Anthropology and Sociology at Williams aims to help students achieve an integrated understanding of biography, history, culture, and social structure in both traditional and modern societies. Anthropology explores the full range of human experience by introducing students to the study of tribal and peasant societies, especially those on the periphery of the West, as well as to the cultural complexities of stratified, industrial societies such as our own. Integrated with the study of specific peoples is an examination of the various analytical schemes anthropologists have developed to understand them. Courses offered in the department represent two of Anthropology's major subfields: sociocultural anthropology—that is, the comparative study of human social life, institutions, and beliefs—and archaeology, the study of the origins and lifeways of prehistoric peoples. Sociology studies the social and institutional intricacies of modern industrial societies and the social psychological dilemmas facing the individual in our epoch. Sociology courses introduce students to classical and contemporary social thought about men and women and society, to the systematic analysis of social institutions and social interaction, and to the sociocultural analysis of modern culture. The Sociology major at Williams emphasizes the humanistic tradition of sociology, stressing qualitative approaches to understanding how social reality is constructed.

MAJORS

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

Requirements

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

1. **Core Courses.** Majors in both disciplines must take a sequence of four core courses. Three of these are joint (ANSO) courses. We strongly encourage students to take ANTH 205 and 206 during their sophomore year. The sequences are:
   - **Anthropology:** ANTH 101 (The Scope of Anthropology)
   - **Joint (ANSO):** ANSO 205 (Ways of Knowing)
   - **Sociology:** SOC 101 (Invitation to Sociology)
   - **ANSO 305 (Social Theory)
   - **ANSO 402 (Senior Seminar)

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

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

Statistics and Data Analysis

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

Area Studies Concentration

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

Language Study, Study Abroad, and Winter Study

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

The Degree with Honors in Anthropology or Sociology

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

Anthropology / Sociology Courses

Joint Core Courses

**ANTH 205(S)** Ways of Knowing
An applied exploration of how one makes sense of the social world through fieldwork. Some of the key questions of the course are: What are the philosophical and epistemological underpinnings of social inquiry? How does one frame intellectual problems and go about collecting, sifting, and assessing field materials? What are the uses and limits of statistical data? What is the importance of history to sociological and anthropological research? How can one use archival and other documentary materials to enrich ethnographic research? What are the empirical limits to interpretation? What is the relationship between empirical data and the generation of social theory? How does the social organization of social research affect one’s inquiry? What are the typical ethical dilemmas of fieldwork and of other kinds of social research? How do researchers’ personal biographies and values shape their work? In the first half of the course, we will approach these problems concretely rather than abstractly through a series of case studies, drawing upon the field experiences of departmental faculty and guest speakers from different professional backgrounds. The second half of the course will be dedicated to a hands-on training in field methods, in which the students will design and undertake their own pilot field projects.

Format: Seminar. Requirements: full participation in the seminar, several short papers, an independent ethnographic project and a final research proposal.

Prerequisites: ANTH 101 or SOC 101 or permission of instructor. Enrollment limit: 25 (expected: 25).

Not available for the Gaudino option. Hour: 1:10-3:50 W SHEVCHENKO

**ANTH 305(F)** Social Theory
An introduction to social theory in anthropology and sociology. The course explores both disciplines’ stances toward the puzzles of tradition and modernity through the works of major thinkers such as Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Freud, and others. In particular, the course examines ways in which the two disciplines approach the fundamental problems of human experience: how do men and women in different societies and epochs construct and maintain social order? How do they allocate authority, responsibility, and blame, as well as social prestige, power, and material wealth? How do they regulate sexual relationships and organize work? What systems of beliefs and reinforcing symbols do they fashion to come to grips with evil, misfortune, transgression, and mortality? What epistemological frameworks underpin their worlds? What happens when social worlds fall apart? The course also reconsists the intellectual trajectories and social histories of both disciplines.

Format: Seminar. Requirements: full participation in the seminar, class presentations, several short papers.

Prerequisites: ANTH 101 or SOC 101 or ANTH 205 or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limit: 25 (expected: 25). Preference given to Students who are already declared majors in Anthropology or Sociology.

Not available for the Gaudino option. Hour: 11:00-12:15 MWF M. F. BROWN
ANTH 402(S) Senior Seminar
This capstone seminar combines intensive discussion and individual research. The first half of the semester will be dedicated to the discussion of various current debates and/or world social issues central to the concerns of both anthropology and sociology. The class will meet with the instructor in the early spring to decide on these topics. In the second half of the semester, students will pursue independent, original projects and produce a major term paper. Toward the end of the semester, students will present their projects to the seminar.
Format: seminar. Requirements: full participation, 10 short response papers, major research project and paper, class presentation.
Prerequisites: senior Anthropology and Sociology majors or permission of instructor. Enrollment limit: 18 (expected: 15).
Not available for Fordham University students.
Hour: 2:35-3:50 TF FOIAS

ANTHROPOLGY COURSES

ANTH 101(F) The Scope of Anthropology (D)
Is there such a thing as “human nature”? Why have human societies developed such a bewildering range of customs to deal with problems common to people everywhere? This course addresses these questions by introducing students to the comparative study of human social life and culture. Topics surveyed in the course include economics, language and thought, kinship and marriage, law and politics, and the wide variations in human belief systems, including religions. The course also considers the ways that anthropology, a discipline primarily practiced by Westerners, approaches other cultures in search of insights on our own customs and values. Ethnographic descriptions of both “simple” tribal societies and complex modern ones are a prominent part of the readings. This course explores differences and similarities between cultures and societies and ways in which they have interacted and responded to one another in the past.
Format: lecture/discussion of case studies and ethnographic films. Requirements: two short essays, a final examination and class participation.
No prerequisites. Enrollment limit: 30 (expected: 25). Preference given to first-year students and sophomores. Juniors and seniors admitted only by permission of instructor.
Hour: 11:20-12:35 TR First Semester: P. JUST
Second Semester: D. EDWARDS

