ANTHROPOLOGY

Departmental Office: 452 Schermerhorn; 212-854-4552
http://www.columbia.edu/cu/anthropology

Director of Undergraduate Studies:
Professor Naor Ben-Yehoyada; 462 Schermerhorn Extension; 212 854-8936; phb2115@columbia.edu; Professor Maria José de Abreu; 957 Schermerhorn Extension; 212-854-4752; md3605@columbia.edu

Departmental Consultants:
Archaeology: Professor Hannah Chazin; 964 Schermerhorn Extension; 212-854-746; hc2986@columbia.edu

Anthropology at Columbia is the oldest department of anthropology in the United States. Founded by Franz Boas in 1896 as a site of academic inquiry inspired by the uniqueness of cultures and their histories, the department fosters an expansiveness of thought and independence of intellectual pursuit.

In these current times of increasing global awareness, this same spirit of mindful interconnectedness guides the department. Professors of anthropology at Columbia today write widely on colonialism and postcolonialism; on matters of gender, theories of history, knowledge, and power; on language, law, magic, mass-mediated cultures, modernity, and flows of capital and desire; on nationalism, ethnic imaginations, and political contestations; on material cultures and environmental conditions; on ritual, performance, and the arts; and on linguistics, symbolism, and questions of representation. Additionally, they write across worlds of similarities and differences concerning the Middle East, China, Africa, the Caribbean, Japan, Latin America, South Asia, Europe, Southeast Asia, North America, and other increasingly transnational and technologically virtual conditions of being.

The Department of Anthropology traditionally offered courses and majors in three main areas: sociocultural anthropology, archaeology, and biological/physical anthropology. While the sociocultural anthropology program now comprises the largest part of the department and accounts for the majority of faculty and course offerings, archaeology is also a vibrant program within anthropology whose interests overlap significantly with those of sociocultural anthropology. Biological/physical anthropology has shifted its program to the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology. The Anthropology Department enthusiastically encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue across disciplines as well as participation in study abroad programs.

Sociocultural Anthropology

At the heart of sociocultural anthropology is an exploration of the possibilities of difference and the craft of writing. Sociocultural anthropology at Columbia has emerged as a particularly compelling undergraduate liberal arts major. Recently, the number of majors in sociocultural anthropology has more than tripled.

Students come to sociocultural anthropology with a wide variety of interests, often pursuing overlapping interests in, for example, performance, religion, writing, law, ethnicity, mass-media, teaching, language, literature, history, human rights, art, linguistics, environment, medicine, film, and many other fields, including geographical areas of interest and engagement. Such interests can be brought together into provocative and productive conversation with a major or concentration in sociocultural anthropology. The requirements for a major in sociocultural anthropology reflect this intellectual expansiveness and interdisciplinary spirit.

Archaeology

Archaeologists study the ways in which human relations are mediated through material conditions, both past and present. Particular emphases in the program include the development of ancient states and empires, especially in the indigenous Americas; the impact of colonial encounters on communities in the American Southwest, the Levant and Africa; and human-animal relations in prehistory, religion and ritual, and the archaeology of the dead.

Themes in our teaching include the political, economic, social, and ideological foundations of complex societies; and archaeological theory and its relationship to broader debates in social theory, technology studies, and philosophy. Faculty members also teach and research on questions of museum representations, archaeological knowledge practices, and the socio-politics of archaeology. The program includes the possibility of student internships in New York City museums and archaeological fieldwork in the Americas and elsewhere.

Advising

Majors and concentrators should consult the director of undergraduate studies when entering the department and devising programs of study. Students may also seek academic advice from any anthropology faculty member, as many faculty members hold degrees in several fields or positions in other departments and programs at Columbia. All faculty in the department are committed to an expansiveness of thought and an independence of intellectual pursuit and advise accordingly.

Senior Thesis

Anthropology majors with a minimum GPA of 3.6 in the major who wish to write an honors thesis for departmental honors consideration may enroll in ANTH UN3999 SENIOR THESIS SEM IN ANTHROPOL. Students should have a preliminary concept for their thesis prior to course enrollment. Normally no more than 10% of graduating majors receive departmental honors in a given academic year.

Professors

Nadja Abu El-Haj (Barnard)
Lila Abu-Lughod
Partha Chatterjee, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology
Myron L. Cohen
Zoe Crossland
Terence D'Altroy
Ralph L. Holloway, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology
Claudio Lomnitz
Mahmood Mamdani
Brinkley Messick
Rosalind Morris
Elizabeth Povinelli
Nan Rothschild (Barnard, emerita)
David Scott, Department Chair
Lesley A. Sharp (Barnard)
Guidelines for all Anthropology Majors and Concentrators

Grading
No course with a grade of D or lower can count toward the major or concentration. Only the first course that is to count toward the major or concentration can be taken Pass/D/Fail.

Courses
Courses offered in other departments count toward the major and concentration only when taught by a member of the Department of Anthropology. Courses from other departments not taught by anthropology faculty must have the approval of the director of undergraduate studies in order to count toward the major or concentration.

Major in Anthropology
The requirements for this program were modified on January 29, 2016.

The program of study should be planned as early as possible in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.

The anthropology major requires 30 points in the Department of Anthropology.

Sociocultural Focus
Students interested in studying sociocultural anthropology are required to take the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Section/Call Number</th>
<th>Times/Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 1002</td>
<td>001/00975</td>
<td>M W 10:10am - 11:25am</td>
<td>Juan Mazariegos</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>62/120</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 2004</td>
<td>001/00004</td>
<td>T Th 10:10am - 11:25am</td>
<td>Maria Malmstrom</td>
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Archeology Focus
Students interested in studying archaeological anthropology are required to take the following courses:

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<th>Course Number</th>
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<td>ANTH 1002</td>
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<td>Maria Malmstrom</td>
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<td>52/64</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Biological/Physical Focus
Students interested in studying this field should refer to the major in evolutionary biology of the human species in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology.

Concentration in Anthropology

The anthropology concentration requires 20 points in the Department of Anthropology.

Sociocultural Focus
Students interested in studying sociocultural anthropology are required to take the following course:

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<td>Maria Malmstrom</td>
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<td>52/64</td>
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</table>

Archaeology Focus
Students interested in studying archaeological anthropology are required to take the following course:

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<tr>
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<td>Maria Malmstrom</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>52/64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Biological/Physical Focus
Students interested in pursuing study in this field should refer to the concentration in evolutionary biology of the human species in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology.
ANTH UN1007 THE ORIGINS OF HUMAN SOCIETY. 3.00 points.
Mandatory recitation sections will be announced first week of classes.

