Spring 2019 Course Descriptions

ANTH 1200-130R (3). Culture and Power—Drug Policy; M/W 12:30—1:45pm
This cultural anthropology course will survey the controversial policies and impacts of the "war on drugs" in both domestic and international contexts through a diversity of readings, films, guest speakers, and media outlets. Drugs studied include alcohol, cannabis, cocaine, MDMA, ayahuasca, and others. Countries studied include the U.S., Mexico, Colombia, Bolivia, Afghanistan, Portugal, and others. The history, economics, and politics of drug prohibition and legalization are embedded in and representative of both culture and power. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

*** Students may NOT repeat a section of ANTH 1200 Culture and Power for credit. The 3 credit hours will only be given for one section of this course, even though the curriculum is different. Students are advised to choose one section of interest for credit to fulfill this core requirement.

ANTH 1200-131R (3). Culture and Power—Democracy; T/Th 12:30—1:45pm
This course will give students the opportunity to explore different meanings and practices of democracy around the world, a theme that is embedded in and representative of both culture and power. Democracy is a malleable concept that can manifest, over time, out of particular historical cultural settings. An anthropological approach to the study of democracy allows us to critically examine diverse ideologies, societal norms, power structures, and innovative practices. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

ANTH 2020-130R (3). Introduction to Physical Anthropology 2; T/Th 2—3:15pm
Examines human evolution, human variation, and human adaptations to environmental pressures. Our focus on human biology will span from genetics and organismal biology to human populations. In terms of human variation, will we investigate human body shapes, skin colors, and topics of race, sex and gender, and intelligence. We will discuss human growth, development, and the evolution of the human life cycle. Lastly, we will examine issues of human health, nutrition and epidemiology and the human diseases found throughout the world. Meets MAPS requirement for natural science: non-lab. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: natural science.

ASIA 2000-130R (3). Gateway to Asian Studies; T/Th, 11am—12:15pm
Approaches Asia as a whole and focuses on interdisciplinary approaches to the idea of Asia, on the connections that knit Asia together, and on the linkages that situate Asia within global political and cultural systems. We look at Asia as a powerful imaginary geography and as an historically dynamic construct as we focus on with colonialism, nation and state building, war and diplomacy, environmental issues, human rights, sex and gender, artistic expression, and other timely topics. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

Introduces principles of economics related to performance of an economy; discusses methods of measurement and determinants of performance, especially the national output, income, inflation, unemployment, and international trade and balance of payments; presents a model framework for analyzing fiscal and monetary policies and compares and contrasts economic theories and views on methods of stabilizing and/or accelerating growth of economic activities. Special emphasis is given to the discussion of current U.S. macroeconomic issues. Pre-Requisite: ECON 10. Meets MAPS requirements for social sciences: general. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

HIST 2126-130R (3). Modern U.S. Politics and Diplomacy; T/TH 2–3:15pm
This course explores America’s political and diplomatic record from the 19th century through the present with a focus on how the United States has developed into the most powerful nation-state in the world. The course highlights American foreign policy in Latin America and East Asia in the early 20th century; the U.S. response to World War I; the crash of the global economic order in the 1930s; America’s ascent to superpower during and after World War II; the Cold War confrontation between the U.S. and U.S.S.R; American Cold War foreign policy for the"Third World"; the end of the Cold War and emergence of Neo-Liberalism; and contemporary U.S.-Islamic Relations and America’s Global War on Terror. History majors are restricted from taking this course. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: arts and humanities.

PHIL 1200-130R (3). Contemporary Social Problems; MWF 11–11:50am
This course is primarily designed to help you think, in an organized and rigorous way, about the structures of our society and their relation to basic issues in social and political philosophy. We will tackle a broad range of issues in this course, some of which (like the foundations of liberal political theory) are traditionally “philosophical” and some of which are considerably less so. This means that we’ll be reading from a correspondingly broad array of thinkers; some of them think of themselves as philosophers, some as economists, and some as journalists, political reformers, or activists. We will look at issues such as the basic justification of political and legal authority, the conditions under which governments may be instituted and dissolved, as well as ways in which basic economic structures and distributions of resources can undergird or undermine a just and/or stable society. Approved for GT-AH3. Meets MAPS requirement for social science: general. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: arts and humanities.
PSCI 3022-130R (3). Russian Politics; MWF 11–11:50am
Come learn about the exciting world of Russian politics! We will talk about corruption, organized crime, human trafficking, ethnic violence, Russia’s intervention in Ukraine, and much more. We will also cover current affairs such as how and why Putin cares about elections in other countries including the most recent US presidential election. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