ANTH 103(F) Pyramids, Bones, and Sherd: What is Archaeology?
Archaeology examines not only living societies, but also prehistoric cultures whose remains are found worldwide. This course will present how archaeology reconstructs the various aspects of human society from the physical record of prehistory. How do we study the subsistence and settlement patterns, the political and social organization, and the economy and ideology of prehistoric societies who have left behind mute material records? The objective of anthropological archaeology is to bring to life these prehistoric cultures through archaeological analysis. The different goals, approaches and methodologies of modern archaeology will be discussed theoretically and then applied to case studies.
Format: lecture/discussion/class presentations of case studies. Requirements: class presentations, two papers, midterm and final exams.
No prerequisites. Enrollment limit: 40 (expected: 25).
Hour: 1:10-2:25 TF FOIAS

ANTH 105(F) Introduction to Public and Global Health (Same as INTR 150 and PHLH 150)
Public health focuses on improving health at the level of individuals, communities, or populations. It seeks to understand both individual and collective behaviors that shape health outcomes in the world today. This class introduces students to core concepts and methods within the fields of public and global health. It investigates the interrelationship of individual and social choices with demographic and biological factors in producing health outcomes. We look at the pathology and epidemiology of the major diseases and health disparities in the world today, focusing as much on health equity as on the social and cultural constructions of illness, disease, and health-seeking behaviors. We explore several case studies to understand the contributing causes of and policy initiatives around the major crises in global health today including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and maternal mortality. The course involves multiple disciplinary perspectives including anthropology, sociology, economics, biology, bioethics, and political science. By the end of the semester, we will understand what creates effective public health policy for individuals as well as communities. How does one reconcile the competing moral, social, and human rights visions in shaping health policies and practices at a variety of levels?
Format: seminar/discussion. Evaluation will be based upon participation in class blog, class discussion, one presentation, and final paper.
Hour: 9:55-11:10 TR GUTSCHOW

ANTH 209 Ecologies of Place: Culture, Commodities and Everyday Life (Same as AMST 209 and ENVI 209) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under ENVI 209 for full description.)
TBA

ANTH 214(S) The Rise and Fall of Civilizations (Same as ENVI 224)
Over the centuries, philosophers and historians have asked how societies evolved from simple hunter-gatherer bands to complex urban civilizations. Human prehistory and history have shown the repeated cycles of the rise, expansion and collapse of early civilizations in both the Old and New World. What do the similarities and differences in the development and fall of these early civilizations tell us about the nature of societal change, civilization and the state, and human society itself? The course will examine these issues through an introductory survey of the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, Mesoamerica and South America. Classical and modern theories on the nature, origin, and development of the state will be reviewed in light of the archaeological evidence.
Format: lecture/class discussion. Requirements: midterm, final exam, paper, two quizzes.
No prerequisites. Enrollment limit: 30 (expected: 25).
Hour: 11:00-12:15 MWF FOIAS

ANTH 216 Indigenous Peoples of Latin America (Not offered 2013-2014) (D)
An introduction to the indigenous cultural heritage of Central and South America. After a brief review of Latin-American prehistory, the course will consider such issues as the demographic and political impact of the Conquest; the economic, social, and religious life of contemporary Indian and peasant communities; and the dynamics of cultural redefinition and survival in the turbulent political arena of the modern Latin-American state.
Format: seminar. Requirements: two essays and a take-home exam.
M. F. BROWN

ANTH 218(F) Topics in Sustainable Agriculture (Same as ENVI 219)
(See under ENVI 219 for full description.)
GALVIN

ANTH 221(F) Heroes, Saints and Celebrity (Same as REL 273) (W)
This course examines the ways in which cultures select, ritually celebrate, institutionally harness, and ultimately devour people designated as ‘extraordinary’. We will begin by considering cultural archetypes and theories of the hero and how heroism has been understood in different eras and cultural contexts. Using Weber’s theory of charisma as a foundation, we will look at a number of specific case studies to evaluate the relationship between individual creativity and action and the demands of social conformity and
control. Finally, we will examine how charisma is commoditized in the form of the celebrity in contemporary American culture.

Format: seminar.
Requirements: class participation, two short response papers, research paper, final exam.
No prerequisites.

Hour: 8:30-9:45 TR
D. EDWARDS

ANTH 223 Ethnic Minorities in China: Past and Present (Same as CHIN 223) (Not offered 2013-2014) (D)
(See under CHIN 223 for full description.)

YU

ANTH 225 Visible Culture: Documentary and Nonfiction (Same as ENGL 236) (Not offered 2013-2014)
This course examines the potential of moving images to reveal aspects of culture normally obscured by the written word. We will consider both the theory and practice of documentary film from its inception around 1900 to the present, paying particular attention to the way documentary filmmakers have approached the representation of social reality in films and non-fictional cultural forms. Questions that we will consider include: What is the relationship between written text and image, or between image and story? What is the role of film in anthropology? What counts as a document?
Team-taught, through a mixture of lectures and discussions. Course requirement: Regular attendance at film screenings and active class participation. Students will write a 5-page paper on an assigned topic and a 12- to 15-page final paper. There will be a self-scheduled take-home final.
Enrollment limit: 30 (expected: 30). Preference given to Anthropology/Sociology majors, then to sophomores, and finally to first-year students.
D. EDWARDS

ANTH 231 Study of Linguistic Diversity: Meaning, Context and Communication (Same as JAPN 231) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under JAPN 231 for full description.)