An archaeological perspective on the evolution of human social life from the first bipedal step of our ape ancestors to the establishment of large sedentary villages. While traversing six million years and six continents, our explorations will lead us to consider such major issues as the development of human sexuality, the origin of language, the birth of “art” and religion, the domestication of plants and animals, and the foundations of social inequality. Designed for anyone who happens to be human

Fall 2024: ANTH UN1007
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
ANTH 1007 | 001/00005 | T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm | Camilla Sturm | 3.00 | 61/80 |
304 Barnard Hall

ANTH UN2004 INTRO TO SOC # CULTURAL THEORY. 3.00 points.
This course presents students with crucial theories of society, paying particular attention at the outset to classic social theory of the early 20th century. It traces a trajectory of writings essential for an understanding of the social: from Saussure, Durkheim, Mauss, Weber, and Marx, on to the structuralist ethnographic elaboration of Claude Levi-Strauss and the historiographic reflections on modernity of Michel Foucault. We revisit periodically, reflections by Franz Boas, founder of anthropology in the United States (and of Anthropology at Columbia), for a sense of origins, an early anthropological critique of racism and cultural chauvinism, and a prescient denunciation of fascism. We turn as well, also with ever-renewed interest in these times, to the expansive critical thought of W. E. B. Du Bois. We conclude with Kathleen Stewart’s A Space on the Side of the Road—an ethnography of late-twentieth-century Appalachia and the haunted remains of coal-mining country—its depictions of an uncanny otherness within dominant American narratives

Fall 2024: ANTH UN2004
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
ANTH 2004 | 001/10726 | M W 10:10am - 11:25am | John Pemberton | 3.00 | 41/60 |
Room TBA

ANTH UN2017 Mafias and Other Dangerous Affiliations. 3.00 points.
Regimes of various shapes and sizes tend to criminalize associations, organizations, and social relations that these ruling powers see as anathema to the social order on which their power depends: witches, officers of toppled political orders, alleged conspirators (rebels, traitors, terrorists, and dissidents), gangsters and mafiosi, or corrupt officers and magnates. Our main goal will be to understand how and under what conditions do those with the power to do so define, investigate, criminalize and prosecute those kinds of social relations that are cast as enemies of public order. We will also pay close attention to questions of knowledge – legal, investigative, political, journalistic, and public – how doubt, certainty, suspicion and surprise shape the struggle over the relationship between the state and society. The main part of the course is organized around six criminal investigations on mafia-related affairs that took place from the 1950s to the present (two are undergoing appeal these days) in western Sicily. After the introductory section, we will spend two weeks (four meetings) on every one of these cases. We will follow attempts to understand the Mafia and similarly criminalized organizations, and procure evidence about it. We will then expand our inquiry from Sicily to cases from all over the world, to examine questions about social relations, law, the uses of culture, and political imagination.

*Although this is a social anthropology course, no previous knowledge of anthropology is required or presumed. Classroom lectures will provide necessary disciplinary background

Fall 2024: ANTH UN2017
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
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ANTH 2017 | 001/11493 | M W 10:10am - 11:25am | Naor Ben-Yehoyada | 3.00 | 91/120 |
Room TBA

ANTH UN2028 THINK LIKE AN ARCHAEOLOGIST. 4.00 points.
$25 mandatory lab fee.

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to methods and theory in archaeology – by exploring how archaeologists work to create narratives about the past (and the present) on the basis on the material remains of the past. The course begins with a consideration of how archaeologists deal with the remains of the past in the present: What are archaeological sites and how do we ‘discover’ them? How do archaeologists ‘read’ or analyze sites and artifacts? From there, we will turn to the question of how archaeologists interpret these materials traces, in order to create narratives about life in the past. After a review of the historical development of theoretical approaches in archaeological interpretation, the course will consider contemporary approaches to interpreting the past

Spring 2024: ANTH UN2028
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
ANTH 2028 | 001/10856 | M W 10:10am - 11:25am | Hannah Chazin | 4.00 | 76/90 |
310 Fayerweather

Fall 2024: ANTH UN2028
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
ANTH 2028 | 001/10347 | M W 10:10am - 11:25am | Camilla Sturm | 3.00 | 61/80 |
304 Barnard Hall

ANTH UN2028
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
ANTH 2028 | 001/10347 | M W 10:10am - 11:25am | Hannah Chazin | 4.00 | 33/60 |
Room TBA

ANTH UN3007 ARCHAEOLOGY BEFORE THE BIBLE. 3.00 points.
Please note that this is not a class on "biblical archaeology". It is a course about the politics of archaeology in the context of Israel/Palestine, and the wider southwest Asia region. This course provides a critical overview of prehistoric archaeology in southwest Asia (or the Levant - the geographical area from Lebanon in the north to the Sinai in the south, and from the middle Euphrates in Syria to southern Jordan). It has been designed to appeal to anthropologists, historians, and students interested in the Ancient Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Studies. The course is divided into two parts. First, a social and political history of archaeology, emphasizing how the nature of current theoretical and practical knowledge has been shaped and defined by previous research traditions and, second, how the current political situation in the region impinges upon archaeological practice. Themes include: the dominance of "biblical archaeology" and the implications for Palestinian archaeology, Islamic archaeology, the impact of European contact from the Crusades onwards, and the development of prehistory

ANTH UN3040 ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY. 4.00 points.
Open to majors; all others with instructor’s permission.

Prerequisites: an introductory course in anthropology. Comprehensive and in-depth engagement with foundational and contemporary theoretical concepts and texts in Anthropology. Required of all Barnard students majoring in Anthropology (including specialized tracks). Permission of instructor required for non-majors. Not open to First Year students. Prerequisite: an introductory (1000 level) course in Anthropology

ANTH UN3091 Disability. 4.00 points.
This course centers disability in its many manifestations and meanings — as an embodied, social, and cultural experience, as an organizing discourse in local and global contexts, as an analytic framework, and as a position from which to approach, think about, and engage in the world. Together, we will seek to understand disability in diverse settings and contexts through ethnographic texts, autobiography, documentary film, and essays, drawing primarily from works in anthropology but also more broadly from the interdisciplinary traditions known as (Critical) Disability Studies. Throughout the semester, we will move between considering disability in more and less specific and categorical terms. We will ask what the stakes are — intellectually, socially, politically - for different ways of doing, thinking, and representing disability. What becomes apparent when we consider, say, the experiences of deaf young adults in India working together to learn Indian Sign Language, or physically disabled adults in the United States whose disabilities must be situated within histories of racialized poverty and urban neglect? What happens — what are the resonances and the tensions — when we put these settings into conversation? Through our engagements with materials analyzing these and many other instances, we will think together about what it means to study and think with disability from different disciplinary perspectives, different methods, and different media

ANTH UN3160 THE BODY AND SOCIETY. 4.00 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: A 1000 level course in anthropology is strongly recommended but not required as a prerequisite
As an introduction to the field of medical anthropology, this seminar addresses themes of health, affliction, and healing across sociocultural domains. Concerns include critiques of biomedical, epidemiological and other models of disease and suffering; the entwinement of religion and healing; technocratic interventions in healthcare; and the sociomoral underpinnings of human life, death, and survival. A 1000 level course in Anthropology is recommended as a prerequisite, although not required. Enrollment limited to 30. 4 units

