ANTHROPOLOGY

Overview and Contact Information
Anthropology at Mount Holyoke College is devoted to the study of human cultural diversity through time and around the world. The approach is cross-cultural, the perspective non-ethnocentric. The analytic tools will help students make sense of the human condition no matter how familiar or foreign it may seem. Our courses are designed to expose students to a variety of cultures and introduce them to the different topics, theories, and methods of the discipline of anthropology.

Contact Information
Lynn Morgan, Chair
Michelle Pietras, Academic Department Coordinator
102 Porter Hall
413-538-2283
https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/anthropology

Faculty
This area of study is administered by the Anthropology faculty:
Lynn Morgan, Mary E. Woolley Professor of Anthropology
Joshua Roth, Professor of Anthropology, Teaching Spring Only
Elif Babül, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Teaching Spring Only
Sabra Thorner, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Matthew Watson, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Teaching Spring Only
Felicity Aulino, Five College Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Elizabeth Klarich, Five College Assistant Professor of Anthropology
William Girard, Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology
Patricia Mangan, Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology

Requirements for the Major
A minimum of 32 credits:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHR-105</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTHR-235</td>
<td>Development of Anthropological Thought</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>or SOCI-223</td>
<td>Development of Social Thought</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTHR-275</td>
<td>Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ANTHR-350</td>
<td>Issues in Contemporary Anthropological Theory</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>One area course in anthropology</td>
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Alternatively, the cultural area requirement can be fulfilled through: approved study abroad, or foreign language through two semesters at the intermediate level, or an area course in another discipline

1 Discuss your plan in advance with your advisor to be sure it will satisfy the cultural area requirement. These alternative methods of satisfying the cultural area requirement will not count toward the 32 credits required for the major.

2 If you have fulfilled the cultural area requirement by taking an area course in anthropology, you would only need 4 additional credits. If not, you will need 8.

Additional Specifications
• ANTHR-295 or ANTHR-395 do not count toward the requirements of courses in the major at the 200 and 300 level.

Requirements for the Minor
A minimum of 20 credits:

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<tr>
<td>ANTHR-105</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 credits at the 300 level</td>
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<td>12 additional credits above the 100 level</td>
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<td>Total Credits</td>
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1 Cannot be fulfilled by ANTHR-395

Course Offerings

ANTHR-105 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Fall and Spring. Credits: 4
Introduces the analysis of cultural diversity, including concepts, methods, and purposes in interpreting social, economic, political, and belief systems found in human societies.
 Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
W. Girard, P. Mangan, L. Morgan, J. Roth, S. Thorner
Restrictions: This course is limited to first-years, sophomores, and juniors

ANTHR-204 Anthropology of Modern Japan
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
Since the mid-nineteenth century, Americans have viewed Japan as the Orient’s most exotic and mysterious recess, alternately enticing and frightening in its difference. Intense economic relations and cultural exchange between Japan and the U.S. have not dispelled the image of Japanese society and culture as fundamentally different from our own. In this course, we will strive for greater understanding of shared experiences as well as historical particularities. Issues covered may vary from one semester to another, but frequently focus on work, women, minorities, and popular culture. Films and anthropological works provide ethnographic examples of some key concepts.
 Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
J. Roth
ANTHR-212 Shopping and Swapping: Cultures of Consumption and Exchange

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

We shop for our food, for our clothes, for our colleges. We purchase cars, manicures, and vacations. It seems that there is little that cannot be bought or sold. But we also give and receive gifts, exchange favors, ‘go dutch’ in restaurants, and invite friends for potlucks. This course examines exchange systems cross-culturally, in order to understand their cultural significance and social consequences. It explores how our own commodity exchange system, which appears to be no more than an efficient means of distributing goods and services, in fact contains intriguing symbolic dimensions similar to the gift exchange systems of Native North America, Melanesia, and Africa.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

Prereq: ANTHR-105.