ABE

ANTH 233(S) Spiritual Crossroads: Religious Life in Southeast Asia (Same as ASST 233 and REL 253) (D)
No region of the world presents a richer tapestry of religious beliefs, practices, and institutions than Southeast Asia. Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam are all to be found and all of them interpenetrate and contend with each other and with a deep undergirding of animism, shamanism, and mystical folk belief systems. This course will survey these religious traditions through time and space, looking in particular at the growing tension between religion and the state as fundamentalism and religious militancy have spread into the region in recent times. All of Southeast Asia will be covered, but particular attention will be devoted to Indonesia, where religious blending and the growth of new fundamentalism are both especially marked.
Format: seminar.
Requirements: midterm, short essays, term paper.
No prerequisites; open to non-majors.
Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 15).
Hour: 1:10-2:25 MR
JUST

ANTH 234 Masculinities (Same as WGS 234) (Not offered 2013-2014) (W)
What does it mean to be a man? This course approaches masculinity in its various forms as a culturally constructed category and as an achieved aspect of social identity. We will look at characteristics of manhood as they are imagined cross-culturally: man as warrior, lover, husband, father, protector, provider, disciplinarian, abuser; we will look at how manhood is variously achieved and how it can be lost; and we will look at forms of masculinity as they articulate with modes of sexuality and gender. The course will make extensive use of cinema in exploring these themes.
Format: seminar.
Requirements: attendance at film screenings, active leading and participation in class discussions, two 7-page papers, final 12-page paper.
No prerequisites; open to all.
Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 19). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors and to achieve gender balance.
JUST

ANTH 235(F) Roman Archaeology and Material Culture (Same as ARTH 235, CLAS 224 and HIST 224)
(See under CLAS 224 for full description.)

RUBIN

ANTH 240(S) Roman Cities in the Near East (Same as CLAS 340 and HIST 340) (D)
(See under CLAS 340 for full description.)

RUBIN

ANTH 246(F) India's Identities: Religion, Caste, and Gender (Same as ASST 246T, REL 246T and WGS 246T) (D) (W)
(See under REL 246 for full description.)

GUTSCHOW

ANTH 248(P) Body Politics: Gender and Religion in South Asia (Same as ASST 248, REL 248 and WGS 249) (Not offered 2013-2014) (D)
(See under REL 248 for full description.)

GUTSCHOW

ANTH 256 Engendering Buddhism: How Women and Men Shape and Are Shaped by Buddhism (Same as ASST 256, REL 256 and WGS 256) (Not offered 2013-2014) (D) (W)
(See under REL 256 for full description.)

GUTSCHOW

ANTH 258 Divine Kingship in the Ancient Mediterranean (Same as CLAS 258, HIST 394 and REL 213) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under CLAS 258 for full description.)

RUBIN

ANTH 266(S) Cultural Evolution (W)
The past decade has seen a revival of Big History in the form of studies of large-scale, persistent patterns in human cultural development. This interdisciplinary tutorial draws on the insights of Big History by bringing together evolutionary thought and complexity theory to consider the emergence of recognizably human social behavior in the distant past, the impact of such innovations as language, tool-making, and ritual on human adaptation, and the circumstances that eventually led to the domestication of plants and animals and the rise of ranked societies and social inequality. Readings will include works by the historian David Christian, the philosopher Daniel Dennett, and the physical anthropologist Barbara King, among others. Questions to be considered in the tutorial include: What is the evolutionary significance of religion? Why did human populations shift from hunting and gathering to agriculture even though farming is risky and requires much more work? What can complexity theory tell us about the trajectory of human societies as they move from foraging to farming, and from small groups to large states? What plausibly is that claim that digital technologies and sophistication of an aquatic species? Format: tutorial; each student will write and present orally an essay of approximately 7 double-spaced pages every other week on a topic assigned by the instructor; students not presenting an essay have the responsibility of critiquing the work of their colleague. Evaluation will be based on weekly essays and critiques.
No prerequisites, but prior exposure to anthropology and evolutionary theory is desirable. Enrollment limit: 10 (expected: 10). Preference given to majors in Anthropology or Sociology; open to sophomores.
May not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the Gaudino option.
Tutorial meetings to be arranged.
M. F. BROWN

ANTH 270(S) Object and Place/Nation and Memory (D)
This course explores the role of object and place in the creation and perpetuation of national identity. In particular, we will consider the role of monuments, battlefields, museums, and various 'sacred' sites in inculcating a sense of shared origins, values, commitments, and ultimate ends. Using a variety of key theoretical texts (including Benedict Anderson's Imagined Communities and Eric Hobsbawn and Terence Ranger's The Invention of Tradition) and maintaining a focus on two countries—Afghanistan and the Czech Republic—with long and painful histories of foreign invasion and occupation, the EDI course focuses on the ways in which people orient themselves within the symbolic worlds they inhabit, the ways in which they negotiate traditions of circumstance and place.
Format: seminar.
Requirements: two essays, an in-class presentation, and a take-home exam.
No prerequisites.
Enrollment limit: 24 (expected: 24). Preference given to ANSO major and students who have taken one or more ANSO courses.
Hour: 8:30-9:45 TR
D. EDWARDS

ANTH 272 Sex in Society: Cultural Constructions of Reproduction (Same as WGS 272) (Not offered 2013-2014)
Why is reproduction such a contentious subject in medicine as well as religious and cultural discourse more broadly? And why is the reproductive body subject to such highly ideological and yet contradictory types of practices across the globe? This course seeks to examine the myriad ways that societies police the range of practices surrounding reproduction—including fertility, conception, pregnancy, birth, abortion, and motherhood. The class will pursue a comparative analysis of reproduction across major cultures and religions, as well as a deeper understanding of specialized topics such as the new reproductive technologies, the medicalization and ritualization of obstetrics in America, the continuing role of reproduction across the globe, and the fracas over motherhood in the US popularly dubbed the 'Mommy Wars'. Throughout the course, we will remain focused on the cultural, social, and medical construction of birth and reproduction more generally. To this end, we explore the varying ritual and medical practices that surround birth in different cultural contexts, from high tech to low tech settings and societies. We will deconstruct the process of human reproduction through readings culled from a variety of cultures and disciplines including anthropology, medicine, religious studies, sociology, and women's studies. By the end of the course, we will appreciate how and why reproduction is such a contentious issue today.
Format: seminar.
Requirements: participation in a weekly class blog, course presentations, final papers.
No prerequisites.
Enrollment limit: 25 (expected 25). Preference given to seniors and majors in Anthropology, Sociology, Religion, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.
GUTSCHOW