ANTH UN3356 EARTH WORKS: Anthropology, Art, Extraction. 3.00 points.
This undergraduate seminar is offered to students interested in the anthropological analysis of extractive economies and the social and political forms associated with them, as well as the arts through which they have been made the object of both investment and resistance. The course this semester will be focused on mining, and is organized along three axes: 1) mineral object; 2) socioeconomic form; and 3) aesthetics, with the latter including the arts of artisanal extraction, and literary, visual and media artistic practice
ANTH UN3663 The Ancient Table: Archaeology of Cooking and Cuisine. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: None
Prerequisites: None Humans don't just eat to live. The ways we prepare, eat, and share our food is a complex reflection of our histories, environments, and ideologies. Whether we prefer coffee or tea, cornbread or challah, chicken breast or chicken feet, our tastes are expressive of social ties and social boundaries, and are linked to ideas of family and of foreignness. How did eating become such a profoundly cultural experience? This seminar takes an archaeological approach to two broad issues central to eating: First, what drives human food choices both today and in the past? Second, how have social forces shaped practices of food acquisition, preparation, and consumption (and how, in turn, has food shaped society)? We will explore these questions from various evolutionary, physiological, and cultural viewpoints, highlighted by information from the best archaeological and historic case studies. Topics that will be covered include the nature of the first cooking, beer-brewing and feasting, writing of the early recipes, gender roles and ‘domestic’ life, and how a national cuisine takes shape. Through the course of the semester we will explore food practices from Pleistocene Spain to historic Monticello, with particular emphasis on the earliest cuisines of China, Mesoamerica, and the Mediterranean.

Fall 2024: ANTH UN3663
Course Number: 3663
Section/Call Number: 001/000100
Times/Location: W 12:10pm - 2:00pm
214 Milbank Hall
Instructor: Camilla Sturm
Points: 4.00
Enrollment: 14/15

ANTH UN3723 American Material Culture. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

This seminar provides an intensive introduction to material culture analysis and its potential contributions to the study of American history. As such, our focus is methodological. In seminar discussions, we will consider both (1) key texts that give intellectual shape to the central questions in modern material culture studies (2) published case studies demonstrating how to engage in serious object-based research. Seminar discussions will be supplemented by visits to three NYC museums (the American Museum of Natural History, the 9/11 Museum, and the Tenement Museum) as well as three laboratory practicums. Designed for both Archaeology/Anthropology and American Studies majors, as well as other students interested in using the methods of material culture analysis in original research projects. (Depending on the student’s choice of a research paper topic, this seminar also fulfills either the pre-1800, the 19th century, or the post-1900 Foundations requirement of the American Studies major.) No prerequisites.

Fall 2024: ANTH UN3723
Course Number: 3723
Section/Call Number: 001/000996
Times/Location: T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm
227 Milbank Hall
Instructor: Sevein Fowles
Points: 4
Enrollment: 16/15

ANTH UN3725 Politics of Recognition. 4 points.
This course examines the contemporary history of struggles for recognition, reform and revolution as articulated around the politics of recognition. The course is genealogical in spirit, beginning with a set of texts that have provided the touchstone for contemporary theory and practices of politics and then moving to more recent engagements with the same.

Fall 2024: ANTH UN3725
Course Number: 3725
Section/Call Number: 001/10329
Times/Location: T 2:10pm - 4:00pm
Room TBA
Instructor: Elizabeth Povinelli
Points: 4
Enrollment: 19/25

ANTH UN3811 TOXIC. 4.00 points.
It is no secret by now that we live in a toxic sea. Every day, in every place in this world, we are exposed to an unknown number of contaminants, including those in the places that we live, the air that we breathe, the foods that we eat, the water that we drink, the consumer products that we use, and in the social worlds that we navigate. While we are all exposed, the effects of these exposures are distributed in radically unequal patterns, and histories of racialization, coloniality, and gendered inequality are critical determinants of the risks to wellness that these toxic entanglements entail. Scientists use the term body burden to describe the accumulated, enduring amounts of harmful substances present in human bodies. In this course, we explore the global conditions that give rise to local body burdens, plumbing the history of toxicity as a category, the politics of toxic exposures, and the experience of toxic embodiment. Foregrounding uneven exposures and disproportionate effects, we ask how scientists and humanists, poets and political activists, have understood toxicity as a material and social phenomenon. We will turn our collective attention to the analysis of ethnographies, memoirs, maps, film, and photography, and students will also be charged with creating visual and narrative projects for representing body burden of their own.

Fall 2024: ANTH UN3811
Course Number: 3811
Section/Call Number: 001/10693
Times/Location: W 10:10am - 12:00pm
Room TBA
Instructor: Vanessa Agard-Jones
Points: 4.00
Enrollment: 7/14

ANTH UN3812 Accusing Corpse-forensic trace. 4.00 points.
This colloquium explores the history of forensic anthropology, and the ways in which it produces the body as evidence. We will consider how truth claims are made based on the evidence of the dead body and follow the ways in which the evidence of the dead is explained and delineated for peers and for different publics by forensic anthropologists. The course will also trace the history and background to forensic anthropology and explore the assumptions around race and ancestry that were folded into its methods and which remain a part of forensic anthropological practice today.

Fall 2024: ANTH UN3812
Course Number: 3812
Section/Call Number: 001/13515
Times/Location: F 12:10pm - 2:00pm
Room TBA
Instructor: Zoe Crossland
Points: 4.00
Enrollment: 8/15
This course provides a panoramic, but intensive, inquiry into the ways that archaeology and its methods for understanding the world have been marshaled for debate in issues of public interest. It is designed to examine claims to knowledge of the past through the lenses of alternative epistemologies and a series of case-based problems that range from the academic to the political, legal, cultural, romantic, and fraudulent.

**ANTH 3871 SENIOR THESIS SEMINAR I. 4.00 points.**

Prerequisites: Limited to Barnard Anthropology Seniors. Offered every Fall. Discussion of research methods and planning and writing of a Senior Essay in Anthropology will accompany research on problems of interest to students, culminating in the writing of individual Senior Essays. The advisory system requires periodic consultation and discussion between the student and her adviser as well as the meeting of specific deadlines set by the department each semester. Limited to Barnard Senior Anthropology Majors.

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<tr>
<td>ANTH 3871</td>
<td>001/00097</td>
<td>M 4:10pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>Gina Jae, Fern Thornsett, Maria Malmstrom, Elizabeth Green, Camilla Sturm</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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**ANTH 3888 ECOCRITICISM FOR THE END TIMES. 4.00 points.**

Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission.

Prerequisites: the instructors permission. This seminar aims to show what an anthropologically informed, ecocritical cultural studies can offer in this moment of intensifying ecological calamity. The course will not only engage significant works in anthropology, ecocriticism, philosophy, literature, politics, and aesthetics to think about the environment, it will also bring these works into engaged reflection on living in the end times (borrowing cultural critic Slavoj Žižek’s phrase). The seminar will thus locate critical perspectives on the environment within the contemporary worldwide ecological crisis, emphasizing the ethnographic realities of global warming, debates on nuclear power and energy, and the place of nature. Drawing on the professors long experience in Japan and current research on the aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster, the seminar will also take care to unpack the notion of end times, with its apocalyptic implications, through close considerations of works that take on the question of ecocatastrophe in our times. North American and European perspectives, as well as international ones (particularly ones drawn from East Asia), will give the course a global reach.

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<tr>
<td>ANTH 3888</td>
<td>001/10728</td>
<td>M 2:10pm - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Marilyn Ivy</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>12/15</td>
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**ANTH 3921 Anticolonialism. 4 points.**

Enrollment limited to 20.