J. Roth

ANTHR-216 Special Topics in Anthropology

ANTHR-216AD Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Approaching Death: Culture, Health, and Science’

Spring. Credits: 4

This class challenges assumptions about death and dying as we examine its meanings and related practices in various cultural contexts. We will ask: what is universal about death and dying, and what is socially constructed? What can the social sciences, bio medicine, literature, the arts, and our own qualitative research tell us about the processes of dying, of grieving, and of providing care? In essence, what does it take to approach death?

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

F. Aulino

Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216AF Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Archaeology of Food’

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course explores the study of ancient foodways with a focus on how and why humans across the globe began to domesticate plant and animal resources approximately 10,000 years ago. The first half of the course presents the types of archaeological data and analytical methods used to study the "agricultural revolution" in a variety of regions. The second half explores a number of themes within the archaeology of food and gender, the politics of feasting, and methods for integrating archaeological and ethnographic approaches to the study of food.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences

E. Klarich

Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216AU Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Peoples and Cultures of Indigenous Australia’

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

Indigenous peoples of Australia have long been objects of interest and imagination by outsiders—for their ceremonial practices, social structures, religious forms, aesthetic expressions, and relationships to land. This course will explore how Aboriginal peoples have struggled to reproduce and represent themselves and their lifeways on their own terms—via visual media (pigment designs on bark, acrylic paintings on canvas); performances (cultural festivals, plays, other forms); archival interventions (photographic, textual, digital); museum exhibition; and various textual genres (autobiography, fiction, poetry). We will examine "traditional" and "contemporary" productions as all part of culture and culture-making in the present, emphasizing that this is ongoing and intercultural work.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

S. Thorner

Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216CA Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Collecting the Past: Art and Artifacts of the Ancient Americas’

Fall. Credits: 4

Early European explorers, modern travelers, collectors, curators, and archaeologists have contributed to the development of ancient Latin American collections in museums across the globe. This course traces the history of these collecting practices and uses recent case studies to demonstrate how museums negotiate—successfully and unsuccessfully—the competing interests of scholars, donors, local communities, and international law. Students will learn how archaeologists study a variety of artifact types within museum collections and will have the opportunity to conduct independent research projects using pre-Columbian pottery collections from the Mount Holyoke Art Museum.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives

E. Klarich

Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors

Prereq: One course in archaeology, anthropology, history of Latin America, museum studies, or art history.

ANTHR-216HM Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Feminist Engagements with Hormones’

Spring. Credits: 4

This course takes a transdisciplinary and multi-sited approach to explore the social, political, biocultural, and legal complexities of hormones. Hormones “appear” in many discussions about reproductive and environmental justice, identity, health and chronicity. But what are hormones? What are their social, political and cultural histories? Where are they located? How do they act? The course will foster active learning, centering feminist pedagogies of collaborative inquiry. Examples of topics to be explored are: transnational/transcultural knowledge production about hormones; hormonal relations to sex/gender, nature/culture, body/mind; and hormone-centered actions and activism.

Crosslisted as: GNDST-241HR

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences

J. Luce

Prereq: 4 credits in gender studies.
ANTHR-216HP Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Feminist Health Politics'  
**Fall. Credits: 4**  
Health is about bodies, selves and politics. We will explore a series of health topics from feminist perspectives. How do gender, sexuality, class, disability, and age influence the ways in which one perceives and experiences health and the access one has to health information and health care? Are heteronormativity, cissexism, or one’s place of living related to one’s health status or one’s health risk? By paying close attention to the relationships between community-based narratives, activities of health networks and organizations and theory, we will develop a solid understanding of the historical, political and cultural specificities of health issues, practices, services and movements.  
**Crosslisted as:** GNDST-241HP  
 Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences  
J. Luce  
Prereq: 4 credits in gender studies.

