

# WINTER QUARTER 2017 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

available from http://www.shc.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/courses.html

The following is a list of courses that may be counted toward the SHC adjunct major or minor. You may also petition the SHC Director to count a course not listed here.

# COURSES COUNTING TOWARD THE CORE REQUIREMENT FOR THE MAJOR:

**HISTORY 275-1 -20 (21962):** History of Western Science and Medicine: Origins in Early Mod Europe LYDIA BARNETT | MW 3:30PM - 4:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 121

**overview of class** This course explores the social spaces of science and medicine in early modern Europe during the so-called 'Scientific Revolution.' We will survey the varied and surprising spaces in which scientific and medical knowledge was produced, from princely courts and grand cathedrals to humble artisanal workshops and Europe's overseas colonies. In so doing, we will see how science and medicine intersected with religion, politics, and emerging market economies during the first age of European imperialism and globalization.

# FEATURED COURSES BY SHC AFFILIATED FACULTY:

ANTHRO 383-0 -20 (23084): Environmental Anthropology

STEFANIE TONEY GRAETER | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | ANTHRO SEM RM 104 - 1810 HINMN overview of class In the 21st century, what we call "environment", "ecology", "wilderness" or "nature" in the Euro-Atlantic world consists of complex and fraught assemblages of social and material connections that have a history. While the meaning of these terms may appear static or straightforward, the significance, value, and even materiality of what falls under the designation of "environment" is under constant socio-political and scientific negotiation. Nothing makes this more evident than today's ongoing political battles over climate change, resource-use, contamination, and conservation. To situate the terms that describe the more-than-human world around us, this course examines both the historical construction of the terms in the title, as well as other configurations of human-nonhuman relations of other societies and cultures. Doing so will trouble our assumed separation between "nature" and "culture" and challenge us to think through present-day environmental politics in new and different ways. As a survey-type course, we will read a variety of socio-cultural anthropology texts, including classic studies and recent publications. The middle portion of this class will pay particular attention to Anthropogenic Climate Change aka Global Warming as our central case study to think with. Additional texts will examine other environmental controversies and you will have the opportunity to explore in depth an environmental issue of your choosing for your midterm paper. While there are no prerequisites, a familiarity with basic concepts of sociocultural anthropology is assumed.

ANTHRO 390-0 -28 (23093): Topics In Anthropology: "Eating the Other in America" HIILEI JULIA HOBART | MW 9:30AM - 10:50AM | FISK HALL 114

**overview of class** Are we what we eat? 19th century French gastronome Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin famously stated as much in his Physiology of Taste (1825), but what does this mean within America's increasingly globalized food system? The phrase "you are what you eat" suggests that the act of eating is one of entrenchment: food choices represent and intensify ones own cultural and personal identity. But considering that issues of food access, obesity, and unfair or illegal food labor practices within the food system cut across race and class boundaries, this may now be an inaccurate - or at the very least - uncomfortable maxim. This course interrogates themes of identity, ethnicity, and nationalism by examining "American cuisine" against the constraints of power and inequality in the US food system. We

will focus on how national identity is constructed, affirmed, or refused through food choices by surveying foundational works within the field of food studies and connecting them to the pressing social issues of today, particularly as they manifest in the everyday activity of eating.

ENVR\_POL 340-0 -1 (27672): Global Environments and World History HELEN TILLEY | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | TBA

**overview of class** Environmental problems have today become part and parcel of popular consciousness: resources are being depleted at a record pace, human population levels just crossed the seven billion threshold, extreme poverty defines the majority of people's daily lives, toxic contaminants affect all ecosystems, increasing numbers of species face extinction, consumerism and the commodification of nature show no signs of abating, and weapons and energy systems continue to proliferate that risk the planet's viability. This introductory lecture course is designed to help students understand the relatively recent origins of many of these problems, focusing especially on the last one hundred and fifty years. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the environmental effects of urbanization, industrialization, population growth, market economies, empire-building, intercontinental warfare, energy extraction, and new technologies. They will also explore different environmental philosophies and analytic frameworks that help us make sense of historical change, including political ecology, environmental history, science studies, and world history. Finally, the course will examine a range of transnational organizations, social movements, and state policies that have attempted to address and resolve environmental problems.

## FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS:

BIOL\_SCI 105-6 - 1 (21153): FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Chocolate: From the Biochemical to the Geopolitica" TRACY M HODGSON | TTH 3:30PM - 4:50PM | TECH LG62 overview of class Contact the department for further information

CHEM 105-6 - 04 (25113): FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Hope & Hype of Nanotechnology" TERI WANG ODOM | TTH 12:30PM - 1:50PM | TECH L168

**overview of class** Nanotechnology involves the creation and use of small structures at the nanometer scale. This length is around a thousand times less than the diameter of a human hair. The potential of new materials with superior properties has captured the imagination of popular science culture, which has resulted in books that described the use of carbon nanotubes for tethering a space elevator to earth as well as nano-bots repairing damaged human tissue. Currently, nanotechnology is part of a wide range of consumer products, from sunscreen to tennis balls to stain-resistant clothing. This seminar will cover all aspects of nanotechnology, from the science involved to ethics and safety considerations to potential applications. Students will have opportunities to explain an idea in nanoscience to a general audience, assess whether the interest and investment in nanoscience is justified, and propose future prospects for nanoscience based on the present state of research at Northwestern.

**EARTH 102-6 -01 (23751):** First-Year Seminar: "Global Warming; Scientific Evidence" PATRICIA A BEDDOWS | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | TECH F391

**overview of class** Global warming is more than a media catch-phrase. It represents a massive global experiment with unknown consequences. In this course we will discuss the scientific evidence for modern-day global warming including melting ice sheets, long-term temperature records from ice cores and extreme weather events such as hurricanes. Current trends and the role of human activities will be examined in the context of the geologic record of natural climate variability and the feedbacks inherent in the climate system. Anticipated future impacts include droughts, floods, spread of infectious diseases, drinking water shortages, habitat loss and extinctions. Given these forecasts, strategies for managing the effects of global warming will be assessed.

