

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
ANTHROPOLOGY COURSES
SPRING 2021-2022**

FRS 152 Nuclear Princeton: An Indigenous Approach to Science and the Environment (CD) NEW

MW, 3:00 – 4:20 pm seminar

How do we grapple with the lasting, unintended impacts of conducting science, engineering, and medicine in "the nation's service and service of humanity"? What lessons can we learn from the University's past to conduct morally sound research and generate culturally inclusive knowledge? In this course, students will use perspectives from Indigenous studies to critically approach the intersection of Princeton's history, nuclear science, settler colonialism, and environmental racism to collectively imagine a more holistic approach to studying science and the environment. The course revolves around the Nuclear Princeton project. *Ryo Morimoto*

Counts as prerequisite for majoring in Anthropology

ANT 206/ AFS 206 Human Evolution (EC)

MW, 10:00 – 10:50 am lectures; Th precept

Humans have a deep history, one that informs our contemporary reality. Understanding our evolutionary history is understanding both what we have in common with other primates and other hominins, and what happened over the last 7 to 10 million years since our divergence from the other African ape lineages. More specifically, the story of the human is centered in what happened the ~2.5 million year history of our own genus (*Homo*). This class outlines the history of our lineage and offers an anthropological and evolutionary explanation for what this all means for humans today, and why we should care. *Agustin Fuentes*

MedAnth, SCA

ANT 217 / HUM 217 Anthropology of Religion: Identity, Morality, and Emotion (EM or SA) NEW

MW, 3:00 – 4:20 pm class

This course focuses on how people wrestle with their relationships to faith, morality, ideas of justice, and conceptions of good life, and how they deal with the emotions that mediate these relationships. Emotions such as anger, happiness, disgust, kindness, and grief play an important role in shaping moral convictions and acts. We will learn some of the theoretical tools, research methods, and analytical practices that help anthropologists discern how morality can both be linked to and be separate from religious considerations, and how emotions can both ground us in a moral order and also make us question our faith and moral orientations. *Aniruddhan Vasudevan*

SCA

ANT 225 Debt (SA)

TTh, 11:00 am – 12:20 pm class

Average student loan debt in the United States is \$38,792. Debt collection lawsuits are a growing and unevenly distributed problem. How and why do people go into debt? Why is debt linked to "usury" in some cultures while in others not having debt is a mark of being "underleveraged"? How can "debt" sometimes be an instrument of social solidarity and other times be a source of social discord? In this course we will look at debates about "debt" in different places and times as diverse as 4th century Greece, 18th century England, 19th century Egypt, and the 2008 Financial Crisis and its aftermath around the world.

Julia Elyachar

LPE, SCA

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
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ANT 227/ URB 225 Urban Ethnography (CD or SA)

TTh, 11:00 am – 12:20 pm seminar

This course provides an introduction to how the ethnographic method, with its focus on empirical observation and description, intersects with and diverges from classic approaches to researching the urban, a certain kind of social formation. Drawing upon a range of examples from across different cultural and historical contexts, we will consider the political dilemmas and possibilities associated with cities shaped by industrial capitalism, histories of colonialism, and emergent, transnational processes. The final part of the course will study the relationship between the refugee camp and city. *Mark Drury* **LPE, SCA**

ANT 240/ HUM 240 Medical Anthropology (CD or EM)

MW, 1:30 – 2:50 pm lecture & class

Medical Anthropology explores how structural violence and the social markers of difference impact life chances in our worlds on edge. While addressing biosocial and therapeutic realities and probing the tenets of medical capitalism, the course articulates theoretical and practical contributions to apprehending health as both a struggle against death and a human right. We will learn ethnographic methods, engage in critical ethical debates, and experiment with modes of expression. Students will develop community-engaged and artistic projects and consider alternative forms of solidarity and care emerging alongside newfangled scales of harm. *João Biehl, Onur Gunay* **MedAnth, SCA**

ANT 264/ HUM 264 Violence (SA)