ANTHR-216HR Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology and Human Rights: Between Devil's Advocate and Rights Advocacy'  
**Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4**  
This course explores anthropological approaches to human rights -- a key theme of transnational politics and international law. Anthropologists have contributed to discussions on human rights since the UN Declaration and the field has provided a vibrant platform to analyze ideologies, politics, and practices surrounding human rights. We will survey an array of anthropological studies that approach human rights from the perspective of cultural relativism, contextualization, advocacy, and practice. Students will gain a critical perspective on the seemingly universal rhetoric of human rights by learning how it produces diverse effects in places such as Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives**  
E. Babül  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216NF Special Topics in Anthropology: 'The Anthropology of Food'  
**Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4**  
Drawing on a holistic, multidisciplinary perspective, this course considers food as a lens through which issues such as gender, family, community, nationality, religion and class can be more deeply understood. Food and drink are examined not only for the biological needs they fill but also in terms of their spiritual and cultural dimensions. We will explore the journey of food production, preparation, distribution and consumption nationally and internationally. Local, national and global networks are analyzed as we examine the role food plays in creating and mediating socioeconomic and political relationships. Food scarcity, security, sovereignty and sustainability are also considered.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives**  
P. Mangan  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216PY Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology of Play'  
**Spring. Credits: 4**  
We associate play with childhood, a time of spontaneous and creative activity, in contrast to the boring routine of adult responsibilities. And yet play is more than just fun and games. It is through play that children develop lasting cognitive and social skills. For adults too, there can be serious play – play that has real consequence – play that shapes the intimate lives of individuals, as well as entire social formations. In this course, we will explore play cross-culturally, from the Balinese cockfight to American football, from gambling to role playing. We will design games based on the anthropological readings in order to appreciate the game-like qualities of many domains of life.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives**  
J. Roth  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-216RK Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Risk'  
**Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4**  
People in all societies face uncertainty. Dangers, many of our own making, confront us at every turn - in the form of global warming, market collapses, tainted food, epidemics, and accidents at work and on roads. Terrorist attacks and crime have led to the increased control of urban public spaces. Modern institutions and technologies of risk (probability, insurance, audits, sundry regulation) strive to tame chance, to make it manageable, and even potentially profitable, and have contributed to emergent cultures of risk. In this course, we examine these technologies of risk and associated cultural forms, in relation to other means by which people have dealt with uncertainty in the past.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences**  
J. Roth  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-221 Anthropology of Media  
**Fall. Credits: 4**  
This course critically examines how media make a difference in diverse peoples' lives. How are media produced, circulated, and consumed? Together, we will explore the material forms through which subjectivities, collectivities, and histories are produced; and the social practices of constructing and contesting national identities, forging alternative political visions, transforming religious practice, and producing new relationships. In this 21st century, media are not just indispensable to what is known, but also, to how we know. Case studies will include film, TV, photography, art, archives, journalism, and digital platforms; ethnographic examples will be drawn from around the world.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives**  
S. Thorner  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-230 Language in Culture and Society  
**Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4**  
Language is integral to human experiences across cultures. Interpersonal communication holds social worlds together, lending them significance. This course examines language as a complex, embodied field of cultural practice and performance. It bridges core concepts within linguistic anthropology and semiotics – such as relativity, indexicality, performance, and language ideology – with critical analyses of social fields including race, gender, and sexuality. Illustrative examples are drawn from Western and non-Western societies.  
**Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives**  
M. Watson  
Prereq: ANTHR-105.
ANTHR-235 Development of Anthropological Thought
Spring. Credits: 4
This course will review the key issues and paradigm shifts in the development of anthropology from its foundations in classical thought through its emergence as an independent discipline to its coming-of-age in the 1960s. The readings will include works from the American, British, and Continental traditions.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
M. Watson
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology.