# ENGLISH 105-6 -21 (25057): FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Literatures of Addiction" KATHLEEN CARMICHAEL | MW 2:00PM - 3:20PM | HARRIS HALL L04

**overview of class** Ever since Pentheus' fatal decision to spy on the revels of Dionysus, audiences have had a guilty fascination with the spectacle of addiction?a fascination which crosses not only centuries but disciplines, captivating scientists, policymakers, philosophers, artists, and laypeople alike. This class will trace the evolution of literary representations of addiction across several centuries, from classical depictions of god-induced madness, through the Gothic narratives of Poe and Stevenson, temperance classics such as Ten Nights in a Barroom (whose impact has often been compared to that of Uncle Tom's Cabin), to the twentieth- and twenty-first century comedies and confessionals that make the bestseller lists today. Through these readings and related critical texts, we will examine the ways that such literature provides a staging ground for public controversy and emerging theories about the artistic, cultural, ethical, and scientific significance and ramifications of addiction.

Course readings/viewing will include works of fiction, journalism, and writings from the natural and social sciences as well as popular films. We will also consider practical topics such as how University library resources and experts can help students locate and evaluate key sources and develop authoritative arguments.

# **HISTORY 101-6 - 21 (21948):** FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Gender and Science from Middle Ages to Present" LYDIA BARNETT | TTH 3:30PM - 4:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 118

**overview of class** STEM fields in the 21st century are striving for greater diversity and inclusivity. But the problem of implicit bias - of certain people being perceived as less authoritative, knowledgeable, or capable based on their gender, race, or other bodily marker of difference - is pervasive in and beyond STEM. It also has deep historical roots. This first-year seminar explores the gendering of science since the Middle Ages in order to shed light on this contemporary problem. Through a series of case studies drawn from European and U.S. history, we will explore the many ways in which cultural norms about sex/gender have shaped scientific thought and practice. Topics to be covered include: the science of sex and race; gendered hierarchies in the lab, field, and other sites of science; the invisible work of women as assistants, wives and daughters, and scientific test subjects; and the way that changing cultural assumptions about sex/gender and race have influenced the shifting demographics of STEM fields over time.

# POLI\_SCI 101-6 -25 (22853): FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Global Environmental Politics" KIMBERLY RUGGLES + MARION SUISEEYA | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | ALLISON RESIDENTIAL COMM 1021 "Global Environmental Politics" Prof. Kimberly R. Marion Suiseeya 101-6-25 Winter 2017 overview of class Environmental problems like deforestation, biodiversity loss, climate change, and ocean and marine resource degradation have emerged as some of the most intractable problems that society faces. They transcend international borders, are scientifically complex, and generally involve large sets of diverse actors and power dynamics from global to local scales. In this seminar we will examine how policies, actions, and behaviors impact the environment and how these politics of the environment play out on a global scale.

# **PSYCH 101-6 -20 (25398):** FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Concepts of Infinity" LANCE JEFFREY RIPS | MW 3:30PM - 4:50PM | SWIFT HALL 231

**overview of class** This class looks at the way people think about mathematical infinity. Topics include Galileo's Paradox, differences in the sizes of infinite sets, and ordinal numbers. The topics also include how children learn about the infinity of the positive integers and children's and adults' mistakes in reasoning about infinity.

# STAT 101-6 -20 (24869): FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: "Randomized Controlled Exps" MARTIN A TANNER | MW 9:30AM - 10:50AM | STAT SEM RM B02 - 2006 SHER

**overview of class** We will discuss the design and analysis of randomized controlled trials (RCT), primarily with human subjects. Class meetings will consist of student led presentations of the assigned reading

materials. Students will prepare summaries of selected in-depth topics on the design and analysis of RCT's. As a final project, each student will prepare their own statistically designed protocol for an investigation of an intervention of their choice.

## **UPPER-LEVEL COURSES:**

## **ANTHROPOLOGY**

ANTHRO 332-0 -20 (23083): The Anthropology of Reproduction

CAROLINE H BLEDSOE | MO 6:00PM - 8:50PM | ANTHRO SEM RM 104 - 1810 HINMN

**overview of class** The goal of sociocultural anthropology, the largest subfield of anthropology and the core of the discipline, is to understand the dynamics of human variation in social action and cultural thought. A key question is how these variations are produced and reproduced, whether we speak of society (subsistence, ideas) or individuals (biology, psychology, social identity). Conversely, what happens when reproduction fails to occur, or does so when and how it should not. Because reproduction is so strongly associated with biology in our society, viewing it through a cultural lens poses significant challenges to some of our most basic tenets. Tensions arise in questions of agency vs. control, nature vs. culture, identity construction, reproducing under varying conditions, and so on. The study of reproduction, therefore, offers a window into the heart of anthropology itself. The goals of this course are (1) to expose students to just a few of the many sociocultural approaches to reproduction by ranging broadly across topics, time, and place; and (2) to identify and evaluate concepts and theories embedded in writings on the dynamics of reproduction. While the concept of "reproduction" can refer to societal reproduction, emphasis will be on the reproduction of children. To this end, possible topics may include fostering/adoption, AIDS orphans, fatherhood, technologies of fertility control, assisted reproduction, obstetrics, gender imbalances in Asia, debates over abortion, etc.

# ANTHRO 355-0 -20 (23179): Sexualities: "Sexualities"

MARY J WEISMANTEL | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | ANTHRO Sem Rm 104 - 1810 Hinmn

overview of class This class is about sex - from a feminist and ethnographic perspective. We will start and end by asking ?what is sex?, and we'll look for answers in ethnographies (anthropological and otherwise) on a range of topics including sexual subcultures (kink and asexuality), sex work, porn, sexual violence, and sexual reproduction. You can think of this class as ?sex and...', as in sex and gender, sex and race, sex and money, sex and disability. You can also think of it as ?sex in...', as in sex in Brazil, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic; sex in the suburbs, in the Rust Belt, in Silicon Valley. (Most case studies take place in the Americas, including the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean.) Requirements for the class are a mix of conventional reading, writing and discussion with group projects that may include performance or video elements, as well as an opportunity to produce your own mini-ethnography.