PSCI 3143-130R (3). Current Affairs in International Relations; T/TH 9:30 – 10:45am
This course introduces students to the politics and economics of development. Some of the main questions that it will raise include: How and why do countries trade? Why are some 3rd world countries indebted and poor, while others are in the ascend? What is the relationship between colonialism and economic underdevelopment? What can organizations, such as the IMF, the World Bank, and the EU do to help countries improve their political and economic systems? What do these international actors do to potentially subvert or undermine development? How do foreign debt, aid, and investment tie into the rampant corruption in so many developing countries? In addition to lectures and readings, the class will feature numerous documentaries that will present real life examples of the reasons for and outcomes of underdevelopment. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

RUSS 2222-130R (3). Sports in the Cold War; M/W 2—3:15pm
History has never been this much fun! Register for this innovative class to blast off cultural prejudices and discover an amazing window into the history of one of the most precarious periods of modern times -- the Cold War -- as viewed through the prism of Olympic performance, elite athletic competition and international politics of sports. We will ponder how the issues of class, nation, ethnicity, and gender intersect with sports and international politics by studying cases of psychological and athletic warfare in various sports events of the last 60 years. And quite possibly, the students will discover the very fabric of political interactions, unravelling how the U.S. and the Soviet Union (and other countries) used and are using sports today as a means of international relations during the Cold War and in the Post-Cold War period. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: arts and humanities also: distribution: social sciences.

RUSS 3221-130R (3). Space Race in Russian and American Culture; M/W 3:30—4:45pm
In this course we focus on the recorded cultural history of Space Race against the background of the Cold War. In our exploration of the diverse cultural representations of the triumphs and failures of space exploration in music, film, photography and journalism, we will ponder such questions as: How similar or different were the representations of the Space Race in American and Soviet cultures? How memories and images can create mythologies? What roles did the national space mythologies play in formation of national identities? Are you curious about humanity’s most profound leap into space? Join this course to learn more about the cultural history behind it and become better equipped for the new demands of our technological age and evolving professions of tomorrow. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: arts and humanities.

SCAN 2201-130R (3). Introduction to Modern Nordic Culture and Society; T/TH 12:30—1:45pm
Provides a comprehensive introduction to modern Nordic culture and society. Surveys the history of Nordic countries and examines their culture using art, architecture, literature, and film. Studies social issues, environmental concerns, and political patterns. In profiling aspects of culture and society unique to Nordic countries, students arrive at a conception of a collective Nordic identity. Taught in English. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: arts and humanities also: distribution: social sciences.

SSIR 1010-130R (3) Social Entrepreneurship & Sustainability, T/TH 11:00am—12:15pm
This course introduces students to the histories, concepts, and crises of sustainability in different cultural contexts around the world. Students will learn how a range of government, business, and civil society actors devise innovative ways to address a variety of social, economic, and environmental challenges. These “social innovations” are designed to improve human and ecosystem viability in ways that are effective, efficient, sustainable, and just. Students will 1) develop analytical skills to assess the root causes and impacts of different contemporary problems, 2) explore a range of topics and innovations through an interdisciplinary lens, and 3) participate in a community engagement project in order to apply their new knowledge to the resolution of real-life issues. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: distribution: social science.

WRTG 1150-130R (3). First-Year Writing and Rhetoric; MWF 9:00—9:50am
WRTG 1150-131R (3). First-Year Writing and Rhetoric; T/TH 9:30—10:45am
Rhetorically informed introduction to college writing. Focuses on critical analysis, argument, inquiry, and information literacy. Taught as a writing workshop, the course places a premium on invention, drafting, and thoughtful revision. Meets MAPS requirement for English. Approved for arts and sciences gen ed curriculum: skills: Lower-Division Written Communication.