ANTHROPOLOGY (ANTH)

* ANTH 018a, Scientific Thinking and Reasoning  Eduardo Fernandez-Duque
Students read, discuss and reflect on the paramount importance of science and quantitative reasoning in their lives through an exploration of the basic elements of a quantitative scientific process of inquiry. The goal of the course is to introduce students to foundational topics in science that must be, but sometimes are not, thoroughly considered early in the process of scientific inquiry. The first part focuses on reading about truth, facts and skepticism, causality, inference, deductive and inductive reasoning, research questions, and formulation of hypotheses and predictions. The second part considers aspects related to the actual development and implementation of a scientific study including considerations of types of study (e.g., observational, experimental), study feasibility, sample size, selection and validity of variables, power analysis, confounding factors. The third part considers the analyses, interpretation and presentation of results, offering introductory explanations of a priori statistical protocols; predictive and/or explanatory power and interpretation of both statistical significance and research relevance. The course is neither a lecture or seminar, but instead each meeting is a hybrid of both formats; a format where students are required to be active participants in the process of learning. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  SC, SO

* ANTH 030b / ARCG 030b / LAST 030b, Inca Culture and Society  Richard Burger
History of the Inca empire of the Central Andes, including the empire’s impact on the nations and cultures it conquered. Overview of Inca religion, economy, political organization, technology, and society. Ways in which different schools of research have approached and interpreted the Incas over the last century, including the influence of nationalism and other sources of bias on contemporary scholarship. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.  SO

ANTH 110b, An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  Erik Harms
Anthropological study of cosmology, tacit knowledge, and ways of knowing the world in specific social settings. Ways in which sociocultural specificity helps to explain human solutions to problems of cooperation and conflict, production and reproduction, expression, and belief. Introduction to anthropological ways of understanding cultural difference in approaches to sickness and healing, gender and sexuality, economics, religion, and communication.  SO

* ANTH 112a, Agent, Person, Subject, Self  Paul Kockelman
Introduction to the interconnections between language and personality development and to the social construction of person and self. Focus on the capacities of agency, subjectivity, selfhood, and personhood as analyzed in classic works from anthropology, psychology, and philosophy. Ways in which these seemingly human-specific and individual-centric capacities are essential for understanding social processes.  SO

ANTH 116b, Introduction to Biological Anthropology  Jessica Thompson
Introduction to human and primate evolution, primate behavior, and human biology. Topics include a review of principles of evolutionary biology and basic molecular and population genetics; the behavior, ecology, and evolution of nonhuman primates; the fossil and archaeological record for human evolution; the origin of modern humans; biological variation in living humans; and the evolution of human behavior.  SC, SO

ANTH 119a, Law as Culture  Louisa Lombard
Introduction to anthropological understanding of what law is, how it holds its authority, and how it is shaped by cultural assumptions about justice, rights, and morality. Readings from classic and contemporary texts in legal and political anthropology. Cultural dimensions of law and its changing relationship to discipline, power, and governance.  SO

ANTH 140a / ER&M 241a / SOCY 138a, The Corporation  Douglas Rogers
Survey of the rise, diversity, and power of the capitalist corporation in global contexts, with a focus on the 20th and 21st centuries. Topics include: the corporation as legal entity and the social and cultural consequences of this status; corporations in the colonial era; relationships among corporations, states, and non-governmental organizations in Western and non-Western contexts; anti-corporate critique and response; corporate social responsibility; and race, gender, and indigeneity.  HU, SO

ANTH 171a / ARCG 171a, Great Civilizations of the Ancient World  Daniela Wolin
A survey of selected prehistoric and historical cultures through examination of archaeological sites and materials. Emphasis on the methodological and theoretical approaches by which archaeologists recover, analyze, and interpret the material remains of the past.  SO

ANTH 203a, Primate Conservation  David Watts and Chloe Chen-Kraus
A study of nonhuman primates threatened by deforestation, habitat disturbance, hunting, and other human activities; the future of primate habitats, especially tropical rainforests, as they are affected by local and global economic and political forces. Examination of issues in primate conservation, from the principles of conservation biology and rainforest ecology to the emergence of diseases such as AIDS and Ebola and the extraction of tropical resources by local people and by transnational corporations.  SO

ANTH 204a, Molecular Anthropology
This course is a perfect introduction for anyone interested in understanding how genetics can help us answer fundamental questions in human evolution and population history. The course is a series of lectures on basic principles of population genetics, molecular evolution, and genetic data analysis. Topics include DNA and human origins, human migrations, genetic adaptation, ancient DNA, and Neandertals.
By the end of this course, students learn about the processes that generate and shape genetic variation, as well as the molecular and statistical tools used to reconstruct human evolutionary history. SC

