travel Course

Winter 2022

TVL Section: 01 Cancelled

ANTH 31 (W) Senior Thesis: Anthropology

To be taken by students registered for Anthropology 493-494.

Class Format: thesis

Grading: pass/fail only

Winter 2022

HON Section: 01 TBA James L. Nolan

ANTH 99 (W) Independent Study: Anthropology

Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.

Class Format: independent study

Grading: pass/fail only

Winter 2022

IND Section: 01 TBA James L. Nolan