# ANTHRO 383-0 -20 (23084): Environmental Anthropology

STEFANIE TONEY GRAETER | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | ANTHRO SEM RM 104 - 1810 HINMN

**overview of class** In the 21st century, what we call "environment", "ecology", "wilderness" or "nature" in the Euro-Atlantic world consists of complex and fraught assemblages of social and material connections that have a history. While the meaning of these terms may appear static or straightforward, the significance, value, and even materiality of what falls under the designation of "environment" is under constant socio-political and scientific negotiation. Nothing makes this more evident than today's ongoing political battles over climate change, resource-use, contamination, and conservation. To situate the terms that describe the more-than-human world around us, this course examines both the historical construction of the terms in the title, as well as other configurations of human-nonhuman relations of other societies and cultures. Doing so will trouble our assumed separation between "nature" and "culture" and challenge us to think through present-day environmental politics in new and different ways. As a survey-type course, we will read a variety of socio-cultural anthropology texts, including classic studies and recent publications. The middle portion of this class will pay particular attention to Anthropogenic Climate Change aka Global Warming as our central case study to think with. Additional

texts will examine other environmental controversies and you will have the opportunity to explore in depth an environmental issue of your choosing for your midterm paper. While there are no prerequisites, a familiarity with basic concepts of sociocultural anthropology is assumed.

ANTHRO 390-0 -22 (23087): Topics In Anthropology: "Archaeology of Food & Drink"
AMANDA LEE LOGAN | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | ANTHRO SEM RM 104 - 1810 HINMN

**overview of class** Food is a universal requirement for humans to survive, yet different cultures have developed radically divergent cuisines. In this course, we will use archaeology to explore the diversity of human food ways throughout time, and the role of food in human evolution and culture. You will learn about the origins of cooking over 1 million years ago, the `real' Paleo diet, how the Incas used beer at parties to build social alliances, and how Columbus's discovery of the Americas spurred global scale shifts in food and agriculture. The course begins with an overview of how anthropologists and archaeologists study food, and then moves through time, beginning with our early hominid ancestors and ending with colonialism.

ANTHRO 390-0 -23 (23088): Topics In Anthropology "THE HUMAN MICROBIOME & HEALTH" KATHERINE RYAN AMATO | WF 2:00PM - 3:20PM | ANTHRO LAB A58 - 1810 HINMN

overview of class Did you know that all the microbes on and in your body weigh as much as your brain? And they can influence your body almost as much as your brain? They can determine how much weight you gain on a certain diet or whether you develop the symptoms of an autoimmune disease, and they can even affect your mood and behavior. Although we have long known the importance of microbes in the context of disease, recent advances in technology have opened up an entirely new field of research that is transforming perspectives on human health. In this course, we will explore the human microbiome beginning with an overview of different types of microbes and the methods we use to study them. Following that, the majority of the course will be dedicated to exploring new research on the microbes of the skin, mouth, gut, and uro-genital tract and their impacts on human health. We will also consider the influence of geography, politics, social structures, and culture on global patterns in the human microbiome and health.

ANTHRO 390-0-27 (23092): Topics in Anthropology "Queer Robotics: Cyborgs & Fantasy in Postcolonial" MITALI THAKOR | TTH 3:30PM - 4:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 102

**overview of class** What do representations of robots and cyborgs in popular film, sci-fi literature, and cultural anthropology tell us about gender, sexuality, race, and what it means to be "human?" In this class we will use critical race studies, queer and feminist theory, crip studies, and science and technology studies (STS) to analyze representations of "cyborg" bodies in speculative fiction and ethnography. Our case examples explore the politics of the body through narratives of military research, artificial intelligence, sex work, urbanism and segregation, deep space and deep ocean research, prosthetics and athleticism, new reproductive technologies, and more. We will engage with poetry, film, visual art, and speculative fiction to explore how bodies are dreamed, crafted, and represented.

Moving from the short stories of Octavia Butler, to Donna Haraway's "Cyborg Manifesto," to recent films like Ex Machina, students will learn to question, blur, and play with dualist categories, e.g. human/nonhuman, female/male, heterosexual/ homosexual, global/local, and natural/cultural. Students will be able to describe how various scholars and artists have conceptualized the agency of human and nonhuman actors. This course will suggest that the "cyborg" is an especially useful analytic for looking at the construction of social categories that can deeply impact our daily practices, intimacies, livelihoods, and visions for the future.

ANTHRO 390-0 -28 (23093): Topics In Anthropology: "Eating the Other in America" HIILEI JULIA HOBART | MW 9:30AM - 10:50AM | FISK HALL 114

**overview of class** Are we what we eat? 19th century French gastronome Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin famously stated as much in his Physiology of Taste (1825), but what does this mean within America's increasingly globalized food system? The phrase "you are what you eat" suggests that the act of eating is

one of entrenchment: food choices represent and intensify ones own cultural and personal identity. But considering that issues of food access, obesity, and unfair or illegal food labor practices within the food system cut across race and class boundaries, this may now be an inaccurate - or at the very least - uncomfortable maxim. This course interrogates themes of identity, ethnicity, and nationalism by examining "American cuisine" against the constraints of power and inequality in the US food system. We will focus on how national identity is constructed, affirmed, or refused through food choices by surveying foundational works within the field of food studies and connecting them to the pressing social issues of today, particularly as they manifest in the everyday activity of eating.

## **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

BIOL\_SCI 104-0 -20 (21281): Plant-People Interactions

CHRISTINA T RUSSIN | MW 3:30PM - 4:50PM | TECH LECTURE ROOM 3

**overview of class** We will cover the various ways in which people use plants, including food, clothing, fuel, and pharmaceuticals.

#### **CHICAGO FIELD STUDIES**

CFS 392-0 -20 (25746): Field Studies in Health

LAUREN SLUBOWSKI KEENAN-DEVLIN | T 5:30PM - 8:30PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 118

**overview of class** Contact the department for further information

## **COMMUNICATION STUDIES**

COMM\_ST 270-0 -20 (23440): Theories of Mediated Communication RONG WANG | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | FRANCES SEARLE BUILDING 2407

**overview of class** This course offers students a broad overview of the mass media with a particular focus on how these media impact our everyday lives. This course also considers how recent developments in digital technologies, media convergence and globalization have transformed our media culture.

COMM\_ST 392-0 -20 (23462): Global Culture, Commerce and Communication DILIP P GAONKAR | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | PARKES HALL 212

**overview of class** This course will discuss the issues (problems, challenges, and opportunities) arising from the confluence of commerce, culture and politics under the current regime of globalization. The current phase of globalization is primarily driven by economics forces leading to a world-wide integration of markets and finances and by technological innovations shaping mobility and connectivity in our knowledge/ information based world. The course begins by critically attending to a set of technoeconomic features of globalization. Upon completing that task, with time permitting, we will address cultural and political issues that arise with globalization.