ANTH 299(F) Ritual, Power and Transgression (Same as REL 274) (W)
Anthropology began, in part, as an effort to study “savage” cultures before they disappeared under the onslaught of modern civilization, and indeed most of the societies investigated by early anthropologists no longer exist or survive in completely altered form. As they lost their original object of study, however, anthropologists also discovered that the tools and concepts developed in the study of “primitive” cultures could be applied to the contemporary world. Exploring this possibility, this course examines the relevance of
fundamental anthropological concepts that have developed through the structural and symbolic study of myth and ritual to the contemporary world in which we live. The course is divided into four sections. In the first unit, we will read and discuss the work of Mary Douglas, Victor Turner, and Marshall Sahlins on myth and ritual, focusing in particular on the ways in which different cultures construct categories of inclusion and exclusion, safe and dangerous, pure and impure, while also creating the “in between” spaces within which both flexibility and transgression emerge. On this foundation, we move to the second unit in which we discuss the structural relationship between ritual, power, and transgression in Western contexts, taking the majority of our examples from early modern European and American history. In the third section of the course, we consider what an anthropological perspective can reveal about some seminal events in 20th century history, and we end the course by considering how anthropological theory informs two critical areas of current concern: immigration and national security.


Hour: 11:20-12:35 TR

D. EDWARDS

ANTH 320(S) Cultivating the Local: Place-based Productions of Food and Agriculture (Same as ENVI 320)

(See under ENVI 320 for full description.)

GALVIN

ANTH 324 Empires of Antiquity (Not offered 2013-2014) (W)

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


FOAS

ANTH 328T(F) Emotions and the Self (D) (W)

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

Format: tutorial. Enrollment limit: 10 (expected: 10). Open to first-year students. Tutorial meetings to be arranged.

JUST

ANTH 330(F) Materiality and Meaning (Same as ARTH 230) (W)

In this course we will study the things people make and use, from works of art to clothing, buildings, and tools. We will use anthropological theory to explore the social and communicative roles that objects play in human society and to explain how people use objects to communicate, rebel, exert power, or make sense of the world around them. We will begin by reconsidering the category “art” and by exploring the idea that visual practices are culturally constructed. Through reading ethnographic case studies, we will investigate how meaning and value are produced in different cultural contexts. In particular, we will focus on seminal theories of value and on theories of exchange, building on Marcel Mauss’s seminal work The Gift. In the second half of the course, we will attend to the role of material culture in capitalist societies by exploring the processes whereby things become commodities; by investigating the relationship between style, aesthetics, and class; and by tracing the interrelationships between design, advertising, and consumer society. Readings will include the work of Pierre Bourdieu, Dick Hebdige, Bronislaw Malinowski, Karl Marx, Annette Weiner, and others.

Format: seminar. Requirements: two short papers, participation, final exam.

No prerequisites; open to all. Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 19). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors.

May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

Hour: 8:30-9:45 TR

JUST

ANTH 334(S) Imagining Joseph (Same as COMP 334, JWST 334 and REL 334) (W)

Beloved son, rival brother, faithful servant, dreamer, seer, object of desire, lover, husband, bureaucrat, the figure of Joseph is one of the most fully-limned and compelling figures in the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim scriptural traditions. The story of Joseph unfolds over fourteen chapters in the Hebrew Bible, and is the subject of the fourth longest sura in the Qur’an. Throughout the millennia, the story of Joseph has inspired a wealth of interpretations, commentary, apocrypha, retellings, and back-story including an apocryphal book of scripture about Joseph and his wife, Asenath. Sufi poetry about Joseph and Zuleikha (Potiphar’s wife), a trilogy by the 20th century German novelist Thomas Mann, a musical by Andrew Lloyd Weber, and many expressions in Western visual art. The course will explore these various expressions, looking to them for the ways in which Joseph has captured the imagination of peoples and cultures at various times and in various places.


No prerequisites; open to all. Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 19). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors.

May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

Hour: 7:00-9:40 p.m. M

SEARLE

ANTH 335 In Between: The Ritual Construction of Identity and Difference (Not offered 2013-2014)

This course examines the categories of inclusion and exclusion, safe and dangerous, pure and impure, right and wrong that constitute cultural worlds, while also creating the middle zones that make cultural creativity possible. Beginning with an examination of “liminality” and rites of passage in the work of Arnold van Gennep and Victor Turner, we will go on to look at Mary Douglas’s seminal work on the construction of categories of inclusion and exclusion and other theoretical works on ritual and the sacred. In the course of the semester, we will consider a variety of cultural contexts in which liminality is of central importance, including transvestism in traditional native American and contemporary US cultures, various avant garde artistic movements, and the ritual construction of the suicide bomber/martyr in Islam.

Format: seminar. Requirements: class participation, two short response papers, research paper, final exam


EDWARDS

ANTH 340(S) Culture and Capitalism (W)

Capitalism is a set of economic and social arrangements that have transformed human relations across the planet. This course considers classical and contemporary accounts of the history: Persian; Assyrian; Mongol; Roman; Chinese; Ottoman; Aztec; and Inca empires. Using readings by political scientists, historians, epigraphers, archaeologists and political anthropologists, we will consider the causes of the expansion and collapse of these empires. We will also explore their sociopolitical and economic structures as mechanisms for their maintenance in order to provide a cross-cultural comparison of the differential success and final decline of all these empires.


FOAS

ANTH 347 Tribe and State on the Afghanistan-Pakistan Border (Same as ASST 347) (Not offered 2013-2014)

One of the major challenges President Obama will face in his first term in office involves the perilous situation on the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. While the problems in the region are generally framed in relation to Islamic extremism, the more fundamental issue is the failure of the Afghan and Pakistani governments to exercise control over the tribes that occupy the mountainous frontier. This course will look first at the history of the Afghan and Pakistani states and of the Pashtun and Baluchi tribes that are part of them. We will then consider the role of Islam as a political force in the region, with particular emphasis on the ways in which outside religious groups, most recently al-Qaeda, have managed to gain a foothold in the borderlands, despite the historic resistance of the tribes to outsiders of any kind. The course will also examine the efforts of, first, the Soviet Union in the 1980s and, more recently, the United States and its allies to control the borderlands, and we will conclude with a consideration of the geopolitical implications if Afghanistan and Pakistan prove in the end to be “failed states.” Readings will include theoretical discussions of tribe/state
relations, British and Soviet era accounts of the frontier (non-fiction and fiction), ethnographies of tribal societies, and contemporary studies.

