

HONORS COLLOQUIA Spring 2010

Special Note

Anthropology and American Studies Honors students:

Certain courses may count for credit in Anthropology and American Studies. Determination will be made on a case-by-case basis. Students should see their academic advisor for details.

KOGOD Honors students:

Please see your academic advisor for approval to apply the Kogod courses to your major.

SIS Honors students:

You are encouraged to speak with SIS academic advisors to determine whether a colloquium might be considered for another functional area or regional field.

HNRS 300-001H AMERICA'S KILLING FIELDS—VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA: HISTORY, FILM AND FICTION

Peter Kuznick

T 5:30-8 p.m.

This course will explore the history of the U.S. invasions of Vietnam and Cambodia, emphasizing the wars' impact on American society, politics, culture and foreign policy. It will pay particular attention to the representations of the wars in film and fiction. In addition to carefully assessing the antiwar movement and its role in ending the wars, the class will explore the wars' enduring legacy and the ways in which they continue to influence American policy. It will also analyze the impact on Vietnam and Cambodia, which suffered millions of deaths, social and political upheaval, environment degradation and, in the case of Cambodia, genocide. This course is linked to the University Honors Program Study/Travel Abroad trip planned to Vietnam and Cambodia during spring break. Students can sign up for the course and Study/Travel Abroad trip (1 credit) separately.

MAJOR CREDIT: HISTORY; LITERATURE; POLS (Major Related Social Science Requirement); SIS (U.S. Foreign Policy, International Communication, International Politics, Asia); and SOC (Film and Media Arts Majors, and Visual Media Studies)

HNRS 300-002H VOICES OF TEREZÍN ... THE ARTS AS SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE

Gail Humphries Mardirosian

W 2:10-4:50 p.m.

This course examines the experiences and testimonies of the Jewish inmates of the Terezín/Thereisenstadt concentration camp during and after the Holocaust, with a particular focus on the extraordinary artistic life of the prisoners, with three goals: (1) To deepen students' understanding of the camp within the broader context of war and genocide; (2) To equip students with knowledge of the history and rich culture of the Jewish inmates of Terezín/Thereisenstadt, most of whom came from communities across Central Europe; and (3) To address broad historical themes such as war and genocide, totalitarianism, and collective trauma and memory.

The course will include a study of theatre in the camp, readings of newly discovered plays and cabarets written at Terezín/Thereisenstadt, and explorations of theatre's function in the life of the prisoners based on survivor testimony from 1945 until today.

MAJOR CREDIT: HISTORY; JEWISH STUDIES; LFS (Language and Area Studies: French/Europe, German/Europe, Russian/Area Studies); LITERATURE; PERFORMING ARTS (Theatre, Musical Theatre); and SIS (Europe, International Politics, International Communication); and RELIGIOUS STUDIES (for the Major, not Minor)

HNRS 300-003H ADVANCED WRITING: BEYOND FUNDAMENTALS

Cynthia Bair Van Dam

T, F 2:10 – 3:25 p.m.

Every year *The Best American Essay* series shows the breadth and depth of essay writing in the United States. There are academic essays, familiar essays, segmented essays, braided essays and essays whose form doesn't have a formal name. Adam Gopnik, in his introduction to *The Best American Essays 2008*, claims that there is "more of life in the essay, less art and more matter, fewer workshop wiles and more real manners – the sound of people talking about what interests them instead of writing what they think will impress – than in almost any other form Uniquely among all the kinds of writing, [the essay] splices the argument and the anecdote, thoughts and feelings, ideas and emotions, the way it feels and the way it thinks The ideal essay has facts and feelings, emotions and thoughts, an argument about and an anecdote from, parallel and crisscrossing, all over it." In this class we will talk about what interests us, splicing and crisscrossing the academic and the personal in the ways Gopnik describes. We will write essays in three different forms: the personal/historical memoir, the familiar essay and the academic narrative. For your final project you will write an essay in the form of your choice. In addition to these four major writing projects, there will be written exercises due nearly every class. Readings will include *The Best American Essays 2008*, selections from past BAE and other essay collections, and the craft book *Tell It Slant: Writing and Shaping Creative Nonfiction*. **Note: Although many students may find the course useful, the course is designed primarily for students who have not taken the Honors English sequence.**

MAJOR CREDIT: EDUCATION; and LITERATURE

**HNRS 301-001H GOING NUCLEAR:
THE SCIENCE AND POLITICS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY**

William Parsons

TH 5:30-8 p.m.

