ANTHROPOLOGY

http://anthropology.jhu.edu/

The Anthropology Department specializes in socio-cultural anthropology: the study of social and cultural forms of human life using ethnographic, historical, and comparative methods. Faculty in our department are engaged in research that addresses topics considered traditional such as the study of ethnicity, language, religion, family and kinship, or medical pluralism, and also new and emergent issues such as those relating to childhood, technological imaginaries, biomedicine, ecology, state, violence, and popular economies. In all cases, the acute awareness of shifting contexts in which institutions are embedded and the impact of global, regional, and national politics on social life is built into the methodology and the theory engaged by faculty and students. Faculty in our department have research expertise in the Americas, South Asia, the Middle East, and sub-Saharan Africa. Our research is oriented toward the investigation of a number of cross-cutting themes of trans-regional concern rather than a comprehensive coverage of global cultural areas.

The department’s distinctive orientation to anthropology can be characterized in terms of its orientation to non-European anthropological and philosophical traditions, alongside the dominant anthropologies which have been seen as definitive of the discipline in the past. In terms of specific topics, faculty in our department are engaged in research on violence, social suffering and theories of everyday life; the material and moral force of the state; money and value; environments; new kinship; anthropology of religion and secularism; anthropology of medicine; media and visual anthropology; health and well-being; and anthropology of language.

The department offers a B.A. program and a Ph.D. program. The B.A. prepares students either to continue to various employment opportunities or degree in anthropology (and related fields) or to develop anthropological skills and imagination as complementary to pre-professional training, such as medicine, engineering, and international relations. Undergraduate course work offers an introduction to the basic methodologies and theories of contemporary anthropology through discussion and directed research on these and other topical issues. Student advising helps interested students to develop concentrations, through sequences of complementary courses tailored to their own interests, including electives outside the department. In addition, majors have the option to pursue an honors program.

Undergraduate majors in anthropology are required to do ten courses, four of which are required courses and an additional four must be taken at 300-level or higher, in addition to a language requirement. Students wishing to write an honors thesis are also required to do two additional courses in which they work on their dissertation topics. Minors are required to take seven courses, four of which are required courses.

The core curriculum for majors develops a step-wise sequence from the freshman seminar to the senior honors option. We offer an elective 100-level Freshman Seminar that introduces anthropological approaches to a broad range of contemporary issues. Here, we hope to develop curiosity in anthropology as a way of knowing the world, and to encourage critical reflection by students on their own life experiences. Our 100-level introductory course, Invitation to Anthropology, is geared toward freshmen and sophomores. The objective of this course is twofold: to offer anthropological knowledge and analytic skills to a broad range of students, and to prepare potential majors for further training in social theory and fieldwork methods. Following from this introductory course, our 200-level Ethnographies course further student understanding of essential themes through close attention to classic and contemporary ethnographic works in the discipline. The 300-level Methods course is an additional requirement for majors, deepening students’ capacity to link theory and method, preparing students to carry out field research, and guiding students in the writing up and presentation of original research. Building on these foundations, the 400-level Logic of Anthropological Inquiry course, also required of majors, is a thematic capstone course that demands an extended engagement with classic debates and encourages integrative thinking across the range of anthropology courses taken. Majors in anthropology may decide to pursue an honors thesis based on an extended research project. They should discuss their interest in writing a thesis with their faculty advisor in their sophomore year and before the summer of their junior year. Drawing from their previous course preparation and working closely with a faculty advisor, such students spend one summer conducting field research, one semester conducting secondary literature review, and the final semester writing their honors thesis.

Outside of the core curriculum, both majors and minors may take a wide variety of courses. Thematic courses are highly varied and reflect faculty interests, usually including (in any one year) courses in religion and philosophy; medical, legal, economic and linguistic anthropology; and study of diverse areas of the world. Courses on the state, law, and money offer a critical and comparative approach for students aiming toward political, economic, and legal careers. Courses in medical anthropology serve pre-med and public health students. Philosophical and theoretical courses are attractive to humanities students. We see teaching and research as integrally linked, and invite undergraduate students to envisage research as they take introductory and advanced courses in anthropology.

The training of graduate students focuses on providing students with a vocabulary and grammar to engage in anthropological reasoning in socio-cultural anthropology and with skills in research methods. The department emphasizes training in anthropological theory in relation to new developments in other disciplines within the social sciences; understanding of regions in terms of cross-cutting questions rather than geographical questions alone; and the capability to place a problem within a broad history of anthropology that is engaged through multiple national and regional traditions.

Our faculty brings into the classroom an extraordinary range of personal and professional experiences. We are proud to have one of the most diverse faculties in the discipline worldwide, both in terms of gender and ethnic or national origins. Their collective fieldwork experience spans the world, including the Americas, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia.

Facilities
In addition to the regular departmental colloquium where invited speakers from Hopkins and other campuses around the world present their ongoing research, the department holds one or two special symposia every year, including one organized by graduate students. The department also invites a distinguished scholar each year to present the Sidney W. Mintz Lecture. The purpose of the Mintz lectures is to integrate scholarly and social concerns, focusing on questions of political and economic inequality, racism, gender, and ethnic differences from an interdisciplinary perspective. Previous lectures have subsequently been published in Current Anthropology.

The Baltimore-Washington area is unusually rich in library, archival, and museum resources relating to anthropology. In addition to the
excellent collection in the Milton S. Eisenhower Library, the William H. Welch Medical Library, and other libraries at Johns Hopkins, major anthropological holdings are available at the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, and the other specialized libraries and museums in nearby Washington, D.C. Students can use the Smithsonian Institution's ethnological and library collection through a cooperative arrangement.

Financial Aid
Undergraduate majors and non-majors are eligible to apply for a Provost’s Undergraduate Research Award to support special research and write-up projects in their senior year.

Graduate fellowships and teaching assistantships are available, and most students admitted receive support. Stipends are currently offered at $29,000 per year plus fellowships that cover tuition and health insurance. Some additional funds are usually available on a competitive basis for summer field research (including travel grants from the Institute for Global Studies, the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, and the Program for Latin American Studies), and for special language-learning needs. Write-up students may apply for a Dean’s Teaching Fellowship.

Undergraduate Programs
Courses in the department are open to all students in the university, regardless of their majors. Although there are no formal prerequisites, students with no previous courses in Anthropology are encouraged to consider courses at the 100- or 200-level. Freshman seminars are designed to introduce students to different perspectives within anthropology through close examination of a contemporary issue.

Requirements for the B.A. Degree
(Also see Requirements for a Bachelor’s Degree [http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/academic-policies/requirements-for-a-bachelors-degree])

To fulfill B.A. degree requirements with an anthropology major, students must complete a total of 30 credits (10 courses) in Anthropology and foreign language through the intermediate level. Only with permission of the director of undergraduate studies may students use one class taken at another institution towards the major. Students must take completed course materials to the director of undergraduate studies to discuss this exception. Majors must receive a grade of C or better in all major requirements and no major requirements may be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Complete major requirements are:

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS.070.132</td>
<td>Invitation to Anthropology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.070.273</td>
<td>Ethnographies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.070.317</td>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS.070.419</td>
<td>Logic of Anthropological Inquiry</td>
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Anthropology Electives *

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two 100-400 level courses in the Anthropology Department</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Four 300- or 400-level courses in the Anthropology Department **</td>
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Foreign Language

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign language</td>
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** Students pursuing honors in the major may apply the senior essay courses towards their required electives.

Honors Thesis in Anthropology
Students with at least a 3.5 GPA (major GPA) by their junior year are encouraged to write a senior thesis by registering for the two-semester Senior Essay (AS.070.561 Senior Essay-Fall and AS.070.562 Senior Essay - Spring) under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

Sample Program of Study

### Freshman

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>AS.070.132</td>
<td>Invitation to Anthropology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(AS.070.1xx-4xx)</td>
<td>Anthropology elective</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>4 Foreign language</td>
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### Sophomore

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Anthropology elective (AS.070.1xx-4xx)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AS.070.273</td>
<td>Ethnographies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>3 Foreign language</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### Junior

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<th>Semester</th>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>AS.070.317</td>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AS.070.419</td>
<td>Logic of Anthropological Inquiry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anthropology elective (AS.070.3xx-4xx)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### Senior

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<thead>
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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Anthropology elective (AS.070.3xx-4xx)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 44

Minor in Anthropology

A minor in anthropology is available to undergraduate students in any major. One independent study may apply towards minor requirements. Minors must receive a grade of C or better in all minor requirements and all course must be taken for a letter grade (no satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading). One cross-listed course taught outside the Anthropology Department may apply towards the minor; all other courses must be taken in the department. Only with permission of the director of undergraduate studies may students use one class taken at another institution towards the minor. Students must take completed course materials to the director of undergraduate studies to discuss this exception. If one of these is accepted, the student may not take a cross-listed course.

Requirements for the minor are:

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
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</table>
Graduate Program

Ph.D. in Anthropology

The graduate program in anthropology leads to the Ph.D. degree. By admitting a small cohort each year, the Department of Anthropology encourages close working relationships between students and faculty and the opportunity for students to develop their anthropological interests in ways that are uniquely suited to them to become researchers, scholars, and teachers. We also encourage and help develop students wishing to pursue non-academic research careers in keeping with the needs of the contemporary world.

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree

Students will usually spend three years in residence, one year or more conducting field research, and a final year completing the dissertation. Requirements include:

- A total of twelve courses to be completed in the first three years. The first of these courses is Proseminar and is a requirement for incoming students.
- Students will sit a three-hour exam near the end of their first year. Incoming graduate students will be provided with a reading list at the start of the summer before the academic year to initiate their self-directed growth as anthropologists and to help them prepare for the exam.
- Students are expected to conduct exploratory fieldwork during the first summer. They are to write a proposal for this fieldwork and discuss their work upon return in a departmental methodology workshop. This workshop accompanies the Methods course, which is a requirement for students in their second year.
- For the comprehensive exams, students are required to write two essays (one conceptual and one on their study area). These essays will ideally also help develop their dissertation research proposal. The essays should preferably be completed by the end of the second year. A course called Regions has been developed to assist students in writing the essays.
- Students are also encouraged to take the Proposal Writing course offered and to apply for fieldwork grants from external agencies.
- A student should be able to demonstrate a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language relevant to his/her field of study before completing the comprehensive exams.
- A Post-Field course will be offered to those returning from the field to help them begin writing their dissertation, along with relevant professionalization workshops as needed. Post-field students are required to give a seminar on their research in the departmental colloquia series.