ANTHR-240 Medical Anthropology
Fall. Credits: 4
This course provides an introduction to medical anthropology. Core topics will include the culture of medicine, the interaction of biology and society, the experience of illness, caregiving, addiction, violence, and humanitarian intervention. We will explore how ethnographic research and social theory can enrich understanding of illness and care, raising issues for and about medicine and public health often left out of other disciplinary approaches. Throughout, we will emphasize the vantage point of the local worlds in which people experience, narrate, and respond to illness and suffering; and the ways in which large-scale forces contribute to such local experience. Biocultural aspects of disease and healing are examined through case studies of nonindustrialized societies, including the relationship between malaria and sickle cell anemia in West Africa and ritual cannibalism, AIDS, and a degenerative nervous-system disorder (kuru) in highland New Guinea. This course surveys the cultural construction of suffering and healing, the medicalization of human social problems, and inequities in the distribution of disease and therapy.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Morgan
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-245 Global Health and Humanitarianism
Spring. Credits: 4
This course examines global health disparities and the unequal distribution of disease, focusing on the health consequences of poverty, structural violence, and globalization. In addition, we critically examine the foundations of global humanitarianism and the complexities, constraints, and prospects for working collaboratively across borders to resolve global health problems. Readings will address how global health is constructed and represented, and why humanitarian endeavors (charitable, philanthropic, NGO, religious, etc.) have emerged as the preferred manner of addressing global health problems in the contemporary era.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Morgan
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-246 Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
Religion counts among anthropology’s most central and enduring areas of interest. This course traces a history of anthropological attention to belief and ritual from the nineteenth century to the present. We will read classic and contemporary ethnographic studies of religious systems, covering topics that include spirits and animism, totemism, magic, witchcraft, mythology, taboo, sacrilege, orthodoxy and orthopraxy, religion and modernity, and secularism. The course will scrutinize “religion” itself as a cultural and analytical category, and it will question how an anthropological perspective alters perceptions of the global politics of religion today.
Crosslisted as: RELIG-225MG
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
M. Watson
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-275 Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology
Spring. Credits: 4
Topics include research design, ethical dilemmas, and the relationship between academic research and community based learning. Applied fieldwork and presentations are an integral part of this course.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
Other Attribute(s): Community-Based Learning
E. Babül
Restrictions: This course is limited to Anthropology majors.
Coreq: ANTHR-275L.

ANTHR-295 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 4
The department
Instructor permission required.

ANTHR-306 Anthropology of Reproduction
Spring. Credits: 4
This course covers major issues in the anthropology of reproduction, including the relationship between production and reproduction, the gendered division of labor, the state and reproductive policy, embodied metaphors of procreation and parenthood, fertility control and abortion, crosscultural reproductive ethics, and the social implications of new reproductive technologies. We examine the social construction of reproduction in a variety of cultural contexts.
Crosslisted as: GNDST-333AR
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Morgan
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology or Gender Studies.
ANTHR-316 Special Topics in Anthropology

ANTHR-316EG Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Eggs and Embryos: Innovations in Reproductive and Genetic Technologies'

Fall. Credits: 4
This seminar will focus on emerging innovations in the development, use and governance of reproductive and genetic technologies (RGTs). How do novel developments at the interface of fertility treatment and biomedical research raise both new and enduring questions about the 'naturalness' of procreation, the politics of queer families, the im/possibilities of disabilities, and transnational citizenship? Who has a say in what can be done and for which purposes? We will engage with ethnographic texts, documentaries, policy statements, citizen science activist projects, and social media in order to closely explore the diversity of perspectives in this field.

Crosslisted as: GNDST-333EG
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences
J. Luce
Prereq: 8 credits in gender studies or anthropology.

ANTHR-316ET Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Advanced Seminar in Ethnomusicology'

Spring. Credits: 4
Designed for music and non-music majors, this advanced seminar examines core theoretical and methodological issues in ethnomusicology and the debates that have shaped its practice since its origins in the early twentieth century as comparative musicology. Drawing on musical traditions from different parts of the world and supplemented by workshops conducted by visiting professional musicians, the course explores the interdisciplinary approaches that inform how ethnomusicologists study the significance of music "in" and "as" culture. Topics covered will include ethnomusicographic methods, the intersection of musicological and anthropological perspectives, the political significance of musical hybridity, applied ethnomusicology, and sound studies.