* ANTH 213a / EAST 313a, Postwar Japan: Ghosts of Modernity
This course introduces students to contemporary Japan, examining how its defeat in the Second World War and loss of empire in 1945 continue to shape Japanese culture and society. Looking especially at the sphere of cultural production, it focuses on the question of what it means to be modern as expressed through the tension between resurgent neo-nationalism and the aspiration to internationalize. The course charts how the legacy of Japan's imperial failure plays a significant role in its search for renewal and identity since 1945. How, it asks, does the experience of catastrophic failure – and failure to account for that failure – play into continued aspirations for modernity today? How does Japanese society wrestle with modernity's two faces: its promise for progress and its history of catastrophic violence? The course follows the trajectory of Japan's postwar nation-state development after the dissolution of empire, from its resurrection from the ashes after defeat, to its identity as a US ally and economic superpower during the Cold War, to decades of recession since the 1990s and the search for new relations with its neighbors and new reckonings with its own imperial violence and postwar inactions against the background of rising neonationalism. HU, SO

ANTH 223b / ARCG 228b, The Anthropology of War
Louisa Lombard, David Watts, and William Honeychurch
An integrated anthropological perspective on human conflict and organized violence. Questions include the definition of war, the inevitability of war, lessons to be learned from archaeological evidence, and the effects of war on individuals and groups. Source material includes the study of human evolution and nonhuman primates, the archeological record, and ethnography of the contemporary world. SO

* ANTH 230b / WGSS 230b, Evolutionary Biology of Women's Reproductive Lives
Claudia Valeggia
Evolutionary and biosocial perspectives on female reproductive lives. Physiological, ecological, and social aspects of women’s development from puberty through menopause and aging, with special attention to reproductive processes such as pregnancy, birth, and lactation. Variation in female life histories in a variety of cultural and ecological settings. Examples from both traditional and modern societies. SC

ANTH 232a / ARCG 232a / LAST 232a, Ancient Civilizations of the Andes
Richard Burger
Survey of the archaeological cultures of Peru and Bolivia from the earliest settlement through the late Inca state. SO

ANTH 242a, Human Evolutionary Biology and Life History
Claudia Valeggia
The range of human physiological adaptability across environments and ecologies. Effects of energetic constraints on growth, reproduction, and behavior within the context of evolution and life history theory, with special emphasis on traditional non-Western societies. SC, SO

ANTH 244a, Social Change in Contemporary Southeast Asia
Erik Harms
This course examines a number of significant forms of social change occurring in Southeast Asia in recent years. Fueled by new digital technologies; environmental change; globalized economies, politics, human rights, and religion – Southeast Asia is experiencing a rapid transformation. Some of these changes are visible such as the ubiquitous use of mobile phones, transformed city skylines, rampant deforestation, and changing infrastructure. However, some are less visible such as the forced evacuations of the poor from urban centers, increasing state surveillance, and new forms of relationships between people and places enabled through digital communications. Topics include migration, politics and political activism, urban development, environmentalism, labor, violence, religion, popular culture, gender, and relationships. Principle readings include key works from a range of disciplines and represent a number of Southeast Asian nations. The course includes a visual component through a number of in class film screenings. SO

ANTH 272b / AFST 272b / ARCG 272b, African Prehistory
Jessica Thompson and Roderick McIntosh
Survey of archaeological evidence for the original contributions of the African continent to the human condition. The unresolved issues of African prehistory, from the time of the first hominids, through development of food production and metallurgy, to the rise of states and cities. SO

ANTH 280b, Evolution of Primate Intelligence
David Watts
Discussion of the extent and evolutionary origins of cognitive abilities in primates (prosimians, monkeys, apes, and humans). Topics include the role of ecological and social factors as evolutionary forces; 'ape language' studies; and whether any nonhuman primates possess a ‘theory of mind.’ SO

ANTH 294b / ARCG 294b, The Ancient Maya
Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos
Introduction to the archaeological study of ancient Maya civilization in southern Mexico and northern Central America. Maya origins and modes of adaptation to a tropical forest environment; political history of the Classic Maya and competing theories about their collapse; overviews of Maya art, calendar, and writing. SO

* ANTH 311a, Anthropological Theory and the Post Colonial Encounter
Jacob Rinck
Key texts in the theoretical development of sociocultural anthropology. Theorists include Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, Franz Boas, Zora Neale Hurston, Sidney Mintz, Bernard Cohn, Michel Foucault, Edward Said, Antonio Gramsci, Sherry Ortner, and Joan Scott. SO
ANTH 316La / ARCG 316La, Introduction to Archaeological Laboratory Sciences  Roderick McIntosh and Ellery Frahm
Introduction to techniques of archaeological laboratory analysis, with quantitative data styles and statistics appropriate to each. Topics include dating of artifacts, sourcing of ancient materials, remote sensing, and microscopic and biochemical analysis. Specific techniques covered vary from year to year.