Since we live in a world primarily structured and propelled by global capitalism, we will focus on a set of intriguing and powerful global corporations and their practices (both commercial and cultural)- Amazon, Apple, Nike, Walmart, and others. The course will focus on following four topics: global flows, the new geography of jobs, the retailing revolution, and creative cultural economies. In addition, we will explore some, but not all of the following topics: diaspora, hybrid identities, time-space compression, stranger sociability; the repositioning (rather than the decline) of nation-state, the rise of the multinational corporations, the emergence of the NGOs (non-governmental organizations), the flat world vs. the slum world; global media and cultural imperialism and the ethics of globalization.

COMM\_ST 395-0 -20 (23463): Topics in Communication Studies: "HEALTH COMM. AND PRECISION MED" COURTNEY ELIZABETH LYNAM SCHERR | MW 2:00PM - 3:20PM | ANNENBERG HALL G30

**overview of class** This course provides a general introduction to health communication as applied in the "era of precision medicine."

## **COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES**

COMP\_LIT 301-0 - 20 (22366): Practices of Reading: "Studies in French Philosophy" PENELOPE L DEUTSCHER | MW 6:00PM - 7:20PM | TBA

**overview of class** This course offers an overview of the work of one of the most important late twentieth century French philosophers, Michel Foucault. Focussing on his studies of madness, the medical gaze, incarceration, prisons and other institutions, gendered, sexed and confessing subjects, subjects seeking truth, knowledge, freedom or liberation, students will have the opportunity to consolidate their understanding of Foucault's use of the terms: archaeology, power, biopower, discipline, interiority, resistance, strategy, dispositif, governmentality, genealogy, truth, knowledge, ethics and aesthetics of existence, through close reading of his main texts. The course is reading intensive: you should plan to read several of Foucault's major texts throughout the quarter.

#### **ECONOMICS**

ECON 307-0 -20 (20994): Economics of Medical Care

MATTHEW J NOTOWIDIGDO | MWF 2:00PM - 3:20PM | 555 CLARK B01

**overview of class** This course applies theoretical and empirical tools of microeconomics to the study of health insurance and the health care sector. We will consider topics such as the design and financing of health insurance, the design and interpretation of clinical trials, the behavior of non-profit and for-profit hospitals, the role of competition in the health care market, the determinants of health care spending and the sources of technological change in the health care sector, and the effects of government regulations. We will also study the role of adverse selection and moral hazard in health care markets, both theoretically and empirically.

# ECON 318-0 -20 (21020): History of Economic Thought

LAURA LYNNE KIESLING | TTH 12:30PM - 1:50PM | ANNENBERG HALL G15

**overview of class** Development of economic thought and economic methodology from the advent of the mercantilists to the formation of current schools of economics. The course will focus on the evolution of economics as a body of thought, with strong emphasis the movement from classical economics to neoclassical economics as a foundation for modern economic theory. This course is intended to be a capstone to your economics major, to be taken senior year, after the completion of the major's core classes and several electives.

# **ECON 370-0 -20 (21028):** Environmental & Natural Resource Economics DALEY CATHERINE KUTZMAN | MWF 12:30PM - 1:50PM | SWIFT HALL 107

**overview of class** The environment and our natural resources are scarce and their values are quite hard to determine. Furthermore, there are a variety of issues with the incentives to use them well. This course will examine the application of economic tools to environmental and resource issues, illustrating both the power of markets and the problem(s) with markets. Over the quarter, we will study three major reasons for such problems (and their solutions) in the context of the environment: externalities, public goods, and property rights. We will discuss the merits and shortcomings of the valuation methods used by economists and policy-makers to place dollar values on environmental amenities, as these valuations define the tradeoffs faced by individuals, firms, and policy-makers. Once armed with these tools, we will focus on applications to specific markets for environmental goods and natural resources (e.g. pollution, energy, water, land, fisheries and forestry). The course will draw upon material taught in ECON 310-1, 310-2, and 281, with the tools from ECON 310-1 and 281 being absolutely essential.

#### **ENGLISH**

ENGLISH 385-0 - 20 (23938): Topics in Combined Studies: "Digital Media Studies" JAMES JOSEPH HODGE | MW 2:00PM - 3:20PM | HARRIS HALL L28

overview of class Since their popular emergence in the 1980s and 1990s digital technologies have been hailed as revolutionary agents of cultural transformation? for both good and ill. In this class we will chart a middle course between technophilia and technophobia in order to analyze digital computational technologies analytically and historically from a humanities perspective. We will pay particular attention to aesthetic forms responding to the problem of how digital media enable both unprecedented transparency and opacity: from dataveillance and sharing on social media to glitch art and the oddly impersonal dimensions of networked sexuality. Taking a comparative perspective, we will survey a series of digital aesthetic genres from videogames to glitch video art to electronic literature. Possible objects of study include Thatgamecompany's Journey, David OReilly's Everything, videos by Laura Poitras, Natalie Bookchin, Takeshi Murata, and Lynn Kirby, and e-lit by John Cayley and William Poundstone.

ENGLISH 397-0 -20 (24070): Research Seminar for Literature Majors "Tech & Landscape in 20th C Lit" CHRISTINE FROULA | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | PARKES HALL 213

**overview of class** Conrad's Marlow piloting a rattletrap steamship carrying armed "pilgrims" up the Congo; industrial war machines shelling tiny, fragile human bodies in fields of red poppies in France; Hemingway driving an ambulance on the Italian front; Chaplin's Tramp cast opposite a zeppelin in a censored wartime short film; Eliot's London typist coming home at teatime to play her gramophone; the clanking newsroom presses and the printed newspapers, ads, posters, and flyers that beckon, call and cry to Dubliners in Ulysses's river-threaded cityscapes; Forster's train to the Caves and automobile accident on the Marabar Road in A Passage to India; Mrs Dalloway's aeroplane writing on the sky above astonished Londoners; Giles Oliver's vision of Hitler bombing the village church to smithereens on the festival day of the annual pageant in 1939 in Woolf's Between the Acts; Time Magazine bringing the shocking news of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima to the American prison camp in Pisa, where it reverberates in Pound's Pisan Cantos: twentieth-century literature abounds in depictions of emergent technologies in specific landscapes shaping conditions and events of human life and thought.

