Sociology and Anthropology

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers three avenues for specialized study: a major in sociology, a major in anthropology, and a minor in anthropology. The department has one principal mission — to challenge students to examine the social and cultural dimensions of the contemporary world. As social sciences, both disciplines play a distinctive role in the liberal arts curriculum. Each combines a humanistic concern for the quality and diversity of human life with a commitment to the empirical analysis of culture and society. The department welcomes non-majors to courses when space is available. Our curricula also have many ties to Holy Cross’ interdisciplinary programs and concentrations.

Advising

The department maintains an active advising program for sociology and anthropology students. Faculty advisors work closely with individual advisees to clarify course offerings and discuss academic and career goals. The department encourages students to pursue interdisciplinary concentrations, internships, Washington semester, and study abroad, and it provides advice on how to integrate these activities into a course of study. Internship placements are also a good addendum for sociology and anthropology students, and placements can be arranged in a variety of areas, including health related services, media, law, women’s and children’s services, older adult programs, business and criminal justice. Some examples of programs or agencies that have sponsored sociology and anthropology students’ internships are:

- The Age Center of Worcester,
- Abby’s House (shelter for women),
- Daybreak (battered women’s services),
- AIDS Project Worcester,
- City of Worcester Planning Department or Public Health Department,
- Fidelity Investments, and
- Worcester Juvenile Probation Office.

Honors Program

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers a department Honors Program for students seeking the independent research opportunities associated with writing a thesis, independent of the College Honors Program. Our honors program provides qualified majors the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the discipline through a year-long project of their own design, either empirical or theoretical, and to write an honors thesis during their senior year. To be eligible a student must be a major with an overall GPA of at least 3.25 and a departmental GPA of at least 3.5, and in most cases, have completed the theory and methods requirements before the senior year. Application to the department Honors Program is made in the spring semester of the junior year and requires an application, transcript, and thesis proposal. Decisions are made by a Department Honors Selection Committee.

Honor Societies

Student scholarship is also recognized by the department in terms of students’ appointment to membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the international honor society in sociology, or Lambda Alpha, the national collegiate honor society for anthropology. Both societies promote human welfare through the advancement of scientific knowledge that may be applied to the solution of social problems. Both societies sponsor annual student paper contests, as well as support students to present their original work at regional and national conferences.

Advanced Placement Credit

Holy Cross awards credit for Advanced Placement exams taken through the College Board Advanced Placement Program and the International Baccalaureate Program and will accept some Advanced Level General Certificate of Education (A-Level) exams. One unit of credit is awarded for an Advanced Placement score of 4 or 5 in any discipline recognized by the College. One unit of credit is awarded for a score of 6 or 7 on a Higher Level International Baccalaureate Examination in a liberal arts subject. One unit of credit is awarded for a score of A/A* or B on an A-Level exam in a liberal arts subject. The College does not award credit for the IB Standard Exam or the AS-Level Exam. AP, IB, and A-Level credit may be used to satisfy deficiencies and common area requirements. Each academic department has its own policy regarding the use of AP or IB credit for placement in courses and progress in the major. The Department Chair must also review the A-Level score to determine placement in courses and progress in the major. See departmental descriptions for further information.

Ann Marie Leshkowich, Ph.D., Professor
Jennie Germann Molz, Ph.D., Professor
Renée Lynn Beard, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Jeffrey C. Dixon, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Ara A. Francis, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Selina R. Gallo-Cruz, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Daina Cheyenne Harvey, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Alvaro Jarrin, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Susan Crawford Sullivan, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair
Melissa F. Weiner, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Ellis Jones, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Jeremy L. Jones, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Susan M. Cunningham, Ph.D., Lecturer
Darcie DeAngelo, Ph.D., Visiting Assistant Professor
Emily B. Campbell, Cand. Ph.D., Visiting Instructor
Ronnie Shepard, Ph.D., Visiting Lecturer

Academic Plans within Sociology and Anthropology

- Anthropology Major (https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-major)
- Anthropology Minor (https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/sociology-anthropology/anthropology-minor)
- Sociology Major (https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/sociology-anthropology/sociology-major)
Other Academic Plans Accepting/Requiring Sociology and Anthropology Coursework