* ANTH 322a / EVST 324a / SAST 306a, Environmental Justice in South Asia  Kalyanakrishnan Sivaramakrishnan
Study of South Asia's nation building and economic development in the aftermath of war and decolonization in the 20th century. How it generated unprecedented stress on natural environments; increased social disparity; and exposure of the poor and minorities to environmental risks and loss of homes, livelihoods, and cultural resources. Discussion of the rise of environmental justice movements and policies in the region as the world comes to grips with living in the Anthropocene.  SO

* ANTH 324a / ANTH 824a, Politics of Memory
This course explores the role of memory as a social, cultural, and political force in contemporary society. How societies remember difficult pasts has become a contested site for negotiating the present. Through the lens of memory, we examine complex roles that our relationships to difficult pasts play in navigating issues we face today. This course explores this politics of memory that takes place in the realm of popular culture and public space. The class asks such questions as: How do you represent difficult and contested pasts? What does it mean to enable long-silenced victims' voices to be heard? What are the consequences of re-narrating the past by highlighting past injuries and trauma? Does memory work heal or open wounds of a society and a nation? Through examples drawn from the Holocaust, the atomic bombing in Hiroshima, the Vietnam War, genocide in Indonesia and massacres in Lebanon, to debates on confederacy statues, slavery, and lynching in the US, this course approaches these questions through an anthropological exploration of concepts such as memory, trauma, mourning, silence, voice, testimony, and victimhood.  HU, SO

* ANTH 336b / ARCG 336b / EPS 336b, Geoarchaeology  Ellery Frahm
A survey of the numerous ways in which theories, approaches, techniques, and data from the earth and environmental sciences are used to address archaeological research questions. A range of interfaces between archaeology and the geological sciences are considered. Topics include stratigraphy, geomorphology, site formation processes, climate reconstruction, site location, and dating techniques. Prior introductory coursework in archaeology or geology (or instructor permission) suggested.  SC, SO

* ANTH 342a, Cultures and Markets in Asia  Helen Siu
Historical and contemporary movements of people, goods, and cultural meanings that have defined Asia as a region. Reexamination of state-centered conceptualizations of Asia and of established boundaries in regional studies. The intersections of transregional institutions and local societies and their effects on trading empires, religious traditions, colonial encounters, and cultural fusion. Finance flows that connect East Asia and the Indian Ocean to the Middle East and Africa. The cultures of capital and market in the neoliberal and postsocialist world.  SO

* ANTH 355b / AFST 355b / EAST 351b, China-Africa Encounters  Helen Siu
The history, effects, and implications of Chinese involvement in and with African countries over the past century. Diasporic experiences, with attention to informal economies, cultural strategies, and ethnic and religious tensions; land, finance, and infrastructure; Chinese aid and development in Africa since the late 1960s, including medical aid and charitable groups.  SO

* ANTH 362b, Unity and Diversity in Chinese Culture  Helen Siu
An exploration of the Chinese identity as it has been reworked over the centuries. Major works in Chinese anthropology and their intellectual connections with general anthropology and historical studies. Topics include kinship and marriage, marketing systems, rituals and popular religion, ethnicity and state making, and the cultural nexus of power.  SO

* ANTH 366a / AMST 435a, Inequality in America  Kathryn Dudley
Sociocultural dimensions of social inequality in the contemporary United States. Ways in which the socioeconomic processes that produce inequality are inextricably embedded in worlds of cultural meaning; how those meanings are constructed and embodied in everyday practice. Perspectives from anthropology, sociology, economics, history, and popular media.  SO

* ANTH 367a, Technology and Culture  Lisa Messeri
This class examines how technology matters in our daily lives. How do technologies shape understandings of ourselves, the worlds we inhabit, and each other? How do the values and assumptions of engineers and innovators shape our behaviors? How do technologies change over time and between cultures. Students learn to think about technology and culture as co-constituted. We read and discuss texts from history and anthropology of science, as well as fictional explorations relevant to course topics.  SO

