

**2023 Cultures and Ideas Offerings**  
**Winter/Spring**

Class	Num	Topics	Days	Time	Class Nbr	Description
ANTH	11A	Measuring Humanity	MWF	09:15-10:20 AM	54068	Measuring Humanity - In this two-quarter course, we will examine how cultures, past and present, seek to understand (and control) the variation they see in the world around them. The specific goals of this course are: 1) to place development of key institutions or categories within a cultural context to understand the history of key concepts in cultural variation; 2) to critically analyze how anthropological data have been interpreted and misinterpreted, and; 3) to analyze cross culturally and historically culture, war, sport, race/ethnicity, civilization, and language.
ANTH	11A	Peace & Violence	MWF	01:00-02:05 PM	54069	Peace & Violence will offer a two-course sequence that explores the critical role that these dimensions of conflict resolution have played in human societies. Central to the courses is understanding how elements of peace and violence are interwoven in complex ways through all cultures. The historical dimension is critical for both classes since we must underline how patterns of peace and violence vary over time and how events of the past are culturally immersed in peace and violence patterns of the present. The course will emphasize broad global interconnections.
ANTH	11A	Humankind Unplugged	TR	12:10-01:50 PM	54070	Humankind Unplugged - In this two-quarter course, we highlight our species' ongoing transaction between culture and human biology and the evolutionary-based processes that produced us. We address here how evolutionary mechanisms made the digital age possible as well as a scary new geological epoch called the Anthropocene, wherein we humans have become architects of our own future evolution. This two-quarter class documents how this all happened, including the biological origins of culture, and how we give birth and feed and care for infants, and how and why we can't stop ourselves from picking up our cell phones, why we grieve, can talk, laugh, play, go to football games, read novels, worry, depend on tools, fight each other, but save each other, too.

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ANTH	11A	Measuring Humanity	MWF	11:45-12:50 PM	54132	Measuring Humanity - In this two-quarter course, we will examine how cultures, past and present, seek to understand (and control) the variation they see in the world around them. The specific goals of this course are: 1) to place development of key institutions or categories within a cultural context to understand the history of key concepts in cultural variation; 2) to critically analyze how anthropological data have been interpreted and misinterpreted, and; 3) to analyze cross culturally and historically culture, war, sport, race/ethnicity, civilization, and language.
ARTH	11A	Art of Contact: New Worlds	MWF	01:00-02:05 PM	54071	Art of Contact: New Worlds - A two quarter sequence examining the visual arts of pre-contact cultures in the Americas and the Pacific, followed by case histories in European/Indigenous contact focusing on European views of the New World as read through historic documents such as travel narratives and early ethnographies, and visual representations. Themes to be addressed: attitudes toward the environment; concepts of spiritual and political power; tensions between individual and collective identity; place of history and memory in collective culture. The course concludes with a focus on continuity and change in Native American arts, 17th-20th centuries, with a return to the cultures and themes introduced earlier in the sequence.
ARTH	11A	Art of the Indian Subcontinent	MWF	11:45-12:50 PM	54072	The Art of the Indian Subcontinent: Cross-Cultural Encounters - This course is a survey of Indian art from ancient to contemporary time periods examined through four key frameworks that highlight the major cross-cultural encounters that have shaped its history. In Part 1, roughly covering the time period of 1 B.C.E to the eighteenth century, the frameworks will be: 'Buddhism & Hinduism' and 'Islamic Monuments & Mughal Miniatures'. In Part 2 we will engage with modern and contemporary Indian art & architectural practices from the nineteenth century to the present, through the lenses of 'Colonialism and Modernity' & 'The Contemporary Global.'