Through a careful exploration of the argument and style of five vivid anticolonial texts, Mahatma Gandhi’s *Hind Swaraj*, C.L.R. James’ *The Black Jacobins*, Aimé Césaire’s *Discourse on Colonialism*, Albert Memmi’s *Colonizer and Colonized*, and Frantz Fanon’s *The Wretched of the Earth*, this course aims to inquire into the construction of the image of colonialism and its projected aftermaths established in anti-colonial discourse.

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<tr>
<td>ANTH 3921</td>
<td>001/10327</td>
<td>W 10:10am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>David Scott</td>
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<td>15/15</td>
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**CSER 3935 Historical Anthropology of the US-Mexico Border. 4 points.**

Beginning in the 1980s, border crossing became an academic rage in the humanities and the social sciences. This was a consequence of globalization, an historical process that reconfigured the boundaries between economy, society, and culture; and it was also a primary theme of post-modernist aesthetics, which celebrated playful borrowing of multiple and diverse historical references. Within that frame, interest in the US-Mexican border shifted dramatically. Since that border is the longest and most intensively crossed boundary between a rich and a poor country, it became a paradigmatic point of reference. Places like Tijuana or El Paso, with their rather seedy reputation, had until then been of interest principally to local residents, but they now became exemplars of post-modern “hybridity,” and were meant to inspire the kind of transnational scholarship that is required in today’s world. Indeed, the border itself became a metaphor, a movable imaginary boundary that marks ethnic and racial distinction in American and Mexican cities. This course is an introduction to the historical formation of the US-Mexican border.

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<tr>
<td>CSER 3935</td>
<td>001/193935</td>
<td>M 10:10am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>Claudio Lomnitz</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10/20</td>
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Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission.
Prerequisites: the instructors permission. This course pursues interconnections linking text and performance in light of magic, ritual, possession, narration, and related articulations of power. Readings are drawn from classic theoretical writings, colonial fiction, and ethnographic accounts. Domains of inquiry include: spirit possession, trance states, séance, ritual performance, and related realms of cinematic projection, musical form, shadow theater, performative objects, and (other) things that move on their own, compellingly. Key theoretical concerns are subjectivity - particularly, the conjuring up and displacement of self in the form of the first-person singular I - and the haunting power of repetition. Retraced throughout the course are the uncanny shadows of a fully possessed subject –within ritual contexts and within everyday life

This course examines specific debates in the history and philosophy of science, and in science and technology studies (STS), with a view towards exploring the relationships among science, technology and society. The first half of the course engages methodological questions and theoretical debates concerning the nature of epistemology, and the significance of social interests, material agency, laboratory and social practices, and “culture(s)” in the making of scientific knowledge. The second half delves more specifically into the ways in which sciences and technologies are both embedded in and shape contemporary social and political practices and imaginaries

ANTH UN3976 TEXT, MAGIC, PERFORMANCE. 4.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement

ANTH UN3976 ANTHROPOLOGY OF SCIENCE. 4.00 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

ANTH UN3997 SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH. 2.00-6.00 points.
Prerequisite: the written permission of the staff member under whose supervision the research will be conducted

ANTH UN3997 ANTHROPOLOGY OF SCIENCE.

ANTH UN3947 TEXT, MAGIC, PERFORMANCE.

ANTH UN3997 SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH.

ANTH UN3947 ANTHROPOLOGY OF SCIENCE.

ANTH UN3976 ANTHROPOLOGY OF SCIENCE.
the spring term. If it has not, you will exit the seminar after one semester, with a grade based on the work completed during the fall term.

Prerequisites: The instructors permission. Students must have declared a major in Anthropology prior to registration. Students must have a 3.6 GPA in the major and a preliminary project concept in order to be considered. Interested students must communicate/meet with thesis instructor in the previous spring about the possibility of taking the course during the upcoming academic year. Additionally, expect to discuss with the instructor at the end of the fall term whether your project has progressed far enough to be completed in the spring term. If it has not, you will exit the seminar after one semester, with a grade based on the work completed during the fall term.

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ANTH UN2031 Corpse Life: Anthropological Histories of the Dead [Previously Archaeologies of Death and . 4 points.]
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement

The awareness of mortality seems to be a peculiarly human affliction, and its study has been a key theme of 20th century philosophy. This class will address the question of human finitude from outside of the western philosophical tradition. Anthropologists have shown that humans deal with the challenge of death in diverse ways, which nevertheless share some common themes. During the semester we'll look at case studies from across the world and over time and also explore the ethics and politics of disturbing the dead. The evidence of past human mortuary assemblages will provide some of our key primary texts. We'll analyze famous burials such as those of Tutankhamun, the Lord of Sipan, and Emperor Qin's mausoleum, containing the celebrated terracotta warriors, but we'll also consider less well-known mortuary contexts. We will also critically examine the dead body as a privileged site for anthropological research, situating its study within the broader purview of anthropological theories of the body's production and constitution.

ANTH UN3007 ARCHAEO BEFORE THE BIBLE. 3.00 points.
Please note that this is not a class on "biblical archaeology". It is a course about the politics of archaeology in the context of Israel/Palestine, and the wider southwest Asia region. This course provides a critical overview of prehistoric archaeology in southwest Asia (or the Levant - the geographical area from Lebanon in the north to the Sinai in the south, and from the middle Euphrates in Syria to southern Jordan). It has been designed to appeal to anthropologists, historians, and students interested in the Ancient Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Studies. The course is divided into two parts. First, a social and political history of archaeology, emphasizing how the nature of current theoretical and practical knowledge has been shaped and defined by previous research traditions and, second, how the current political situation in the region impinges upon archaeological practice. Themes include: the dominance of "biblical archaeology" and the implications for Palestinian archaeology, Islamic archaeology, the impact of European contact from the Crusades onwards, and the development of prehistory.

ANTH UN3151 Living with Animals: Anthropological Perspective. 4 points.
This course examines how humans and animals shape each other's lives. We'll explore the astoundingly diverse history of human-animal relationships in time and space, tracing the ways animals have made their impact on human societies (and vice-versa). Using contemporary ethnographic, historical, and archaeological examples from a variety of geographical regions and chronological periods, this class will consider how humans and animals live and make things, and the ways in which humans have found animals "good to think with." In this course, we will also discuss how knowledge about human-animal relationships in the past might change contemporary and future approaches to living with animals.

ANTH BC3234 Indigenous Place-Thought. 4.00 points.
This seminar considers what it means to be a place and to think with and be committed to that place—environmentally, politically, and spiritually. After locating ourselves in our own particular places and place-based commitments, our attention turns to the Indigenous traditions of North America, to accounts of tribal emergence and pre-colonial being, to colonial histories of land dispossession, to ongoing struggles to protect ecological health and land-based sovereignty, to the epistemological and moral systems that have developed over the course of many millennia of living with and for the land, and to the contributions such systems might make to our collective future. The seminar's title is borrowed from an essay on "indigenous place-thought" by Mohawk/Anishinaabe scholar Vanessa Watts.