- Africana Studies Concentration ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/africana-studies-concentration](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/africana-studies-concentration))
- Asian Studies Major ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/asia-studies-major](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/asia-studies-major))
- Asian Studies Minor ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/asia-studies-minor](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/asia-studies-minor))
- Education Minor ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/education-education-minor/#curriculumtext](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/education-education-minor/#curriculumtext))
- Environmental Studies Major ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-major](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-major))
- Environmental Studies Minor ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-minor](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-minor))
- Gender, Sexuality, & Women’s Studies Concentration ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/gender-sexuality-womens-studies-concentration](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/gender-sexuality-womens-studies-concentration))
- International Studies Major ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/international-studies/international-studies-major](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/international-studies/international-studies-major))
- Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies Concentration ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/latin-american-latinx-caribbean-studies-concentration](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/latin-american-latinx-caribbean-studies-concentration))
- Peace and Conflict Studies Concentration ([https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/peace-conflict-studies-concentration/#text](https://hccatalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/peace-conflict-studies-concentration/#text))

Sociology (SOCL)

SOCL 101 — The Sociological Perspective Course count: 1
A one-semester introduction to the principles of sociological analysis. Through a critical examination of selected topics and themes, this course develops a sociological perspective for the interpretation and understanding of cultural differences, age and sex roles, discrimination, the family and the workplace, bureaucracies, stratification, the problems of poverty.

Enrollment limited to 1st and 2nd year students only
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 203 — Racial & Ethnic Groups Course count: 1
An examination of 1) the emergence of race in modern societies, with special emphasis on the North American context; 2) various theories of race and ethnicity, including the historical conditions under which those theories surfaced; 3) experiences of race and ethnicity in contemporary societies.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Annually

SOCL 213 — Race, Crime, and Justice Course count: 1
An introduction to the sociological study of deviance, this course explores 1) key theoretical perspectives to deviance and social control, 2) how people come to view certain attitudes, conditions, and behaviors as odd, morally reprehensible, or illegal and 3) the identities and life chances of people who are labeled as "deviant." Pays close attention to the relationship between deviance, power and social inequality. One unit.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 219 — Deviance Course count: 1
Examines American class structures and processes, acknowledging the unequal distribution of resources and analyzing aspects of institutionalization serving to support such inequality. Course focuses on the various social, economic, and political indicators of an individual's position in society, including occupation, income, wealth, prestige, and power, as well as characteristics of life at different levels of the class hierarchy.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 210 — Consumer & Corp Sustainability Course count: 1
This course asks what it means to be a good citizen, good consumer, and good corporation in light of contemporary social and environmental problems by focusing on the relationship between democracy and capitalism. It investigates the complexities of understanding and implementing social responsibility on the local, national, and global level.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 211 — Consumer & Corp Sustainability Course count: 1
This course examines how laws embedded in the US criminal justice system exclude vast segments of the population from full citizenship rights by criminalizing the actions (and very existence) of people of color. Tracing the historical development of criminal policies targeting people of color while largely ignoring white collar criminals, students will encounter a wide range of topics related to policing, criminalization, and mass incarceration, their consequences for individuals, communities and racial inequality, and contemporary social movements seeking racial justice in these areas.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 205 — Social Class & Power Course count: 1
Examines American class structures and processes, acknowledging the unequal distribution of resources and analyzing aspects of institutionalization serving to support such inequality. Course focuses on the various social, economic, and political indicators of an individual's position in society, including occupation, income, wealth, prestige, and power, as well as characteristics of life at different levels of the class hierarchy.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
GPA units: 1
Prerequisite: SOCL 101. This course is for SOCL majors only.