* ANTH 368b, Language, Culture, and Identity  J Joseph Errington
Introduction to the role of language in the constitution of gendered, class, ethnic, and national identities. Ethnographic and linguistic case studies are combined with theoretical and comparative approaches. Enrollment limited to 40. This course was formerly ANTH 205.  SO

* ANTH 372a / ARCG 372a, The Archaeology of Urbanism  Anne Underhill and Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariégos
Archaeological studies of ancient cities and urbanism. Topics include the origin and growth of cities; the economic, social, and political implications of urban life; and archaeological methods and theories for the study of ancient urbanism. Case studies include ancient cities around the world.  SO
* ANTH 375b / ARCG 379b, Anthropology of Mobile Societies  William Honeychurch
The social and cultural significance of the ways that hunter-gatherers, pastoral nomads, maritime traders, and members of our own society traverse space. The impact of mobility and transport technologies on subsistence, trade, interaction, and warfare from the first horse riders of five thousand years ago to jet-propulsion tourists of today.  SO

* ANTH 378a, Postwar Vietnam  Erik Harms
An introduction to the study of Vietnamese society since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975, with a focus on how economic and political changes intersect with cultural and social life. The historical challenges of postwar socialism, economic renovation, and the intersection of 'market-oriented socialism' with class dynamics, urbanization, gender, health care, and ritual life.  SO

* ANTH 381a / WGSS 378a, Sex and Global Politics  Graeme Reid
Global perspectives on the sexual politics of gender identity, sexual orientation, and human rights. Examination of historical, cultural, and political aspects of sexual orientation and gender identity in the context of globalization.  SO

* ANTH 385b / ARCG 385b, Archaeological Ceramics  Anne Underhill
Archaeological methods for analyzing and interpreting ceramics, arguably the most common type of object found in ancient sites. Focus on what different aspects of ceramic vessels reveal about the people who made them and used them.  SO

* ANTH 386a / GLBL 393a, Humanitarian Interventions: Ethics, Politics, and Health  Catherine Panter-Brick
Analysis of humanitarian interventions from a variety of social science disciplinary perspectives. Issues related to policy, legal protection, health care, morality, and governance in relation to the moral imperative to save lives in conditions of extreme adversity. Promotion of dialogue between social scientists and humanitarian practitioners.  WR, SO

* ANTH 388b, Politics of Culture in Southeast Asia  Erik Harms
The promotion of national culture as part of political and economic agendas in Southeast Asia. Cultural and political diversity as a method for maintaining a country's cultural difference in a global world.  SO

* ANTH 409a / ERKM 394a / EVST 422a / F&ES 422a / GLBL 394a, Climate and Society from Past to Present  Michael Dove
Discussion of the major currents of thought—both historic and contemporary—regarding climate, climate change, and society; focusing on the politics of knowledge and belief vs disbelief; and drawing on the social sciences and anthropology in particular.  WR, SO

* ANTH 410a / ARCG 410a, Ethnohistory and Archaeology  Roderick McIntosh
Review of the major problems and methodologies associated with the use of ethnohistory by archaeologists. The construction of a historical imagination. Sources include colonial and “visitor” documents, peoples’ written descriptions of themselves, oral traditions, classic ethnographies, and writings in art history.  SO

* ANTH 415a, Culture, History, Power, and Representation  Helen Siu
A critical introduction to anthropological formulations of the junctures of meaning, interest, and power. Readings include classical and contemporary ethnographies that are theoretically informed and historically situated.  SO  RP

* ANTH 432b, Politics of Language  J Joseph Errington
Language difference and language inequality as symbols and shapers of political dynamics and social change in plural societies. Comparative, theoretical, and ethnographic approaches to the politics of sociolinguistic difference, with case studies focused on specific issues. Topics include “problems” of substandard languages, bilingual identities, ethnic and national identity, and globalization and language shift.  SO  RP

* ANTH 439a, Africa, Politics, Anthropology  Louisa Lombard
Historical-anthropological study of politics in Africa since the early nineteenth century. The creation and operation of African states; the negotiation of legitimacy, authority, and belonging by state agents and the people they govern; anthropological theories about the workings of African politics, including the involvement of both state and nonstate actors.  SO

* ANTH 441a / MMES 399a and MMES 430a / MMES 430a / WGSS 430a, Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East  Eda Pepi
Examination of the gendered and sexual dimensions of war, conflict, and partition, and the codification of modern citizenship in the Middle East—from Syria, to the Middle East conflict, to Western Sahara, among others—this course presents ethnographic, historical, and literary scholarship that theorizes the role of kinship and citizenship in narratives of the nation and sovereignty.  SO