In our research seminar, we'll read a selection of such works alongside essays by Benjamin, Kittler, Woolf, Leopold, Hansen, and others. Working closely with the instructor and our Humanities Bibliographer, Charlotte Cubbage, each student will zero in on a topic and design a juicy, imaginative, feasible project that combines scholarly research and literary interpretation. One for all and all for one, we'll learn to frame promising research questions; to navigate scholarly databases and archives; to evaluate sources; to explore readings in context while capturing and testing our own insights and ideas; and to give and take constructive critique. Each student will produce a work notebook, a preliminary proposal, an annotated bibliography, a working proposal and bibliography, and a 12-15 page research paper.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

**ENVR\_POL 340-0 -1 (27672):** Global Environments and World History HELEN LOUISE TILLEY | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | TBA

**overview of class** Environmental problems have today become part and parcel of popular consciousness: resources are being depleted at a record pace, human population levels just crossed the seven billion threshold, extreme poverty defines the majority of people's daily lives, toxic contaminants affect all ecosystems, increasing numbers of species face extinction, consumerism and the commodification of nature show no signs of abating, and weapons and energy systems continue to proliferate that risk the planet's viability. This introductory lecture course is designed to help students understand the relatively recent origins of many of these problems, focusing especially on the last one hundred and fifty years. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the environmental effects of urbanization, industrialization, population growth, market economies, empire-building, intercontinental warfare, energy extraction, and new technologies. They will also explore different environmental philosophies and analytic frameworks that help us make sense of historical change, including political ecology,

environmental history, science studies, and world history. Finally, the course will examine a range of transnational organizations, social movements, and state policies that have attempted to address and resolve environmental problems.

#### **GLOBAL HEALTH**

**GBL\_HLTH 301-0 -20 (21934):** Introduction to International Public Health PETER ANDREW LOCKE | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | FRANCES SEARLE BUILDING 2407

**overview of class** This course introduces students to pressing disease and health care problems worldwide and examines efforts currently underway to address them. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the course identifies the main actors, institutions, practices and forms of knowledge production characteristic of what we call "global health" today, and explores the environmental, social, political and economic factors that shape patterns and experiences of illness and healthcare across societies. We will scrutinize the value systems that underpin specific paradigms in the policy and science of global health and place present-day developments in historical perspective. Key topics will include: policies and approaches to global health governance and interventions, global economies and their impacts on public health, medical humanitarianism, global mental health, maternal and child health, pandemics (HIV/AIDS, Ebola, H1N1, Swine Flu), malaria, food insecurity, health and human rights, and global health ethics.

**GBL\_HLTH 302-0 -20 (21939):** Global Bioethics

SARAH B RODRIGUEZ | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | PARKES HALL 223

**overview of class** Global health is a popular field of work and study for Americans, with an increasing number of medical trainees and practitioners, as well as people without medical training, going abroad to volunteer in areas where there are few health care practitioners. In addition, college undergraduates, as well as medical trainees and practitioners, are going abroad in increasing numbers to conduct research in areas with few health care resources. But all of these endeavors, though entered into with the best of intentions, are beset with ethical questions, concerns, and dilemmas. In this course, students will assess these ethical challenges, and be provided with some tools in order to ethically analyze global health practices. In so doing, students will examine core ethical codes, guidelines, and principals - such as solidarity and social justice - so they will be able to ethically assess global health practices in a way that places an emphasis on the core goal of global health: reducing health inequity.

**GBL\_HLTH 306-0 -1 (21946):** Biomedicine and Culture NOELLE SULLIVAN | W 9:00AM - 11:50AM | PARKES HALL 222 **overview of class** Contact the department for further information

**GBL\_HLTH 314-SA -20 (21945):** Health and Community Development in South Africa MATTHEW R GLUCKSBERG, DAVID M KELSO  $\mid$  TBA  $\mid$  TBA

overview of class Contact the department for further information

**GBL\_HLTH 390-0 -21 (21940):** Special Topics in Global Health: "Managing Global Health Challenges" MICHAEL W DIAMOND | M 6:00PM - 9:00PM | TBA

**overview of class** Disease knows no borders. Both pathogens and lifestyles move around the world and the people of every country share the risks. The responsibility for ensuring the public health rests with governments at local, national and international levels. Public health interventions require cooperation and partnerships at each level and with civil society organizations, corporations, businesses and individuals. Advances in technology can significantly reduce the burden of disease and improve the quality of health and life. To effectively address global health challenges, technology must be integrated into health systems in ways that are both appropriate and sustainable. These interventions are affected by public policies, availability of resources and theories of public health and disease. Existing health organizations are increasingly challenged by the scope and magnitude of the current and future threats to public health such as the AIDS pandemic; the emergence of new and more virulent infectious diseases;

the threats of bio-terrorism; growing resistance to antibiotics; lack of basic infrastructure of water, sanitation and inadequate access to drugs in developing countries; and overabundance of foods and complications from affluence, leading to health problems such as diabetes in higher income countries. This course will examine the global epidemiology of these diseases and threats to the populations of the world, and the current technological and organizational strategies that have been established to respond. A series of diseases and geographical regions will be analyzed to consider how the international community uses technology and organizes its response to current problems in global public health. Special attention will be given to examples of effective technologies and intervention strategies.

# **GBL\_HLTH 390-0 -22 (21941):** Special Topics in Global Health: "Health and Humanitarianism" PETER ANDREW LOCKE | W 2:00PM - 4:50PM | LOCY HALL 106

**overview of class** This course draws on perspectives from anthropology and related social scientific fields to provide a critical overview of contemporary medical humanitarianism in historical, cultural, and socioeconomic context. Key questions that we will consider include: How and why has the health of individuals and communities adversely affected by poverty, marginalization, war, and disaster become the object of a wide range of contemporary discourses and practices of international intervention? What are the politics, historical roots, and cultural specificities of today's boom in interest in medical humanitarian work and institutions? How does medical humanitarianism relate to and diverge from other modes of international aid and development? How is it connected to today's global political economy, and what political, social, and institutional effects, for good or for ill, do medical humanitarian projects leave in their wake?

