

FALL 2020
NON-CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ANTH 397 TOPICS: WAR: THE VIETNAM WAR – CULTURE & CONFLICT

The class will address anthropological theories of human aggression; utilizing the Vietnam War as the cornerstone of the discussion. This is a special offering focusing on the most disruptive cultural event of the last century of the American story. The class will be developed around videos and lectures by visiting participants/experts of the Vietnam era.

CIVT 202 PERTINENCE: WHO'S AFRAID OF MODERN ART?

This course examines developments in art and visual culture from the middle of the twentieth century to the present through selected topical units. Students will engage critically both visual examples and seminal texts produced by significant art historians, philosophers, art critics and artists. We will study key primary works and also a selection of interpretive studies that address issues of modernism and post-modernism in the United States. Class discussions will be devoted to consideration of this reading, to questions of visual and cultural interpretation, and to examining how modern and contemporary artists have engaged with pressing issues of their day. Cross listed with ART 313.

CIVT 203 JUSTICE: “JUST GENDER?” EXPLORING GENDER EQUITY AND JUSTICE

If justice is equitableness, or moral rightness, can our world be just without gender equity? And is equity attainable when normative gender binary systems persist? We learn how dynamics of masculinity and femininity constrain lived experiences of men, women, transgender, and non-binary persons, and explore the explicit actions that are intended to intervene in gender inequity. Next, we consider key tensions in modern life to explore how competing demands constrain our ability to “choose” to act ethically. To expand our ability to see complexities of justice, we proceed by comparing global approaches to gender equality including sexuality and human rights, family and carework support policies, and schooling access and sorting of children. Finally, we examine how critical feminist theoretical and epistemological perspectives believe justice might be achieved.

CIVT 204 FREEDOM: THE HOLOCAUST: THE CITIZEN AND THE STATE

(See HIST 397)

COMM 297 TOPICS: SHE WOULD BE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Gender is constructed by humans and is a pervasive force for our understanding of who we are, how we should behave and how we should evaluate ourselves. Some have argued that an important reason we have not elected a woman as president is the role of Commander-in-Chief. This course examines larger questions of gender and international relations but grounds that discussion in the context of women and the U.S. Presidency. Students will engage in thoughtful discussions and exploration of questions like: How are gender and national security/international relations connected? Why does gender matter? Is gender (certain genders not welcome) or sex (don't want a woman) a better explanation for the lack of a woman as President of the United States? If a woman is elected President would her election invalidate the idea of gender as a barrier to the Presidency? No prior course work in communication or gender is necessary for this course.

COSC 397 TOPICS: ADVANCED PROGRAMMING

This course will discuss some advanced programming concepts and techniques such as dynamic programming, parallel programming, functional programming, and assembly programming.

Prerequisites: COSC 327.

ENGL 200B & D LITERARY EXPERIENCE: LITERATURE OF EPIDEMICS

Ever since humans began living in community, illness has been a major threat to survival and quality of life. It is unsurprising, then, that the invisible menace of disease—especially widespread contagious disease—features in literature across centuries and continents. In this class, we will explore how authors have captured the fear and courage inspired by epidemics from the past, the present, and the imagined future. What makes an epidemic so panic-inducing? How have people responded in the past, and how can we plan to respond in the future? How do epidemics highlight inequalities of race, class, and gender? What are the roles of science and technology in preventing, spreading, and treating disease? We will investigate these questions and others in conjunction with historical texts like Boccaccio's *Decameron* (plague) and Burnett's *The Secret Garden* (cholera); as well as modern texts like Hudes' *Water by the Spoonful* (HIV/AIDS), Clarke's *Making Beds for the Dead* (foot and mouth disease), and Mandel's *Station Eleven* (the fictional “Georgia Flu”).

HIST 397 TOPICS: THE HOLOCAUST: THE CITIZEN AND THE STATE

The Holocaust, which is also known as Shoah, was one of the greatest crimes in human history and it has become a touchstone for the meaning of evil. The Holocaust shows us what we are capable of doing to each other when hatred is allowed to flourish. This course explores the question “how then shall we live?” by studying the history of the Third Reich, the serial mass murder of innocents, and we will also examine the role of the citizen and the state. What does it mean to live under fascism? What power does an individual have in the face of overwhelming systemic violence? Why did people follow Hitler? What does it mean to survive the camps and try to forge a new life that has meaning? By weaving literature, history, and film into the narrative of the Holocaust, abiding moral and ethical issues will be explored. Cross listed with CIVT 204.

LATN 397 TOPICS: LATIN READINGS

This is a Latin reading course focusing on translating Cicero and Catullus. Latin I through III or the equivalent is required. This course may be used to fulfill Latin IV or to meet an elective for the classics major or minor.

MUSI 334 PIANO PEDAGOGY: HAPPY BIRTHDAY BEETHOVEN

This course is a survey of piano compositions by major composers to include J. S. Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin, Schumann, Liszt, Brahms, Grieg, Ravel, and Debussy. Lectures and class discussions outline each composer's complete works for the piano, with a special emphasis on the piano works of Beethoven in recognition of the 250th anniversary year of his birth. Reading and listening assignments supplement class lectures.

PSYC 397 TOPICS: HUMAN MEMORY: FUNCTION, FAILINGS

Course description: Function: How does memory work? Failings: Why do we forget? Fixes: How can we get the most out of our own memories? The goal of this course is for students to build a bridge between their knowledge of memory based on their personal experience and the body of knowledge based on psychological research. Students will be introduced to different ways of knowing about memory including readings from the primary research literature in memory, fictional short story, and film. We will explore how memories are made and the purpose memory serves in our lives.

SOCI 297 TOPICS: "JUST GENDER?" EXPLORING GENDER EQUITY AND JUSTICE

(See CIVT 203)

SPAN 396 TOPICS IN HISPANIC LITERATURE: NARCOTRAFFIC, CULTURE, *NARCOCULTURA*

We study aesthetic responses to the violence associated with the industry in illicit drugs, examining "literary" and "popular" fiction, as well as television, film, and popular music (*narcocorridos*). Information from neuroscience, psychology, or other fields inform our interpretive possibilities, and international or U.S. cultural products are examined comparatively, in recognition of the Drug War's global ramifications. Overarching themes include: sobriety and intoxication; the ethics of representing violence; portrayals of relationships between criminal organizations and the state, and ethical and economic relationships between those who consume illegal drugs and/or promote militarized interdiction and those that suffer the violence stemming from these phenomena.