Format: seminar. Requirements: class participation, short response papers, research paper, and final exam.


ANTH 397(F), 398(S) Independent Study

(See under ANSO 402 for full description.)

FOIAS

ANTH 493(F)-W31-494(S) Senior Thesis

(See under ANSO 402 for full description.)

FOIAS

SOCIOLOGY COURSES

Reminder: check the Anthropology/Sociology (ANSO) listings for additional courses.

SOC 101(FS) Invitation to Sociology

An introduction to sociological analysis. The course focuses on the relationship of individual men and women to the social world and introduces students to systematic institutional analysis. Students will explore the intersection of biography, history, culture, and social structure as seen in the work of classical and contemporary social thinkers, including Marx, Durkheim, Weber, Veblen, Simmel, and Goffman. Special consideration will be given to the social and cultural problems of capitalism, rationality and irrationality in modern institutions and organizations, the psychological dilemmas facing the individual in modern society, and the problem of social order and conflict.

Format: lecture/discussion. Requirements: a take-home midterm exam, a class presentation and a final.


Hour: 9:55-11:10 TR

First Semester: J. NOLAN

Second Semester: J. NOLAN

SOC 202(S) Terrorism and National Security

An analysis of the roots, goals, and social organization of contemporary radical Islamist terrorism and of the state efforts to defeat it. A focus on: the recruitment, training, and indoctrination of Islamist terrorists; their ideologies and self-images; and case studies of specific terrorist attacks and the vulnerabilities of modern societies that such attacks reveal. The course analyzes the exigencies and dilemmas of ensuring public safety in a democratic society. Special attention to: the structure and ethos of intelligence work; the investigation of terrorist networks and their financing; the relationship between organized and semi-organized crime and terrorism; the legal dilemmas of surveillance, preemptive custody, and “extraordinary rendition” in democratic societies; and the technology and organization of ascertaining identities in modern society. The course also addresses the crisis facing European societies—particularly the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany—with growing populations of radical Islamist minorities who reject cultural assimilation into Western social or legal frameworks, a crisis paralleled in the United States, with important differences, by widespread illegal immigration. An assessment of the ideology of multiculturalism and its intended and unintended consequences in the fight against terror. The course also examines the threat of terrorists’ use of biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons of mass destruction and the defenses against such threats. Finally, it appraises the structure and content of mass media coverage of terror, as well as official and unofficial propaganda on all sides of these issues.

Format: seminar. Requirements: full participation in the seminar, class presentations, and a major paper.

Enrollment limit: 25 (expected 25). All students are required to submit an application essay in order to be included in the course.

Not available for the Gaudino option.

Hour: 11:10-1:30 T

JACKALL

SOC 211 Race and the Environment (Same as AFR 211, AMST 211 and ENVI 211) (Not offered 2013-2014) (D)

(See under AFR 211 for full description.)

J. MANIGAULT-BRYANT

SOC 215(S) Crime

An examination of crime, criminals, and crime-fighters. Topics include: violent urban youth gangs in America; the recruitment, socialization, argot, culture, worldviews, and ethics of professional criminals, both in America and in the international arena; the stages of criminal careers; the violence inherent in the drug trade; human trafficking of women and girls; white-collar scams and financial depredations; identity theft; the work worlds and habits of mind of crime-fighters, with a special focus on the work of uniformed police officers, detectives, federal agents, and state and federal prosecutors; the symbolic representations of criminals and crime-fighters in American and international popular culture; and the crisis of public social order. Special attention to the nature of criminal investigation.

Format: seminar. Requirements: mandatory attendance, randomly-called class presentations, short papers, final exam, and a term paper.

No prerequisites; all students must submit an application essay to be considered for enrollment in this course. Enrollment limit: 25 (expected 25). Preference given to first-year students, sophomores, and majors in anthropology & sociology.

May not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the Gaudino option.

Hour: 7:00-9:40 p.m M

JACKALL

SOC 216(F) The City

Modern humans have moved to the city, a site with concentrated powers of various kinds, this move has effected irreversible change in human life. We will examine these forces through readings in urban theories as well as ethnographic work. We will address themes such as the organization of urban life, the political economy of cities, housing and homelessness, and urban planning. The city is also the chief site of cultural production and meaning, and our scope of interest will range from studying subcultures, to reading graffiti, to analyzing monuments. Bearing in mind the inextricable social change of past decades, we will reconsider some classical thought on urban life in the context of post-modern discourse, conceptualize the post-industrial and global city, and conclude with an examination of the problems faced by cities in developing countries such as ours.

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to urban studies. Students will become familiarized with both classical and modern urban theories, and in reading ethnographies they will have an opportunity to understand some fundamental methodological approaches to the study of the city.

Format: seminar. Requirements: response papers, mid term exam and final research paper.


Hour: 1:10-2:25 MR

RULIKOVA

SOC 217(F) Race(ing) Sports: Issues, Themes and Representations of Black Athletes (Same as AFR 217, AMST 217 and ENGL 215)

(See under AFR 217 for full description.)

BRAGGS

SOC 218(S) Law and Modern Society

This class is designed to introduce students to the field of law and society. The course begins with an overview of the various theoretical perspectives on the subject, including Durkheimian and rational choice, and will use the work of those following in the different theoretical schools established by these scholars. Informed by the theoretical overview, the next part of the course considers empirical research in selected areas of law, including tort law, criminal trial procedures, abortion and divorce law, “community justice,” and the adjudication of drug offenses. Recognizing that understandings of our own legal practices are enlightened through comparisons to other legal systems, the second half of the course is primarily historical/comparative in focus. In this section, through an exploration of several case studies,
American legal processes and habits are compared with related legal practices in such places as England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, Germany, Norway, and Canada.