ANTH UN3663 The Ancient Table: Archaeology of Cooking and Cuisine. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: None
Prerequisites: None Humans don't just eat to live. The ways we prepare, eat, and share our food is a complex reflection of our histories, environments, and ideologies. Whether we prefer coffee or tea, cornbread or challah, chicken breast or chicken feet, our tastes are expressive of social ties and social boundaries, and are linked to ideas of family and of foreignness. How did eating become such a profoundly cultural experience? This seminar takes an archaeological approach to two broad issues central to eating: First, what drives human food choices today and in the past? Second, how have social forces shaped practices of food acquisition, preparation, and consumption (and how, in turn, has food shaped society)? We will explore these questions from various evolutionary, physiological, and cultural viewpoints, highlighted by information from the best archaeological and historic case studies. Topics that will be covered include the nature of the first cooking, beer-brewing and feasting, writing of the early recipes, gender roles and 'domestic' life, and how a national cuisine takes shape. Through the course of the semester we will explore food practices from Pleistocene Spain to historic Monticello, with particular emphasis on the earliest cuisines of China, Mesoamerica, and the Mediterranean.

ANTH UN3823 ARCH ENGAGE: PAST IN PUB EYE. 4.00 points.
Enrollment limited to 15. Enrollment Priorities: Seniors and Juniors in ARCH or ANTH.
This course provides a panoramic, but intensive, inquiry into the ways that archaeology and its methods for understanding the world have been marshaled for debate in issues of public interest. It is designed to examine claims to knowledge of the past through the lenses of alternative epistemologies and a series of case-based problems that range from the academic to the political, legal, cultural, romantic, and fraudulent.

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Enrollment limited to 15. Enrollment Priorities: Seniors and Juniors in ARCH or ANTH.
This course provides a panoramic, but intensive, inquiry into the ways that archaeology and its methods for understanding the world have been marshaled for debate in issues of public interest. It is designed to examine claims to knowledge of the past through the lenses of alternative epistemologies and a series of case-based problems that range from the academic to the political, legal, cultural, romantic, and fraudulent.

ANTH 3663
Room TBA

ANTH 3823
Camilla Sturm
214 Milbank Hall

ANTH BC3663
Camilla Sturm
4.00
14/15

ANTH UN3823 ARCH ENGAGE: PAST IN PUB EYE. 4.00 points.
Enrollment limited to 15. Enrollment Priorities: Seniors and Juniors in ARCH or ANTH.
This course provides a panoramic, but intensive, inquiry into the ways that archaeology and its methods for understanding the world have been marshaled for debate in issues of public interest. It is designed to examine claims to knowledge of the past through the lenses of alternative epistemologies and a series of case-based problems that range from the academic to the political, legal, cultural, romantic, and fraudulent.
ANHS GU4001 THE ANCIENT EMPIRES. 3.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement

The principal goal of this course is to examine the nature and histories of a range of early empires in a comparative context. In the process, we will examine influential theories that have been proposed to account for the emergence and trajectories of those empires. Among the theories are the core-periphery, world-systems, territorial-hegemonic, tributary-capitalist, network, and IEMP approaches. Five regions of the world have been chosen, from the many that could provide candidates: Rome (the classic empire), New Kingdom Egypt, Qin China, Aztec Mesoamerica, and Inka South America. These empires have been chosen because they represent a cross-section of polities ranging from relatively simple and early expansionist societies to the grand empires of the Classical World, and the most powerful states of the indigenous Americas. There are no prerequisites for this course, although students who have a background in Anthropology, Archaeology, History, or Classics may find the course material somewhat more challenging than students with some knowledge of the study of early societies. There will be two lectures per week, given by the professor.

Fall 2024: ANHS GU4001

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<tr>
<td>ANHS 4001</td>
<td>001/10516</td>
<td>M W 11:40am - 12:55pm Room TBA</td>
<td>Terence D'Altroy</td>
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ANTH GU4175 WRITING ARCHAEOLOGY. 3.00 points.
Prerequisites: the instructor's permission.
Like fiction, archaeology allows us to visit other worlds and to come back home again. In this class we'll explore different genres of archaeological texts. How do writers contribute to the development of narratives about the past, what are the narrative tricks used by archaeologists, novelists and poets to evoke other worlds and to draw in the reader? What is lost in the translation from the earth to text, and what is gained? There is an intimacy to archaeological excavation, an intimacy that is rarely captured in archaeological narratives. What enlivening techniques might we learn from fictional accounts, and where might we find narrative space to include emotion and affect, as well as the texture and grain of encounters with the traces of the past? How does archaeological evidence evoke a particular response, and how do novels and poems work to do the same thing? What is the role of the reader in bringing a text to life? Enrollment limit is 15. Priority: Anthropology graduate students, archaeology senior thesis students.

ANTH GU4345 NEANDERTHAL ALTERITIES. 3.00 points.
Enrollment priorities: Graduate students, and 3rd & 4th year undergraduates only

Using The Neanderthals partly as a metaphorical device, this course considers the anthropological, philosophical and ethical implications of sharing the world with another human species. Beginning from a solid grounding in the archaeological, biological and genetic evidence, we will reflect critically on why Neanderthals are rarely afforded the same reflexive capacities, qualities and attributes - agency as anatomically modern humans, and why they are often regarded as lesser or nonhuman animals despite clear evidence for both sophisticated material and social engagement with the world and its resources. Readings/materials are drawn from anthropology, philosophy, ethics, gender studies, race and genetics studies, literature and film

Physical Anthropology
Spring 2024
Sociocultural Anthropology

ANTH UN1002 THE INTERPRETATION OF CULTURE. 3.00 points.
The anthropological approach to the study of culture and human society. Case studies from ethnography are used in exploring the universality of cultural categories (social organization, economy, law, belief system, art, etc.) and the range of variation among human societies

Spring 2024: ANTH UN1002

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Fall 2024: ANTH UN1002

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<tr>
<td>ANTH 1002</td>
<td>001/00004</td>
<td>T Th 10:10am - 11:25am 263 Macy Hall</td>
<td>Maria Malmstrom</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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ANTH UN1008 THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION. 3.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement Mandatory recitation sections will be announced first week of classes. $25.00 laboratory fee.

Corequisites: ANTH V1008
Corequisites: ANTH V1008 The rise of major civilization in prehistory and protohistory throughout the world, from the initial appearance of sedentism, agriculture, and social stratification through the emergence of the archaic empires. Description and analysis of a range of regions that were centers of significant cultural development: Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River Valley, China, North America, and Mesoamerica. DO NOT REGISTER FOR A RECITATION SECTION IF YOU ARE NOT OFFICIALLY REGISTERED FOR THE COURSE

Spring 2024: ANTH UN1008

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<td>Terence D'Altroy</td>
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ANTH UN2005 THE ETHNOGRAPHIC IMAGINATION. 3.00 points.
Introduction to the theory and practice of "ethnography"—the intensive study of peoples' lives as shaped by social relations, cultural images, and historical forces. Considers through critical reading of various kinds of texts (classic ethnographies, histories, journalism, novels, films) the ways in which understanding, interpreting, and representing the lived words of people—at home or abroad, in one place or transnationally, in the past or the present—can be accomplished. Discussion section required

Spring 2024: ANTH UN2005

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<td>001/10596</td>
<td>T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm 141 Uris Hall</td>
<td>Maria Jose de Abreu</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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This course provides a comprehensive introduction to methods and theory in archaeology – by exploring how archaeologists work to create narratives about the past (and the present) on the basis of the material remains of the past. The course begins with a consideration of how archaeologists deal with the remains of the past in the present: What are archaeological sites and how do we ‘discover’ them? How do archaeologists ‘read’ or analyze sites and artifacts? From there, we will turn to the question of how archaeologists interpret these materials traces, in order to create narratives about life in the past. After a review of the historical development of theoretical approaches in archaeological interpretation, the course will consider contemporary approaches to interpreting the past.