Crosslisted as: MUSIC-374
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive
B. Omojola
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors

ANTHR-316LA Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Race and Religion in Latin America'

Spring. Credits: 4
The course will begin with an investigation of the proto-racial and religious categories through which Europeans in the early modern era understood human difference. From there, we will trace how these notions were re-conceptualized in the centuries following the encounter between Europeans, Africans, and the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. As we examine this history -- including the emergence of slavery, eugenics, mestizaje, and Liberation Theology -- we will pay particular attention to how interwoven racial and religious hierarchies were both constructed and resisted. The final section of the course will concentrate on the contemporary entanglements of race and religion in the region.

Crosslisted as: RELIG-331LA
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
W. Girard
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology, Religion, or Latin American Studies.

ANTHR-316LW Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Ethnographies of Law'

Spring. Credits: 4
This seminar focuses on the anthropological study of the legal field. The class will begin with a survey of some classical texts that underpin the legal thought in the modern era. We will then see how anthropologists contributed to the study of law by conceptualizing it as part of larger socio-political processes and as a field that includes social relations, processes, and practices. The students will learn how some key legal issues such as dispute management, decision making, and reconciliation are actualized in diverse cultural and social settings, to think critically and evaluate legal processes in a multicultural setting and in plural societies.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
E. Babül
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology.

ANTHR-316ME Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology of the Political in the Contemporary Middle East'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This seminar focuses on anthropological studies of how power - both in its open and hidden forms - manifests itself and shapes everyday life in the contemporary Middle East. It explores how authority is established and contested in various domains including bureaucracy and the state; sexuality and the family; religion and civil society; markets and the media. We will trace how experiences of colonization, imperialism, modernization, nationalism, capitalism, occupation, war and revolt mold the conditions of living for peoples of the Middle East. We will also examine how specific forms of knowledge production attribute coherence to the region, allowing its imagination as an object of intervention in the name of development and security.

Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
E. Babül
Prereq: 8 Credits in Anthropology.

ANTHR-316MU Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology in/of Museums'

Spring. Credits: 4
What is a museum, and how is it relevant to all of our lives? This course considers "the museum" as an object of ethnographic inquiry, examining it as a cultural institution perpetually under negotiation and reconfiguration. We reflect on how museum principles of classification, practices of collection and exhibition, and the uptake of digital technologies are central to what and how we know. We investigate and analyze museums as social actors in anthropological debates on power, representation, materiality, value, authenticity, state-making, Indigenous sovereignty, and the preservation and activation of contemporary cultures. The museum is never simply a repository of artifacts, artworks, histories, or scientific inventions, but also a site of tremendous creativity and a field of complex social relations.

Crosslisted as: ARTH-301MU
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
S. Thorner
Restrictions: This course is open to juniors and seniors
Prereq: 4 credits in Anthropology or Art History.
Advisory: Students enrolled in or considering the Nexus in Museums, Archives, and Public History are encouraged to take this course.
ANTHR-316RK Special Topics in Anthropology: ‘Risk’
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
We live in an age of uncertainty. Dangers, many of our own making, confront us at every turn - in the form of global warming, market collapses, tainted food, epidemics, and accidents at work and on roads. Terrorist attacks and crime have led to the increased control of urban public spaces. Modern institutions and technologies of risk (probability, insurance, audits, sundry regulation) strive to tame chance, to make it manageable, and even potentially profitable, and have contributed to emergent cultures of risk. In this course, we examine these technologies of risk and associated cultural forms, in relation to other means by which people have dealt with uncertainty in the past.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences
J. Roth
Prereq: 4 credits in Anthropology.