For further information about graduate study in anthropology, contact the academic program administrator in the Department of Anthropology or visit the departmental website at http://anthropology.jhu.edu.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Degrees

Students may petition the department and the graduate board to create joint Ph.D. courses of study. Past cases have included Anthropology/
Assistant Professor: First Nations, political ecology, cartography, science and technology studies, expertise, forestry, climate change, media. Canada, specifically, British Columbia.

**Professors Emeriti**

Jane I. Guyer  
Social and economic anthropology, money and culture, household and gender; West Africa

Pamela Reynolds  
Ethnography of children and youth—labor, healing, ethics; state violence; the political actions of the young and their involvement in armed conflict; ending war—truth, justice, and the archive; philosophers on the young; Southern Africa

**Joint Appointments**

Jeremy Greene  
Professor and Chair of History of Science: Twentieth century clinical medicine; pharmaceuticals; medical technology; medical anthropology; global health; history of disease.

Paola Marrati  
Professor of Humanities, joint appointment in Dept. of Philosophy, Director of the Program for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Erica Schoenberger  
Professor (Environmental Health and Engineering): Economic Geography, Regional Development

Todd Shepard  
Associate Professor, History, Co-Director, Program in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Dimitrios Yatromanolakis  
Associate Professor (Department of Classics): research centers upon both technical and more cross-disciplinary fields: archaic and classical Greek literature and performance cultures, sociocultural history, vase-painting and vase-inscriptions; Greek papyrology and epigraphy; and historical and comparative anthropology.

For current course information and registration go to https://sis.jhu.edu/ classes/

**Courses**

**AS.070.104. Special Opportunities in Undergraduate Learning: Anthropology of Sound. 1.0 Credit.**  
This course explores recent discussions on the possibilities of sound to challenge and expand conventional methods used in the humanities, contemporary social research, and the natural sciences. Drawing from a range of philosophical, historical, psychoanalytic, linguistic, anthropological, artistic, and scientific sources; students will discuss the ways sound has been historically experienced, represented, produced, classified, cancelled, and circulated in different parts of the world. These topics will be examined through reading assignments, listening sessions, and weekly sound recording assignments.

Instructor(s): G. Valdivia Corrales  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.109. Introduction to Environmental Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.**  
What is an “environment,” socially speaking? How have pipelines, animals, conservation, and capitalism shaped the way we talk about “nature” and “society” in the present day? This course examines the mutual transformation of humans and their environments through ethnography, environmental history, cultural and political ecology, human geography, and social theory.

Instructor(s): T. Ozden-schilling  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.113. Freshman Seminar. 2.0 Credits.**  
Various topics.

Instructor(s): A. Angelini  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.122. Climate Change in Everyday Life. 3.0 Credits.**  
Climate change is the average of weather over long periods of time. It is usually studied by means of global simulation models. More recently human activity affecting the climate has also begun to be studied and with it the effects of climate change on the human body, activity and society. In this course we will draw upon film, scientific reportage, ethnography, literature and philosophy to explore the human embodiment of climate change within everyday life.

Instructor(s): N. Khan; R. Tobias  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.126. Photography in Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.**  
We will examine historical uses of photographs, critiques of them and more recent creative uptakes of photography in anthropology. We will learn from the use of photographs by anthropologists in the Hopkins department. We will also undertake independent projects. Students will learn to critically engage and mobilize images through the history of its use in anthropology.

Instructor(s): D. Poole; N. Khan  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.129. Introduction to the Anthropology of the Middle East. 3.0 Credits.**  
This course introduces the students to some of the main themes and debates shaping the anthropology of the Middle East. It will begin by critically analyzing the definition of the ‘Middle East’ and of the ‘Orient’ and by presenting an overview of the ‘zones of theory’ which characterized the discipline at its inception. It will then explore the contemporary re-articulations of such themes and the emergence of new themes and debates, such as the secular/religious divide, the modernity debate, the anthropology of Islam and the ethical turn, gender and feminism, neoliberalism, consumerism, cosmopolitanism, migration and mediation. The objective is to convey the main lines of anthropological inquiry within each theme, and to show their relevance to the understanding of contemporary Middle Eastern societies.

Instructor(s): P. Abenante  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.132. Invitation to Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.**  
Click. The screen that brings you last night’s Instagrams and celebrity gossip also flashes glimpses of melting icecaps and burning rubble. These are complex times for human beings, both exciting and unsettling. This course introduces anthropology as a way of reflecting on the challenges of contemporary life around the globe, focusing on themes such as migration, warfare, ecology, inequality, and addiction.