ANTH BC3223 Gender Archaeology. 4.00 points.
This seminar critically reexamines the ancient world from the perspective of gender archaeology. Though the seedlings of gender archaeology were first sown by of feminist archaeologists during the 70’s and 80’s, this approach involves far more than simply ‘womanizing’ androcentric narratives of past. Rather, gender archaeology criticizes interpretations of the past that transplant contemporary social roles onto the archaeological past, casting the divisions and inequalities of today as both timeless and natural. This class challenges the idea of a singular past, instead championing a turn towards multiple, rich, messy, intersectional pasts. The ‘x’ in ‘archaeolxgy’ is an explicit signal of our focus on this diversity of pasts and a call for a more inclusive field of practice today.

ANTH UN3465 WOMEN, GENDER POL-MUSLIM WORLD. 3.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Practices like veiling, gendered forms of segregation, and the honor code that are central to Western images of Muslim women are also contested issues throughout the Muslim world. This course examines debates about gender, sexuality, and morality and explores the interplay of political, social, and economic factors in shaping the lives of men and women across the Muslim world, from the Middle East to Europe. The perspective will be primarily anthropological, although special attention will be paid to historical processes associated with colonialism and nation-building that are crucial to understanding present gender politics. We will focus on the sexual politics of everyday life in specific locales and explore the extent to which these are shaped by these histories and the power of representations mobilized in a global world in the present and international political interventions. In addition to reading ethnographic works about particular communities, we read memoirs and critical analyses of the local and transnational activist movements that have emerged to address various aspects of gender politics and rights.

ANTH UN3467 WOMEN/GENDER-MUSLIM WORLD-DISC. 0.00 points.
This seminar engages--through science fiction and speculative fiction, film, and companion readings in anthropology and beyond—a range of approaches to the notion of the “future” and to the imagination of multiple futures to come. We will work through virtual and fictive constructions of future worlds, ecologies, and social orders “as if” they present alternative possibilities for pragmatic yet utopian thinking and dreaming in the present (and as we’ll also consider dystopian and “heterotopian” possibilities as well).

ANTH UN3604 As If: Anthropologies of the Future. 4.00 points.
This seminar engages--through science fiction and speculative fiction, film, and companion readings in anthropology and beyond—a range of approaches to the notion of the “future” and to the imagination of multiple futures to come. We will work through virtual and fictive constructions of future worlds, ecologies, and social orders “as if” they present alternative possibilities for pragmatic yet utopian thinking and dreaming in the present (and as we’ll also consider dystopian and “heterotopian” possibilities as well)
ANTH UN3661 South Asia: Anthropological Approaches. 4 points.
This course draws on ethnography, history, fiction, and other genres to think about diverse peoples and places in the region known as South Asia. Rather than attempt to fix or define "South Asia" as a singular category, we will explore how particular social and scholarly categories through which dimensions of South Asian life have come to be known (such as caste, class, religion, gender, sexuality, disability, and kinship) are experienced, negotiated, and reworked by actual persons in specific situations. By examining both categories and practices, we will ask: What kinds of relationships exist between the messiness of everyday life and the classifications used by both scholars and "local" people to describe and make sense of it? How do scholarly and bureaucratic ideas not merely reflect but also shape lived realities? How do lived realities affect the ways in which categories are named and understood? In addressing such questions, categories sometimes thought of as stable or timeless emerge as, in fact, contingent and embodied.

ANTH UN3800 Black Death. 4.00 points.
The term 'black death' circulates in scholarship and public discourses often without a clear definition or attribution to a specific thinker. It can do this because the term is commonsensical—naming the unfortunate relationship between Black people and death. This seminar surveys death as an object of inquiry, metaphor, political occasion, and inspiration for aesthetic creation. Reading texts and engaging other materials across disciplines, genres, and media while focusing on Anthropology and African American Studies, the course recognizes that the threads of race and death are inherently global and connected to European colonial imperial expansion, racism, capitalism, and modernity. Throughout the course we ask: What is the relationship between Black people or "blackness" and death? Is "black death" unique? How do we take seriously ubiquitous legacies of antiblack violence while also accounting for socio-historical specificities? What are the attendant practices, creations, and modes of thinking and being responsive to black death? At the end of the course, students will have honed skills in close reading, critical thinking, and thoughtful discussion through the study of race and death. This is an advanced level course; students should have taken at least one course introductory critical race theories course (or similar) prior to enrolling.

ANTH UN3821 Native America. 4 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Enrollment limited to 40.

This is an undergraduate seminar that takes up primary and secondary sources and reflections to: a) provide students with an historical overview of Native American issues and representational practices, b) provide students with an understanding of the ways in which land expropriation and concomitant military and legal struggle have formed the core of Native-State relations and are themselves central to American and Native American history and culture, and c) provide students with an understanding of Native representational practices, political subjectivity, and aspiration.

ANTH BC3872 SENIOR THESIS SEMINAR II. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: Must complete ANTH BC3871x. Limited to Barnard Senior Anthropology Majors. Offered every Spring. Discussion of research methods and planning and writing of a Senior Essay in Anthropology will accompany research on problems of interest to students, culminating in the writing of individual Senior Essays. The advisory system requires periodic consultation and discussion between the student and her adviser as well as the meeting of specific deadlines set by the department each semester.
ANTH UN3880 LISTENINGS: AN ETHNOG OF SOUND. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission.
We explore the possibilities of an ethnography of sound through a range of listening encounters: in resonant urban soundscapes of the city and in natural soundscapes of acoustic ecology; from audible pasts and echoes of the present; through repetitive listening in the age of electronic reproduction, and mindful listening that retraces an uncanniness inherent in sound. Silence, noise, voice, chambers, reverberation, sound in its myriad manifestations and transmissions. From the captured souls of Edison’s phonography, to everyday acoustical adventures, the course turns away from the screen and dominant epistemologies of the visual for an extended moment, and does so in pursuit of sonorous objects. How is it that sound so moves us as we move within its world, and who or what then might the listening subject be?

