

GFE APPROVED COURSES

ANTHROPOLOGY

231B Sociocultural Biologies (4). Explores the interrelationship of what can be provisionally called “the sociocultural” with what is conceived of as “the biological.” Examines ontological, normative, and political economic processes as they impact notions of the body, eugenics, death, health, and disease.

234B Gender and Globalization (4). Teases out gender implications of transformations in global culture and political economy. By examining processes such as globalization of production and investment, spread of religious fundamentalisms, and extension of mass media throughout the world, maps out terrain for future ethnographic and theoretical work.

235A Transnational Migration (4). The immigrant experience will be examined in order to explore how specific theoretical issues are examined empirically. These issues include ethnic enclave formation, gendered differences in migration and settlement, class differences, the migration of indigenous groups, identity formation, and issues of representation.

236A Borders and Bodies: Places, Processes, and Transgressions (4). Examines borders and boundaries as material and semiotic constructs. Drawing upon an array of literatures, but loosely situated in U.S. geo/biopolitics, explores transformative troublings of places, spaces, borders, and bodies of all sorts.

246C Nations, States, and Gender (4). Explores the ways in which nations, nationalism, states, and citizenship are gendered relations and processes. Questions include: how do women construct themselves as political subjects, and how are constructions of citizenship and discourses of rights gendered?

250A The Cultural Politics of Visual Representation (4). Develops a theoretical framework for analyzing and reading visual images. Images, as cultural productions, are steeped in the values, ideologies, and taken-for-granted beliefs of the culture which produced them and a political economy that is class, race, and gender inflected.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

210 Comparative Studies (4) When the topic is appropriate.

Ex. Spring 2009: Voice in Theory

CULTURE AND THEORY

200A Identity and Difference (4). Introduction to scholarship on social movements, institutions, and theories relating to the rise of identities based on race, gender, ethnicity, class, and sexuality.

200B Power and Resistance (4). Focusing on questions of power and resistance, examines theorists, mostly from the middle twentieth century to the twenty-first century, whose work has led to the study of revolutions and resistance movements and their centrality in cultural theory.

PHILOSOPHY

216 Topics in Continental Philosophy (4). When the topic is appropriate.

250 Topics in Existentialism and Phenomenology (4). When the topic is appropriate.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

223A Power and Empowerment in Organizations (4). Studies different ways of thinking about power and the use of power in organizations. First considers different ways of understanding power and then deals with various forms of empowerment including assistance, participatory democracy, and workplace empowerment.

252A The State in Comparative Perspective (4). Seminar examining the state from theoretical, empirical, comparative perspectives. How the state came into being, the state's role in the economy, toward society and internationally, and in policy-making in Western Europe, East Asian newly industrialized countries, the Third World.

252E Democracy and Rationality (4). A modern approach to democratic theory including social choice and empirical democratic theory. Addresses the relationship of rationality and democracy, how minorities can be protected, and how democracy can promote deliberation, considering in particular the work of Rawls and Habermas.

265A Ethics of Difference (4). Examines differences traditionally judged politically salient – race, ethnicity, religion, gender. Personal interviews with an elderly person encourage students to understand the social construction of difference and to reexamine their own attitudes by putting themselves in the place of another.

SOCIOLOGY

232A Gender, Family, and Community (4). Analyzes theory and research on family and community relations from the perspective of gender. Feminist theories of family power relations, caring in family and community settings, women and men as caregivers in the family and workplace, grass-roots organizing for family and community issues.

236 Immigrant Incorporation (4). Focuses on the conceptual and theoretical ideas on immigrant adaptation and identity to a new country; frameworks that emphasize incorporation as a melting pot; synthesizing the theoretical and empirical literature on incorporation in order to develop better models.

240A Social Movements (4). A survey of the field of Social Movements, oriented around critical themes in the major theoretical traditions and contemporary exemplars.

261A Age, Generations, and the Life Course (4). Age is a central organizing principle of individual lives, social institutions, and human populations. Considers how age is socially defined and how developmental transitions between ages (i.e., growing up and growing older) are accomplished.

272A Work and Industrial Relations (4). Explores the nature, causes, and results of workplace conflict in American Society. Considers topics such as “American Exceptionalism,” sex segregation in the workplace, strikes and the role of unions in American society.

276 Sexuality and Social Institutions (4). Takes a broad institutional approach to sexuality, arguing that “sexuality” is neither fixed in reality nor free-floating in space but rather institutionalized in a limited set of dynamic cultural and organizational arrangements.

VISUAL STUDIES

291 Theories of Vision and Visuality (4). Introductory seminar surveys the key theories of vision and visibility. Examines the theoretical texts that have, over the past several decades, enabled the emergence of the hybrid discipline of Visual Studies and addresses the recent polemics written in support of and opposition to this new disciplinary practice.

292 Visual Studies and Historiography (4). History of art history and film studies to 1980. Examines the ways in which the visual has been constructed and places these constructions in their institutional and cultural contexts. Examines historiographic questions by interrogating the evidentiary power of visual artifacts.