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ARTH	11A	Art of the Indian Subcontinent	MWF	01:00-02:05 PM	54073	The Art of the Indian Subcontinent: Cross-Cultural Encounters - This course is a survey of Indian art from ancient to contemporary time periods examined through four key frameworks that highlight the major cross-cultural encounters that have shaped its history. In Part 1, roughly covering the time period of 1 B.C.E to the eighteenth century, the frameworks will be: 'Buddhism & Hinduism' and 'Islamic Monuments & Mughal Miniatures'. In Part 2 we will engage with modern and contemporary Indian art & architectural practices from the nineteenth century to the present, through the lenses of 'Colonialism and Modernity' & 'The Contemporary Global.'
CLAS	11A	Sports & Spectacle	MWF	02:15-03:20 PM	54076	Sports & Spectacle: This two-quarter C&I course examines how ancient Greeks, Romans, and other cultures conceived of sports and other athletic events, as well as the people involved. We will use these ancient perspectives on sports as a lens through which we can better understand contemporary practices and attitudes regarding sports and athletes, and the connections between past and present. Topics to be considered include gender and ethnicity, cheating/unfair advantages, economics, religion, the context of sports, and the nature of the audience. We will also explore sociological, moral, and ethical issues in sports, as well as its relationship to the community.
CLAS	11A	Friendship: Ancient and Modern	TR	02:00-03:40 PM	54077	Friendship: Ancient & Modern - This two-sequence course examines both literary representations and philosophies of friendship offered in a variety of texts written by ancient authors from around the Mediterranean basin, including authors from the ancient Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Near Eastern cultures. This course, furthermore, explores the far-reaching influence these texts have had on our modern understanding of friendship, and asks if the ancient models of friendship will continue to be viable in the age of social media.
CLAS	11A	Friendship: Ancient and Modern	TR	03:50-05:30 PM	54078	Friendship: Ancient & Modern - This two-sequence course examines both literary representations and philosophies of friendship offered in a variety of texts written by ancient authors from around the Mediterranean basin, including authors from the ancient Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Near Eastern cultures. This course, furthermore, explores the far-reaching influence these texts have had on our modern understanding of friendship, and asks if the ancient models of friendship will continue to be viable in the age of social media.

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CLAS	11A	Friendship: Ancient and Modern	TR	12:10-01:50 PM	54134	Friendship: Ancient & Modern - This two-sequence course examines both literary representations and philosophies of friendship offered in a variety of texts written by ancient authors from around the Mediterranean basin, including authors from the ancient Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Near Eastern cultures. This course, furthermore, explores the far-reaching influence these texts have had on our modern understanding of friendship, and asks if the ancient models of friendship will continue to be viable in the age of social media.
ENGL	11A	Global Aesthetics and Culture	MW	07:20-09:05 PM	54079	This course will examine how social and cultural ideologies influence aesthetic and design principles, more particularly how dominant ideology informs artistic production, whether religious or secular, in various regions of the world. Several religious doctrines and practices will be discussed, including Taoism, Shinto, Vodoun, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Zen Buddhism, Judaism, various Animist and Shamanist sects around the world, and the art that is produced in their corresponding regions. Discussions of visual culture, hegemony, the “global village” and the future of endemic artistic practice will be ongoing.
ENGL	11A	Film Around the Globe	TR	12:10-01:50 PM	54080	Film Around the Globe introduces you to the study and history of global cultural interaction through film. We will work to understand what films tell us about ourselves and others around the globe and how this medium in its many varieties shapes our understanding of places, peoples, and history. We will study the history of film and its formal language; we will look critically at film’s capacity to shape culture and vice versa, examining national cinemas and studying the international nature of film, its political possibilities and weaknesses. We will consider how technology has enabled more widespread access to the medium and shifted what film might do and how it might be used; for example, as documentary evidence in George Floyd’s murder and in war zones around the globe. We will watch and read about a variety of films from the U.S., Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, and elsewhere. We will see arthouse, blockbuster, and amateur films, exploring film itself as a creative, analytical and ever-changing form.