Spring 2024: ANTH UN3880
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 3880  001/10671  T 10:10am - 12:00pm  963 Ext Schermerhorn Hall  John Pemberton  4.00 12/12

ANTH UN3893 THE BOMB. 4.00 points.
This course investigates the social history of nuclear arms in the context of World War II and the Cold War, exploring their ramifications for subjects and societies. We consider historical, ethnographic, medical and psychiatric accounts of the bomb’s invention and fallout, including the unknowable bodily injuries caused by radiation and the ecological contamination inflicted on indigenous communities where atomic weapons were tested. Throughout the course, we investigate government propaganda designed to produce political subjects who both endorse and fear nuclear imperatives; who support expanding militarization and funding for weapons development; and who abide escalating political rhetorics of nuclear aggression

Spring 2024: ANTH UN3893
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 3893  001/10913  T 10:10am - 12:00pm  963 Ext Schermerhorn Hall  Karen Seeley  4.00 11/14

ANTH UN3947 TEXT, MAGIC, PERFORMANCE. 4.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission.
Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission. This course pursues interconnections linking text and performance in light of magic, ritual, possession, narration, and related articulations of power. Readings are drawn from classic theoretical writings, colonial fiction, and ethnographic accounts. Domains of inquiry include: spirit possession, trance states, séance, ritual performance, and related realms of cinematic projection, musical form, shadow theater, performative objects, and (other) things that move on their own, compellingly. Key theoretical concerns are subjectivity - particularly, the conjuring up and displacement of self in the form of the first-person singular I - and the haunting power of repetition. Retraced throughout the course are the uncanny shadows of a fully possessed subject - within ritual contexts and within everyday life

Spring 2024: ANTH UN3947
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 3947  001/10796  T 2:10pm - 4:00pm  Room TBA  John Pemberton  4.00 13/12

ANTH UN3935 ARABIA IMAGINED-DISC. 0.00 points.
ANTH UN3939 ANIME EFFECT: JAPANESE MEDIA. 4.00 points.
Culture, technology, and media in contemporary Japan. Theoretical and ethnographic engagements with forms of mass mediation, including anime, manga, video, and cell-phone novels. Considers larger global economic and political contexts, including post-Fukushima transformations. Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission

Spring 2024: ANTH UN3939
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 3939  001/10886  T 2:10pm - 4:00pm  467 Ext Schermerhorn Hall  Marilyn Iry  4.00 15/15

ANTH UN3933 ARABIA IMAGINED. 4.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
As the site of the 7th century revelation of the Quran and the present day location of the sacred precincts of Islam, Arabia is the direction of prayer for Muslims worldwide and the main destination for pilgrimage. Arabia also provides a frame for diverse modes of thought and practice and for cultural expression ranging from the venerable literature of the 1001 Nights to the academic disciplines of Islam and contemporary social media, such as Twitter. We thus will approach Arabia as a global phenomenon, as a matter of both geographic relations and the imagination. While offering an introduction to contemporary anthropological research, the course will engage in a critical review of related western conceptions, starting with an opening discussion of racism and Islamophobia. In the format of a Global Core course, the weekly assignments are organized around English translations of Arabic texts, read in conjunction with recent studies by anthropologists
ANTH UN3998 SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH. 2.00-6.00 points.
Prerequisite: the written permission of the staff member under whose supervision the research will be conducted

Spring 2024: ANTH UN3998

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ANTH UN3999 SENIOR THESIS SEM IN ANTHROPOL. 4.00 points.
Enrollment limited to 15. Open to CC and GS majors in Anthropology only.

Prerequisites: The instructor’s permission. Students must have declared a major in Anthropology prior to registration. Students must have a 3.6 GPA in the major and a preliminary project concept in order to be considered. Interested students must communicate/meet with thesis instructor in the previous spring about the possibility of taking the course during the upcoming academic year. Additionally, expect to discuss with the instructor at the end of the fall term whether your project has progressed far enough to be completed in the spring term. If it has not, you will exit the seminar after one semester, with a grade based on the work completed during the fall term.

Prerequisites: The instructors permission. Students must have declared a major in Anthropology prior to registration. Students must have a 3.6 GPA in the major and a preliminary project concept in order to be considered. Interested students must communicate/meet with thesis instructor in the previous spring about the possibility of taking the course during the upcoming academic year. Additionally, expect to discuss with the instructor at the end of the fall term whether your project has progressed far enough to be completed in the spring term. This two-term course is a combination of a seminar and a workshop that will help you conduct research, write, and present an original senior thesis in anthropology. Students who write theses are eligible to be considered for departmental honors. The first term of this course introduces a variety of approaches used to produce anthropological knowledge and writing; encourages students to think critically about the approaches they take to researching and writing by studying model texts with an eye to the ethics, constraints, and potentials of anthropological research and writing; and gives students practice in the seminar and workshop formats that are key to collegial exchange and refinement of ideas. During the first term, students complete a few short exercises that will culminate in a substantial draft of one discrete section of their senior project (18-20 pages) plus a detailed outline of the expected work that remains to be done (5 pages). The spring sequence of the anthropology thesis seminar is a writing intensive continuation of the fall semester, in which students will have designed the research questions, prepared a full thesis proposal that will serve as a guide for the completion of the thesis and written a draft of one chapter. Only those students who expect to have completed the fall semester portion of the course are allowed to register for the spring; final enrollment is contingent upon successful completion of first semester requirements. In spring semester, weekly meetings will be devoted to the collaborative refinement of drafts, as well as working through issues of writing (evidence, voice, authority etc.). All enrolled students are required to present their project at a symposium in the late spring, and the final grade is based primarily on successful completion of the thesis/capstone project. Note: The senior thesis seminar is open to CC and GS majors in Anthropology only. It requires the instructor’s permission for registration. Students must have a 3.6 GPA in the major and a preliminary project concept in order to be considered. Interested students should communicate with the thesis instructor and the director of undergraduate study in the previous spring about the possibility of taking the course during the upcoming academic year. Additionally, expect to discuss with the instructor at the end of the fall term whether your project has progressed far enough to be completed in the spring term. If it has not, you will exit the seminar after one semester, with a grade based on the work completed during the fall term. Enrollment limit is 15. Requirements: Students must have completed the requirements of the first semester of the sequence and seek instructor approval to enroll in the second
ANTH GU4108 Film at Low Temperatures: Cinemas of the Arctic. 4.00 points.
This seminar explores the screen cultures of the Indigenous peoples of the Polar and Circumpolar regions of Canada, The United States, Russia, Scandinavia, and Greenland as they exist at the unstable boundary between cinematic object and creative subject. Viewing work by Indigenous filmmakers, we will draw on from Indigenous Studies, Cultural Anthropology, and Film Studies to examine the complicated role of film in the Arctic.

Spring 2024: ANTH GU4108
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 4108  001/13238  M 10:10am - 12:00pm  1201 International Affairs Bldg  Tyler Adkins  4.00  16/18

ANTH GU4116 Sympathy, Librism, # Conduct of Care. 3.00 points.
This seminar examines the distribution and obligations of care under late liberalism. We work from classical approaches to human sentiment (e.g. Hume, Adam Smith) to explore the relationship of forms of care (management, empathy) to different modes of statecraft. In particular we examine links between imperial colonialism and liberal democracy in terms of different techniques of administering social difference (e.g. race, multiculturalism, class, population, ...). We critically investigate the role of the discipline of anthropology within this rubric and read several ethnographies that dwell on the interrelation of care and vulnerability. Across the course, we scrutinize what types of subjects care, for whom, and to what effect.