NEW

MW, 11:00 am – 12:20 pm class

This course draws on anthropology, history, critical theory, films and documentaries, fictive and journalistic writing to explore violence, its power and meaning. We will explore conquest and colonialism, genocidal violence, state violence and political resistance, everyday violence, gendered violence, racialization, torture, as well as witnessing and repair. Building across disciplines and working with heterodox theoretical frameworks (post-colonial/decolonial, non-Western, feminist, and indigenous approaches), this course invites us to understand violence in its multifaceted physical, symbolic, social, political and cultural manifestations. *Onur Gunay* **LPE, SCA**

ANT 301 The Ethnographer's Craft (SA)

TTh, 3:00 – 4:20 pm lecture & precept

This course is an introduction to doing ethnographic fieldwork. Class sessions alternate between discussions of key issues and questions in the theory and practice of ethnographic fieldwork and workshops devoted to fieldwork exercises: participant observation, interviewing, fieldnotes, oral history, multi-modal and virtual ethnographic methods; as well as debates over research ethics and regulatory ethics. Students will build skills to design and conduct ethnographic research projects, while developing a critical appreciation of the possibilities and limits of ethnographic research methods to help them understand and engage with the world. *Elizabeth Davis, Mark Drury* **Required for Concentrators**

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
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ANT 311 Food, Culture & Society (CD or SA)

NEW

TTh, 1:30 – 2:20 pm lectures; plus precept

This course explores the central role of food in everyday life in US and global contexts. Using a comparative global perspective, we will address key questions about histories of food production and consumption, the ways in which food production and distribution differentially affect the lives of those working in the food industry and those consuming food. We will think through how global shifts in food production and distribution impact human lives on national, local, and familial levels. *Hanna Garth*

LPE, MedAnth, SCA

ANT 322/ ENV 342/ HUM 323 Pluriversal Arctic (CD or SA)

NEW

TTh, 11:00 am – 12:20 pm lecture & precept

Students will be introduced to anthropological and cross-disciplinary studies of multiple, divergent ways in which the Circumpolar populations experience, perceive and respond to environmental, political and socio-economic changes from within distinct horizons of knowledge & modes of sociality. By focusing on social and historical processes as well as current/emerging practices, worlds/cosmologies, the course will analytically evaluate such notions as Anthropocene, the Fourth World, indigeneity and decolonisation as well as examine attempts of various scholars to better understand complex interconnections of climate, environment and society. *Olga Ulturgasheva*

SCA

ANT 331 Sensory Anthropology (EC)

F, 1:30 – 4:20 pm seminar

This class engages the sensorium -- our apparatus of sense perception -- to explore the worlds people make and inhabit. How can our senses become avenues of learning, imagination, and connection with others? We study ethnographic texts and multi-modal works thematizing sensory faculties and synaesthesia, as well as movement, orientation, and temporality. We consider how "sensory impairment" and neurodiversity may and should affect cultural norms of personhood and well-being. We pay special attention to synergies between medical anthropology and sensory anthropology in research on pain, addiction, psychoactive substances, and ritual healing. *Elizabeth Davis*

SCA

ANT 342 The Anthropology of Law (EM)

TTh, 1:30 – 2:50 pm class

How do legal concepts and categories - such as rights, duties, obligations, liabilities, risks, injuries, evidence, redress, and even personhood - come to appear as fundamental, natural, and universal? How are seemingly essential natures of law, in fact, constructed and produced? What is the role of culture in fashioning key forms of consciousness, power, truth, freedom, violence, and justice? This course draws upon exemplary anthropological studies of law to investigate and illuminate the conceptions, operations, and transformations of law across many cultural and historical realms. The course also draws upon court cases and legal theory. *Lauren Coyle Rosen*

LPE, SCA

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
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ANT 347 Culture, Media, and Data (CD or SA)