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FREN	11A	The French-speaking World	MW	03:30-05:15 PM	54137	<p>The French-Speaking World: Policy, Power, and Prestige: In part 1 we use French to examine the sociolinguistic phenomena that occur when languages come into contact through large-scale movements of people. First, we examine the diffusion of French outside of France through colonization. Second, we examine the various ways in which the language of the colonizers and the colonized may evolve when placed into contact with each other. We examine the linguistic phenomenon of pidgin and Creole language formation in the Caribbean and we explore concepts such as language maintenance and shift and functional bilingualism in former French colonies.</p> <p>In part 2 we use French to examine the sociolinguistic phenomena that occur when language contact results in language shift (when an entire speech community switches from one language to another) or language death (when members of a speech community stop transmitting their native language to their children) because one language is considered more prestigious and economically viable than the other. We also examine language revitalization efforts following language shift (from regional languages to French and from French to English) and how language choice and use reflect cultural and linguistic identity.</p>
HIST	11A	Slavery & Unfreedom	MWF	09:15-10:20 AM	54081	<p>Slavery &amp; Unfreedom - This two-course sequence traces the history of slavery and unfree labor in world history. Particular emphasis will be on comparison of the Atlantic World and Indian Ocean contexts.</p>
HIST	11A	Slavery & Unfreedom	MWF	09:15-10:20 AM	54082	<p>Slavery &amp; Unfreedom - This two-course sequence traces the history of slavery and unfree labor in world history. Particular emphasis will be on comparison of the Atlantic World and Indian Ocean contexts.</p>
HIST	11A	Latin American Mobilities	MWF	02:15-03:20 PM	54083	<p>This course explores colonial Latin America's vital position in a global exchange of peoples, ideas, culture, and trade from ca.1400-1800. Students examine New Spain, a Spanish colony stretching from North and Central America to the Caribbean and the Philippines. We analyze the Amerindian and European encounter, the establishment of colonial regimes, Catholicism's centrality to empire, perceptions of class/race/gender, and the new society forged from Amerindian, European, African, and Asian peoples. Special attention is given to Spanish America's key role in global trade and migration.</p>

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HIST	11A	Slavery & Unfreedom	MWF	01:00-02:05 PM	54084	Slavery & Unfreedom - This two-course sequence traces the history of slavery and unfree labor in world history. Particular emphasis will be on comparison of the Atlantic World and Indian Ocean contexts.
HIST	11A	Transnational Migration	TR	12:10-01:50 PM	54085	Transnational Migration: This course examines transnational migration patterns to the Western world and beyond beginning in the early 19th century and ending in the present day. Taking a comparative approach to the study of global migration patterns the majority of the course will focus on migration to the "Global North." However, migration patterns to the "Global South" will also be examined. In the first quarter, students will closely examine the various historical factors driving migration flows. In the second quarter, students examine specific case studies that bring to life transnational migration patterns across time and place.
HIST	11A	Cultures of Islam	TR	10:20-12:00 PM	55577	Cultures of Islam - A two-course sequence: The first course in this sequence examines the origins and development of Islamic ideas and culture to 1400 and the rise and fall of the early Islamic empires. The second course in the sequence on Islam analyzes the continuity of Islamic ideas and culture in face of the development of multiple Islamic societies and the domination of European empires after the 18th century.
HIST	11H	Medicine, Health and the Body	TR	10:20-12:00 PM	54086	Medicine, Health and the Body: Medicine's understanding of health and the body is not just a technical matter of compiling more correct information and applying better knowledge. As we will see from looking over several centuries of history, the process of medicalization has been significantly molded and mediated by culture - in other words, by systems of signification, by structures of representation, and by arrangements of power. This two-quarter course surveys how the creation of modern, Western medicine has gone hand-in-hand with global interactions and exchanges of knowledge - often violent and radically unequal interactions between the West and other peoples and places. The capacity of medicine to say something about health and the body has been predicated upon colonialism, racism, and sexism. This history prompts us to critically consider the relationships between cultures and knowledge.