Through close readings of classic and contemporary social theory, ethnographic accounts, and research on health-focused aid and development initiatives from across the social sciences, this course will encourage you to build your own critical perspective on medical humanitarian thinking and practice anchored in the history of the field and in engagement with the complexities of real-world situations. Case studies explore the work of organizations like Doctors Without Borders; post-war/disaster interventions in Haiti and elsewhere; and the global response to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.

# **GBL\_HLTH 390-0 -23 (21942):** Special Topics in Global Health: "Gbl Health from Policy to Practice" NOELLE SULLIVAN | TH 1:00PM - 3:50PM | PARKES HALL 224

**overview of class** This seminar explores global health and development policy ethnographically, from the politics of policy-making to the impacts of policy on global health practice, and on local realities. Going beyond the intentions underlying policy, this course highlights the histories and material, political, and social realities of policy and its application. Drawing on case studies of policy makers, government officials, health care workers, and aid recipients, the course asks: what politics inform which issues become prioritized or codified in global health and development policy, and which do not? How do policies impact global health governance, and to what effect? In what ways are policies adapted, adopted, innovatively engaged, or outright rejected by various global health actors, and what does this mean for the challenges that such policies aim to address? Ultimately, what is the relationship between global health policies and global health disparities?

# **GENERAL**

**GEN\_LA 280-7 -21 (27465):** Residence-Linked Seminar: "Human-Robot Interactions in Society" JAY ALEXANDER BIRDWELL | W 2:00PM - 4:50PM | Meets in Non-General PurposeRm **overview of class** Contact the department for further information

#### **GENDER STUDIES**

GNDR\_ST 220-0 -20 (24165): Sexual Subjects: Introduction to Sexuality Studies NICHOLAS K DAVIS | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | HARRIS HALL 107

overview of class What does it mean to study sex and sexuality within humanities and social science traditions? What constitutes knowledge or evidence in this field? What kinds of categories and arguments simultaneously produce and challenge conventional wisdom about sex? How have fields and movements like history, feminism, psychoanalysis, biology, critical race studies, anthropology, sociology, and literature fostered a multi-disciplinary scholarly tradition that today we call "sexuality studies"? What "natural," "obvious," or "timeless" ideas about sex or sexuality turn out to be none of those things? This lecture course will address these and other questions across two major "movements" in the syllabus, each putting its own spin on the course title. In the first half of the quarter, students will absorb some fundamental texts that continue to frame sexuality as a subject of investigation in various branches of the humanities and social sciences. These include famous pieces, in full or in excerpt, by Michel Foucault, Sigmund Freud, Audre Lorde, Gayle Rubin, Erving Goffman, Cherríe Moraga, John D'Emilio, Anne Fausto-Sterling, Eve Sedgwick, Anne Koedt, and Alfred Kinsey. In the second half of the quarter, we will adopt more of a "case history" approach to certain human subjects often defined by their sexuality. Likely subjects include the black lesbian, the Asian male, the welfare mother, the cis- or trans-gendered sex worker, the HIV/AIDS patient, the porn actor, the horny teen, the sex therapist, and the consenting sexual partner. In general, the course is designed to offer a strong foundation for future coursework in gender and sexuality studies or to provide a useful and, in many senses, a diverse primer for students whose major curricula lead them in other directions.

**GNDR\_ST 331-0 -20 (24149):** Sociology of Gender and Sexuality: "Sexuality, Biomedicine, & HIV/AIDS" AARON TRAVIS NORTON | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | 555 CLARK B01

**overview of class** Since the appearance of a "mysterious new illness" among gay men in the U.S., HIV/AIDS has been closely associated with sexuality. This is true not only because a large percentage of HIV-transmission occurs via sexual contact, but also because of close associations between sexuality and morality and what "kinds" of people and practices are said to be more likely to spread HIV than others. In this course, we draw upon scholarship in the social sciences and humanities to examine the interplay between HIV/AIDs and sexuality, with an emphasis on the role of science and technology. How did associations between sexuality, disease and morality shape what was known about the spread of HIV early in the epidemic? How have ongoing efforts to know, treat and prevent HIV shaped sexual practices and intimacies, and vice versa? Together, will consider the complex interplay of HIV, sexuality and science across a diverse array of topics, including: the politics of HIV-risk categorization; HIV-stigma and discrimination; social movements and access to treatment; sexual practices and intimacies; and new frontiers in HIV-prevention, among others.

GNDR\_ST 332-0 -20 (24150): Gender, Sexuality, and Health: "Health Activism" AMY RUTH PARTRIDGE | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | 555 CLARK 230

**overview of class** How do conceptions of "health" relate to ideological assumptions about gender, race, class, and sexuality? In this course we will explore these questions through a close examination of recent and contemporary activist movements that have attempted to challenge contemporary conceptions of health and models of disease. Case studies will include the 1970s women's health movement(s), feminist responses to the "epidemic" of anorexia in the 1980s, and the ongoing reproductive rights/justice movement, ACT UP and AIDS activism, breast cancer, and environmental activism, and mental health activism in the era of psychopharmacology. In each case, we will consider how activists frame the problem, the tactics they use to mobilize a diverse group of social actors around the problem, and their success in creating a social movement that challenges contemporary medical models and the ideological assumptions that inform them. The course also introduces students to recent interdisciplinary scholarship on social movements.

**GNDR\_ST 363-0 -20 (24158):** Postcolonial Studies and Gender and Sexuality: "Queer Robotics: Cyborgs & Fantasy in Postcolonial"

MITALI THAKOR | TTH 3:30PM - 4:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 102

**overview of class** Have robots always been queer? What do representations of robots and cyborgs in popular film, sci-fi literature, and cultural anthropology tell us about what it means to be "human?"

In this class we will use critical race studies, queer and feminist theory, crip studies, and science and technology studies (STS) to analyze representations of "cyborg" bodies in speculative fiction and ethnography. Our case examples explore the politics of the body through narratives of military research, artificial intelligence, sex work, urbanism and segregation, deep space and deep ocean research, prosthetics and athleticism, new reproductive technologies, and more. We will engage with poetry, film, visual art, and speculative fiction to explore how bodies are dreamed, crafted, and represented.