Instructor(s): A. Pandian  
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.133. **Studying the HIV/AIDS Epidemic. 3.0 Credits.**
This course will introduce students to the study of the HIV/AIDS epidemic as scholars in the social science and humanities have undertaken it. The readings will include ethnographies of the disease in the non-west and short theoretical readings to complicate notions of health, pleasure, healing and cure. Furthermore, by focusing on the various regions of Africa, the course hopes to demonstrate the manner in which the social and cultural landscape change the experience of the epidemic.
Instructor(s): V. Saria
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.134. **Chemical Pollution and Social Life. 3.0 Credits.**
The present is marked by a ubiquitous exposure to different sorts of toxic chemicals: from disasters that affect entire communities to the built environments in which we live and work, from the traces of pesticides in our food to the worldwide disrupting effects of oil production. Drawing from social theory, ethnography, environmental history, policy documents, newspaper articles, commercial ads, and documentaries, this course will introduce anthropology as a way of thinking through the interactions between processes of chemical pollution and social worlds.
Instructor(s): J. Moreno Garcia
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.138. **Thinking Through Pain. 3.0 Credits.**
Despite being a common experience, pain remains a mystery for both medicine and the humanities. Can it be described? Measured? Eliminated? Is it the same for everyone? This course explores some of the ways in which pain is represented, interpreted and addressed in contemporary clinical and social settings, combining ethnographic and testimonial literature with fiction and film to illuminate key ethical and political issues at stake in defining and treating pain.
Instructor(s): P. Madariaga Villegas
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.139. **Markets and Morals. 3.0 Credits.**
This course studies forms of exchange as they are imagined and experienced across diverse political and religious settings. The aim is to understand the cultural rationalities and moral dimensions of economic ideas and activities, such as gifts, commodities, sacrifice, investment, credit, debt and value.
Instructor(s): A. Saraf
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.143. **Anthropology of Markets and Capitalism. 3.0 Credits.**
Capitalism is built on social and cultural processes. In this course, we explore the culture of capitalism across diverse settings — a fish market in Tokyo, an investment bank in Wall Street, and the organ donation economy in China, among many others. We ask what motivates the makers of markets today, as well as their critics.
Instructor(s): Staff
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.144. **Anthropology and Visual Media. 3.0 Credits.**
This course examines the production of visual media within anthropology. We look at the particular ways in which visual media such as film, television, and photography shape anthropological practice.
Instructor(s): C. Venkataramani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.154. **Maps and Mapping. 3.0 Credits.**
This course explores maps as cultural documents and ethnographic sites. Students will learn how cultural understandings of space, time, and the visible world shape cartographic conventions. Through mapping exercises we will explore how ethnographer can use maps to theorize the nature of political, cultural, and economic life.
Instructor(s): D. Poole; V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.189. **Islamic Critique: Ethical and Political Reasoning. 3.0 Credits.**
This course investigates the concepts and practices of critique available in contemporary Muslim societies. Focusing on moral and political dimensions of critique, we examine genealogies and exchanges among Islamic traditions and those of the European Enlightenment. Dean's Prize Freshman Seminar.
Instructor(s): J. Bush
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.202. **Economic Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.**
How do the abstract principles of economics play out in a diversity of times and places? This course surveys anthropological research on the social organization of labor, the political institutions that underlie wealth and property, and the cultural meanings of money and commodities. Through these topics, we will look at enduring debates about the rationality of markets and the nature of capitalism.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.203. **Healing: Politics and Poetics. 3.0 Credits.**
Metaphors of health and illness; individual and social. The body in pain and the body politic. Ethnographies of historical memory vis-à-vis medicine, epidemics, sacredness, shamanism, terror, humanitarianism, truth and reconciliation.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.204. An introduction to Islamic Intellectual History. 3.0 Credits.
This course will study the vibrant world of the Seljuks, an Islamic empire that flourished between 1037 and 1157 AD, from Khorasan across Baghdad to Hijaz and Anatolia. As an exploration in intellectual history, we will attempt to understand the social world of the Seljuk Turks through political, religious, and literary texts. We will first read a political treatise, Siyasatnama (The Book of Government), written by Nizam al-Mulk (1018-1092), the formidable minister of the Seljuk Empire, who oversaw the reign of three successive sultans during the second half of the eleventh century and created a strong bureaucratic state for the Seljuks. During his administration, he commissioned the development of madrasas, colleges dedicated to the teaching of Islamic law, theology, literature, and history. The most famous of these madrasas was the Baghdad Nizamiyya where Al-Ghazali (1058-1111) taught from 1190 and 1194. We will read Al-Ghazali’s Deliverance from Error in order to explore the state of religious learning at the peak of the Islamic Golden Age. Having discussed the political and religious foundations of Islamic orthodoxy in the eleventh century, next we turn to the rise of heterodox movements that challenged the authority of the Seljuk state. We will briefly examine the history of the Ismaili branch of Shia Islam, focusing on the politico-religious ideas of its most potent representative, Hassan-i Sabbah (1050s-1124). Finally, we will end our class with the Rubaiyyat of Omar Khayyam (1048-1131), the prominent poet and polymath of the eleventh century.
Instructor(s): B. Polat
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.205. Post-Soviet Russia: An Anthropological Perspective. 3.0 Credits.
This course is designed to introduce students to anthropology’s contribution to ongoing conversations about Russia’s political and economic system, social life, as well as Russia’s place in the world since the fall of the Soviet Union. Students will be encouraged to think beyond easy distinctions between socialism and post-socialism, Putin’s Russia and the West, often starkly and unreflexively established by commentators and in the media. Topics will include post-socialist transition, memory, violence and war, gender and sexuality.
Instructor(s): G. Hervouet-Zeiber
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.211. The Production of European Culture. 3.0 Credits.
This course is an introduction to the anthropological study of “cultural production” in Europe, from literature and performance to museums and public art.
Instructor(s): A. Brandel
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.222. Africa in the 21st Century. 3.0 Credits.
Rapid urbanization has created new needs, occupations, entertainments, etc., outside the “formal sector”. We use anthropological studies, African literature, film and the press on-line to understand making a living.
Instructor(s): J. Guyer
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.224. Plastic. 3.0 Credits.
Plastic is a ubiquitous substance in the contemporary world. Ideas about the plasticity or malleability of human nature are also pervasive. Drawing on anthropology, history of science, environmental studies, art, design, films and other media, this course will examine the plastic dreams and nightmares that haunt our lives today.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.226. Chemical Pollution and Social Life. 3.0 Credits.
The present is marked by a ubiquitous exposure to different sorts of toxic chemicals: from disasters that affect entire communities to the built environments in which we live and work, from the traces of pesticides in our food to the worldwide disrupting effects of oil production. Drawing from social theory, ethnography, environmental history, policy documents, newspaper articles, commercial ads, and documentaries, this course will introduce anthropology as a way of thinking through the interactions between processes of chemical pollution and social worlds.
Instructor(s): J. Moreno Garcia
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.228. Photography and Writing: Crafting an Anthropological Text. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores resonances between photography and anthropological writing. Students will be introduced to basic techniques in photographic composition. How do photography and anthropology share techniques of rendering people, places, and things? Other topics include the role of sensation, reflection, and creativity in depicting a scene, as well as care and ethics. Students will develop an individual project that folds photographic sensibilities into the writing process.
Instructor(s): M. Sehdev
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.230. From Jihad to Revolution: The Political Struggles of Women in the Middle East. 3.0 Credits.
The course explores the role of women as political prisoners, combatants and activists in the modern history of the Middle East using a multidisciplinary approach. It explores the history of women’s engagement in political struggles in the Middle East over the long durée starting with anti-colonial movements in the 20th century up until the recent uprisings known as the “Arab Spring”. The course is geared towards the examination of the ways in which politics, in a broad sense, is gendered in the Middle East by examining how the social and political construction of women as political subjects influence the nature and practice of political life, as well as the ways in which sexual difference has served as a basis for social and political organization.
Instructor(s): F. Halbouni
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.231. Housing Matters. 3.0 Credits.
This course will collectively craft an anthropological critique of housing, both as a social concern and as an object of public policy and urban planning. As a key component of the structure and functioning of cities, housing is instrumental to urban governmentality, segregation, and citizenship, as well as to cultures of consumption and class formation, identities, solidarities and the imagination of alternative social orders. We will examine how the material and social effects of housing shape the politics of difference, rights, markets and property relations, consumption and activism in the US urban context, as well as social experiences in other regions of the world.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.233. Africa as Laboratory. 3.0 Credits.
Africa, as anthropologists have noted, has long been a “laboratory of the future.” By tracing the intersections of technology and politics, this class considers the various experiments in oppression and liberation that have unfolded within it. Following a broad historical arc, we begin with colonial medicine, racial science, and urban planning; move to national infrastructures and postcolonial resource extractions; and finally consider contemporary African engagements with consumer technology.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.235. Anthropology of Christianity. 3.0 Credits.
This course introduces students to the study of Christianity from the Anthropological perspective. Among the themes discussed are: Christian conversion, theology, practice, and knowledge in a range of national contexts. The course considers broad trends in global Christianity, including the retreat of traditional Catholicism and the surge of charismatic forms of Christianity, such as Pentecostalism and Charismatic Catholicism.
Instructor(s): J. Richlin
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.237. Conflict and Environment. 3.0 Credits.
How do conflicts in and over environments shape our understandings of identity and belonging? Violence, resource loss, and resettlement may shape landscapes through physical infrastructures or sites of extraction, but they also live on in memory, art, and other social practices. From the fencing of the American west to attempts to save Andean glaciers through the legal recognition of “earth beings,” this course examines the many ways environments and conflict co-shape one another.
Instructor(s): T. Ozden-schilling
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.241. African Cities. 3.0 Credits.
Over the past two decades, African cities have absorbed rapid population increase without accompanying economic growth. Students will review the major challenges of this mode of urbanization and explore the vibrant ways residents have sought to meet them. Following anthropology’s commitment to lived experience, we will track these issues through the twists and turns of everyday life, and consider what they may say about urbanity more broadly in the 21st century. Topics include livelihood, the built environment, conflict and membership, and popular culture.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.249. Latin American Cities: Public Spaces and Private Lives. 3.0 Credits.
This course will explore the relationship between public space and forms of political expression as well as the cultural implications of various senses of privacy and domesticity in contemporary Latin American cities. Drawing on recent anthropological and historical texts, we will study the formation of urban public space in the region, as well as its use and representation by different social, political and ethnic groups.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.251. Aliens, iPads, and Neurotribes: An Introduction to the Anthropology of Autism. 3.0 Credits.
This course is an overview of the emerging anthropology of autism. It surveys the history of the autism diagnosis – from its original formulation at Johns Hopkins in 1943 to its rapid expansion into a “spectrum” condition in the late 1990s – and the ways in which social scientists of different disciplines have tried to analyze the role of social and cultural factors in its evolution. The course also looks at a range of ethnographic studies that have asked what it means to be autistic in today’s world.
Instructor(s): D. Platzer
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.253. Introduction to Medical Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.
Is illness bound within an individual body, or is it entangled with our relations? What are the ethics and politics of the doctor/patient relation? How are medical technologies changing the way we experience illness and healing? How have global institutions responded to the problems posed by disease and development? Drawing on ethnography, film, and literature, this course introduces students to how anthropologists have explored and researched problems related to health and illness.
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.259. Gift and Sacrifice. 3.0 Credits.
How do gifts become the foundation of society? How does the fetish take control over a person? What is the meaning of the ritual sacrifice of living beings and things? The course will explore classical and contemporary anthropological explorations of circulation, exchange, of power, dread and desire.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.262. Cuban Intellectuals, Cinema, and the State. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines the relationship between intellectuals and the Cuban state, focusing on how cinema and other arts have been mobilized both as propaganda and as sites for social criticism. Screenings are required for this course and will take place on Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9:30 pm. Cross-list: Film and Media Studies, PLAS, Romance Languages.
Instructor(s): L. Humphreys
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.264. What is Scientific Experimentation?. 2.0 Credits.
How do scientists design and conduct experiments? In what ways do experimental results advance our understanding of scientific theories? In this introductory course, we will discuss how experimentation contributes to scientific knowledge making. Reading a number of key articles, we will explore the ways in which an experimental model is developed in behavioral neuroscience. We will discuss how neurobiologists interpret psychological concepts and theories by drawing on animal experimentation.
Instructor(s): B. Polat
Area: Humanities, Natural Sciences.