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ITAL	11A	Italy, Gateway of Cultures	TR	10:20-12:00 PM	54087	Italy, Gateway of Cultures - This two-quarter course sequence explores Italian culture from ancient Rome through the Middle Ages and Renaissance to Italy today, emphasizing Italian interactions with other cultures in the Mediterranean, northern Europe, and the United States. Students wanting to hone their critical thinking, reading, and writing skills as well as their public speaking and presentation skills will have the opportunity to do so through class discussions, guest lectures, and ongoing analysis of literature, art, films, and music by and about Italians. We might read ancient Roman history, listen to an opera, interpret Renaissance art, handle 500-year-old books, watch The Sopranos, and blog about immigration policies, always keeping an eye out for syncretism and asking what happens when different cultures meet in an Italian context. Students will also have the opportunity to do two major projects such as cooking a medieval feast and re-engineering a Leonardo da Vinci invention.
MUSC	11A	Electronic Sound, Music & Exper	TR	05:40-07:20 PM	54658	In this course we will build a multifaceted understanding of electronic sound and music making through examining their cultural, societal, and industrial dimensions. By tracing the unique dispersal and transformation of creative techniques across historical periods, continents, and Western and non-Western cultures, we will position and contemplate electronic music making as a musical phenomena of broad cultural significance. To accomplish this, we will address the conditions of production, performance, distribution, and consumption embedded in electronic music (early classical, avant-garde, pop, hip-hop, dance), and their effects on musicianship and listenership in everyday experience.
PHIL	11A	Justice: Self/Others/Community	TR	08:30-10:10 AM	54090	Justice: Self/Others/Community - This course begins with classical texts in Eastern and Western thought that focus on questions of justice, liberty, individuality, community, government, and authority. Why should we strive to be ethical individuals? Does living ethically allow individuals to live better lives, to live what Aristotle refers to as the "good life"? What does it mean to be good? As we approach these issues, we will investigate whether individual and communal justice are compatible. What happens when the justice differs among individuals and their respective communities? What if these differences develop into conflicts? How does culture affect the way in which we answer these questions?

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PHIL	11A	Justice: Self/Others/Community	TR	10:20-12:00 PM	54091	Justice: Self/Others/Community - This course begins with classical texts in Eastern and Western thought that focus on questions of justice, liberty, individuality, community, government, and authority. Why should we strive to be ethical individuals? Does living ethically allow individuals to live better lives, to live what Aristotle refers to as the “good life”? What does it mean to be good? As we approach these issues, we will investigate whether individual and communal justice are compatible. What happens when the justice differs among individuals and their respective communities? What if these differences develop into conflicts? How does culture affect the way in which we answer these questions?
PHIL	11A	Philosophy, Society, & Culture	TR	12:10-01:50 PM	54092	Philosophy, Society & Culture - A two-course examination of major political theories in the history of Western philosophy. The course addresses ethical theory and social theory. It focuses on culture and the interactions among cultures, addressing Jewish and Arabic culture as well as the conquest of America, colonial Africa and colonial India.
PHIL	11A	World History of Emotion	TR	02:00-03:40 PM	54093	World History of Emotion - In this two-quarter sequence we will conduct a cross-cultural analysis of emotions. Emotions puzzle and fascinate philosophers, psychologists, and neuro-scientists alike. We will investigate how different cultures have understood emotions and concentrate on exploring the ways in which different contemporary and historical cultures understand the relationship between emotion and moral value. In the first quarter we will study shame, guilt, happiness, and fear. In the second quarter we will analyze cross-cultural understandings of love, disgust, and anger/retribution. Students will gain an appreciation of the ways different societies have understood what emotions are and how emotions enforce and create moral norms.