Spring 2024: ANTH GU4116
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 4116  001/12036  F 10:10am - 12:00pm  467 Ext Schermerhorn Hall  Catherine Fennell  3.00  14/12

ANTH GU4123 Historical Anthropology. 4.00 points.
This is an introduction to the interdisciplinary approaches of historical anthropology, in sources, methods and conceptualizations. Taking studies of differing Muslim societies by leading anthropologists as examples, we will examine the possibilities of this mode of inquiry. Students will give seminar presentations on the readings and complete a semester paper.

Spring 2024: ANTH GU4123
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 4123  001/13242  M W 11:40am - 12:55pm  614 Schermerhorn Hall  Terence D'Altroy  4.00  95/120

ANTH GU4221 Community-Based Archaeology, Heritage, and Public Engagement. 4.00 points.
What is community-based archaeology? What constitutes a community, and what are the stakes of making claims to community? How does a community come into being around archaeological sites or contested heritage? In what ways does community archaeology align with or differ from public archaeology? How has public engagement been imagined in relation to descendant communities? Can collaborative research designs, foundational to community-based research, be developed in public archaeology? This seminar will explore the methodological boundaries of public and community-based archaeology and heritage. Using case studies from New York City and elsewhere, we will consider the ways in which concepts such as dialogue, process, flexibility, collaboration, activism, and sustainability are essential to an engaged and community responsive archaeology. We will also examine a diversity of methodological approaches that facilitate the integration of these ideas in on-the-ground practice.

Spring 2024: ANTH GU4221
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 4221  001/14760  F 10:10am - 12:00pm  963 Ext Schermerhorn Hall  Jessica Striebel MacLean  4.00  14/20

Archaeology
ANTH UN1008 THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION. 3.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement Mandatory recitation sections will be announced first week of classes. $25.00 laboratory fee.
Corequisites: ANTH V1008

Corequisites: ANTH V1008 The rise of major civilization in prehistory and protohistory throughout the world, from the initial appearance of sedentism, agriculture, and social stratification through the emergence of the archaic empires. Description and analysis of a range of regions that were centers of significant cultural development: Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus River Valley, China, North America, and Mesoamerica. DO NOT REGISTER FOR A RECITATION SECTION IF YOU ARE NOT OFFICIALLY REGISTERED FOR THE COURSE.

Spring 2024: ANTH UN1008
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
ANTH 1008  001/14757  M W 11:40am - 12:55pm  614 Schermerhorn Hall  Terence D'Altroy  3.00  95/120
ANTH BC2012 LAB METHODS ARCHAEOLOGY. 4.00 points.
Only the most recent chapters of the past are able to be studied using traditional historiographical methods focused on archives of textual documents. How, then, are we to analyze the deep history of human experiences prior to the written word? And even when textual archives do survive from a given historical period, these archives are typically biased toward the perspectives of those in power. How, then, are we to undertake analyses of the past that take into account the lives and experiences of all of society’s members, including the poor, the working class, the colonized, and others whose voices appear far less frequently in historical documents? From its disciplinary origins in nineteenth century antiquarianism, archaeology has grown to become a rigorous science of the past, dedicated to the exploration of long-term and inclusive social histories. “Laboratory Methods in Archaeology” is an intensive introduction to the analysis of archaeological artifacts and samples in which we explore how the organic and inorganic remains from archaeological sites can be used to build rigorous claims about the human past. The 2022 iteration of the course centers on assemblages from two sites, both excavated by Barnard’s archaeological field program in the Taos region of northern New Mexico: (1) the Spanish colonial site of San Antonio del Embudo founded in 1725 and (2) the hippie commune known as New Buffalo, founded in 1967. Participants in ANTH BC2012 will be introduced to the history, geology, and ecology of the Taos region, as well as to the excavation histories of the two sites. Specialized laboratory modules focus on the analysis of chipped stone artifacts, ceramics, animal bone, glass, and industrial artifacts. The course only demands participation in the seminars and laboratory modules and successful completion of the written assignments, but all students are encouraged to develop specialized research projects to be subsequently expanded into either (1) a senior thesis project or (2) a conference presentation at the Society for American Archaeology, Society for Historical Archaeology, or Theoretical Archaeology Group meeting.

ANTH UN2028 THINK LIKE AN ARCHAEOLOGIST. 4.00 points.
$25 mandatory lab fee.

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to methods and theory in archaeology – by exploring how archaeologists work to create narratives about the past (and the present) on the basis on the material remains of the past. The course begins with a consideration of how archaeologists deal with the remains of the past in the present: What are archaeological sites and how do we ‘discover’ them? How do archaeologists ‘read’ or analyze sites and artifacts? From there, we will turn to the question of how archaeologists interpret these materials traces, in order to create narratives about life in the past. After a review of the historical development of theoretical approaches in archaeological interpretation, the course will consider contemporary approaches to interpreting the past.

ANTH BC3223 Gender Archaeology. 4.00 points.
This seminar critically reexamines the ancient world from the perspective of gender archaeology. Though the seedlings of gender archaeology were first sown by feminist archaeologists during the 70’s and 80’s, this approach involves far more than simply ‘womanizing’ androcentric narratives of past. Rather, gender archaeology criticizes interpretations of the past that transplant contemporary social roles onto the archaeological past, casting the divisions and inequalities of today as both timeless and natural. This class challenges the idea of a singular past, instead championing a turn towards multiple, rich, messy, intersectional pasts. The ‘x’ in ‘archaeology’ is an explicit signal of our focus on this diversity of pasts and a call for a more inclusive field of practice today.

ANTH GU4346 LAB TECHNIQUES IN ARCHAEOLOGY. 3.00 points.
“Laboratory Methods in Archaeology” is an intensive introduction to the analysis of archaeological artifacts and samples in which we explore how the organic and inorganic remains from archaeological sites can be used to build rigorous claims about the human past. In 2023, this course will focus on pre-contact and post-contact assemblages from the New York-metro area, including materials from the legacy collections of Ralph Solecki. Participants will be introduced to the history, geology, and ecology of the New York area and specialized laboratory modules focus on the analysis of chipped stone artifacts, ceramics, animal bone, glass, and a range of post-contact artifacts. The course only demands participation in the seminars and laboratory modules and successful completion of the written assignments, but all students are encouraged to develop specialized research projects to be subsequently expanded into either (1) a thesis project or (2) a conference presentation at the Society for American Archaeology, Society for Historical Archaeology, or Theoretical Archaeology Group meeting.

Physical Anthropology

ANTH GU4148 HUMAN SKELETAL BIOLOGY II. 3.00 points.
Enrollment limit is 12 and Instructor’s permission required.

Recommended for archaeology and physical anthropology students, pre-meds, and biology majors interested in the human skeletal system. Intensive study of human skeletal materials using anatomical and anthropological landmarks to assess sex, age, and ethnicity of bones. Other primate skeletal materials and fossil casts used for comparative study.

Of Related Interest

Anthropology (Barnard)

ANTH BC3868 ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD RESEARCH IN NYC
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race
CSER UN3904 Rumor and Racial Conflict
CSER UN3924 Latin American and Latina/o Social Movements
CSER UN3990 SENIOR PROJECT SEMINAR
Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology
EEEB GU4700 RACE:TANGLED HIST-BIOL CONCEPT
Women’s and Gender Studies
WMST UN1001 INTRO-WOMEN # GENDER STUDIES