

2018 SPRING TERM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS NOT FOUND IN THE 2017-2018 ONLINE CATALOG

ANT 345 Anthropology of Globalization

Globalization refers to the massive and increasing interconnection of social, economic, political, and cultural life through the development of technology and the movement of money, things, people, and ideas. Social scientists have noted that the benefits of these changes are unevenly distributed. This course explores cultural and political-economic theories of globalization through an anthropological lens, which focuses on globalization's lived realities (from the dismal to the hopeful). We will interrogate themes of opportunity and inequality, cultural resistance and cultural assimilation, and the new forms of coalition and violence these changes enable. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or SOC 110 or permission of the instructor.

ANT 334 Comparative Feminisms

Beginning with the understanding that there is no one feminism but rather multiple definitions, schools of thought and practices, the course will explore and analyze feminisms through a comparative lens. In the first part of the course, we will consider the historical evolution of feminism within the United States from the 19th to 21st centuries. In addition, we will analyze and compare the varied schools of US feminist thought such as liberal, radical, Marxist, care-focused, ecofeminism, existentialist, Women of Color feminisms and Queer feminisms. In the second part of the course, we will explore and compare feminist movements with particular attention to South Africa, India, China, Brazil, Palestine and Maghreb. Finally, we will read an ethnography in order to more deeply consider the complicated lived experience of feminist thought and practice.

ARH 395 Art and Social Justice

This course will examine the visual arts as a significant element in and impetus for social justice movements. Within historical and contemporary communities, individual artists and arts organizations have engaged in the work of social justice to affect change in their neighborhoods, cities, and countries. In this course, we will study how the visual arts specifically addresses injustice in diverse and distinctive ways from other disciplines, as well as strengthen our capacity to engage with our community about contemporary challenges.

ARS 350 Photography-II

This course is designed to further the study of the art, history, and theory of photographic practices as well as digital photographic production processes. Students will continue to explore the expressive power of light and a spectrum of aesthetic and conceptual possibilities. Technical demonstrations will be combined with presentations of the work of photographic artists, discussion of critical and historical essays, and group critiques of photographic assignments. Technical skills will include capture from digital cameras, use of software for managing, editing, and processing files, and output for the screen and for digital printing systems. Prerequisite: ARS 250 or equivalent.

CRW/FLM 260 Screenwriting Workshop

In this course, students will practice the art of cinematic storytelling. Through classroom discussion of assigned screenplays, films, and textbook readings, students will strengthen their familiarity with the structural elements of a screenplay and will work toward the completion of their own screenplays. During the first half of the semester, students will learn general guiding elements of dramatic structure and character development in a variety of styles and during the second half of the term, students will present their own screenplays-in-progress in a supportive, workshop setting. Prerequisite: Beginning Creative Writing and/or Fiction Workshop and/or permission of instructor (based on earlier film or creative writing background).

CSC 420 Machine Learning

An Introduction to machine learning. Topics may include supervised and unsupervised approaches to learning, assessing and comparing algorithms, classification, regression, clustering, parameter estimation, generative methods, reinforcement learning, dimensionality reduction, structured prediction, anomaly detection, ensemble learning methods, and significant applications. Prerequisite: CSC 117 and MAT 205 or permission of the instructor.

DRA 363 Multi-Media Storytelling

Students will learn to create rich and dynamic theatrical environments through the combined use of light, sound and video. Using various show-control software and a scaled-down lab-theatre, students will work in teams to create narrative presentations that reflect central actions, emotions and/or themes from existing texts. Prerequisite: DRA 150 or permission of instructor. DRA 350 or DRA351 is recommended.

ECO 456 Game Theory and Behavior

This course will introduce students to theoretical models of strategic behavior known as game theory. In addition, students will evaluate game theory models using results from economic experiments in the literature and conducted during the semester. Applications will be drawn from traditional economics topics as well as the disciplines of political science, international relations, anthropology, biology, and legal studies. Prerequisite: ECO 220 and MAT 130.

EDU 240 Teaching English Abroad: Contexts and Considerations

Are you ready to make a global impact? Considering teaching abroad but have little to no experience? This course is intended for those individuals who are ready for the next great adventure abroad whether from South America to Asia. Students will examine teaching practices and strategies in countries that consistently seek native English speakers as teachers, whether in academic or business settings. Readings will cover cultural communication, teaching abroad, ESL instructional strategies, community-based learning, and the English curriculum.

ENG 330 Shakespeare and the Comedy of Love

This course explores the relationships between various kinds of love in Shakespeare's comedy. For background on contemporary views of love, students read excerpts from poetical, psychological, and philosophical works from the period. Through reading and viewing Shakespeare's comedies, the course attempts to sort out the ways Shakespeare adopts, critiques, blends, and transforms the love traditions of his day. Nine plays are studied, including lesser-known early comedies and later problem comedies.