AS.070.267. Culture, Religion and Politics in Iran. 3.0 Credits.
This is an introductory course for those interested in gaining basic knowledge about contemporary Iran. The focus will be on culture and religion and the ways in which they become interwoven into different kinds of political stakes.
Instructor(s): N. Haeri
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.268. Police in Ethnographic Perspective. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines policing throughout history and across the world. Course readings will provide an empirical account of the many diverse forms of police and the issues associated with them.
Instructor(s): V. Kumar
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.273. Ethnographies. 3.0 Credits.
What does it mean to translate the field onto the page? This course explores the craft of ethnography and its relationship to anthropological knowledge. Reading a series of classic and contemporary works, and engaging in our own writing experiments, we attend to the knotty problem of rendering lived experience, attending to narrative, voice, structure, and the relationship between description and analysis.
Instructor(s): T. Ozden-schilling
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.275. Reproduction, Kinship, and the State. 3.0 Credits.
What makes a relative? How are reproductive futures made and unmade? This course takes reproduction as site to examine the interplay of kinship relationships and the state. We will take topics including adoption, gay parenting, the medical and social aspects of childbirth, and reproductive technologies to explore how reproductive futures are unevenly distributed, endured, aspired to, and re-made.
Instructor(s): C. Han; C. Sufrin
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.277. Contested Indigeneity. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to the diversity of indigenous peoples and their situations globally, as well as to their agency and innovation in grappling with challenges across a range of social systems, political contexts, and ecological conditions. Cross-list: PLAS
Instructor(s): E. Cervone
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.292. Landscape and Power. 3.0 Credits.
How does the production and public interpretation of maps, photographs, and other visual media shape struggles over resources, political power, and public health? Surveying approaches from political ecology and environmental history, this course will expose students to a range of ethnographic strategies for analyzing media amidst environmental conflicts.
Instructor(s): T. Ozden-schilling
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.293. Anthropology of Material Worlds. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores how anthropologists study material forms and objects in relationship to social, political and cultural life. Topics to be considered include, totemism, art, engineering, garbage, display, collection, and the fetish.
Instructor(s): D. Poole
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.294. Political Anthropology of Africa. 3.0 Credits.
The course will explore classical and contemporary ethnographies of the political in Africa, examining how their authors address issues of power, hierarchy and symbol. We will study various articulations of state, ethnicity and community that are analyzed by observing relations between power and resistance or between law, economy and violence through war, custom and ritual. The seminar will also address the way in which Africa has been constituted as a key source of the sub-field of political anthropology through colonial trajectories, postcolonial detours and the political imagination of the past and the future.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.295. Conflict and Security in a Global World. 3.0 Credits.
Students will be introduced to problems of global governance in the context of transnational conflicts, changing nature of war, new epidemics and pandemics, and the threats of planetary extinction. What are the ways security is imagined and what kinds of political passions are mobilized for security of people versus security of states.
Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.296. Introduction to Migration Studies. 3.0 Credits.
How can we understand the city from positions of marginality and risk? What challenges does urban living pose to its most vulnerable residents? We will examine these questions, and methodological and conceptual issues they raise, with anthropological research from five cities: Johannesburg, São Paulo, Ibadan, New York, Kuala Lumpur. We will explore each city from the perspective of particular residents and the specific struggles they face, including crime and security, economic uncertainty, and sexual discrimination.
Instructor(s): J. Richlin
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.297. Discover Hopkins: Medicine, Sports, and Culture. 1.0 Credit.
This course examines how medicine is practiced in different cultures around the world. In particular, we draw on theories and concepts from medical anthropology to study how these differences reveal alternative perspectives on the body, its health and its capabilities. To sharpen our inquiries into cultural differences surrounding bodily health, we look comparatively at the anthropology of sports and bodily performance.
Instructor(s): M. Banahi
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.298. The Family at War: Crisis & Ambivalence in the Study of Kinship. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to one of the foundational concerns of anthropology and bring to the fore critiques that bear upon what it means to relate to one another. Students will be introduced to theories of kinship and the myriad challenges to fixed notions of the family. Specifically, course readings will consider interventions in anthropological studies of kinship, such as in studies of new reproductive technologies and queer kinship. In addition, course readings will consider the notion of the family in colonial and “post”-colonial contexts, as well as in “post”-conflict societies. A primary concern of the course will also be to encourage students to think critically about the ways in which knowledge is produced, institutionalized, and disseminated.
Instructor(s): M. Banahi
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.300. The Global Artwork. 3.0 Credits.
This course is about art practice in a postcolonial context, where the techniques and pictorial concepts formed by a European history of art are confronted by other traditions of representation, beset by different kinds of political struggles, and posed against the background of religious traditions other than that of Christianity. What problems of history, difference and the self arise in this context, and what forms of art practice emerge to address these problems? In what ways do these forms of art practice draw upon religious traditions, and how do we think about the displacement of religious traditions in modern art? In this course, we will explore these questions by examining the modern art of the Middle East, South Asia, and China, in conjunction with readings from anthropology, art history, comparative literature, philosophy and religious studies.
Instructor(s): S. Al-Bahloly
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.302. Crisis and Futurity: New Ethnographies of Africa. 3.0 Credits.
"Africa Rising" or "The Hopeless Continent?" Within the span of a decade, The Economist magazine famously declared each to be true. In this class we turn to the genre of ethnography, with its focus on lived experience and critical nuance, to make sense of this seeming contradiction. We explore the themes of crisis and futurity through new works by Mbembe, De Boeck, Obarrio, and others.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.303. The Romantic Legacy of Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.
The word "romantic" has long carried negative connotations within anthropology meaning the tendency to idealize, exotize, or seek out the irrational. Instead, through a focus on the themes of science, nature, art, intuition, systematicity and creativity, we suggest that romantic philosophy has offered and continues to offer much of interest for contemporary anthropology. Drawing on readings in philosophy, anthropology, science and literature, we explore the long suppressed romantic legacy of anthropology.
Instructor(s): A. Brandel, N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.307. Markets and Morals. 3.0 Credits.
This course studies markets across diverse religious and political settings to explore the cultural rationalities and moral dimensions of economic activities such as exchange, circulation, investment, credit, debt and value.
Instructor(s): A. Saraf
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.308. Norms and Emotions: Anthropology of Psychiatric Knowledge. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to anthropological understandings of therapeutic and scientific practices in contemporary psychiatry. Through a selection of seminal readings in anthropology and history, we will explore the integral relationship between psychiatric knowledge and social and economic contexts. The course material will expose students to diverse approaches in the scholarship, which explore the role that psychiatric knowledge plays in the administration of social life and in shaping present cultural understandings of self and interpersonal relationships.
Instructor(s): B. Polat
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.313. The Anthropology of Belief: Religious Experience, Publics, and Personhood. 3.0 Credits.
The aim of this course is to enable you to ask intelligent questions about the ways individuals are called upon as "religious", and more specifically, to allow you to engage in a reflection on the publics of which they are a part, and the means by which they come to cultivate a sense of personhood. Closely reading theory, ethnography, and literature in relation to each other, we will try to develop a nuanced understanding of the many ways in which human beings have imagined and conducted themselves as religious persons. How do ideas of imagination, habit, desire, and the senses play into our understanding of cultures of faith?
Instructor(s): M. Wilson
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.314. Activism and Assembly, Local and Global Connections. 3.0 Credits.
This course offers an anthropological perspective on political mobilization and struggles for social change and citizenship rights in several regions of the world. It charts collective action among the urban poor, indigenous peoples, queer rights activists, feminists, environmentalists and grassroots groups in various cultural and political contexts, to examine methodologies, representations, and local and global networks.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.317. Methods. 3.0 Credits.
This course aims to teach basic fieldwork skills: choosing and entering a community; establishing contacts; learning to listen and to ask questions and locating archival material that might be relevant. It is a hands-on course that increases student familiarity with various neighborhoods such as the Arts District in Baltimore. Recommended Course Background: two or more prior courses in anthropology (not cross-listed courses). Course is a requirement for anthropology major.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.318. The Atlantic World. 3.0 Credits.
This seminar explores the formation of the South Atlantic through a reading of historical and ethnographic texts. We examine the making of history and culture as contentious fields of struggle.
Instructor(s): A. Angelini
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.320. Anthropology of Time. 3.0 Credits.
The course is a cross-cultural exploration of ideas of time and temporality found in ethnographic, philosophical and literary sources: Anthropological perspectives on relations among past, present and future; Ritual, imagination and social practice in the contexts of religion, development, finance, catastrophe, crisis, democracy, revolution; Analysis of representations of time and the Other in anthropological works and media reports; the contemporary and the untimely.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.327. Poverty's Life: Anthropology of Health & Economy. 3.0 Credits.
Medicine, economics, and ethics have profoundly shaped debates on poverty. This course analyzes these debates and tracks the relationships between body, economy, and the everyday. How can anthropological reasoning and methods inform approaches to health and economic scarcity and insecurity?
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.331. Anthropology of Poetry and Prayer. 3.0 Credits.
What kind of activity is prayer? Are we talking to God(s), to our ancestors, to ourselves? What do poetry and prayer share? The course will explore these and similar questions with particular attention to questions of repetition, memory, meaning and presence.
Instructor(s): N. Haeri
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.333. Theologies of Political Life. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores the relationship between modern political forms and theological traditions. Looking at developments both in the West and the postcolonial world, we will examine the multiple ways in which theological traditions have continued to inform how political life is conceived and pursued. In particular, we will focus on the relation between liberalism and the Christian tradition; the turn to messianism in critical theory; the transformation of the shari'a into a legal form; and its imbrication in anti-colonial politics.
Instructor(s): S. Al-Bahloly
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.335. Anthropology of Science and Medicine. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to a number of key concepts and methods in anthropology of science and medicine. Providing a general introduction and a systematic survey of the scholarship, the course seeks to shed light on the medico-scientific problems of modern life from the viewpoint of social-scientific inquiry. Through seminal publications within the field, we will explore the effects of scientific research and science-based medicine on human life, social relations, and cultural understandings of self. We will also discuss the ways in which cultural norms and values inform and shape the recent developments in science and medicine.
Instructor(s): B. Polat
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.337. Digital Media, Democracy, and Control. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines how digital technologies enable new publics that circumvent state and social controls as well as how they are mobilized to confirm existing racial, gendered, and political hierarchies.
Instructor(s): L. Humphreys
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.340. The Elementary Forms of American Religious Life. 3.0 Credits.
In the United States, the nation that in its infancy so famously erected a “wall between Church and State,” religion remains a persistent, and insistently public concern today, occupying our literary imagination, filling dockets and riding the national airwaves. Far from dropping out of a rapidly secularizing public sphere, specific forms of religious life have become deeply embedded in America, while the nation has also impressed its own particular institutional character upon religious expression. This course takes an anthropological lens to the particularity of American forms of religious life, asking what claims they make on the liberal subject, and through what enduring institutional forms and channels.
Instructor(s): C. Block
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.343. On Seeing: Between Religion and Art. 3.0 Credits.
This course reflects on what it is to see, by examining how different religious traditions have conceived of seeing, and then considering how seeing is organized by modern forms of art practice. Our inquiry will range across a variety of cases—from devotional practices in Christianity and Hinduism; to concepts of vision in the Islamic tradition; to the critique of images during the Protestant Reformation and the legacy of that critique in modernism; and to the development of new technologies like photography and film—and it will draw on readings from anthropology, art history, critical theory and religious studies.
Instructor(s): S. Al-Bahloly
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.346. Cinema and Ethnography. 3.0 Credits.
Films, like ethnographies, stage encounters with foreign worlds. We will investigate this parallel by examining, side-by-side, cinematic and anthropological representations of subjects like environmental conflict, urban poverty, religious pilgrimage and media culture.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.347. Anthropology and Public Action. 3.0 Credits.
Anthropologists have used their expertise in public debates, legal cases, advisory roles and so on, and have studied the “public sphere”. General and case studies, following of our professional association, shows how anthropological knowledge has been mobilized.
Instructor(s): J. Guyer
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.348. Anthropology of Mental Illness. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores how the institutions of the family, state, and neighborhood respond to and shape mental illness; how the normal, abnormal, and pathology are experienced and defined; and how disease categories circulate in social worlds.
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.352. Evolution, Ecology, Becoming. 3.0 Credits.
The concept of evolution is central to social theory. Originating in the question of the species, it has moved into questions of human ecology, cultural forms and modes of thought. While it remains a deeply contested, often criticized concept, particularly in its neo-Darwinian manifestation, it orients anthropological thinking in ways that are as yet to be examined. Reaching into the archives of anthropology and other cognate disciplines, this course will examine the writings of Lyell, Darwin, Marx, Morgan, Boas, Steward, Bateson, Ingold among others. Co-listed with AS.070.610
Instructor(s): A. Goodfellow; N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.357. An Anthropology of the City. 3.0 Credits.
Strangers, neighbors, proximities, contagion, segregation. How do these notions track with notions of the city? In this course, we will explore the city through both anthropological literature and primary materials across different world regions. We will focus specifically on themes of dying and death, proximity, and stranger sociability. Particular attention will be paid to studies of poverty.
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.359. Korean War. 3.0 Credits.
This course takes the Korean War as a site to both explore: 1) contemporary historical and political transformations in East Asia and globally and 2) the ways in which violence, catastrophic loss, and separation are woven into everyday life. It will explore the Korean War through film, fiction, historiography, and draw on comparative materials in anthropology
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.366. Speculative Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.
Anthropology has always been a speculative enterprise, an attempt to think beyond some familiar idea of the human. We will explore this speculative dimension by looking at crossovers between anthropology and contemporary art, science fiction, philosophy, and environmental politics. Working with texts, films, drawings and other media, we will examine the experimental and imaginative nature of anthropology.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.372. Religion and Media. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines the ways in which conventional and non-conventional media recreate or transform religious experience in modern life. Increasingly, religion is experienced not only in sacred spaces and as ritual prescriptions, but also through the information that is disseminated through radio, TV, and the Internet, as well as in consumer culture and political speeches. Beginning with this proposition that our ideas about religion are shaped not only by historical and scriptural legacies, but as well as by material practices and other sundry conditions of mediation, of which our present times supply many, we will reexamine how questions of revelation, belief, spirituality, ethereality, and ritual practice are constituted by these irreducible ways, thus complicating the neat separation of religion and secularism, or, for that matter, religion and culture.
Instructor(s): S. Bagaria
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.377. Ethnographic Writing. 3.0 Credits.
We will closely examine the narrative form and force of a few major works of anthropological writing, and pursue experiments of our own in ethnographic description and expression. Co-listed with AS.070.603.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.380. Slumworld: Life in informal Settlements. 3.0 Credits.
One quarter of the planet’s urban population lives today in slums, shantytowns, favelas, chawls, colonias and other forms of rudimentary settlements (according to UN Habitat). Despite their prevalence throughout the world, these places are still depicted as spaces of informality and abjection, rather than as sites of emergence of innovative -even if disadvantaged-, makeshift ways of producing the city. This course will combine ethnographic and geographical literature, as well as works of fiction and film to explore the lives of squatters and slum-dwellers in many regions of the world and examine in what way their practices, forms of dwelling, sociality, conflict and cooperation are constitutive of the urban experience.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.385. From Sexual Nature to Sexual Politics. 3.0 Credits.
This course traces anthropological concern with questions of sexuality. Students will explore anthropological notions of primitive promiscuity, cultural configurations of the correspondence between sex, procreation, and birth, and ideas about sexual rites of passage. The course will end with a discussion of sexual politics in Euro-America and public concern over HIV/AIDS. The course draws on the work of Freud, Malinowski, Meade, Herdt, Povinelli, Rubin, Bersani and Halperin. Cross-listed with Women Gender Studies
Instructor(s): A. Goodfellow
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.405. Urban Ecologies. 3.0 Credits.
Description: This course will explore the city from the vantage point of nature/culture relations and political imagination. It will engage a range of topics including the built environment, urban infrastructure, (de)industrialization and the ways in which urban space shapes and is shaped by power relations, racial dynamics, housing markets, domesticity and the body. As part of the coursework, students will carry out small guided research projects in Baltimore City.
Instructor(s): V. Procupez
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.407. The Anthropology of Design. 3.0 Credits.
From casinos to canoes, algorithms to animal traps, our worlds are bursting with intentional objects. The word design has come to evoke the prestige of such objects, and their power to shape our collective habits and sensations. This course explores the anthropology of designed artifacts and their complex social trajectories. Beginning with philosophical investigations into the relationship between materials, form, and craft, we will proceed through ethnographic case studies of design as expert discourse and ordinary practice. Ultimately we will consider the affinities between the ethnography and design as open-ended and not entirely predictable engagements with the world.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.414. Kinship at the Core. 3.0 Credits.
It is often said that the study of kinship defines anthropology as a distinct discipline within the social sciences. This course tracks the emergence of kinship as a subject and object of anthropological inquiry, and traces some of the transformations that mark the effort to develop theories of kinship (genealogical method, social contract, structural-functionalism, structuralism, psychoanalysis, etc). A sample of authors to be read include: Morgan, Rivers, Malinowski, Radciff-Brown, Leach, Levi-Strauss, Pateman, Schneider, Trawick, and Povinelli. Open to Graduate Students.
Instructor(s): A. Goodfellow
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.417. Political Spirituality. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores forms of political action that have emerged at the interface of modern revolutions with religious traditions. It focuses on the Middle East during the twentieth century and the civil rights struggle in the American south. We will attempt to trace the genealogy of these forms of action in the Islamic and Christian traditions, as well as examine their influence on the political thought of our own time.
Instructor(s): S. Al-Bahioly
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
**AS.070.418. The Comparative Tradition in Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.**
Anthropology is often imagined as the study of a particular place and people. But comparative methods date back to the beginnings of the discipline, efforts that are echoed in recent works of global and ambitious scope. In this seminar, we examine the theory and practice of comparison in anthropology, drawn in historical as well as contemporary studies on themes such as art, economy, science, and belief.

Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.419. Logic of Anthropological Inquiry. 3.0 Credits.**
Anthropology is an endeavor to think with the empirical richness of the world at hand, a field science with both literary and philosophical pretensions. This course grapples with the nature of anthropological inquiry, reading classic works in the discipline as well as contemporary efforts to reimagine its foundations. Required for anthropology majors.

Prerequisites: Prereq: AS.070.273 OR AS.070.317
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.420. Anthropology of Death and Dying. 3.0 Credits.**
This course is organized around understanding the experience, representation and management of death and dying at different scales of social life connecting individual biographies with institutional settings.

Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.422. Infrastructure. 3.0 Credits.**
This course surveys ethnographies of built networks such as roads, power grids, and water pipelines as sites of cultural meaning, political struggle, and social interaction. We will consider the kinds of collective existence they make possible today, and their relationship to anthropological thought.

Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.423. Anthropology of Poetry and Prayer. 3.0 Credits.**
What kind of activity is prayer? Are we talking to God(s), to our ancestors, to ourselves? What are the differences between choosing our own words and repeating the words of an established prayer? The course will explore these and similar questions with particular attention to the language of prayers across a number of religious traditions.

Instructor(s): N. Haeri
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.426. Kinship: Old and New. 3.0 Credits.**
We will track the transformations in kinship theory in relation to wider changes in legal theory, biomedicine, and the relation between state and family. In particular we will ask how the concepts of sovereignty, gift, exchange, human and non-human milieus affect notions of relations. Co-listed with AS.070.639

Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.430. Violence and Non-Violence: Anthropological Explorations. 3.0 Credits.**
What are the conceptual challenges in thinking about violence and non-violence are categories of thought and practice? We will examine these issues through ethnographies of war, collective violence, and domestic violence.

Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.431. Senses of the State. 3.0 Credits.**
This course examines ethnographic approaches to the study of state power and organization. How does a “traditional” ethnographic focus on locality and place help us to theorize the scalar qualities of the “global” neoliberal state? How do anthropologists study the temporal, material and sensory domains through which people make sense of the state as a bureaucratic, governmental and sovereign presence in their lives?

Instructor(s): D. Poole
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.436. Vulnerability. 3.0 Credits.**
Many in the contemporary world live in states of acute vulnerability. In this course, we will look closely at situations like forced displacement, experience of poverty and injury, environmental devastation, and the politics of social protest. Thinking with ethnography, feminist philosophy, fiction, and film, we will explore whether vulnerability may be taken as a condition to live with rather than one to overcome at any cost.

Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.445. Health, Disease, Poverty: New Ethnographies from India. 3.0 Credits.**
We will study the multiple dimensions of health and disease in the context of poverty and vulnerability in India. The course will focus on institutions and experiences, and ask how the lives of patients and healers connect in local worlds. We will end with some recent controversies on reforming health care in India.

Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.473. Readings of Foucault. 3.0 Credits.**
We will do a close reading of selected texts of Foucault to track the concepts of power, subjectivity, government, and care of the self.

Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.485. About Time. 3.0 Credits.**
This course will explore time from an anthropological perspective. What is time? An object, a dimension, a sensation? Can we “have” time? What is the relation between power and the control of time? Through readings and discussions of classical and current anthropological theories and ethnographies, we will analyze the meaning, experience and textures of time in different cultural settings. Case studies will explore the US, the West and the Global South, with special emphasis on conceptions of the future: expectations, anticipations, preemption, emergence, possibility. We will study imaginations of temporality and futurity in relation to fields such as politics, custom, finance, security, labor, climate change and so on, looking into the role that emotions play in relation to time.

Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.493. Precarity. 3.0 Credits.
How do we understand and engage precariousness and vulnerability in the contemporary world? This seminar explores the notion of precarity in anthropology and social theory. We will explore this notion genealogically asking such questions as: what are the forms of politics arising in relation to new transformations of labor? What are the regional debates in which the notion of precarity has arisen? We will then explore how anthropology has responded to ongoing destruction of whole forms of life, through war, settler colonialism, displacement, and poverty.
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.070.503. Independent Study. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.504. Independent Study. 0.0 - 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.505. Directed Research-Fall. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.506. Directed Research. 0.0 - 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): C. Han; J. Obarrio; M. Degani; N. Haeri; V. Das.
AS.070.507. Directed Readings. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.508. Directed Readings. 0.0 - 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.551. Internship-Fall. 1.0 Credit.
Instructor(s): J. Guyer; N. Haeri.
AS.070.552. Internship - Spring. 1.0 Credit.
Instructor(s): D. Poole; J. Guyer; V. Das.
AS.070.561. Senior Essay-Fall. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.562. Senior Essay - Spring. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.594. Internship-Anthropology. 1.0 Credit.
Instructor(s): D. Poole; M. Degani; N. Khan.
AS.070.595. Directed Research. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio; V. Das.
AS.070.596. Independent Study. 3.0 Credits.
Instructor(s): Staff.
AS.070.603. Ethnographic Writing.
We will closely examine the narrative form and force of a few major works of anthropological writing, and pursue experiments of our own in ethnographic description and expression. Co-listed with AS.070.377.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.605. Anthropology and the Everyday.
Analysis of the everyday groans under the theoretical weight of concepts such “modernity,” “governmentality,” “capitalism,” “globalization” and more recently “security.” What might a sharper focus on the everyday yield in terms of its own analytical frameworks and empirical descriptions? We read some contemporary greats (Foucault, Derrida, Cavell, de Certeau, Lefebvre). Simultaneously we look at how each has been received within ethnography by reading anthropologists in engagement with them (Mahmood, Ivy, Das, Siegel, Harvey). We ask what critical stakes anthropology maintains in relation to the everyday.
Instructor(s): N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.606. Professionalization.
Instructor(s): N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.608. First Year Proposal Writing.
Instructor(s): N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
What are the conceptual challenges in thinking about violence and non-violence are categories of thought and practice? We will examine these issues through ethnographies of war, collective violence, and domestic violence.
Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
This seminar will address contemporary questions of state and citizenship in the light of colonial and imperial dynamics at the beginning of the twenty-first century transnational and national sovereignty in relation to local configurations of law, capital and political violence; processes of subsumption, extraction and financialization. Authors include Negri, Arrighi, Harvey, Chakrabarty, Mbembe, Mamdani, Chatterjee, Coronil, Dussel.
Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.612. Self, Narrative, and Autobiography.
This seminar takes insight from the idea that the "I" is not simply a pronoun. We will read texts on the self, the fragment, and narrative in anthropology, along with texts that make available different pictures of the self.
Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.615. The Comparative Tradition in Anthropology.
Anthropology is often imagined as the study of a particular place and people. But comparative methods date back to the beginnings of the discipline, efforts that are echoed in recent works of global and ambitious scope. In this seminar, we examin the theory and practice of comparison in anthropology, drawing on historical as well as contemporary studies on themes such as art, economy, science, and belief.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.616. Proseminar.
This course will consist of close reading of anthropological and philosophical texts to trace some important aspects of the underlying presuppositions of social theory. We will try to see how regions generate both data and theory, and also see how some abiding concerns around the relation between structural formations and formations of subjects are expressed in classical and current anthropological thought.
Instructor(s): V. Das.
**AS.070.620. Space and Place.**
This course explores how concepts of emplacement, location, space, place, and belonging shape—and are shaped by—cultural formations and political imaginations. Readings and class discussions include ethnographies and theoretical texts on planning and struggles over territory, aspirations regarding land and the environment, nature/culture distinctions, housing and the right to the city by authors such as Lefebvre, Massey, Harvey, Foucault, Ingold, Virilio, Bachelard, Tsing, Escobar, and others
Instructor(s): N. Khan.