This course will examine critically the civilian and military applications of nuclear energy. We will start by reviewing the basics of nuclear physics, including fission, fusion and radiological devices. We will consider the physical, chemical, biological and environmental aspects of nuclear energy – ranging from a PET scan up to a massive, intercontinental thermonuclear exchange. We will also look at the delivery systems associated with nuclear weapons, such as heavy bombers, ICBMs, SLBMs and cruise missiles. Next, we will consider the issue of nuclear proliferation: how nations and others go about acquiring nuclear technology and what the international community is doing about it. We will weigh the scientific and political dilemma of wanting to foster the peaceful uses of nuclear energy while controlling the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Finally, we will investigate the peaceful applications of nuclear energy, including the pros and cons of using nuclear power plants to generate electricity. Throughout the course, we will emphasize the political and legal issues enveloping nuclear energy, from past arms control treaty efforts to the latest claims that nuclear power can help mitigate global warming.

MAJOR CREDIT: CHEMISTRY; LAW AND SOCIETY; PHYSICS (as an elective); POLS (Policy Concentration); and SIS (International Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, Global Environmental Politics)

HNRS 302-001H WAR AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Philip Brenner

T 2:10-4:50 p.m.

The U.S. war on terror, and the invasion and occupation of Iraq, have once again raised issues about the responsibility of individuals (both those who make policy and those who carry out policy) for crimes against humanity. This course examines these issues by focusing on three major events – the massive bombing of Japanese cities in World War II, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War – and on former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, who was involved in all three.

MAJOR CREDIT: HISTORY; JLS (Justice, or Law and Society); POLS (Related Social Science requirement); SIS (International Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, Asia); and SOCIOLOGY

**HNRS 302-002H ECONOMIC BLOCS:
DIVISION IN THE WORLD ECONOMY AND THE FUTURE OF THE WTO**

Mireya Solis

F 11:20 a.m.-2 p.m.

Rapidly proliferating economic blocs are increasingly undermining the autonomy of governments and influencing the operations of multinational corporations since they go beyond tariff elimination to comprise new rules on foreign investment, competition policy and financial liberalization. The stagnation of the WTO confronts us with a pressing question: Are we transitioning to a world economy defined by regional preferences and discrimination?

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Economics); ECONOMICS; KOGOD; LFS (Language and Area Studies: French/Europe, German/Europe, Russian/Area Studies, Spanish/Latin America- Social Sciences requirement); POLS (Related Social Science Requirement); SIS (International Development, International Economic Relations, The Americas, Asia, Europe, International Business); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-003H POLITICS OF PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Kimberly Cowell-Meyers

T, F 9:55- 11:10 a.m.

Using Northern Ireland as a case-study in the resolution of ethno-regional conflicts, this course examines the Anglo-Irish conflict with a focus on the period from 1969 to the present. We will analyze the changes that led to the peace process of the 1990s, and the dynamics of the all-party talks, the Good Friday Agreement and the implementation of that agreement. Among other topics, we will also explore the role of violence in the conflict, the role of women in Northern Ireland politics, the use of institutions to channel conflict, the challenges of consolidating the post-conflict transformation and the lessons that can be drawn for other situations of intense and violent conflict.

MAJOR CREDIT: POLS (Comparative Politics Concentration); SIS (International Peace and Conflict Resolution, International Politics, Europe); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-004H MEDIA AND THE AMERICAN MIND

Rodger Streitmatter

M, TH 12:45-2 p.m.

Movies, TV shows, newspapers, advertising—they influence who we vote for, how we define America's role in global politics, and where we stand on such major issues as same-sex marriage and stem-cell research, while at the same time helping to shape our moral values and to determine how we dress and how we spend our leisure time. This course explores the vital role that the various media genres play—historically as well as in contemporary times—in affecting American society writ large and simultaneously influencing the individual attitudes and actions of those of us who make up that society. Among the required readings in this course is the professor's 2009 book *From "Perverts" to "Fab Five" ~ The Media's Changing Depiction of Gay Men and Lesbians*. SOC majors may undertake their Honors Capstone in conjunction with this course, while non-SOC majors are also eagerly welcomed to enroll in the course.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Communication); EDUCATION; HEALTH PROMOTION; LITERATURE; POLS (Related Social Science Requirement); SOC (Media Studies; all majors); SIS (International Communication); and SOCIOLOGY

**HNRS 302-005H SUSTAINABLE DESIGN:
BUILDING AN ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE**

Paul Wapner

M, TH 12:45-2 p.m.

Requests Hughes 102

This class will study the challenges of designing a sustainable world. It will focus on the political, economic, social and philosophical dimensions of environmental harm and the ways in which we can design our own lives, communities and global structures to advance environmental protection. We will use the new SIS building as an example and metaphor for appreciating the challenge and promise of sustainable design.

MAJOR CREDIT: EDUCATION; ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE; HEALTH PROMOTION; SIS (Global Environmental Politics; POLS (Major Related Social Science Requirement); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-006H THE POLITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Bill Davies

T 11:20 a.m.-2 p.m.

This colloquium examines the theory and practice of human rights. Its goal is to provide students with an knowledgeable and critical perspective on: (i) the historic origins and development of modern human rights law (from the Medieval period forwards); (ii) the juxtaposition of civil and political, social and economic, modern and post-modern rights (with a focus on the issue of gender); (iii) domestic and transnational implementation and enforcement of human rights (with special emphasis on the European Union); and (iv) the modern and practical implications of human rights (through the lens of contemporary rights issues).

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (*Legal Institutions*); EDUCATION; JLS (*Law and Society*); POLS (*Law & Politics Concentration*); SIS (*International Peace and Conflict Resolution, International Politics, Europe*); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-007H VISIONS OF POST-COLD WAR EUROPE

Svetlana Savranskaya

M 2:10-4:50 p.m.

The fall of communism in Europe in 1989 set the stage for many of the processes that are hotly debated today. At the time of this momentous transformation of the international system, there were several competing visions of the post-cold war Europe and the role of NATO envisioning various forms of European political, economic and military integration. This colloquium will be based on reading and analyzing original historical documents and first-hand accounts of the end of the Cold War in Europe and different visions of post-Cold War European integration. The course will cover the Soviet withdrawal from Eastern Europe, the East European revolutions, German unification, European integration, European security structures and the expansion of NATO, U.S. role in Europe, and the current relations between Russia and the European Union. It will also address the question of different interpretations of the events of 1989 and the end of the Cold War and their repercussions in today's international politics. The course will feature in-depth discussion of current issues of European security and identity tracing their evolution in the last 20 years. Students will work on individual projects using additional primary sources to produce a substantial research paper. The course will specifically focus on methodology of research using archival materials, oral history and other primary sources.

MAJOR CREDIT: LFS (*Language and Area Studies: French/Europe, German/Europe, Russian/Area Studies*); POLS (*Comparative Politics Concentration*); and SIS (*Europe, Russia, U.S. Foreign Policy, International Politics*)

**HNRS 302-008H DO STATES HAVE HEARTS?
ETHICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

David Bosco

M, TH 9:55-11:10 a.m.

This course will examine the particular ethical questions posed by international relations. We will cover material on whether national leaders have ethical duties to foreigners and whether it is meaningful to discuss a shared international morality. Topics will include the ethics of waging war, the concept of sovereignty and intervention in a state's internal affairs, foreign aid, the meaning of international law, obligations to the environment, and questions of redistributive justice. This course will draw on the work of political philosophers including Machiavelli, Weber, Mill, E.H. Carr, Morgenthau and Walzer, as well as examine several contemporary case studies.

MAJOR CREDIT: EDUCATION; JLS (Law and Society); POLS (Political Theory Concentration); and SIS (International Politics, International Peace and Conflict Resolution)

**HNRS 302-009H THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD'S CURRENCIES:
WILL THERE BE ONE OR MANY?**

Ellen Meade

M, TH 11:20 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.