**Format:** lecture/discussion. **Requirements:** a short paper and midterm and final exams.

**No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 35 (expected: 35). **Hour:** 1:10-2:25 MR

**SOC 219(S) Images and Society**

"This is obvious!" is what we say when we believe our point is irrefutable. But images are far less obvious than we may like to think. This course will create a forum for discussing the role of images in our lives, as well as the place of the visual in social inquiry. It will explore the variety of ways in which images—and even vision itself—are shaped by the social and cultural context in which they are embedded, develop skills for critical analysis of existing representations, and address the analytical possibilities and limitations of visual methods and materials. We will draw on a wide range of visual material, from advertising to paintings, but the bulk of the course is dedicated to photography, both as an object of visual analysis and as, increasingly, a research method in social sciences. Topics for discussion include debates around truth in photography and the politics of representation, changing uses of photography in institutional settings, different photographic cultures and their anthropological and sociological significance, as well as the use of photography in social research. Primary sources for the discussions will be drawn from a variety of spheres, from Soviet propaganda posters to Balinese identity photography, and will include the images we encounter in everyday life—media, politics, academia, "high" art and pop culture.

**Format:** seminar. **Requirements:** active class participation, several response papers, oral presentation and a take-home final. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 19 (expected: 19). **Open to all students.** **Hour:** 2:35-3:50 MR

**SOC 242(S) Food and Society**

The French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu famously said that food is a system of communication. This multidisciplinary course is designed to introduce students to different ways of thinking about food through an exploration of the complex social and cultural rules that underlie food’s consumption. Because our food choices communicate who we are—or what we aspire to be—the study of food reveals how societies throughout the world construct difference, whether religious, ethnic, national, or racial. The class will also examine nutrition, hunger, ideals of desirability in body image, and visual representations of food in advertising and art. Probable readings include: primatologist Richard Wrangham on how cooking made us human; nutritionist Marion Nestle on food politics; R. Marie Griffith on the Christian diet movement; policy analyst Raj Patel on the global food system; and sociologist Gary Alan Fine on the culture of restaurant work.

**Format:** seminar. **Requirements:** active class participation, weekly response papers, two 6- to 8-page papers, final exam. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 19 (expected: 19). **Preference given to students with a demonstrated interest in the study of food.** **Not available for the Gaudino option.** **Hour:** 11:20–12:35 TR

**SOC 244(F) What They Saw in America**

This course traces the travels and writings of four important observers of the United States: Alexis de Tocqueville, Max Weber, G.K. Chesterton, and Sayyid Qutb. The course will consider their respective journeys: Where did they go? Who did they talk to? What did they see? The historical scope and varying national origins of the observers provide a unique and useful outsider’s view of America—one that sheds light on persisting qualities of American national character and gives insight into the nature and substance of international attitudes toward the United States over time. The course will analyze the common themes found in the visitors’ respective writings about America and will pay particular attention to their insights on religion, democracy, agrarianism, capitalism, and race.

**Format:** seminar. **Requirements:** active class participation, two or three short papers, and a class presentation/final paper. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 20 (expected: 20). **Preference given to Sociology and Anthropology majors.** **Hour:** 1:10-2:25 MR

**SOC 249(S) Asian Religious Diaspora: The New Chosen People? (Same as AMST 249 and REL 249) (D)**

(See under REL 249 for full description.) **NOLAN**

**SOC 267 Race in the America’s (Same as AFR 267 and AMST 267) (Not offered 2013-2014) (D)**

(See under AFR 267 for full description.) **J. MANIGAULT-BRYANT**

**SOC 268(F) Class and Inequality**

This course will consider the respective journeys: Where did they go? Who did they talk to? What did they see? The historical scope and varying national origins of the observers provide a unique and useful outsider’s view of America—one that sheds light on persisting qualities of American national character and gives insight into the nature and substance of international attitudes toward the United States over time. The course will analyze the common themes found in the visitors’ respective writings about America and will pay particular attention to their insights on religion, democracy, agrarianism, capitalism, and race.

**Format:** seminar. **Requirements:** active class participation, two or three short papers, and a class presentation/final paper. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 20 (expected: 20). **Preference given to Sociology and Anthropology majors.** **Hour:** 11:10-12:15 W

**SOC 269(S) Globalizing India (Same as INST 269) (D)**

India’s dramatic rise to global prominence has captured public attention. In newspapers, magazines, and popular books, we read about economic prosperity, growing cities, and new consumers. In this course, we will investigate the social issues behind these headlines by drawing on sociological accounts of contemporary life in India. Case studies will provide unique perspectives on diverse social issues such as urbanization, gender inequality, and social inequality. We will discuss social stability and change in India and the implications of globalization for India’s future.

**Format:** lecture/discussion. **Requirements:** attendance at film screenings; participation, research project and oral presentation; quizzes, midterm and final exam. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 19 (expected: 15). **Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors.** **Hour:** 3:30-4:45 TR

**SOC 270(F) Sociology of science (Same as ENVI 270) (W)**

In this course we will investigate how people develop knowledge about the natural and social world. We will follow field biologists, medical students, AIDS activists, physicists, lab technicians, forest managers, and cartographers as they go about their work in order to understand how social relations and institutions affect the production of knowledge. Through these case studies, we will explore the ways in which personal relations, values, and power struggles are essential to scientific production rather than peripheral to it. Knowledge, until -- what we think we know about the world around us -- is socially created. Throughout this course, we will discuss the role of scientific knowledge, property, and speculative finance. We will conclude the course by analyzing case studies of current scientific controversies chosen by the class.