**AS.070.621. An Ontological Turn?.**
Recent years have seen a number of ambitious and controversial efforts to find, in ontology, a means of surpassing the inherited humanism, culturalism, and essentialism of anthropology. This course will critically examine this proposition of a fundamental “turn” in our thinking, juxtaposing recent work on matters of perspectivism, materialism, relationality, and divinity with earlier attempts in anthropology to grasp being and becoming otherwise.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian.

**AS.070.622. Infrastructure.**
This course surveys ethnographies of built networks such as roads, power grids, and water pipelines as sites of cultural meaning, political struggle, and social interaction. We will consider the kinds of collective existence they make possible today, and their relationship to anthropological thought.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.623. Anthropology of Poetry and Prayer.**
What kind of activity is prayer? Are we talking to God(s), to our ancestors, to ourselves? What are the differences between choosing our own words and repeating the words of an established prayer? The course will explore these and similar questions with particular attention to the language of prayers across a number of religious traditions.
Instructor(s): N. Haeri
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.630. Senses of the State.**
This course examines how anthropologists study the temporal, material and sensory domains through which people make sense of the state as a bureaucratic, governmental and sovereign presence in their lives.
Instructor(s): D. Poole.

**AS.070.634. The End of Nature?.**
The End of Nature? We have been hearing critiques of the concept of nature as too pristine since at least Donna Haraway’s Cyborg Manifesto and Bruno Latour’s We Have Never Been Modern. The call has been for a mode of ecological thinking without the encumbrance of nature. Through an examination of some of the tracks that nature has left within the anthropological archives and kindred debates within philosophy, this course attempts a revivification of nature for our present. Readings include Mauss, Rappaport, Levi-Strauss, Bateson, Emerson and Whitehead.
Instructor(s): N. Khan.

**AS.070.636. Vulnerability.**
Many in the contemporary world live in states of acute vulnerability. In this course, we will look closely at situations like forced displacement, experience of poverty and injury, environmental devastation, and the politics of social protest. Thinking with ethnography, feminist philosophy, fiction, and film, we will explore whether vulnerability may be taken as a condition to live with rather than one to overcome at any cost.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.639. Kinship: Old and New.**
We will track the transformations in kinship theory in relation to wider changes in legal theory, biomedicine, and the relation between state and family. In particular, we will ask how the concepts of sovereignty, gift, exchange, human and non-human milieus affect notions of relations. Open to undergraduate anthropology majors with instructors approval..
Co-listed with AS.070.426
Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.642. Anthropology of Design.**
From casinos to canoes, algorithms to animal traps, our worlds are bursting with intentional objects. The word design has come to evoke the prestige of such objects, and their power to shape our collective habits and sensations. This course explores the anthropology of designed artifacts and their complex social trajectories. Beginning with philosophical investigations into the relationship between materials, form, and craft, we will proceed through ethnographic case studies of design as expert discourse and ordinary practice. Ultimately we will consider the affinities between the ethnography and design as open-ended and not entirely predictable engagements with the world.
Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.650. Post-fieldwork.**
Open to Anthropology graduate students only.
Instructor(s): N. Khan
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.070.658. Intimacy and Corruption.**
Course takes problem of corruption as an ethnographic site from which we can explore how concepts of visibility, secrecy, intimacy and transgression inform political life. We will examine how ideas of intimacy and propriety are expressed in public scandals of corruption, as well as the forms of anxiety that surround routine practices of bribery, influence-peddling and enticement.
Instructor(s): D. Poole
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

**AS.070.659. Proposal Writing.**
The seminar will offer a forum for students to discuss research projects, prepare grant proposals and think further about issues of ethnographic methodology and writing. Open to Anthropology graduate students only.
Instructor(s): N. Khan
Writing Intensive.
AS.070.671. Political Anthropology.
This course explores anthropological debates regarding politics and the political. Through readings drawn from both recent and “classic” ethnographies of the political, we will trace how anthropologist have engaged issues of hierarchy, differentiation, power, suasion, command, collectivity, and voice in their accounts of social and cultural worlds. Instructor(s): D. Poole
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.673. Readings of Foucault.
We will do a close reading of selected texts of Foucault to track the concepts of power, subjectivity, government, and care of the self. Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.070.675. Before the Law.
Foundations of law and the political in classical political anthropology and postmodern philosophy. Kinship, custom, magic, sacrifice and war as prepolitical realms. State of nature, exception, and force of law; biopolitics, micropolitics and segmentarity. Readings: Africanist ethnography, Clastres, Sahlins, Deleuze, Derrida, Agamben, Benjamin, Kafka. Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.677. Anthropology of Death and Dying.
This course is organized around understanding the experience, representation and management of death and dying at different scales of social life connecting individual biographies with institutional settings. Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.680. Reading Course in the History of Anthropology: Revolutions and Recuperations.
This course provides a selective, disciplinary overview of anthropological theory as both a plural field of knowledge and as a distinctive mode of formulating questions about history, society and life. Instructor(s): J. Guyer
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

How do different ways of harnessing energy shape life and environment? This course delves into the social, political, even philosophical properties of oil, coal, sunlight sugar, and other sources that fuel human activity. Through these topics, we will consider the cultural meaning of concepts such as charge and expenditure, work and waste. Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.682. Readings in Anthropology.
In this course we will engage classical texts from the anthropological archives and explore debates and contemporary salience. Instructor(s): V. Das
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.685. About Time.
This course will explore time from an anthropological perspective. What is time? An object, a dimension, a sensation? Can we “have” time? What is the relation between power and the control of time? Through readings and discussions of classical and current anthropological theories and ethnographies, we will analyze the meaning, experience and textures of time in different cultural settings. Case studies will explore the US, the West and the Global South, with special emphasis on conceptions of the future: expectations, anticipations, preemption, emergence, possibility. We will study imaginations of temporality and futurity in relation to fields such as politics, custom, finance, security, labor, climate change and so on, looking into the role that emotions play in relation to time. Instructor(s): J. Obarrio
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.693. Precarity.
How do we understand and engage precariousness and vulnerability in the contemporary world? This seminar explores the notion of precarity in anthropology and social theory. We will explore this notion genealogically asking such questions as: what are the forms of politics arising in relation to new transformations of labor? What are the regional debates in which the notion of precarity has arisen? We will then explore how anthropology has responded to ongoing destruction of whole forms of life, through war, settler colonialism, displacement, and poverty. Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.070.698. Defining Region.
This course is open to anthropology graduate students only and is to be run on a workshop model. It is to help those students writing their regional essay for the comprehensive exams to acquire expertise in regional debates and literature relevant to their field research. Our understanding of regions is one of cross-cutting concepts and questions rather than geographical framings alone. After identifying a concept or question, each student will create an annotated bibliography, trace the shape of arguments as they emerge within the readings, create an outline and work toward a draft of the final essay. Instructor(s): C. Han
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.679. Suspicious Interlocutors Part II: Psychoanalysis and Anthropology.
This course is a continuation of Anthropology AS.070.718, offered in Spring 2013. Students will continue the previously begun investigation of the conversation between anthropology and psychoanalysis, which proves long-standing and often as contentious as it is complementary. The course will tack back and forth between ethnographic materials inspired and informed by psychoanalytic insights, and the use of ethnographic sources and anthropological materials in psychoanalytic writings. Students will engage works from such scholars as Freud, Lacan, Cavell, Klein, Derrida, Siegel, Das, Reynolds, Levi-Strauss, Seremetakis. Instructor(s): A. Goodfellow
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.070.801. Dissertation Research.
Instructor(s): Staff.

Instructor(s): Staff.

AS.070.866. Directed Readings and Research.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian.
AS.070.867. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): C. Han; N. Khan.
AS.070.869. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): A. Pandian.
AS.070.870. Directed Readings and Research. Instructor(s): M. Degani
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.070.871. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): V. Das.
AS.070.872. Directed Readings and Research. Instructor(s): V. Das.
AS.070.874. Directed Readings and Research. Instructor(s): N. Haeri.
AS.070.875. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): J. Obarrio.
AS.070.880. Directed Readings and Research. Instructor(s): J. Guyer.
AS.070.883. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): N. Haeri.
AS.070.884. Dir Readings & Research. Instructor(s): J. Obarrio.
AS.070.885. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): D. Poole.
AS.070.886. Dir Readings & Research. Instructor(s): D. Poole.
AS.070.892. Directed Readings and Research. Instructor(s): N. Khan.
AS.070.893. Directed Reading and Research. Instructor(s): J. Obarrio.
EN.601.685. Probabilistic Models in the Visual Cortex. 3.0 Credits.
The course gives an introduction to computational models of the
mammalian visual cortex. It covers topics in low-, mid-, and high-
level vision. It briefly discusses the relevant evidence from anatomy,
electrophysiology, imaging (e.g., fMRI), and psychophysics. It
concentrates on mathematical modelling of these phenomena taking into
account recent progress in probabilistic models of computer vision and
developments in machine learning, such as deep networks. [Applications
or Analysis]. Programming experience (Python preferred).
Instructor(s): A. Yuille
Area: Quantitative and Mathematical Sciences.