Interactionism and the Sociology of Knowledge.
Simmel and on the 20th-century developments in functionalism, symbolic
Emphasis is placed on four major theorists: Durkheim, Marx, Weber,
attention is given to historical influences on emerging sociological theory. Some
social thought which informs contemporary sociological theory. Some

SOCL 223 — Logics of Inquiry
An introduction to the world of doing sociology, this class covers the
logic and techniques of social scientific research. Readings, lectures,
and exercises both in and out of the classroom are designed to help
students experience the field and develop methodological skills first-
hand. Students will learn how to conceptualize, operationalize and
conduct sociological research projects, including construction of
research questions, an understanding of the intersection between
theory and praxis, composing interview questions and guides for both
qualitative and quantitative studies, collection, entry, and analysis of data,
and presentation of empirical findings.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101 and SOCL 226. This course is for SOCL majors
only.
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Annually

SOCL 226 — Social Statistics
Students are introduced to both descriptive and inferential statistics
(including confidence intervals, chi square, multivariate analysis of
variance, and multiple regression). The (mis)use and interpretation of
statistics is heavily stressed.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101. Students who have taken BIOL 275, ECON 249,
MATH 220 or PSYC 200 may not enroll in this course. This course is for
SOCL majors only.
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Mathematical Science
Typically Offered: Annually

SOCL 236 — Environmental Sociology
This course examines the interaction between human society and the
natural environment, more specifically, the relationships between various
environmental and social problems, as well as emphasizes current
theory and research in environmental sociology aimed at understanding
and addressing those problems. By discussing issues of science and
technology, popular culture, disasters, urbanization, racial and gender
relations, domination and violence, as well as social movements, and by
engaging in issues from a diversity of disciplines including anthropology,
biology, economics, geography, psychology, and history, this course will
reach a broad understanding of environmental issues. One unit.
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science

SOCL 238 — Cities and Environment
A descriptive and critical study of the 19th- and early 20th-century
social thought which informs contemporary sociological theory. Some
attention is given to historical influences on emerging sociological theory.
Emphasis is placed on four major theorists: Durkheim, Marx, Weber,
Simmel and on the 20th-century developments in functionalism, symbolic
interactionism and the sociology of knowledge.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101. This course is for SOCL majors only.
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 241 — Development of Social Theory
A descriptive and critical study of the 19th- and early 20th-century
social thought which informs contemporary sociological theory. Some
attention is given to historical influences on emerging sociological theory.
Emphasis is placed on four major theorists: Durkheim, Marx, Weber,
Simmel and on the 20th-century developments in functionalism, symbolic
interactionism and the sociology of knowledge.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101. This course is for SOCL majors only.
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 247 — Sociology of TV & Media
This course investigates the evolving role of television in shaping our
understanding of the world as it relates to democracy, consumerism,
human relationships, and how we make sense of our own lives. More
specifically, the course examines the nature of entertainment, advertising,
news, and the institutions that create television programming.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 254 — Girls and Violence
Examines the social science literature pertaining to girls both as
victims and as perpetrators, as well as structures influencing personal
experiences and interpersonal dynamics. In addition to theory related
to both gender and violence, topics covered include bullying and
relational aggression, sexual harassment, gangs, child sexual abuse,
trafficking, and living in a war-torn society.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 256 — Self & Society
This course examines how individual bodies, hearts and minds are social
phenomena. Topics include language, self, and what it means to be
human; the sociology of emotion; the presentation of self in everyday life;
macro-social order, disruption, and ontological security; and the micro-
politics of interaction. Draws strongly from the symbolic interactionist,
dramaturgical, and interpretive traditions.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 257 — Aging & Society
A thorough introduction to the sociological study of people's experience
of late life. Strives to increase awareness of the social, cultural, and
historical affects on aging by examining people's accounts of late life and
aging, their social and psychological compensations, and the bearing of
late life experiences on end-of-life decisions.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 259 — Children & Violence
This course is organized around three general themes: (1) an introductory
overview of the topic of violence, including theoretical background and
structural factors; (2) an analysis of violence-related issues, including
family, street, and school-based causes and consequences; and (3)
consideration of prevention and intervention strategies and relevant
policy implications.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years
SOCL 261 — Sociology Of Religion  Course count: 1
An analysis of religion as a socio-cultural product. Emphasis on the interrelationship between religion and society in a cross-cultural perspective. Major topics include the social functions of religion, the organization of religious practice, and the impact of social change on religion.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 263 — Medical Sociology  Course count: 1
A critical study of the institution of modern medicine. Special attention is paid to socio-cultural and political factors influencing susceptibility, diagnosis and treatment. Topics include the social meaning of disease, patienthood, the medical profession, and the organization of medical care.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Annually