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PHIL	11A	Beauty, Truth, and Goodness	MWF	01:00-02:05 PM	55904	Beauty, Truth, and Goodness - This two course sequence is a philosophical investigation of beauty across historical periods and cultures. Special attention will be paid to the implications beauty has upon value, and value upon culture, including the ways culture operates in our approach to the ideas in the course. We will focus on topics such as objectivity and subjectivity, value judgments, the relationship between aesthetics and ethics, and the challenge of the ugly. Questions include: "What is beauty?" "Is beauty in the 'eye of the beholder'?" "Are beauty, truth, and goodness related?" "Is judging beauty like other value judgments?" "What does beauty tell us about human existence?"
PHIL	11A	Beauty, Truth, and Goodness	MWF	02:15-03:20 PM	55905	Beauty, Truth, and Goodness - This two course sequence is a philosophical investigation of beauty across historical periods and cultures. Special attention will be paid to the implications beauty has upon value, and value upon culture, including the ways culture operates in our approach to the ideas in the course. We will focus on topics such as objectivity and subjectivity, value judgments, the relationship between aesthetics and ethics, and the challenge of the ugly. Questions include: "What is beauty?" "Is beauty in the 'eye of the beholder'?" "Are beauty, truth, and goodness related?" "Is judging beauty like other value judgments?" "What does beauty tell us about human existence?"
PHIL	11H	Death, Afterlife, and Meaning	MWF	09:15-10:20 AM	54094	Death, Afterlife, & Meaning - This two course sequence will investigate topics concerning death, immortality, and the meaning of life, especially under different cultural perspectives, including the religious, social, and historical influences that led to the generation and development of these ideas. Our goal is to delve deeper into these issues while bolstering various intellectual skills. We will examine both historical and contemporary readings while exploring ideas pertaining to these themes that have their roots in both western and eastern cultures. Topics include the nature and value of death, whether life is meaningful and what can make it be so, and various conceptions of life after death.
SOCI	11A	Ideas in a Changing World	MW	03:30-05:15 PM	54095	Ideas in a Changing World - This two-course sequence traces some of the most important developments in trade and industry over centuries of economic history, and considers the impact of those developments on cultures around the globe.

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						Beginning from the premise that each and all of us live within a complex web of relationships, All the World's a Stage will examine the various ways people of different ages and regions understand themselves, their place in communities, and the meanings of their lives. We will study identities, cultures and vocations not as discrete entities but as dynamic constructions that are in lively (if sometimes complex) relationship with one another and their historical contexts. A two-quarter sequence fulfilling the SCU Core requirement in Foundations-level Cultures and Ideas, All the World's a Stage I and II will employ the methodologies of performance studies to analyze events, texts and artifacts (contemporary and historical) from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
THTR	11A	All the World's a Stage	MWF	08:00-09:05 AM	54096	
						Beginning from the premise that each and all of us live within a complex web of relationships, All the World's a Stage will examine the various ways people of different ages and regions understand themselves, their place in communities, and the meanings of their lives. We will study identities, cultures and vocations not as discrete entities but as dynamic constructions that are in lively (if sometimes complex) relationship with one another and their historical contexts. A two-quarter sequence fulfilling the SCU Core requirement in Foundations-level Cultures and Ideas, All the World's a Stage I and II will employ the methodologies of performance studies to analyze events, texts and artifacts (contemporary and historical) from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
THTR	11A	All the World's a Stage	TR	02:00-03:40 PM	54097	
						Beginning from the premise that each and all of us live within a complex web of relationships, All the World's a Stage will examine the various ways people of different ages and regions understand themselves, their place in communities, and the meanings of their lives. We will study identities, cultures and vocations not as discrete entities but as dynamic constructions that are in lively (if sometimes complex) relationship with one another and their historical contexts. A two-quarter sequence fulfilling the SCU Core requirement in Foundations-level Cultures and Ideas, All the World's a Stage I and II will employ the methodologies of performance studies to analyze events, texts and artifacts (contemporary and historical) from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
THTR	11A	All the World's a Stage	MWF	11:45-12:50 PM	55606	

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WGST	11A	Gender in Transn'l Perspective	TR	10:20-12:00 PM	54098	In this course we will be developing a framework through which to examine the experiences of women across various racial, ethnic, national and cultural borders. Drawing on lectures, readings, discussions and films, we will examine how women's lives are shaped by the political, economic and social structures that surround them. We will work together to challenge the idea of the claimed "universality" of women's experiences and work instead within the reconfigured terrain of transnational feminist practices.
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