**GNDR\_ST 374-0 -20 (24161):** Gender, Sexuality, and Digital Technologies: "Imagining the Internet: GNDR, Sex, Race, Ethnicity"

JILLANA B ENTEEN | M 12:30PM - 3:20PM | KRESGE 2510 MMLC

**overview of class** Much recent fiction, film and theory are concerned with representing the Internet and the World Wide Web. Sometimes cyberspace is depicted as a continuation of previous media such as television, cinema or telephone, but often it is envisioned as a new frontier. This course will examine the ways in which virtual media appears in cultural discourses. With a focus on gender, race and sexuality, we will read authors such as William Gibson, Neal Stephenson and Nalo Hopkinson, see films including Ghost in the Shell and The Matrix, and read media theory that considers the what dominant US perceptions of the internet are reflected in its construction and in the circulation of popular media images. Our guiding questions will include the following: In what ways are these narratives shaping collective perceptions of the Internet? How have virtual technologies challenged experiences of language, gender, community and identity?

**GNDR\_ST 374-0 -21 (24162):** Gender, Sexuality, and Digital Technologies: "Queer New Media" AYMAR CHRISTIAN JEAN | TTH 2:00PM - 3:20PM | KRESGE HALL 2-343

**overview of class** How do sexuality, race, gender, and class shape new media? This course explores the role of intersectional identity in technological transformations in media, focusing on the transition from analog to digital. Students will read historical case studies and theoretical essays on such topics as how social media affect how queer users interact and self-identify, how race influences cable TV distribution, and how gender shaped early radio. The course is organized into three key areas of inquiry - culture, organization, and technology - with the goal of understanding the complex ways they interrelate.

# HISTORY

**HISTORY 275-1 -20 (21962):** History of Western Science and Medicine: Origins in Early Mod Europe LYDIA BARNETT | MW 3:30PM - 4:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 121

**overview of class** This course explores the social spaces of science and medicine in early modern Europe during the so-called 'Scientific Revolution.' We will survey the varied and surprising spaces in which scientific and medical knowledge was produced, from princely courts and grand cathedrals to humble artisanal workshops and Europe's overseas colonies. In so doing, we will see how science and medicine intersected with religion, politics, and emerging market economies during the first age of European imperialism and globalization.

**HISTORY 322-1-20 (21985):** Development of the Modern American City HENRY BINFORD | MWF 9:00AM – 9:50AM | UNIVERSITY HALL 101

**overview of class** This is the first half of a two-quarter course dealing with urbanization and urban communities in America from the period of first European settlement to the present. The first quarter deals with the period from the fifteenth century to about 1880. The second quarter deals with the period

from 1880 onward. Topics for the first half include the transfer and adaptation of European city forms and culture to North America, the growth of mercantile cities, the relation between industrialization and urbanization, the implications of explosive growth in the 19th century, and the roles of Irish, German, and African-American migrations to U.S. cities.

**HISTORY 376-0 -1 (25685):** Global Environments and World History HELEN TILLEY | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | TBA | (co-listed as EPC 340-0)

**overview of class** Environmental problems have today become part and parcel of popular consciousness: resources are being depleted at a record pace, human population levels just crossed the seven billion threshold, extreme poverty defines the majority of people's daily lives, toxic contaminants affect all ecosystems, increasing numbers of species face extinction, consumerism and the commodification of nature show no signs of abating, and weapons and energy systems continue to proliferate that risk the planet's viability. This introductory lecture course is designed to help students understand the relatively recent origins of many of these problems, focusing especially on the last one hundred and fifty years. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the environmental effects of urbanization, industrialization, population growth, market economies, empire-building, intercontinental warfare, energy extraction, and new technologies. They will also explore different environmental philosophies and analytic frameworks that help us make sense of historical change, including political ecology, environmental history, science studies, and world history. Finally, the course will examine a range of transnational organizations, social movements, and state policies that have attempted to address and resolve environmental problems.

HISTORY 392-0 -30 (22013): Topics In History: "Technology & Society MidEast" DANIEL A STOLZ | TTH 12:30PM - 1:50PM | KRESGE HALL 4-410

**overview of class** From the building of railroads and telegraphs in the nineteenth century, to the so-called "Facebook revolutions" of 2009-2011, life in the Middle East during the last two centuries has been marked by intense engagement with new technologies. This course will explore the history of such technologies from the perspective of "ordinary" people, who have used them to travel, communicate, organize, pray, dress, have children (or not), seek entertainment, and more. Which technologies have played a major role in modern Middle Eastern societies? How have gender, class, and religion shaped the production and use of technology? How have familiar objects - telephones, sewing machines, computers – worked differently in different places? Exploring such questions will enable us to further our understanding of the transformation of the Middle East since the beginning of the region's industrialization, and to think more broadly and critically about the role of technology in history.

# **HUMANITIES**

**HUM 370-4 -20 (24203):** Special Topics in the Humanities: "Archaeology and Nationalism" ANN C GUNTER | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 121

**overview of class** Archaeology and nationalism have been closely intertwined at least since the idea of the nation-state emerged in the wake of the French Revolution. Archaeology offers nationalist agendas the possibility of filling in national historical records and extending the past into prehistory; its results can be displayed in museums or at entire sites, potentially reaching a new audience outside the written word. In turn, nationalism contributed significantly to the emergence of archaeology as a modern discipline.

Drawing on new critical approaches and examples selected from a wide geographical range, this course explores the role of archaeology in the creation and elaboration of national identities. Issues include the institutionalization of archaeology; the development of museums and practices of display and interpretation; the creation of archaeological sites as national monuments and tourist destinations; cultural property legislation and repatriation of artifacts; and archaeology and monuments under totalitarian regimes.

#### **JOURNALISM**

JOUR 383-0-20 (23861): Health and Science Reporting PATTY WOLTER | F 10:00AM – 12:50PM | FISK HALL 206

**overview of class** Health and Science Reporting teaches students both how to think about science writing and how to write about science and medicine. In this combination writing workshop and seminar we will read some of the best of the best science and health journalism; meet with expert scientists on campus; and meet the editors and writers from leading scientific journals and publications. Students will learn what makes good science writing, how to find sources, how to evaluate information and how to sort out science from pseudo-science. Assignments will include student debates, critiques of science coverage in newspapers, magazines, television, radio and the Web, science/health/medicine journal rewrites, news briefs, an in-depth narrative story on a science topic of students' own choosing, and an opportunity to write live copy for a science magazine or website.