ANTHR-316SE Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Anthropology of Secularism'
Fall. Credits: 4
What is secularism? For many of us, the answer is obvious: the world without religious belief, or the separation of church and state, or even the “really real” world. In recent years, scholars in number fields have begun to question these common sense notions about secularism. In this course, we will investigate this rapidly expanding literature and the critical lines of inquiry it has opened up: Under what specific cultural and historic conditions did secularism first emerge? Is secularism experienced today in the same way throughout the world? If not, how do they vary? What ways of being and living does secularism encourage or allow to flourish? Which does it stunt, block, or prohibit?
Crosslisted as: RELIG-331SE
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
W. Girard
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology.

ANTHR-316SP Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Space, Place, and Wayfinding'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
What makes a home feel like home? What makes a neighborhood feel alive and vibrant? Architects and urban planners develop elaborate designs meant for specific kinds of human uses, and yet we find that people often use spaces for purposes quite different from those that planners intended. In this course, we will explore the ways in which people dwell in the abstract spaces of planners, turning them into inhabited places. We will also explore the ways that people navigate through and between these spaces that have been compartmentalized into politically and socially bounded units. A variety of theoretical perspectives will be applied in diverse cultural cases to better understand the ways in which peoples inhabit the world.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
J. Roth
Prereq: 4 credits in Anthropology department.

ANTHR-316WC Special Topics in Anthropology: 'Writing Capitalism's Ruins'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
There’s a low buzz; we feel nervous. Is this capitalism’s end? Have zombie silhouettes hit the horizon yet? Keep checking. Anthropology narrates collective feelings, gives form to the ambience. But what’s the ambience of late industrialism; what’s it feel like to collapse? As we watch factory buildings crumble, we wonder whether the tap water’s clean. The question of how to write the world (anthropologically-speaking) must also be a question of how to survive, thrive, and even flourish. Anthropologists have long explored decadence, collapse, and ruins. Cultural anthropologists now find themselves in the archaeologists’ shoes. Drawing from archaeology, cultural anthropology, ecology, and literary theory, this course will be an open-ended, writing-oriented examination of contemporary experiences of ruins and ruination. One area of focus is the effects of capitalism and post-industrialism on people of color and non-English speakers in North America.
Crosslisted as: CST-349WC
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
M. Watson
Prereq: ANTHR-105.

ANTHR-342 Science as Culture
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
What is science? The progressive discovery of Nature’s laws? The process of honing claims about the universe? Is science the act of postulating and testing hypotheses? Or is it tinkering, experimentation? This course offers an advanced introduction to cultural and anthropological studies of science. Through careful readings of work in areas such as the sociology of scientific knowledge, actor-network theory, feminist science studies, and affect theory, we will explore the sciences as complex systems of cultural production. The course will culminate in a series of critical ethnographic studies of how the sciences shape concepts and experiences of race, the body, gender, and sexuality.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
M. Watson
Prereq: 8 credits in the department.

ANTHR-350 Issues in Contemporary Anthopological Theory
Spring. Credits: 4
This course explores the major theoretical frameworks developed and debated by anthropologists of the past two decades. It covers core issues in anthropological epistemology, the relationship of ethnography to social and cultural theory, trends in anthropological analysis, and the place of anthropological theory in broader academic and public discourses.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive
M. Watson
Restrictions: This course is limited to seniors.
Prereq: 8 credits in Anthropology.
ANTHR-352 Digital Cultures
Fall. Credits: 4
In the last decades, digital media have become integral to our quotidian lives as well as to myriad translocal processes. "New" technologies are hailed in celebratory narratives of democratization and participation, access and innovation, enchantment and possibility; and newly-available gadgets, devices, and platforms are taken up with great speed and facility. This course is designed to ethnographically explore "the digital," as both a site and subject of scholarly inquiry, in which we think through how this form is shifting the ways in which we know ourselves, our social networks, our bodies, and the dynamic cultural and political contexts in which we live.
Applies to requirement(s): Social Sciences
S. Thorner
Prereq: 8 credits in the department.

ANTHR-395 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 8
The department
Instructor permission required.