SOCL 269 — Education and Society  Course count: 1
A critical examination of education in the U.S., with a special emphasis on public schooling. This course considers how the functions and goals of education have changed over time, factors leading to the current crisis in education, and controversial programs for fixing the problems such as vouchers, charter schools, and multicultural education.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 271 — Families and Societies  Course count: 1
Examination of patterns in American family behavior. Strives to increase awareness of the social, cultural, and psychological facets of family life by examining kinship relations, child socialization, dating behavior, patterns of sexual activity, parental decisions, family development, divorce, violence in the family.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 274 — LGBTQ Studies  Course count: 1
This course will provide students with an overview of LGBTQ Studies using a sociological framework that prioritizes questions of history, power, identity, and community. Along with contemporary issues such as marriage equality and bullying in schools, students will learn about important historical events in the gay and trans rights movements. The primary theoretical focus will be on social constructionism, though the course will draw upon a variety of theoretical perspectives that contribute to understandings of gender and sexuality.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 277 — Gender and Society  Course count: 1
On womens and mens gendered experiences at the individual, interactional, and institutional levels; how gendered experiences vary by race/ethnicity, sexuality, social class, and other ways.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 278 — Gender, Body & Health  Course count: 1
This course examines the body as a medium for self-expression and an entity to be controlled. The body is a site where men and women "do gender"; this can have both positive and negative effects on health. Among the topics covered: transgender and intersex conditions; culture and bodies; expression and repression; violence; sports; health behavior engagement; childbirth.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 280 — Global Culture & Society  Course count: 1
Global Culture & Society
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 281 — Sociology of Travel & Tourism  Course count: 1
This course focuses on the relationship between tourism and social life by considering how tourist practices are socially shaped and made meaningful within social contexts. This course explores tourism as a lens through which we can understand many of the features of contemporary social life, including modernity and postmodernity, consumption and cultural commodification, the aestheticization of everyday life, authenticity, embodiment, identity, gender, risk, technology, mobility and globalization.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 320 — College Sports  Course count: 1
This course focuses on the explicit connections between higher education and athletics. A historical perspective on the links between these institutions will then lead to discussions about racial and ethnic minorities and women in college sports, activism within college sports, the role of the NCAA, the effect of college sports on academic and occupational attainment, the commercialization of college sports, and recent controversies in college sports.
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years
SOCL 350 — (Precarious) Work  Course count: 1
Precarious work refers to forms of employment that are insecure (Kalleberg 2007, 2009). In this seminar course, we will attempt to answer a number of questions that should be not only intellectually interesting, but also personally relevant as you enter the labor market yourself: How do economic conditions, labor market regulations, and employers decisions shape the availability of jobs? How do sociological factors, such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and cultural factors shape who gets a job and what type of job one gets? What are the psychological and health consequences of having a good versus a bad job? What does the future of work hold, given technological and other changes?

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 356 — Food, Poverty and Justice  Course count: 1
Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1

SOCL 361 — Leadership and Social Change  Course count: 1
An advanced community-based learning seminar integrating topics of Catholic social teaching with the study and practice of community organizing. Course includes sociological analysis of Catholic social thought, leadership, power, poverty, social movements, and organizational behavior. Students will analyze and write about their projects in light of course readings.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 365 — Illness Narratives  Course count: 1
This course examines first-person accounts of living with various illnesses, including the subjective experiences of illnesses that are mental/physical, acute/chronic, curable/fatal and age-related. Comparisons will be made across both historical and cultural contexts to highlight the socially constructed nature of health and aging. The class will engage the role of labeling theory, postmodern conceptions of health, and differences according to race, class, gender, sexual orientation and age.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Annually

SOCL 370 — Sociology of Trouble  Course count: 1
This course examines how people experience and cope with negative events such as illness, death, separation or divorce, unemployment, natural disaster and war. Delving into topics that are usually the purview of psychology, our investigations highlight the social nature of self, cognition, emotion and identity. Readings will focus on particular cases of trouble, the roles of religion, psychology and medicine in helping people to cope with tragedy, and cultural and historical variability in how humans make sense of suffering.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1