#### **PHILOSOPHY**

PHIL 255-0 -20 (22730): Theory of Knowledge

JENNIFER LACKEY | TTH 11:00AM - 12:20PM | LOCY HALL 318

**overview of class** Navigating the world as epistemic agents comes with great responsibility. Our beliefs guide every aspect of our lives?from choices about our friends and lifelong partners to our votes for political leaders and our decisions about life-and-death matters. Should our beliefs be responsive to only truth-related features, such as evidence and reliability, or do our relationships with others also bear on the appropriateness of our beliefs? How should our belief-forming practices respond to worries about implicit bias that are likely to impact the credibility we afford to members of marginalized groups? How much should we rely on our own abilities as epistemic agents, and how much should we defer to others? Can we have knowledge in domains rife with deep disagreement, such as in ethics and politics? These are some of the questions we will take up in this class, with particular attention paid to the ways in which our places in the social world impact our status as knowers.

PHIL 315-0 -20 (22837): Studies in French Philosophy: "Studies in French Philosophy" PENELOPE L DEUTSCHER | MW 6:00PM - 7:20PM | TBA

**overview of class** This course offers an overview of the work of one of the most important late twentieth century French philosophers, Michel Foucault. Focussing on his studies of madness, the medical gaze, incarceration, prisons and other institutions, gendered, sexed and confessing subjects, subjects seeking truth, knowledge, freedom or liberation, students will have the opportunity to consolidate their understanding of Foucault's use of the terms: archaeology, power, biopower, discipline, interiority, resistance, strategy, dispositif, governmentality, genealogy, truth, knowledge, ethics and aesthetics of existence, through close reading of his main texts. The course is reading intensive: you should plan to read several of Foucault's major texts throughout the quarter.

## **RADIO/TELEVISION/FILM**

RTVF 376-0 -20 (24555): Topics in Interactive Media: "Computer Code as Expressive Medium" OZGE SAMANCI | MW 10:00AM - 11:20AM | LOUIS HALL 118

# overview of class

# RTVF 379-0 Topics in Film/Video/Audio Production: Computer Code as Expressive Medium?

This course is specifically designed for beginners (participants who have no background in programming) and it introduces the expressiveness of computing to visual artists. We will learn the basics of procedural thinking and create interactive dynamic compositions, applets, and games by using an open source environment, Processing. The course will enable participants to create their own tools for interaction, movement, and form. Participants who do not plan to pursue programming will have the essential knowledge about procedural thinking and gain tools to communicate efficiently with programmers and establish interdisciplinary collaborations. In addition to weekly design assignments, we will explore

interactive games and art works via presentations of participants along with assigned readings.

# Required Text

Processing: A Programming Handbook for Visual Designers and Artists, Edition: 2, Casey Reas, Ben Fry ISBN: 9780262028288 Publisher: MIT Press Publication Date: 12/26/2014 Amazon \$59.10, Used: 42.85

## **RELIGION**

**RELIGION 374-0 -20 (24649):** Contemporary Religious Thought: "Evolution and God" BEVERLY P MORTENSEN | MW 3:30PM - 4:50PM | KRESGE HALL 2-425

overview of class This course investigates some of the ways in which evolution finds its way from a purely scientific enterprise back to notions of the divine. It also looks at how spiritual systems have explored various ways to see the divine. Evolutionary Spirituality demands this project, as it recognizes levels of development not only of species, but of the human person, the human group and even group systems of thought. In each of these, there was a purely material stage of seeing existence, and in each, the spiritual returns, like a bad penny.....suggesting that it must be dealt with. We shall use Chopra's HOW TO KNOW GOD to show development of ideas about God. Wilber's EYE OF THE SPIRIT will provide some groundwork in Integral Theory. Marion's DEATH OF THE MYTHIC GOD accounts for the developmental experiences of human society and McIntosh's PRESENCE OF THE INFINITE shows the leading edge of spirituality in the Evolutionary movement. TEACHING METHODOLOGY.

#### **SOCIOLOGY**

**SOCIOL 376-0 -23 (24673):** Topics in Sociological Analysis: "Sexuality, Biomedicine, & HIV/AIDS" AARON TRAVIS NORTON | MW 11:00AM - 12:20PM | 555 CLARK B01

**overview of class** Since the appearance of a "mysterious new illness" among gay men in the U.S., HIV/AIDS has been closely associated with sexuality. This is true not only because a large percentage of HIV-transmission occurs via sexual contact, but also because of close associations between sexuality and morality and what "kinds" of people and practices are said to be more likely to spread HIV than others. In this course, we draw upon scholarship in the social sciences and humanities to examine the interplay between HIV/AIDS and sexuality, with an emphasis on the role of science and technology. How did associations between sexuality, disease, and morality shape what was known about the spread of HIV early in the epidemic? How have ongoing efforts to know, treat, and prevent HIV shaped sexual practices and intimacies, and vice versa? Together, will consider the complex interplay of HIV, sexuality and science across a diverse array of topics, including: the politics of HIV-risk categorization; HIV-stigma and discrimination; social movements and access to treatment; sexual practices and intimacies; and new frontiers in HIV-prevention, among others.

**SOCIOL 376-0 -25 (27425):** Topics in Sociological Analysis: "Global Commons, Dispossession, and Resistance"

SINAN ERENSU | TTH 12:30PM – 1:50PM | UNIVERSITY HALL 122

**overview of class** Global commons today are a cause for concern and hope, both at the same time. On one hand, forests, rivers, oceans, and pastures across the world are increasing targets for extraction and urbanization projects. Large-scale corporate and state-led land grabs in the global South bring up questions of food security and sovereignty. The challenge of climate change points to the limits of contemporary capitalism and the scope of environmental degradation. On the other hand, citizens now turn to commons to find inspiration for alternative forms of work, consumption, management, and ownership. Global climate justice mobilization demands recognition of locally informed environmental practices. By investigating the historical, environmental and social dimensions of global commons, the course introduces an increasingly controversial policy realm. Yet it also puts nature into challenging conversations with legality, property, and sovereignty while discussing the cultural and political potential of the struggle for commons.