

CWS List of Recommended Courses Fall 2017

ANTH 515 (Manalansan) Affect Theory 02:00PM - 04:50PM T

ANTH 515 (Martin) Social Theory & Ethnography I M 05:00PM - 07:50PM

ANTH 5:15 (Desmond) Performance Studies M 02:00PM - 04:50PM

Performance Studies: Performativity and Identity on Stage and in Daily Life

CI 550 (Herrera) Methods of Educational Inquiry M 05:00PM - 07:50PM

Offers a graduate-level introduction to research in education, including quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods designs and approaches. Key concepts include: identifying a research problem, reviewing the literature, design and analysis, communicating evidence, and the ethics of research. Students should gain the ability to effectively evaluate and critique design/methods sections of research publications; plan and design research studies; and organize a presentation of research to an audience of peers.

CI 561 (McCarthy) Theory and Practice in Child Composition T 04:00PM - 06:50PM

Focuses on theory and practice of children's written composition from preschool through middle school. Includes development of understanding of texts, pedagogy, motivation and classroom practices that facilitate writing. Students learn about their own writing, participate in peer writing conferences, and produce research or curricular projects for use in classrooms.

CMN 450 (Finnegan) Gender and Rhetoric MWF 1:00PM-1:50PM

CMN 529 (Jackson) New Communication Technologies W 02:00PM-04:50PM

This course focuses on emerging theoretical perspectives on new communication technologies (such as mediatization theory and related strands of thought). These theories cut across virtually all subfields within communication research, including both humanistic and social science traditions. They attempt to account for how new technologies affect human society through their impact on communication practices and institutions.

CMN 529 (Quick) Persuasion W 2:00PM-4:50PM

This graduate seminar will explore the various theoretical frameworks used by communication researchers across a range of contexts. Theories placing an emphasis on how messages impact the persuasion process will be reviewed. Moreover, theories that address how individuals cognitively and emotionally process these messages will be examined. By the end of the semester, students will have a greater understanding of numerous persuasion theories as well as how to apply these frameworks into their own studies of persuasion. This course is intended to provide a solid foundation for you to build upon in your subsequent coursework and research trajectory.

CMN 538 (Cisneros) On Bodies and the Body Politic W 2:00PM-4:50PM

This class will seek to unpack the idea of the “body politic” from two angles: politicized physical bodies (e.g., citizens) and the political or social body (e.g., the nation state). We’ll seek to understand the history and deployment of this metaphor as a descriptor of a social/political body and the assumptions it carries about normative and non-normative physical bodies (e.g., law-abiding, able-bodied). We’ll explore the ways in which the contours of the national political body have been delineated by marking and then politicizing certain bodies (e.g., through race, gender, sex, and criminality). We’ll consider whether and how the materiality of bodies (corporeality, emplacement, mobility) has been used to undermine the politicized, and oftentimes exclusionary, construction of the U.S. body politic. We will read widely across disciplines and study both classical and contemporary/recent works.

CMN 538 (Murphy) The Obama Persuasion M 2:00PM-4:50PM

This course explores the public address of Barack Obama. In the class, we’ll seek to trace the basic contours of his body of rhetoric and, in a larger sense, of his presidency and times. The course will focus on primary and secondary sources, with a variety of concepts being brought to bear on specific texts during each week of the class. We seek to understand the lineaments of his persuasion--the basic elements that make up his appeal to the American public.

GWS 470 (Beauchamp) Transgender Studies 12:00PM-2:50PM

What are the issues and politics related to transgender and transsexual identities? Students will examine and critically evaluate historical and contemporary debates that contest normative male/female binaries and traditional categorizations of sexuality. The course moves beyond these initial inquiries into gender theory to consider the effects of institutional discourses produced through stage and civil society. Taught with particular attention given to questions of race, national formations, medical, and legal discourses. Areas of inquiry may include gender theory, transnational identities, gendered and racial performances, medical and psychological diagnoses, violence, the law, and the Prison Industrial Complex. Through these topics, students will be

asked to consider important questions over political and legal representation, autonomy, the rights of citizenship, and the practice of everyday life.

GWS 478 (Washick) Sex, Power and Politics W 3:00PM-5:50pm

Examines representations of the relationship between sex, power, and subjectivity and how they have shaped feminism. Explores critical approaches to feminist analyses of women's oppression and debates about sexuality, including issues such as consent, rape and prostitution.