ENG 358 The Imagined Child

This course examines how ideas of childhood shifted radically from the middle of the eighteenth century, when it was still common to view children as small adults, to the early twentieth century. We will explore how Romantic and Victorian authors began to imagine the lives of children as separate from adults—particularly as more innocent and carefree—and how authors sought to shape cultural values and childhood identity through works about and for children. Authors considered include Hannah More, William Blake, William Wordsworth, Charles Dickens, Louisa May Alcott, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Lewis Carroll, Frances Hodgson Burnett, and Beatrix Potter.

ENG 386 Getting Back to Nature

A study of US literary works in which the primary concern is the relation between the natural world and the human mind. After addressing seminal 19th-century works by Emerson, Thoreau and others, we will spend the rest of the term on more recent essays, poetry, and fiction, including such authors as Frost, Dillard, Faulkner, Ehrlich, and Berry.

ENS 240 Alternative Energy Technology

An overview of conventional and alternative sources of energy for production of electricity and transportation fuels. This course focuses on understanding the technical principles of energy generation from fossil fuels as well as biomass, hydroelectric, nuclear, solar, and wind power technologies. Fossil fuel alternatives will be evaluated on efficiency, scalability, and life-cycle costs while considering the environmental, economic, and societal consequences of each. Prerequisite: MAT 110 or basic skills in math.

FLM 255 Iranian Cinema: Before and After the Revolution

In this course, students will focus on the history and cultural impact of Iranian film. The poetics of Iran's cinematic tradition draws deeply from modernist traditions familiar to artists in the west, as well as Iran's own cosmopolitan traditions—an intriguing double play that provides both counterdiscourse as well as a profound commonality for American audiences. Our focus in class will be on films from the post-revolutionary period, with particular focus on the late 1990s into the present. However, since Persian cinematic roots go back to the pre-imperial world, students will get a brief grounding in Persian imagery and early narrative traditions.

FRE 435 On Beauty

In this course, students examine varied approaches to the production and analysis of beauty by French and Francophone artists and critics. It allows students to connect their knowledge of French to several areas of academic interest, including literature, design, Franco-Asian studies, and philosophy. The class will treat texts by writers such as Honoré de Balzac, Michel Foucault, François Cheng, and Muriel Barbery. In addition, we will study the pursuit of beauty through analysis of various spaces, including gardens and interiors. Prerequisite: FRE 261 or FRE 271.

GER 340 Vaterland und Muttersprache

An exploration of the cultural and political competition between the public realm of fatherland and the private sphere of family and of the evolving process of breaking down gender barriers in Germanic culture. Readings include plays, novels, diaries, letters, and polemical writings by Gottfried Lessing, Sophie von LaRoche, Friedrich Schiller, Theodor Fontane, Christa Wolf, and Christine Bruckner.

HIS 393 Popular Sport and the Modern World

This course examines the emergence of modern popular sports in the nineteenth century and their spread across the world alongside the success of Western imperialism and industrialization. We will discuss the roots of popular sport in industrial societies, the importance of urban culture in defining conceptions of modern sport, the role of popular sport in helping shape relationships between former colonies and their erstwhile colonizers, and the impact of late twentieth century media evolutions on practices of modern sport.

HIS 464 History of American Slavery

This course will examine the development of slave systems in the Americas between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries. We will examine the creation of Atlantic slavery and its effect in Africa, Latin America, and North America. This course is project-based with a goal of understanding the ideologies that shaped the Atlantic slave system, the lives of enslaved peoples, and the consequences of slavery on people and culture.

LAT 229/331 Roman Comedy: Humor in Ancient Rome

This course will focus on one or two plays by Plautus and/or Terence with an emphasis on language (these are the earliest complete works in Latin, dating from ca. 200-160 BCE) and performance. We will discuss typical characters (such as miserly pimps, clever slaves, pretentious soldiers, and more), the comic plot, and the great influence these authors had on later European comedy (especially Shakespeare and Moliere). Prerequisite LAT 229: LAT 120 or placement into intermediate Latin. Prerequisite LAT 311: two semesters of 200-level LAT or placement into advanced Latin.

MAT 418 Introduction to Knot Theory

A knot is a continuous loop in the three-dimensional space. Given two knots, we are primarily interested in determining whether they are same or different, i.e., whether one can be deformed into the other. In this class, we will introduce different knot invariants and see how these various invariants of knots can be used to distinguish them. Inspiration for the study of knots comes from the physical knots that are present in our world, and applications arise in biology, computer science and physics. Topics that we will discuss include composition of knots, Reidemeister moves, links, tricolorability, knots and planar graphs, unknotting number, crossing number, genus and Seifert surfaces, braids, bracket polynomial and Jones polynomial, the Alexander and HOMFLY polynomials, applications to biology, knots in graphs, prime decomposition of knots. Prerequisite: MAT 230 and MAT 240.

MUS 225 Diction for Singers

This course will focus on the study of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and its application to Italian, German, French and English. Students will learn the basics of singer's diction for each of these languages which will help them in their choral or solo singing.