**Format:** seminar. **Requirements:** six 150-word reading responses; two 5-page papers; and a 10-page final research paper completed in stages, including an annotated bibliography and rough draft. **No prerequisites.** **Enrollment limit:** 20 (expected: 15). **Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors.** **May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.** **Hour:** 1:10–3:50 W

**SOC 290(T) Urban Space, Culture, and Power (D) (W)**

This course takes as its starting point the premise that the urban built environment shapes social relations in complex ways. We will tease out the implications of this assertion and address two central questions with which scholars of urban life have wrestled. First, does city life engender certain kinds of social relationships or forms of personhood? And second, can we understand these outcomes by changing the physical spaces people inhabit? To answer the first question, we will read classic theories about urban life and compare them to ethnographic case studies, paying close attention to the question of whether urban living leads to the breakdown of traditional social ties and to the production of "modem" rationalities. To answer the second question, we will examine the politics of urban restructuring, studying struggles over urban space to understand different constellations of power from the colonial era to the globalizing present. We will tease out the ideologies that have underpinned colonial and postcolonial urban projects, and we will examine the
effects of urban redevelopment and residential segregation on urban residents. In the final section of the course, we will focus on the repositioning of cities as sites of capital investment, global economic integration, and elite consumption in the contemporary era. Throughout the course we will pay close attention to the role of urban space in the production and reproduction of social inequalities.

Format: tutorials. Requirements: bi-weekly papers, oral presentations, oral and written critiques. No prerequisites; open to all. Enrollment limit: 10 (expected: 10). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors. May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

Hour: TBA

SOC 291 Religion and the American Environmental Imagination (Same as ENVI 291 and REL 291) (Not offered 2013-2014) (W)
(See under ENVI 291 for full description.)

SEARLE

SOC 303 Cultures of Change (Same as ENV 303) (W) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under ENV 303 for full description.)

HAYES

SOC 305 The Sociology of Black Religious Experience (Same as AFR 305, AMST 304 and REL 315) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under AFR 305 for full description.)

J. MANIGAULT-BRYANT

SOC 306 Lessons of ‘The Game’: The Wire and American Culture (Same as AFR 300 and AMST 300) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under AFR 300 for full description.)

J. MANIGAULT-BRYANT and LONG

SOC 311F Espionage

An exploration of the occupational world of intelligence officers. A focus on the 20th-century history of intelligence in the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union, and on the post 9/11 Western intelligence efforts against Islamist terrorists. An appraisal of the structure and ethos of intelligence work both in the field and in the headquarters analyses of field materials. An examination of the training, social psychology, moral rules-in-use, and world views of intelligence officers, including the changes engaged in countermaintenance and counterspying. A look at remarkable intelligence successes and catastrophic failures. Extensive reading of memoirs written by former intelligence officers.

Format: seminar. Requirements: full participation in the seminar, class presentations, and a major paper. No prerequisites; all students must submit an application essay to be considered for enrollment in this course. Enrollment limit: 25 (expected: 25). All students are required to submit an application essay in order to be included in the course. Not available for the Gouldino option.

Hour: 7:00-9:40 p.m. M

JACKALL

SOC 315F Culture, Consumption, and Modernity (W)

How do lifestyles, fashions and trends appear and evolve? Are we authors of our own taste? What structures our choices of goods and activities? What is it that gives meaning to objects and makes them desirable? Are there non-consumer societies in the modern world? How has globalization changed the ways people consume in different parts of the globe? This course will explore the consumption and consumer practices as products of modernity and will analyze the political, cultural and social agendas that have transformed consumer behavior over time. Politics of consumption (the way in which seemingly free and independent consumption choices aggregate into the existing system of global capitalism) will be treated alongside its symbolic element: the role of consumer practices in creating and articulating identities, building relationships and creating solidarities. It will look at fashion, advertising, arts, tourism, and shopping at places such as nineteenth-century France, socialist Russia, and in contemporary United States, tracing both the mechanisms that structure patterns of consumption, and the implications that these patterns have for the larger social order.

Format: seminar. Requirements: full participation, ten journal entries, annotated bibliography, and a 15- to 20-page term paper that will go through a draft and revision stage. Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 19). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors.

Hour: 2:35-3:50 MR

SHEVCHENKO

SOC 317T The Public and the Private (Not offered 2013-2014) (W)

The sharp distinction between the private and the public spheres is often taken as one of the defining features of the Western modernity itself. Furthermore, the existence and vibrancy of the public sphere is a precondition for participatory democracy, whereas respect for privacy and provisions and guarantees that ensure personal autonomy remain fundamental for the daily operations of society. This tutorial course will address the public and the private as concepts that are always in a state of tension, and will explore these tensions in a sociological and historical vantage point. Topics include: democracy and the public sphere, publicity and its institutions, from the coffee house to the mass media, individual and collective identities, the “religion of individualism” and its rites and priests, public and private uses of space, the shifting lines of differentiation between the private and the public and the contestations of this distinction, as well as the impact of the new technologies on the relationship between the public and the private. The tutorial will mainly address the Western cultural tradition, although it will involve intercultural comparisons, drawing on a wide range of literature, from Jürgen Habermas to Svetlana Boym, Nancy Fraser and Richard. Bennett.

Format: tutorial; students will meet in pairs with the instructor for one hour each week. Requirements: students will write a 5- to 7-page paper based on the readings every other week (totaling 5 each); in the alternate weeks they will write and present a 2-page response to their peer’s paper. The evaluation will be based on the analytical qualities of the students’ written and oral work and on their weekly participation in discussion.

No prerequisites; open to all students. Enrollment limit: 10 (expected: 10). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors. May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

SHEVCHENKO

SOC 318T(S) Declining Significance of Race and Racism in U.S. Politics? (Same as AFR 318T PSCI 318T) (W)
(See under PSCI 318T for full description.)

C. SMITH

SOC 319 Ethnographic Approaches to Africana Studies (Same as AFR 319 and AMST 319) (Not offered 2013-2014)
(See under AFR 319 for full description.)