ENGL 505 (Schaffner) Writing Studies-Writing in the Digital Age W 01:00PM - 02:50PM

In this graduate seminar, we will explore what it means to read and write online: on blogs, eBooks, review sites, message boards, networked games, and the vast array of social media. We will discuss what people do on social media giants (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube) as well as some smaller-scale social media sites (such as Ravelry and SoundCloud). Students in the class will read a mix of popular criticism and academic scholarship in fields focused on writing, rhetoric, discourse, literacy, and digital communication. Students from across campus are encouraged to apply, as this class is interdisciplinary. You don't need to be a techie to take this class, though techies are welcome. Students are encouraged to bring their perspectives, personal experiences, and methodologies to this class. Part of the course will involve learning to code a simple website in basic HTML. The culminating assignment will involve conducting a small-scale study that results in a conference-style talk and piece of born-digital scholarship.

ENGL 582 (Prior) Topics in Research and Writing-Cultural-Historical Activity Theory (CHAT) and Research on Writing M 01:00PM - 02:50PM

This seminar explores how to engage in theoretically-grounded research on writing practices. It centers on cultural-historical activity theory (CHAT) conceived broadly, with particular attention to the traditions associated with Vygotsky, Luria, Bakhtin, and Voloshinov as well as to related work on situated semiotic activity (e.g., Hanks, Irvine, Goodwin) and on actor-network theories (Latour). Together, these theories suggest the need for research to trace complex relationships among situated semiotic action, cultural artifacts/practices, genre systems, and writing. In the seminar, we will take up examples of theoretical and empirical work in CHAT as well as of varied research on writing. To examine how to implement CHAT approaches in studies of literate activity, we will do several, informal inquiry activities (practicing in effect how to conduct and analyze research on writing). Finally, each student will explore the application of CHAT approaches to their current or projected research project. TEXTS: James Wertsch, *Voices of the Mind: A Sociocultural Approach to Mediated Action*. Harvard UP 1991; Annalisa Sannino, Harry Daniels, & Kris Gutierrez, *Learning and Expanding with Activity Theory*, Cambridge University Press, 2009; Bruno Latour, *Reassembling the Social: An Introduction to*

Actor-Network Theory, Oxford University Press; Michael Silverstein & Greg Urban, *Natural Histories of Discourse*, University of Chicago Press, 1996. Other readings will be available through the course compass site or available free online.

ENGL 584 (Prendergast) Topics in Discourse and Writing-Rhetoric and Neurodiversity T
01:00PM - 02:50PM

This course will look at the intersections of rhetoric and neurodiversity. The notion of rhetorical agency has long been predicated on the rational subject, the “good man speaking well” as Quintilian put it. Lately, however, scholars across several disciplines—but chiefly from disability studies—have begun to challenge such received notions of rhetorical agency. They speak from or about at states typically described as autistic, schizophrenic, or otherwise impaired, and reimagine rhetorical possibilities and definitions. In the process they put rhetorical theory under the microscope as well, examining it for its embrace of ableism, sanism, and an idealized normativity. The works we will read in this class will draw from disability activists and scholars who conduct a radical reframing of rhetoric. These will include, but not be limited to, work by: Jenell Johnson; Margaret Price; Melanie Yergeau; Elyn Saks; Elizabeth Donaldson; Oliver Saks, Michel Foucault; Mel Baggs; Kay Redfield Jamison, and Catherine Prendergast.

ENGL 593 (McDuffie) Professional Seminar in College Teaching-The Teaching of Rhetoric T
09:30AM - 11:50AM

This is a course for graduate students new to the teaching of college composition. We will explore writing pedagogy theories and best practices in teaching writing, from cornerstone concepts like writing as a process to contemporary research on genre and transfer. We will theorize and develop pedagogical approaches to topics such as: teaching rhetoric and argument; maintaining language diversity, including second-language writing; cultivating digital literacies and research skills; responding to and evaluating student writing; and developing teaching identities. The required work for this course includes weekly readings, active participation in class discussion, short writings, and reflective teaching materials.

EPS 533 (Herrera) Global Youth & Citizenship T 07:00PM - 09:00PM

Discusses youth and citizenship in a global context. Covers the social construction of children and youth, the sociology of global generations, education and social media, and new youth movements in the digital age. Draws on a diversity of case studies from North America, the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and Latin America.

EPS 590 (Dyson) Contemporary Childhoods & Pop Culture M 04:00PM - 06:50PM

Childhood and Youth are *defined* by societies differently across time and space and those definitions are marked by societal constructs like gender, race, and socioeconomic class. At the same time, and influenced by the same factors, childhoods are also *experienced* differently. Childhood and youth cultures are produced by kids interacting with each other in response to the situations in which they find themselves.