PHI 365 Philosophy of Space and Time

In this course, we will explore the connections between developments in physics and questions in metaphysics about space and time. Some of the questions we will be addressing are: What is space? Is space a 'container' or the relative distances between different objects? What is time? How is time like space? If time exists, what is required for its existence? Does time have an intrinsic direction? We will study the philosophical debates about space and time from two contexts. The first is from a prerelativistic, pre-quantum physics, while the second considers how relativistic physics affects the discussions about relationalism, the view that our world consists of material bodies and the spatiotemporal relations among them.

PHY 265 Space, Time, and the Theory of Relativity

An introduction to the Newtonian and relativistic theories of space and time. Topics include Newton's laws, reference frames, energy and momentum, experimental evidence for the constancy of the speed of light, special relativity and apparent paradoxes, and a qualitative discussion of the general theory of relativity. Special emphasis will be placed on philosophical assumptions in physics and alternate viewpoints not usually encountered in the physics context. Prerequisite: Basic skills in mathematics.

POL 338 U.S. Social Movements

This course seeks to provide students with a general understanding of the form of collective action known as the social movement. Our task is guided by the close examination of several 20th-century social movements in the United States, including the civil rights, women's rights, labor, environmental, pro-choice/pro-life and gay rights movements. Students gain a theoretical and practical understanding of how/why social movements form and what effect they have on the U.S. political system.

POL 345 Politics of South Asia

This course explores thematic issues across the region as well as the specific historical, social, and political contexts of individual countries in South Asia. Attention will be paid to both domestic politics as well as international dynamics.

REL 329 Dying for God

What does it mean to die for God in ancient Christianity and Judaism? This course will examine this question by studying the various ways that suffering, pain, and death are portrayed in the literature of ancient Jews and Christians. We will focus on writings from the Hellenistic through the Roman Imperial period, and focus on Jewish (e.g., 2 Maccabees, Testament of Moses, Josephus) and Christian sources (e.g., New Testament, Martyrdom of Polycarp, Perpetua & Felicitas). Through our analysis we will consider how suffering and death, including martyrdom, contributed to the construction of ancient theological communities; we will investigate the dynamics of "imitating" suffering and death as they inform character, claims of authority, and the relation of the community to those outside it. Lastly, we will consider the various rhetorical uses of the depictions of suffering and death. In order to gain a fuller understanding of the texts, we will utilize a variety of interpretive approaches.

REL 355 The Politics of Religious Identities

Whether it is debates about the appropriateness of Ten Commandments monuments in the public square, the right to wear the Muslim headscarf in the workplace, or the freedom to pray in public schools, the ways in which religious identities and convictions animate politics are complicated and pervasive. How people understand religious identities has implications for how they define: the very idea of secularism, the roles of civil and religious law, and the realms of public and private. Religious sites, as they are associated with specific religious ideologies and communities, are often spaces of contestation and violence—be it a Sikh gurdwara in Wisconsin, an African American church in Charlotte, the Western Wall and Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, or the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya, India. In this course, we will explore the politics of religious identities through case studies based in North America, Europe, Israel/Palestine and India/Pakistan. At the core of our inquiry will be questions about: how specific religious identities are shaped, articulated, and mobilized in political contexts; and how colonization, migration, demographic shifts, race, gender, sexuality, and globalization transform the way religious identities are understood and performed.

SOC 210 Social Welfare: Assistance, Advocacy, Agencies

If you want to help people and make the world a better place, you need institutions to work through. This course examines the institutions through which we try to improve social welfare. Social welfare encompasses everything from the micro level of social workers giving hands-on assistance to people in need; through the mezzo level of local government and charities; to the macro level of non-profits advocating social policy, and state and national government agencies administering programs to help and develop people.

SOC 323 Race and Migration

Why do people immigrate? How has immigration policy in the United States changed since the turn of the 20th century? What kinds of jobs do immigrants hold? How have attitudes towards immigration changed? How do race, gender, and religion shape how immigrants are incorporated into society? What are the effects of immigration on children of families who migrate? Throughout this course we will address these questions and many others. You will learn predominant theories of international migration through an examination of immigration patterns in the US during the early 20th century up to its present political context. The course will be structured to consist of lectures, small group discussions, and active engagement outside of the classroom. By the end of this course you will be able to participate in contemporary debates about immigration and critically reflect upon the role of immigration in shaping American society. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or SOC 110 or permission of the instructor.

SOC 355 Crime and Deviance

This course is an introduction to social scientific approaches to understanding crime and deviance. We will approach the study of deviance from a mix of theoretical perspectives. We will focus on criminal and non-criminal forms of deviance with the goal of understanding how social constructions of deviance change over time and are contingent upon other factors such as, race, class, gender, location and differences in power. The format of the course will rely heavily on discussion, students will engage with the material through the assigned readings, small group activities, and large group discussions. Prerequisite: ANT 110 or SOC 110 or permission of the instructor.