R. MANIGAULT-BRYANT

SOC 324 Memory and Identity (Not offered 2013-2014)

Our sense of self is inextricably tied to our understanding of our past, both as individuals and as members of society. This sense of origins, however, is far from natural; it itself has its origins in the debates and politics of the time, and evolves under an array of influences. This course analyzes discourses of collective and individual identity and the mechanism involved in the formulation of the individual’s sense of his or her place in the world. Topics include: nations and nationalism, representations of individual and collective pasts, collective memory and practices of remembrance, nostalgia and selective forgetting, narratives of childhood and a “golden age,” the invention of tradition, museums and memorials, biography and memoirs, narratives of progression, and the making of national and family histories.

Format: seminar. Requirements: extensive class participation, class presentation, several short papers and a research project.

No prerequisites. Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 15).

SHEVCHENKO

SOC 326(S) Financial Lives (W)

Since the 1970s, the international financial sector has grown dramatically, outpacing its traditional role in facilitating international trade and production. New markets, financial instruments, and market participants have precipitated growth in the volume of financial flows and in their significance to economies and livelihoods worldwide. In this course, we will consider the financial system from the point of view of those who operate it. After an overview of the expansion of financial markets since the 1970s, we will investigate the working lives, practices, and perspectives of those who make markets, with case studies from the US and the UK. We will also consider historical accounts that highlight both the technological advances and the cultural work that have contributed to the development of the financial system. Considering financial traders as social beings who form communities, we will investigate how traders build trust, assess risk, forge identities, and create distinction (including along lines of race and gender). We will examine practices of calculation and speculation and investigate the role of technologies—from paper to mathematical formulae to stock tickers and computers—in shaping those practices. We will also consider shifting definitions of financial success, failure, and corruption in the history of American finance and how traders have attempted to mold public perception of their activities. This course draws on and will introduce you to a range of academic traditions concerned with studying economic actors from a socio-cultural perspective, including: economic sociology, sociology of finance, anthropology, and cultural history.

Format: seminar. Requirements: participation and oral presentations, three short papers, and a 10-page research proposal.

No prerequisites; open to all. Enrollment limit: 19 (expected: 15). Preference given to Anthropology and Sociology majors. May not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

Hour: 1:10-3:50 W

SEARLE

SOC 368 Technology and Modern Society (Not offered 2013-2014)

With expanding access to and use of the Internet, controversial developments in such bio-technical practices as the cloning of mammals, rapid advances in various forms of telecommunication, and the increasing sophistication of emerging technologies remains a defining feature of modern life. For the most part, modern humans remain unflinchingly confident in the possibilities technology holds for continuing to improve the human condition. Indisputably, technology has benefited human life in innumerable ways. However, as with other features of modernity, technology has also had significant, albeit largely unanticipated, social consequences. Working within a sociological paradigm, this course will focus on the less often examined latent functions of technology in modern society. It will consider, for example, the social effects of technology.
of technology on community life, on privacy, and on how people learn, think, understand the world, communicate, and organize themselves. The course will also examine the effects of technology on medicine, education, criminal law, and agriculture and will consider such counter-cultural reactions to technology as the Luddite movement in early nineteenth century England, Amish agrarian practices, and the CSA (community supported agriculture) movement in the contemporary United States.

Format: seminar. Requirements: two short papers, a midterm, and a final exam.


SOC 370(S) Immigrant Social Movements: Bridging Theory and Praxis (Same as AMST 370, INST 370, JLST 370 and LATS 370) (D)
(See under LATS 370 for full description.)

SOC 385(F) (formerly ANSO 402) The Foundations of American Society
An examination of the social, cultural, epistemological, and moral foundations of contemporary American society. This seminar will pay special attention to the: economic and social consequences of the de-industrialization and concomitant globalization of the American economy and America's new debtor-nation status; social and cultural effects of ongoing massive immigration, legal and illegal; increasing bureaucratization of every sphere of life, especially the growth of the Leviathan state apparatus; proliferation of claims on public and private bureaucracies fueled by adroit and competing advocacy; clashes between the manifold cultural frameworks that give meaning to personal experiences; institutionalization of adversary political cultures, on both the left and right; entrenchment of centrifugal ideologies of multiculturalism and diversity; polarization of our elites and stalemating of America's political system; and the remarkable multiplicity of moral codes that often conflict with presumably common laws. In all, the course addresses a crucial question: who are we now as a nation? It proceeds entirely through discussion and student presentations of lively contemporary materials. Students are expected to have read certain classical sociological and political texts before the class begins.

Format: seminar. Requirements: several class presentations, major term paper.

No prerequisites; all students must submit an application essay to be considered for enrollment in this course. Enrollment limit: 25 (expected: 25). Preference: Sociology and Anthropology majors.

SOC 387 Propaganda (Not offered 2013-2014)
A sociological analysis of the phenomenon of mass persuasion in modern society. The course will examine the institutional and technical apparatus of modern propaganda and the role of intellectuals and technicians in shaping and disseminating propaganda. The symbolic content of specific kinds of propaganda—political, commercial, social, and organizational—will be considered with attention to propaganda that seeks to overthrow social structures as well as maintain them. The course will proceed through a series of intensive case studies with a particular focus on propagandists themselves, considered as experts with symbols, and on the institutional milieus in which they work. Among other examples, we will examine the U.S. Committee on Public Information during the First World War; the Nazi Ministry of Propaganda; the propaganda machinery in contemporary states and non-state actors of both the left and right; conservative and liberal “public interest” groups; propaganda in contemporary social movements and national political campaigns; the workings of corporate and university personnel offices; and advertising and public relations agencies in the United States. Throughout the course, we will analyze how the language, ideologies, and visual symbols of particular varieties of propaganda seem to affect mass audiences.

Format: seminar. Requirements: full participation in seminar, class presentations, and a major paper.

Enrollment limit: 25 (expected: 25). All students are required to submit an application in order to be included in the course.

Not available for the Gaudino option.

JACKALL

SOC 397(F), 398(S) Independent Study

SOC 493(F)-W31-494(S) Senior Thesis