Cross Listed Courses

History of Art
AS.010.382. The Politics of Display in South Asia. 3.0 Credits.
Through examining collecting, patronage, colonial exhibitions, and
museums, this course examines how South Asia has been constructed in
practices of display. Themes: politics of representation, spectacle,
ethnography, and economies of desire related to colonialism and the rise
of modernity. Cross-list with Anthropology, Museums and Society and
Political Science.
Instructor(s): R. Brown
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

AS.010.410. The Epistemology of Photography. 3.0 Credits.
This seminar will ask how photography produces ways of knowing:
how does photography’s reality-effect shape its dissemination
and absorption? Is photography’s emergence during the colonial
era coincidental or catalytic? How is memory (re)constituted in a
photography-saturated world? What kinds of histories does photography
encourage and discourage? Is a photograph an object? We will read
across disciplines (literature, anthropology, history, history of art, political
science, theory) to investigate the epistemology of photography and the
photograph.
Instructor(s): R. Brown
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

AS.010.607. The Epistemology of Photography.
This seminar will ask how photography produces ways of knowing:
how does photography’s reality-effect shape its dissemination
and absorption? Is photography’s emergence during the colonial
era coincidental or catalytic? How is memory (re)constituted in a
photography-saturated world? What kinds of histories does photography
encourage and discourage? Is a photograph an object? We will read
across disciplines (literature, anthropology, history, history of art, political
science, theory) to investigate the epistemology of photography and the
photograph.
Instructor(s): R. Brown.

History
AS.100.355. Islam between History and Anthropology. 3.0 Credits.
Co-taught by an anthropologist and a historian, this course will explore
recent scholarly debates about--and critiques of--the representations of
Islam and Muslim societies.
Instructor(s): N. Khan; T. Shepard
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.100.365. Culture & Society in the High Middle Ages. 3.0 Credits.
This course will treat the flourishing of culture and society in the High
Middle Ages (11-14th centuries). Topics covered include the emergence
of feudal society and literature, the economic, social and cultural revival
of Europe in the 11th and 12th centuries, the Renaissance of the twelfth
century and the growth of scholasticism and the University, and the
development of feudal monarchies in England and France..
Instructor(s): G. Spiegel
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

Near Eastern Studies
AS.130.126. Gods and Monsters in Ancient Egypt. 3.0 Credits.
To provide a basic introduction to Egyptian Religion, with a special focus
on the nature of the gods and how humans interact with them. We will
devote particular time to the Book of the Dead and to the "magical"
aspects of religion designed for protective purposes.
Instructor(s): R. Jasnow
Area: Humanities.

AS.130.351. The Emergence of Civilization: A Cross-Cultural Examination. 3.0 Credits.
A comparative study of the origins of urban, literate civilizations in
five culture areas: Mesopotamia, China, the Indus Valley, Egypt, and
Mesoamerica. For each area, we will review the physical setting, the
archaeological and textual evidence for the development of states and
urban civilization, and theories advanced to explain the rise (and eventual
collapse) of these complex societies.
Instructor(s): G. Schwartz
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.130.376. Ancient Magic and Ritual. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce students to the vast body of rituals that were practiced and performed in antiquity, with a particular emphasis on rituals from ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Hebrew Bible. In addition to examining rituals from a comparative perspective, anthropological and sociological studies of ritual will be read and discussed to shed light on the social, cultural, and political significance of ritual in the ancient world and beyond.
Instructor(s): P. Delnero
Area: Humanities.

AS.130.387. The Poetics of Biblical Prose and Verse. 3.0 Credits.
An exploration of how ancient Israelite techniques of literary textual and inter-textual patterning contributes to cohesion and meaning in biblical prose and verse. Attention will be given to the distinguishing characteristics of Hebrew verse in relation to prose, and to a range of different kinds of prose in Israelite literature. These poetics will be exemplified in close readings of selected texts from the Hebrew Bible in English.
Instructor(s): D. Gropp
Area: Humanities.

AS.131.635. Seminar: Near East Archaeology.
Topic varies but can include the archaeology of Mesopotamia, Syria, or Palestine, or thematic discussions (e.g., on ideology, state collapse, etc.).
Instructor(s): G. Schwartz
Area: Humanities.

Archaeology
AS.136.101. Introduction To Archaeology. 3.0 Credits.
An introduction to archaeology and to archaeological method and theory, exploring how archaeologists excavate, analyze, and interpret ancient remains in order to reconstruct how ancient societies functioned. Specific examples from a variety of archaeological projects in different parts of the world will be used to illustrate techniques and principles discussed.
Instructor(s): G. Schwartz
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

History of Science Technology
AS.140.346. History of Chinese Medicine. 3.0 Credits.
Students will study the most recent anthropological, philosophical, and historical scholarship on medicine in traditional and modern Chinese society. They will approach the topic from several angles including medical pluralism, the range of healers, domestic and literate medicine, gender, emergence of new disciplines, public health and the history of disease. The course relies on secondary sources and primary sources in English translation. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies.
Instructor(s): M. Hanson
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

Political Science
AS.190.609. Law, Critique, Genealogy.
This course will offer a survey of classical and contemporary trends in critical theory through the prism of the law. The readings will trace the development of two modes of critical reflection emerging from Kant's philosophical project, critique and genealogy, exploring the tensions between them through the study of categories such as judgment, case, and jurisdiction. We will examine how these categories themselves reflect the question of "modernity" and the Enlightenment as that question is posed and answered by thinkers from Kant to Foucault and Habermas and beyond. To ground this study, we will focus on critical engagements with human rights, property, and institutional justice around the world. Within an arch of readings that goes from Kant to Butler, the course will include key texts by Hegel, Marx, Benjamin, Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, Habermas, Foucault, and Nancy, as well as texts drawn from critical legal studies and the anthropology of law and justice. There are no prerequisites for this interdisciplinary course. To receive credit, students will be required to attend seminar, prepare for class discussions, and turn in a 20-30 page final research paper, a draft of which will be presented at a workshop at the end of the year.
Instructor(s): A. Pandian; J. Bennett.

AS.191.344. Belonging to Nature in the Anthropocene. 3.0 Credits.
This course explores debates in contemporary environmental political thought concerning humanity's relationship to nature in the Anthropocene. The Anthropocene refers to the era in which "human" activity becomes a force of "nature"—when the impact of human activity on natural processes manifests itself in the stuff of the Earth. For many of us, these planetary transformations are hardly noticeable in day-to-day life, but they are dramatic: we are living through the Earth's sixth mass extinction. What is our relationship to these transformations? Do we have the power to stop them, or at least to minimize their harmful effects? Course readings and films introduce multiple visions of the human/nature relationship and examine the responses they recommend to these and other questions. The political stakes of these visions are brought to light as we consider: How do visions of the human/nature relationship shape and texture core political concepts like freedom, agency, responsibility, and progress? What do they suggest about the strategies most likely to motivate action amid the uncertainty of the Anthropocene? How do these visions subtly (and not so subtly) relegate some to the realm of "nature" so that others can be classified as "human"?
Instructor(s): S. Erev
Writing Intensive.
AS.211.174. Media of Propaganda. 3.0 Credits.

Today, promoting a particular political or personal point of view is not viewed as “propaganda” but rather as building a community of equally minded people. But where do we draw the line, and when does the use of a medium in service of a certain message become intrusive and misleading? What role do democracy and cultural values play in this use or abuse of media? In this class the term “propaganda” will be evaluated carefully and applied to such historical media case studies as the informational use of the radio in World War One, Leni Riefenstahl’s Nazi propaganda films, the legendary success of advertisement campaigns in the 1950s and 1960s, the AIDS movement and other mobilization strategies from the 1980s to the 1990s, and the new values of friendship and propaganda in our current Facebook nation.

Instructor(s): B. Wegenstein
Area: Humanities

AS.211.337. Wandering Jews? Jewish Migration in Film and Literature. 3.0 Credits.

Migration in all its forms has played a major role in shaping Jewish identity throughout history. From the Biblical exodus from Egypt through the beginnings of the diaspora under the Romans to the massive European Jewish immigration to America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to the founding of the state of Israel, the migrations of Jews have also had a major place in Jewish literature. Going all the way back to the Bible, but focusing on the 20th century, this course will explore the ways in which literature and film represent the experience of migration, whether negative (compelled by expulsion or violence); positive (lured by economic or social opportunity); or somewhere in between. We will examine poetry, plays, prose and film in Yiddish, German, Hebrew, and English (all in translation) on aspects of Jewish migration including the social and political factors motivating migration from the countryside to the shtetl (town) to the city and from Central and Eastern Europe to the Americas, Palestine, and Israel. Issues under discussion will include: adaptation and assimilation; minority rights; what is the relationship of old and new or major and minor languages and literatures?; what is the place of tradition and heritage in a diasporic context? We will also consider the resonances between contemporary debates on migration and historical examples of these issues as they are reflected in literature and film.

Instructor(s): S. Spinner
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

AS.211.641. Women Filmmakers from the Margins. 3.0 Credits.

Filmmaking remains an overwhelmingly male-dominated profession, but women are making significant inroads, and in so doing are leaving their distinctive mark on the medium. In this seminar we will examine the films of a group of women auteurs (those who write and direct their own films) who have endeavored to speak from the margins—be they social, geographical, or sexual—and whose work has challenged mainstream cinematic norms. The filmmakers whose work we will analyze may include Jane Campion, Australia; Aurora Guerrero, Mexico-USA; Claudia Llosa, Peru; Mira Nair, India-USA; Marialy Rivas, Chile; So Yong Kim, Korea.

Instructor(s): B. Wegenstein
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

AS.211.754. Modernist Primitivism. 3.0 Credits.