SOCL 376 — Women and Non-Violence  Course count: 1
This course surveys some of the most exemplary cases of womens efforts to use nonviolence in resistance, social change, and peace building. We will investigate how womens unique social location shapes their particular contribution to the conceptualization and implementation of nonviolence. And we will consider the significance of their efforts in constructing new social spaces for peace and justice. A global range of cases will be explored with a special focus on women in the developing world.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 383 — Utopian & Dystopian Worlds  Course count: 1
This seminar examines some of the most pressing social issues of our present by deconstructing fictional accounts of our imagined futures. Through a selection of science fiction (literature, television, and film), students analyze how issues of race, class, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and age are resolved, exacerbated, or ignored in each narrative.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

SOCL 386 — Global Sense of Home  Course count: 1
This advanced seminar aimed at returning study abroad students explores the related concepts of home, belonging and citizenship in light of globalization and mobility. In addition to reflecting on personal experiences of home and mobility, we study narrative accounts by refugees, migrants, tourists and expatriates to think in new ways about global citizenship.

Prerequisite: SOCL 101 and study abroad experience
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

SOCL 490 — Honors Colloquium  Course count: 0
The Honors Colloquium will cover topics such as: strategies for thesis work, writing an intro to the thesis, IRB application and approval process, ways to write a review of the literature chapter, ethics in research, writing workshops for the students, practice sessions for the formal oral presentations for the April conferences, publication possibilities, etc. The colloquium will also feature guest speakers who will discuss aspects of graduate studies, professional issues, job market issues, and their own research. Department honors students will continue to be mentored by their individual honors thesis advisor.

GPA units: 0.5
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 491 — Honors Colloquium  Course count: 0
The Honors Colloquium is required for students enrolled in the department Honors Program. The colloquium meets biweekly to cover various research topics related to research design, implementation, and dissemination and to help students prepare for their culminating presentations at the Academic Conference. The colloquium is offered on a pass/no pass basis.

GPA units: 0.5
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
SOCL 492 — Directed Honors Research  Course count: 1
Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Committee.

GPA units: 0
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 493 — Directed Honors Research  Course count: 1
Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Committee.

GPA units: 2
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 494 — Directed Research  Course count: 1
Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology majors.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 495 — Directed Research  Course count: 1
Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology majors.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 496 — Directed Readings  Course count: 1
An individualized reading program addressing a topic in sociology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of a sociology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to sociology majors.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

SOCL 497 — Directed Readings  Course count: 1
An individualized reading program addressing a topic in sociology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of a sociology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to sociology majors.

GPA units: 1

SOCL 498 — Special Projects  Course count: 1
Program for individual students who wish to pursue supervised independent study on a selected topic or an advanced research project. Ordinarily projects are approved for one semester. Open to selected third- and fourth-year students with preference to sociology majors. Each project must be supervised by a faculty member.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Anthropology (ANTH)

ANTH 101 — Anthropological Perspective  Course count: 1
A one-semester introduction to the main modes of cultural anthropological analysis of non-Western cultures, such as those of Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, Melanesia, Polynesia, sub-Saharan Africa and Native America. Topics include: ethnographic methods; concepts of culture; symbolic communication; ecological processes; introduction to anthropological approaches to kinship, religion, gender, hierarchy, economics, medicine, political life, transnational processes.

Enrollment limited to 1st and 2nd year students only
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 170 — Contemporary Asia  Course count: 1
This course examines contemporary Asia as an interconnected region that influences world events and as diverse societies, cultures, and nation states that face particular problems as they struggle with issues of globalization, modernity, and neoliberalism while trying to maintain a sense of national or cultural identity. Readings focus on India, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Philippines, and the Asian diaspora. Topics include religion, aging, family, gender, politics, economics, class, labor migration, consumerism, ethnicity, and Orientalism.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 251 — Informal Economies  Course count: 1
The UN reports that 2/3 of the global workforce operates in the "informal economy." This course develops an anthropological approach to that fact. Our foundation is the literature on the informal economy in Africa and other parts of the global south, but we will also explore economic processes closer to home. Topics include: the origin, development, and use of the "informal economy" concept, precarious livelihoods, micro-credit and "bottom of the pyramid" ventures, informal networks, illicit trade, smuggling, black markets, and organized crime.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
ANTH 253 — Gender & Development Course count: 1
Is there any validity to the claim that women in the Global South have largely been "left out," "marginalized" and even "harmed" by development programs and ideologies? And is development a new form of imperialism? The course begins with discussion of anthropological and feminist critiques of "development" and then examines successes and shortfalls of different strategies used to "bring women back" into development. We then evaluate the gendered impacts of development policies, programs promoted by international development agencies.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science