This course examines monetary integration and the economic requirements for countries to form a currency union. The class will study the theory of optimum currency areas and look at the economic implications of surrendering a sovereign currency in favor of a regional currency with monetary policy administered by a single central banking institution. In addition to economic theory, we will examine the political conditions necessary for monetary integration, as well as the costs and benefits of monetary union for firms operating in the region. We will also study less democratic forms of monetary integration such as currency boards and dollarization. We will look at some historical examples of currency unions in the 19th and early 20th centuries. In addition, we will study a very well-known, present-day monetary union in Europe that uses the Euro as its currency. Finally, we will examine other regions of the world – Asia, the Middle East, Northern Africa, North America, and South America – looking at plans for monetary integration (if they exist) or the prospects (both economic and political) for monetary integration or monetary union in the future.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Economics); ECONOMICS; KOGOD; LFS (Language and Area Studies: French/Europe, German/Europe, Russian/Area Studies, Spanish/Latin America- Social Sciences requirement); POLS (Related Social Science Requirement); and SIS (International Economic Relations, Europe, International Politics, Asia, Middle East, Americas, International Business)

HNRS 302-010H SOCIAL/SCIENCE/FICTION

Patrick Jackson
TH 2:10-4:50 p.m.

This course proceeds from a pair of linked observations: 1) social science is a human endeavor that promises to elucidate social reality in such a way as to make it comprehensible, and, 2) science fiction is part of a human literary endeavor in which authors explore the relationships between characters, technology, and the physical world through the fantastic setting in which the events of the work are situated. Both genres aim to explore the contours of the future, and to elucidate complex issues by means of deliberate analytical oversimplification. This suggests the potential for a dialogue, or at least an intriguing set of contrasts. Is social science a form of science fiction? Is science fiction a form of social science? We will explore these issues by reading and discussing illustrative works from both genres. Students will also have the option to view and discuss selected science-fiction films on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. throughout the semester.

MAJOR CREDIT: LITERATURE; POLS (Major-related Social Science requirement); and SIS (International Communication, International Politics, Comparative International Race Relations, International Peace and Conflict Resolution); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-011H TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT

Christine Chin
W 11:20 a.m.-2 p.m.

This course examines the challenges and contradictions of tourism development in the 21st century. It traces the historical origins of tourism, i.e., 18th century European “grand tour”/elite travel, to contemporary manifestations of packaged and specialized tours for the middle classes worldwide. Key topics to be covered include sustainable tourism as a development strategy; the ‘branding’ of nation states; emerging tourist identities and issues of authentic/inauthentic experiences; niche tourism (e.g., ecotourism, medical tourism, heritage tourism) and the commodification of culture; and intercultural relations among tourists and host communities.

MAJOR CREDIT: CLEG (Economics); KOGOD; LFS (Language and Area Studies: French/Europe, German/Europe, Russian/Area Studies, Spanish/Latin America - Social Sciences requirement); POLS (Major Related Social Science Requirement); SIS (International Communication, International Development, Global Environmental Politics, International Economic Relations, International Politics); and SOCIOLOGY

HNRS 302-012H LOCALIZING PEACE: COMMUNITY-EMBEDDED CAPACITIES

Abdul Said
TH 2:10-4:50 p.m.
Limit 12 students

Enrollment by Permission of Instructor Only

This course is premised on a comprehensive understanding of peace that explores local capacities for peacebuilding and sustainable development in a multitude of diverse cultural and religious contexts. Peace at global, regional and national levels is unlikely to take root unless such capacities are established – for ultimately peace must be made and practiced on a local basis. This course addresses the vital need to make active use of local peace resources and to pursue forms of local-international collaboration that sustainably yield locally valid and effective solutions—currently an emerging area in the field of Conflict Resolution. Localizing Peace seeks to develop practical frameworks and raise critical questions for identifying, eliciting and tapping local resources to enhance capacity for local solutions to conflict.

MAJOR CREDIT: EDUCATION; POLS (Comparative Politics); SIS (International Peace and Conflict Resolution, International Development, Comparative International Race Relations); and SOCIOLOGY