MW, 11:00 am – 12:20 pm class

Students study the agency of media and data in human cultural and social life with an emphasis on the generation of differences and inequalities. We excavate assumptions beneath representations of reality in documentary film, track the circulation of mass media across cultures, watch indigenous filmmakers as cultural producers, and explore the datafication of media and experience. We carry out our analyses by using the tools for making media and data to break them apart. Looking closely at their individual elements, we can view media and data as cultural constructions as well as use them to produce alternative images and counter-narratives. *Jeffrey Himpele*

SCA

ANT 364/ ART 346/ ENV 392/ LAS 328 Insurgent Indigenous Art (CD)

NEW

M, 1:30 – 4:20 pm class

This seminar addresses the field of "indigenous art" to unsettle current understandings of self and alter representation. Focusing on South America and drawing parallels with the Americas and Oceania, it investigates studies of material and immaterial culture from the perspective of indigenous world-makings. Attention will be paid to how indigenous arts speak to the dilemmas of self-governance, biocultural diversity, and conservation. We will also address forms of decolonization of Amerindian arts that are at play in museums, festivals, and environmental storytelling, with indigenous artists and intellectuals as their protagonists. *Carlos Fausto, Maria Luisa Lucas*

SCA

ANT 408/ ECS 409 The Anthropology of Things (EC or SA)

NEW

T, 1:30– 4:20 pm class

Things are the staple of our lives, but they are also objects of our studies and products of our activities. We depend on things, but things also depend us. In this course, we will explore convoluted networks of relations that bring together humans, non-humans and things. Looking at things and thinking about things differently, we will try to understand why they are so irresistible to have, to use, to make, to keep, and to exchange. During the course, we will approach things as signs (semiotics), as material entities (new materialisms), as objects of affection (new materialisms), and as key agents of influence (actor-network theory).

Serguei Oushakine

SCA

ANT 434/ NES 434 Postcolonialism: Theories and Critiques (HA)

W, 1:30 – 4:20 pm seminar

Subaltern Studies and Postcolonial Studies showed how critiques of capitalism were based on a provincial account of western history. Postcolonial studies was based on analysis of places that were directly colonized, usually India. What are the essential elements of postcolonial theory? What are the grounds of its many critiques and what are implications for our own research problems? Readings will draw on social theory, political economy, postcolonial studies, novels, history of the Middle East, and ethnography and are appropriate for students of any region or discipline. *Julia Elyachar*

LPE, SCA

**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
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ANT 440/ GSS 456 Gender and the Household (CD or SA)

NEW

M, 1:30 – 4:20 pm seminar

This seminar focuses on the social institutions and symbolic meanings of gender, sexuality, family, and the household through the lenses of race, culture, and historical contexts. We will study how understandings of masculinity and femininity, the orientation of desire, sexual acts, and sexual identities impact gender roles in the household across various cultural and social contexts. We will ground our work in historical and ethnographic research on the connections between colonialism, chattel slavery, capitalism, and gender, sexual relations, and the family. *Hanna Garth*

LPE, SCA

ANT 446/ ENV 364 Nuclear Things and Toxic Colonization (HA or SA)

T, 7:30 – 10:20 pm seminar

How do global engagements with nuclear things affect latent colonization in contemporary and future ecologies and generations? How are toxic effects of nuclear things (re)presented through scientific, technological, political or cultural intervention? We explore material, technoscientific, and cultural transmutations of nuclear things (radioisotopes, bombs, medical devices, energy, waste) and the work of (re)making those transmutations (in)visible. The course draws from a variety of theoretical frameworks / case studies in science and technology studies, the social sciences, art and environmental humanities to think with nuclear things. *Ryo Morimoto*

LPE, MedAnth, SCA

ENV428/ ANT 488 The Body in Rain: Embodiment and Planetary Change (CD or SA)

W, 1:30 – 4:20 pm seminar

This course locates itself at the intersection and juxtaposition of medical and environmental anthropologies in order to perpetrate a double movement: how are bodies - human and other - implicated in processes often figured as environmental; and how can exploring a diverse range of embodiments might open ways into denaturalizing 'environment' as simply what exists outside of bodies. How do we write about the environment, about bodies, and their relationship? Topics include climate change, toxic contamination, multispecies ethnography. *Jerry Zee*

