

Courses Offerings § Spring 2009

Undergraduate Courses

- 070.132 (H,S,) **Invitation to Anthropology (3)**
 Poole
 This course introduces students to modes of anthropological reasoning. How do anthropologists study questions such as why people love courtroom dramas, why racial discrimination persists in modern society, and why photographs have magical properties?
 Limit 60 W 1:30-4:00PM
- 070.250 (H,S,W) **Introduction to Modern Religion and Secularism (3)**
 Khan
 We often hear about the resurgence of religion within our secular public sphere. In this class we will use ethnographies, histories, films and social theory to examine the concepts and claims that go into making this statement before we gauge its truth.
 Limit 60 M 1:30-4:00PM
- 070.278 (H,S) **Social History of Languages (3)**
 Haeri
 A look at the history of languages in terms of their social functions, codification, adaptations for administrative purposes, their use in literature, their dissemination, expansion, or decline. Examples of language we will consider in the course are Latin, Arabic, Hebrew, French and English.
 Limit 30 F 1:30-4:00PM
- 070.303 (H,S, W) **Junior / Senior Seminar: Children & Youth in Armed Conflict (3)**
 Reynolds
 Junior/Senior Seminar. The course will examine anthropological theory by focusing on the situation of children and young people in war, violence, and on-going conflict. The nature and course of young people's participation in such situations will be analyzed. A particular focus is on the parts played by the young in resistance movements and on their acquisition of political consciousness. **Required course for majors.**
Majors and Minors get first priority.
 Limit 25 TH 1:30-4:00PM
- 070.306 (H,S) **Healing: Politics and Poetics (3)**
 Obarrio
 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. Open to senior Undergraduates and Graduate students.
 Limit 20 M/W 4:30-5:45PM
- 070.338 (H,S) **Anthropology of Prayer (3)**
 Haeri
 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.
 Limit 25 W 1:30-4:00PM
- 070.396 (H,S) **On the Question of Drugs (3)**
 Han
 In this course, we will explore how drugs - licit and illicit - have shaped understandings of the self, politics, and morality across world regions. We will examine anthropological theory on the body, political economy, and affect through a focus on how substances are mediated through the law, economy, medicine, and family. Specific cases will include how discourses of war and terror, and public health discourses shape drug production and experiences of consumption and trafficking; how religious practices and discourses shape bodily experiences of substances as well as addictions; and how pharmaceuticals, clinical reasoning, and the experience of illness interact.
 Cross-listed: Public Health, Humanities, Latin American Studies
 Limit 35 M 1:30-4:00 PM

Graduate Courses

- 070.672 (H,S)** **The Human and the Inhuman: Conversations between Philosophy and Anthropology**
 Das & Marrati
 This seminar explores different philosophical and anthropological perspectives on what defines human forms of life and their moving boundaries with the inhuman. Readings include: Lévy-Strauss, Diderot, Deleuze, Durkheim, Cavell, Ishiguro, and others.
 M 4:00-7:00PM
- 070.626 (H/S)** **Close Readings of Recent Ethnographies**
 Reynolds
 W 12-2PM

Approved Cross-listed Courses

AS.010.382 (H,W)

The Politics of Display in South Asia (3)

Brown

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.

AS.130.110 (H,S)

Intro to Archaeology (3)

Schwartz

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.

AS.130.177 (H)

World Prehistory (3)

Batiuk

An introduction to the archaeology of pre- and protohistoric cultures in key regions of the world, from the Neolithic revolution to the rise of complex societies. Discussions will focus on how they interacted with their neighbors, how this interaction would have played a part in their development, and the different approaches archaeologists use to understand their interconnections. Regions to be examined include the Near East, the Aegean, East Africa, East Asia, the Andes, and Central America.

AS.130.351 (H,S)

The Emergence of Civilization: A Cross-Cultural Examination (3)

Schwartz

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.

AS.300.372 (H,S)

Holocaust Testimonies (3)

Leys

A seminar on topics and issues associated with Holocaust testimony. Crosslisted with History, History of Science and Technology, and Anthropology.

AS.360.235 (H,S)

Martyrdom and the Enfleshment of the Law in the Abrahamic Religions (3)

Perdigon

Do male and female bodies equally qualify for witnessing to God's power and justice through their horrific undoing? A close reading of Jewish, Christian and Islamic narratives of martyrdom from late antiquity up to the present

AS.360.258 (S)

Gender & Health: A Life Course Perspective (3)

Goodfellow

AS.361.324 (H,S)

Knowledge, Power & the Configuration of Territories in Latin America (3)

Tocancipa-Falla

Knowledge and power have become key components in the formation of nation-states elsewhere and particularly in Latin America. Since the emergence of "new republics," disciplines have helped establish and shape nations through ideas, rituals and traditions. This course discusses how discourses and practices developed by academics and social scientists are influential in continuing or contesting ideas of nation states and regional/local territories. Emphasis will be given to the prominent roles of disciplines such as archaeology, linguistics, anthropology and sociology in nation building around the continent.

AS.389.440 (H,S)

Who Owns Culture? (3)

Rodini

This seminar-style course 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