Childhoods as defined and experienced are made most vivid in popular culture. Commercial culture aims to sell to kids (via their parents), and kids do or do not buy into (or at least desire) their wares. In this course, we approach childhood and youth from the perspective of childhood and cultural studies, stressing commercial culture as it becomes popular culture. Contemporary childhoods and youths are infused with popular culture, from the ways kids make their bodies texts through clothes and make-up, to the musicians and sports teams that mark their social affiliations, the films and TV shows they watch, the toys they want, and the social media they use. Childhoods, youths, and literacies themselves are being played out in new ways.

We will begin by defining basic concepts, chief among them, *what is “popular culture”?* *What is “childhood”?* *What role does schooling play in our media-saturated world?* I will set the theoretical stage for our work, but all class members will participate in teaching others about particular aspects of popular culture, given their own expertise. Course materials will include readings and, also, selected media.

EPS 590 (Dyson) Lang, Id & Poli of Schooling W 04:00PM - 06:50PM

Language is, in one way or the other, at the root of our identities, our relationships with others, and, indeed our world view. Moreover, in school, language use—discourse—is a site of sociocultural differences and of gross inequities. *Indeed, it is impossible to understand how schools become places of privilege and oppression without this understanding.* How is language linked to the sociocultural history and political structure of a country, and to the identity of a speaker? What do basic questions about language, development, and variation have to do with education in a multidialectal, multilingual world? Through readings from classics in the field, to textbook definitional chapters, to read aloud fiction capturing language’s variety, the course aims to provide a conceptual foundation for those interested in these questions (no previous linguistic education required) and a place to explore key language concepts. Although emphasis will be placed on the situation in the U.S., the politics of Englishes globally will be included, as will changing visions of oral/written relationships, code-switching/meshing (and communicative hybrids like spoken word). All students will be allowed intellectual space to pursue their interests.

GWS 550 (Barnes) Feminist Theories and Methods M 9:00AM-11:50AM

Interdisciplinary study in diverse feminist theories and methods produced in and across various disciplines. Contemporary philosophical and theoretical developments in the study of gender to specific histories of class, race, ethnicity, nation and sexuality.

GWS 550 (Nguyen) Transnational Feminisms W 3:00PM-5:50PM

Study of the terms, methodologies and theoretical interventions of transnational feminist studies. Transnational is a term that calls attention to circuits of political, economic, and social phenomena across the boundaries of nation-states. Emerging as a response to the shortcomings of overarching, economic theorizations of globalization as well as Western versions of "global feminism," transnational feminist studies is an interdisciplinary critical field that draws from the vocabularies of postcolonial studies, poststructuralism, Third World feminisms, race and ethnic studies feminism in self-reflexive and context-specific ways. Examines recent reconceptualizations of relations between woman and nation; gender and globalization; feminist theory and practice.

IS 514 (Hoiem) History of Children's Lit T 6:00PM-8:30PM (online)

Interpretation of children's literature from the earliest times, including the impact of changing social and cultural patterns on books for children; attention to early printers and publishers of children's books and to magazines for children.

SOC 496 (Treat) Fascism, Religion, America TR 9:30AM-10:50AM

What is fascism? Can the study of religion help us understand fascism? How do fascism and religion bear on America? Addressing these and other important questions, this interdisciplinary seminar moves through relevant readings in political theory, rhetorical analysis, cultural history, postcolonial literature, and investigative journalism. Research projects allow each participant to supplement our collective effort by exploring an individual interest in greater detail. Course syllabus available at <https://fra17f.wordpress.com>

SOC 583 (Gille) Qualitative Research Methods R 3:30PM-6:20PM

Introduction to field and qualitative methods in social science research, in terms of both the practical issues of conducting this type of research and the conceptual debates in the field. Methods include interviewing, participant observation, unobtrusive observation, historical/archival methods, and global ethnography.

SOC 596 (Moussawi) Recent Developments in Soc: Gender and Sexuality M 3:30PM-6:50PM

This graduate seminar explores contemporary sociological and interdisciplinary debates in studies of gender and sexuality, with a particular focus on power. Even though we will go over multiple theories, we will pay particular attention to black feminist thought, transnational feminism, queer theory, and queer of color critique. We will consider various questions, including: What is the role of social and sociological theory in understanding gender and sexuality? What diverse methodological approaches/considerations are employed in studies of gender and sexualities? What are the various genealogies of these fields of study? We will read and discuss both theoretical and empirical studies on topics including: political economy of gender and sexuality, migration and transnational mobilities, racisms, urban inequalities and gentrification, nation and nationalism, masculinities and femininities, and social movements and organizing. We will also think about knowledge production processes, and consider the importance of theories of/from the global south. This course is open to students from all disciplines. It is not required to have a background in gender and sexuality to take the course.