* ANTH 445b / AFAM 451b / THST 450b / WGSS 442b, Black Women Moving and the Ethnography of Embodiment  Aimee Cox
In this course we explore the theory and methods employed by Black women ethnographers, artists, and activists invested in transforming the traditional norms of the academic disciplines and creative contexts in which they operate. These boundary erasing, rule breaking women challenge us to think expansively and act courageously in our efforts to not only dream a new world but bring that world into fruition. The life and work of anthropologist/dancer/choreographer/activist Katherine Dunham (1909–2006) provides the framework through which we think through the strategies contemporary scholar-artists employ in their social justice practices, while the concept of movement is our theoretical and methodological foundation for engaging with the work of historical and contemporary Black women change agents. We ask how movement functions in the work of Dunham and these contemporary scholar-artists in terms of: the moving and/or dancing body; movement and migration across geographic territories and imagined space; and participation in social movements. Inspired by the techniques these women have developed for re-imagining the possibilities for moving as an act of social change, we experiment with creating our own embodied artistic practices and research methods. Students should anticipate a
holistic experience that requires an openness to physical activity and choreography (accessible to all) as one of our primary tools for both analyzing the multi-media course texts, as well as constructing our own boundary crossing projects.  

* ANTH 450b / ARCG 450b, Analysis of Lithic Technology  
Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos  
Introduction to the analysis of chipped and ground stone tools, including instruction in manufacturing chipped stone tools from obsidian. Review of the development of stone tool technology from earliest tools to those of historical periods; relevance of this technology to subsistence, craft specialization, and trade. Discussion of the recording, analysis, and drawing of artifacts, and of related studies such as sourcing and use-wear analysis.  

* ANTH 451a / WGSS 431a, Intersectionality and Women's Health  
Marcia Inhorn  
The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of “difference” and their effects on women's health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women's health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.  

* ANTH 457b / EPS 457b, Topics in Evolutionary Theory  
Eric Sargis and Jacques Gauthier  

ANTH 464a or b / ARCG 464a or b / E&EB 464a or b, Human Osteology  
Eric Sargis  
A lecture and laboratory course focusing on the characteristics of the human skeleton and its use in studies of functional morphology, paleodemography, and paleopathology. Laboratories familiarize students with skeletal parts; lectures focus on the nature of bone tissue, its biomechanical modification, sexing, aging, and interpretation of lesions.  

* ANTH 465b / AMST 459b, Multispecies Worlds  
Kathryn Dudley  
This seminar explores the relational and material worlds that humans create in concert with other-than-human species. Through an interdisciplinary analysis of the problematic subject of anthropology—Anthropos—we seek to pose new questions about the fate of life worlds in the present epoch of anthropogenic climate change. Our readings track circuits of knowledge from anthropology and philosophy to geological history, literary criticism, and environmental studies as we come to terms with the loss of biodiversity, impending wildlife extinctions, and political-economic havoc wrought by global warming associated with the Anthropocene. A persistent provocation guides our inquiry: What multispecies worldings become possible to recognize and cultivate when we dare to decenter the human in our politics, passions, and aspirations for life on a shared planet?  

* ANTH 472a or b, Readings in Anthropology  
Staff  
For students who wish to investigate an area of anthropology not covered by regular departmental offerings. The project must terminate with at least a term paper or its equivalent. No student may take more than two terms for credit. To apply for admission, a student should present a prospectus and bibliography to the director of undergraduate studies no later than the third week of the term. Written approval from the faculty member who will direct the student’s reading and writing must accompany the prospectus.  

* ANTH 473a / ARCG 473a / EVST 473a / NELC 473a, Climate Change, Societal Collapse, and Resilience  
Harvey Weiss  
The coincidence of societal collapses throughout history with decadal and century-scale abrupt climate change events. Challenges to anthropological and historical paradigms of cultural adaptation and resilience. Examination of archaeological and historical records and high-resolution sets of paleoclimate proxies.  

* ANTH 482a / ARCG 482a, Advanced Archaeological Theory  
Roderick McIntosh  
Review of the intellectual history of archaeology, with readings from the Enlightenment to the present. Emphasis on the tension between science, mysticism, and nationalism in the interpretation of prehistoric processes.  

* ANTH 491a or b, The Senior Essay  
Staff  
Supervised investigation of some topic in depth. The course requirement is a long essay to be submitted as the student’s senior essay. By the end of the third week of the term in which the essay is written, the student must present a prospectus and a preliminary bibliography to the director of undergraduate studies. Written approval from an Anthropology faculty adviser and an indication of a preferred second reader must accompany the prospectus.