This course will explore the aesthetics and politics of primitivism in European modernity, focusing on the visual arts and literature in German and Yiddish, but looking at the wider European context, including France and Russia. We will begin with the backgrounds of primitivism in Romanticism, looking especially at its ethnographic and colonial sources. We will then focus on the presence of anthropological and ethnographic discourses within various registers of modernist thought, literature, and visual culture, with special attention to visual and literary primitivism. Our central concerns will include: the attempt to create a modernist aesthetics grounded in ethnography, the primitivist critique of modernity; the place of primitivism in the historical avant-garde; the development of the notion of “culture” in modernity; and the aesthetics of modern ethnic and national identity. &nbsp;Key thinkers, artists, and writers to be considered include Herder; Gauguin; Picasso; Wilhelm Worringer; Carl Einstein; Hannah Höch; and Emil Nolde.

Instructor(s): S. Spinner
Area: Humanities

AS.213.635. Anthropology and Modernism. 3.0 Credits.

This course will examine the reciprocal relationship between modernism and anthropology in Western and Central Europe, including examples from French, German, and Yiddish contexts. We will focus on the presence of anthropological and ethnographic discourses within various registers of modernist thought, literature, and visual culture, with special attention to visual and literary primitivism. We will also consider attempts by ethnographers to shape their practice in a modernist mold. Our central concerns will include the attempt to create a modernist poetics grounded in ethnography and the relationship between anthropological theory and ethnographic praxis in the modernist understanding of “culture.”

Instructor(s): S. Spinner
Area: Humanities

AS.215.315. Literature of the Great Recession. 3.0 Credits.

The Great Recession—sometimes called the financial crisis or the economic crisis of 2008—brought financial markets to a halt and created significant political turmoil across the North Atlantic. But its impact on culture, and literature especially, has often been ignored. This seminar will travel across Europe, from Dublin to Madrid, from London to Reykjavík in order to examine how literature has registered this most recent economic crisis. We will focus on how crisis is narrated and the ways in which literary works have managed to provide a voice for marginalized social, economic, and political demands.

Instructor(s): B. Seguin
Area: Humanities

AS.215.406. Novelist Intellectuals. 3.0 Credits.

What does a novelist’s op-ed about economics have to do with her literary writing? In what ways does a fiction writer’s essays on the environment inform how we read her novels? What happens when we find the political opinions of a writer objectionable? This undergraduate seminar will consider what the Spanish writer Francisco Ayala termed “novelist intellectuals,” that is, literary writers who actively participate in a society’s public sphere. Considering writers from Madrid to New York, from London to Buenos Aires, we will ask how one should hold a novelist’s fictional and non-fictional writings in the balance and explore ways of reading that allow us to consider the public intellectual side and the aesthetic side of a novelist together.

Instructor(s): B. Seguin
Area: Humanities
AS.215.412. Populism. 3.0 Credits.
What do Hugo Chávez, Marine Le Pen, and Donald Trump have in common? According to many from across the political spectrum, they are all populists. But what is populism, exactly, and how can it describe such disparate phenomena as left-wing social movements, xenophobic anti-immigrant policies, and economic redistribution? This advanced seminar will examine the history, culture, and political theory of populism. We will pay special attention to the resurgence of populism after the Great Recession and examine a number of cases from Latin America, Europe, and the United States.
Instructor(s): B. Seguin.

How should one study contemporary literature and culture? Is “the contemporary” a period in and of itself? Does it require a distinct conceptual approach? This graduate seminar will examine various approaches that have emerged since Michel Foucault called his genealogies a “history of the present.” We will pay special attention to contemporary literature and culture’s most distinguishing feature today: crisis. Considering theories of crisis and “the contemporary” together, the course will explore how living in a time of overlapping crises—economic, political, social, cultural, environmental, and others—affects the way we interpret the world.
Instructor(s): B. Seguin
Area: Humanities.

Sociology
AS.230.367. Islamic Finance. 3.0 Credits.
Today, Islamic finance is a global industry comprising nearly $2 trillion in assets, with hubs from Kuala Lumpur to Dubai to London. But half a century ago, nothing called “Islamic finance” existed. So where did Islamic finance come from? Why is it growing so fast? And what does it mean for finance to be Islamic? We discuss the ban on riba in the Quran and hadith, finance in early and medieval Islamic societies, petrodollars and the birth of Islamic banking in the 1970s, the rise of Islamic capital markets since 2000, contemporary shariah-compliant financial structures, and the constitution of piety through financial practice.
Instructor(s): R. Calder
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Comparative Thought and Literature
AS.300.320. Lover’s Discourse. 3.0 Credits.
Much of what we know about love and desire we owe to fiction’s ability to evoke these experiences. Consider for example that the publication, in Germany, of The Sorrows of Young Werther inspired young men across Europe to dress and behave just like him. We will study in this course a selection of love stories chosen because they break the mold and question their conventions. Taking a critical distance from these tales of seduction, we will examine not only the manifestations and meanings of love, but also the configurations of gender they inspire and reflect. Indeed, just as nowadays film and television represent, as well as mold, our identities as desiring subject, fictions from the eighteenth-century onwards have shaped our current understanding of gendered subjectivities. The readings for this seminar (all available in English) include: Austen, "Persuasion"; Balzac, "The Girl with the Golden Eyes" and "Sarrasine"; Barthes, "Lover’s Discourse"; Goethe, "The Sorrows of Young Werther"; Mann, "Death in Venice"; Rousseau, excerpts from "Julie or The New Heloise"; Sulzer, "A Perfect Waiter", Winterson, "Written on the Body".
Instructor(s): E. Ender
Area: Humanities.

East Asian Studies
AS.310.108. Introduction to Chinese Fiction and Drama. 3.0 Credits.
This course will introduce Chinese fiction and drama from the Tang dynasty (618-906) to the early Republican period (1911-1949), such as the romantic dramas of Tang Xianzu and the uncanny tales of Pu Songling. Students will draw connection between these vibrant literary genres and the cultural and socio-historical events that shaped imperial China. Key topics include story-telling, romance, urban culture, gender, reincarnation, and many more. Students will acquire skills in how to read, analyze and discuss the rich legacy of Chinese fiction and drama in translation and to think critically about these writings. Reading materials are all in English.
Instructor(s): F. Joo
Area: Humanities.

AS.310.309. Monsters, Demons, and Ghosts: Folklore and Festival in Japan. 3.0 Credits.
This course examines popular narratives and festivals from historical through contemporary Japan. Rather than traditional sources (canonical works, philosophical doctrines, and high art), it focuses on non-elite modes of expression: oral histories, epic tales, local legends, stories of the supernatural, music, religious festivals, manga, anime, and film. Through analyses of these mediums, students explore the underlying belief structures that have shaped ideas concerning death and the afterlife, moral ethics, and the spiritual realm in Japan. The course also tackles issues concerning the intellectual construct of the ‘folk’ and folk religion. Who are the folk? How does this concept relate to regional versus national identity, civilized versus so-called primitive populations, premodern versus modern categories? Students will engage these questions through active discussions in the classroom, in-class writing exercises, mini-presentations, and two papers.
Instructor(s): C. Carter
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

Program in Latin American Studies
AS.361.331. Drug wars, violence and illicit lifeworlds in Latin America. 3.0 Credits.
Drawing on ethnographic and historical sources, this course will introduce anthropology as an invitation for students to re-conceptualize and deepen their understanding of the so-called “War on Drugs” as a cultural, social and political formation in Latin America.
Instructor(s): J. Moreno Garcia
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

Study of Women, Gender, Sexuality
AS.363.350. Gender, Sexuality, and Religion: Muslim (In)Visibilities. 3.0 Credits.
“Muslim (In)Visibilities” focuses on gender and sexuality through Orientalism. It considers representations of Muslim bodies within popular Western discourses and what such (in)visibilities are productive of.
Instructor(s): M. Banahi
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.
**Anthropology**

**AS.363.417. Internship/Practicum: Critical Theory and the Possibility of Social Justice. 4.0 Credits.**
This course combines a weekly seminar with 4 hours per week in a Baltimore social justice organization, coordinated by the JHU Center for Social Concern. Class discussions draw on readings in ethnography and feminist, queer and critical race studies to address topics such as; race, class and gender inequality, neoliberal development, health, institutional violence and politically engaged research.
Instructor(s): A. Krauss
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**Program in Museums and Society**

**AS.389.302. The Virtual Museum. 3.0 Credits.**
Course draws on both classic readings in material culture and emerging theories of the digital to consider how the internet has changed objects and the institutions that collect, preserve, display and interpret them. Students will contribute to an established virtual museum and create their own.
Instructor(s): J. Kingsley
Area: Humanities.

**AS.389.335. Recreating Ancient Greek Ceramics. 4.0 Credits.**
This hands-on course in experimental archaeology brings together undergraduate and graduate students across disciplines to study the making of Athenian vases. Students work closely with expert ceramic artists, and in consultation with art historians, archaeologists, art conservators, and materials scientists to recreate Greek manufacturing processes.
Instructor(s): S. Balachandran
Area: Humanities.

**AS.389.440. Who Owns Culture?. 3.0 Credits.**
This seminar explores the complicated, often explosive concept of cultural property, including questions surrounding the ownership, preservation, and interpretation of artifacts, monuments, heritage sites, and living traditions. Cross-listed with Anthropology and History of Art.
Instructor(s): E. Rodini
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**AS.389.450. Readings in Material Culture. 3.0 Credits.**
Objects, things, "stuff"- this seminar will pursue classic texts and emerging methodologies to explore the myriad ways materials and materiality have been theorized across disciplines. For graduate/advanced undergraduate students.
Instructor(s): E. Rodini; R. Brown
Area: Humanities.

**AS.389.650. Readings in Material Culture.**
Objects, things, "stuff"- this seminar will pursue classic texts and emerging methodologies to explore the myriad ways materials and materiality have been theorized across disciplines. For graduate/advanced undergraduate students.
Instructor(s): E. Rodini; R. Brown
Area: Humanities.

**Environmental Health and Engineering**

**EN.570.285. Understanding Aid: Anthropological Perspectives for Technology-Based Interventions. 3.0 Credits.**
This course combines anthropological perspectives with the discussion and examination of technology-based interventions in the field of development and aid policies, with particular focus on activities related to water resources, sanitation, and hygiene. Readings and discussions analyze some of the theoretical, historically rooted, and practical issues that challenge those who hope to provide effective aid. A key aim of this course is to provide students with better understanding of cultural, social, environmental and economic issues relevant to technical intervention in developing countries.
Instructor(s): E. Cervone; W. Ball
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.