MedAnth, SCA

ANT 502 Proseminar in Anthropology

T, 9:00 am – 11:50 pm seminar

This is the second half of a yearlong seminar required for first-year graduate students in Sociocultural Anthropology. The course focuses on anthropology's engagement with critical theory, ethnography, and writing. Through reading key texts in the discipline, we reflect on how anthropologists transition from their fieldwork to theorizing, and from their ethnography to text and public engagement. As we seek to decolonize social thought, we attend to the ways ethnographic subjects become alternative figures of thought, redirecting our modes of expression and restoring movement to ethical and political debates.

João Biehl

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ANT 504A Advanced Topics in Anthropology (Half-Term): *Pragmatic Semiotic Anthropology* NEW
W, 6:30 –9:30 pm seminar

This graduate seminar is a systematic multidisciplinary study of the theory and technique of semiotic analysis of cultural phenomena. The course explores semiotics and its elaborations in philosophy, anthropology, linguistics, communication studies, science and technology studies, and cultural studies. By focusing on pragmatic applications of semiotic theories, the students learn to approach the messiness of social, material, affective, and more-than-human lives and the complex inter-actions of signs in and through society. The students learn to apply semiotics and experiment with its potential for designing their research projects. *Ryo Morimoto* *This class meets from 01/24/22 to 03/04/22.*

ANT 504B Advanced Topics in Anthropology (Half-Term): *Evidential Regimes in Development Theory* NEW
W, 9:00 am –11:50 am seminar

Donor aid has been described as a failure, a faith, and a form of neocolonialism. Which description is most apt? To understand the ethics and value of international development, this seminar explores the history of development theory and practice from the early 20th century to present. In addition, this course offers an approach to understanding what cross-cultural engagements really do by focusing on the experiences of those who participate in development, both donors and recipients. Finally, this course unpacks the language and ideology of development and how that shapes whether we think donor aid is a failure or a humanitarian achievement.. *Carolyn Rouse* *This class meets from 03/14/22 to 04/22/22.*

ANTHROPOLOGY CROSS-LISTINGS (i.e., courses offered by another department or program) are listed on the following page.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
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COURSES CROSS-LISTED BY ANTHROPOLOGY

(Use the hyperlinks to see course descriptions on the [Registrar's Course Offerings](#).)

AAS 302 / SOC 303 / ANT 378 / GHP 302

[Political Bodies: The Social Anatomy of Power & Difference](#)

ART 267 / LAS 267 / ANT 366

[Mesoamerican Art](#)

CEE 392 / ENV 393 / ANT 396

[Engineering Justice and the City: Technologies, Environments, and Power](#)

EAS 548 / ANT 548

[The Quest for Health: Contemporary Debates on Harm, Medicine, and Ethics](#)

LAS 217 / POL 271 / ANT 397 / URB 217

[Culture, Politics, and Human Rights in Latin America](#)

LAS 234 / ANT 333

[Rethinking the Northern Triangle: Violence, Intervention, and Resistance in Central America](#)

LAS 307 / ANT 307 / ARC 317 / ART 388

[Indigenous American Urbanism: Teotihuacan and its Legacy in Comparative Perspective](#)

LAS 313 / ANT 313 / LAO 313 / AMS 305

[Race Across the Americas](#)

LAS 329 / ENV 390 / ANT 329

[Amazonia, The Last Frontier: On Colonization and Decolonization](#)

LAS 420 / GSS 458 / SPA 420 / ANT 423

[Coloniality of Power: A Gender Perspective](#)

SAS 355 / ANT 395 / ENV 381 / URB 355

[Coastal Justice: Ecologies, Societies, Infrastructures in South Asia](#)

THR 300 / COM 359 / ENG 373 / ANT 359

[Acting, Being, Doing, and Making: Introduction to Performance Studies](#)