ANTH 255 — Genders & Sexualities Course count: 1
Over the past few years the very limit of what is male and what is female seems to have become more unstable and fluid in our society and around the world. Similarly, recent scholarship on gender has disputed conventional academic wisdom of how gender and sexuality are produced, embodied and performed by individuals. Anthropology and feminist theory have furthered these debates by offering a significant reappraisal of gender as a concept, social relationship and category of analysis. In this course, we will develop a critical stance toward the study of gender and sexuality by taking anthropological and feminist insights into account as we explore the power dynamics that play into the social construction of the body. We will pay attention to how various peoples (including ourselves), living at different times, have fashioned social distinctions based on gender and sexuality, and how these distinctions have played a role in the organization of political, religious, economic and ideological practices. Among the topics we will cover are: the nature/nurture debate, kinship, psychoanalysis, transgender identity, race, gender under colonialism, and performativity.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 260 — Medical Anthropology Course count: 1
The course provides an overview of the ways that anthropologists have approached issues of sickness, disease, and healing, particularly in the study of the cultural construction of health and illness, the therapeutic process, social stratification, and health inequalities. Through case studies and synthesizing readings, the course will review key theoretical, conceptual, methodological and practical approaches to the study of health and illness, using a cross-cultural, global, and comparative perspective. As such, the course is designed to promote an appreciation for the variety of human suffering and responses to illness and healing, as well as to developing a crucial understanding of our own system of medicine as a cultural product. Key course objectives include: 1) to examine the historical trends of Medical Anthropology theory and practice; 2) to compare and contrast current issues and methodological approaches in the field; and 3) to examine ways that anthropological concepts and methods are used in research on national and international health issues.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 266 — Cultures and Politics of Latin America Course count: 1
An introduction to the cultures, politics and history of Latin America. The course examines past and current issues of the region through ethnographic monographs as well as through a cross-disciplinary approach that includes historical analysis, excerpts from literature, and film. Units focus on: pre-Columbian empires and conquest; the Zapatista revolution against neoliberalism in Mexico; militarization and Maoist rebels Shining Path in Peru; transvestites and Pentecostals in Brazil; drug wars, dirty wars and debates over reconciliation and reparations in Guatemala; labor movements in Argentina; and indigenous and womens social movements that cross national boundaries.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 267 — Political Anthropology Course count: 1
This course takes a broadly comparative and historical perspective, using cross-cultural analysis to understand the workings of politics and power, in Western and non-Western contexts. Topics include: colonialism and its impact on colonized populations; the formation of post-colonial national states; leadership, authority, and the construction of political subjects; and the links between local processes and global political systems.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 268 — Economic Anthropology Course count: 1
An introduction to the issues, methods, and concepts of economic anthropology. This course places economic features such as markets, commodities, and money into a larger cross-cultural context by exploring relations of power, kinship, gender, exchange, and social transformation.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

ANTH 269 — Fashion & Consumption Course count: 1
A comparative, cultural anthropological exploration of fashion and consumption as tools for the creation, expression, and contestation of social, cultural, economic, political and individual identities. Topics include: anthropological and semiotic theories of materialism and consumption, subcultural styles, colonialism, race, gender, religious dress, globalization and ethnic chic.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Every Third Year

ANTH 273 — Anthropology of Africa Course count: 1
This course provides an introductory anthropological account of 20th- and 21st-century Africa. The central theme is the "representation" of Africa and Africans, including the manner in which outsiders have portrayed the continent and its peoples in the past. African responses and rejoinders, and current scholarship and forms of self-representation. We will cover a number of broader themes, including music, race, art, ethnicity, youth, economic activity, "tradition" and "modernity," and the politics of cultural translation.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Annually
ANTH 274 — Art and Power in Asia Course count: 1
How does art interrelate to political power and to wealth? This course examines such questions in regard to the art of ancient kingdoms in Asia such as Cambodia’s Angkor Wat and Indonesia’s Borobudur. Also at issue are the contemporary arts of Southeast Asia, seen too through this anthropology of art lens. Additionally, this course looks at the power dynamics of international art collecting of Asian art and artifacts; the politics and aesthetics of putting Asian art into worldwide museums is also studied. Includes museum study tours.

GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science

ANTH 310 — Theory in Anthropology Course count: 1
A historical examination of the development of different theoretical perspectives in cultural anthropology. This course explores, compares, and critiques different schools of thought about human society and culture, from the 19th to the 21st centuries, looking at the ways in which anthropological scholars and those from related disciplines have attempted to understand and explain the human condition.

Prerequisite: One previous ANTH course
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Spring

ANTH 320 — Ethnographic Field Methods Course count: 1
An examination of cultural anthropology's main data-gathering strategy: long-term ethnographic fieldwork of small communities, often located in non-Western cultures. Topics include: review of the methodology literature, participant observation, in-depth interviews, designing field studies, oral histories, spanning deep cultural divides via fieldwork. Often involves hands-on fieldwork in Worcester.

Prerequisite: One previous ANTH course
GPA units: 1
Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies, Social Science
Typically Offered: Fall

ANTH 351 — Anthropology of Biotechnology Course count: 1
This course examines how our lives, identities and futures have been and will be transformed by new biotechnologies. From pharmaceuticals and genomics to plastic surgery and organ transplants, our subjectivities are entering a posthuman era of uncharted ethical and political implications. In this course, we will learn the analytical tools necessary to understand how medical science approaches the body in order to produce knowledge and capital. We will also examine how race, gender and sexuality are being reconfigured within this new paradigm.

Prerequisite: One previous ANTH course
GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Alternate Years

ANTH 354 — Anthropology of Biotechnology Course count: 1
The Anthropology of Biotechnology will cover topics such as: strategies for thesis work, writing an intro to the thesis, IRB application and approval process, ways to write a review of the literature chapter, ethics in research, writing workshops for the students, practice sessions for the formal oral presentations for the April conferences, publication possibilities, etc. The course will also feature guest speakers who will discuss aspects of graduate studies, professional issues, job market issues, and their own research. Department honors students will continue to be mentored by their individual honors thesis advisor.

GPA units: 0.5
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 490 — Honors Colloquium Course count: 0
The Honors Colloquium will cover topics such as: strategies for thesis work, writing an intro to the thesis, IRB application and approval process, ways to write a review of the literature chapter, ethics in research, writing workshops for the students, practice sessions for the formal oral presentations for the April conferences, publication possibilities, etc. The colloquium will also feature guest speakers who will discuss aspects of graduate studies, professional issues, job market issues, and their own research. Department honors students will continue to be mentored by their individual honors thesis advisor.

GPA units: 0.5
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 491 — Directed Honors Research Course count: 1
Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Committee.

GPA units: 0
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 492 — Directed Honors Research Course count: 1
Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Committee.

GPA units: 0
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 493 — Directed Honors Research Course count: 1
Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Committee.

GPA units: 2
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 494 — Directed Research Course count: 1
Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology/anthropology majors.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring
ANTH 495 — Directed Research Course count: 1
Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology/anthropology majors.

GPA units: 1

ANTH 496 — Directed Readings Course count: 1
An individualized reading program usually addressing a topic in anthropology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of an anthropology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to anthropology majors.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

ANTH 497 — Directed Readings Course count: 1
An individualized reading program usually addressing a topic in anthropology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of an anthropology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to anthropology majors.

GPA units: 1

ANTH 498 — Special Projects Course count: 1
Program for individual students who wish to pursue supervised independent study on a selected topic or an advanced research project. Ordinarily projects are approved for one semester. Open to selected third- and fourth-year students with preference to sociology/anthropology majors. Each project must be supervised by a faculty member.

GPA units: 1
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring