

Upper Division General Education Classes Hosted by the School of Social Sciences (10-8-13)

C. Humanities

Sociology (SOCI) 431: Sociology of Religion

Study of world religions (Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism), tribal beliefs, and American sects and denominations. Theories of religious development, values, change, and effects on society. Satisfies GE Area C2 (Literature, Philosophies, Values).

D. Social Sciences

D1. INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Global Studies (GLBL) 300: Local Responses to Global Issues: Case Studies from Around the World

This class examines various ways in which individuals take action to solve global social problems in their own local cultural, political, and economic contexts. Students explore the social structures that create social problems, such as human trafficking and political oppression, and how local people adapt to, and seek to change, those structures. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society). Prerequisite: a GE Area D5 course.

Psychology (PSY) 303: The Person in Society

How humans behave, think and feel in interpersonal relationships, families, workplaces, communities and natural environments. How each of these social contexts affects the way people behave in the others. Interrelationships with larger political and economic variables are explored, drawing from other disciplines that offer relevant insights and knowledge. Satisfies GE, category D1 (Individual and Society).

Psychology (PSY) 325: Social Psychology

This course examines how the social situation influences how individual people feel, think, and behave. Topics covered include: attitudes, perceptions of others, helping behavior, the self, attraction, aggression, conformity, and prejudice. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Sociology (SOCI) 319 / Gerontology (GERN) 319: Aging & Society

Examination of aging throughout adulthood. Analysis of theories of aging, their foundations in social science theory, and their policy implications. Exploration of the meanings and consequences of increasing longevity for society and the individual, with emphasis on the social psychological implications for women, minorities, and those who are poor. Cross-listed as GERN 319. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Sociology (SOCI) 326: Social Psychology

Introduces relationships between self and society, including the formation and change of attitudes and values, interaction and interpersonal dynamics, and the cultural influences on them. Topics include symbolic interactionism, personal and social identities, motivation, prejudice, and the consequences of ethnicity, class, and gender. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society).

Sociology (SOCI) 375: Sociological Theory

A critical examination of the writings of major classical and contemporary sociological theorists, including Marx, Weber and Durkheim. This course will involve students in critical analysis of central sociological theories and offer them tools for understanding the development of sociological theory and its unique role in sociology. Satisfies upper-division GE, category D1 (Individual and Society). Required for majors.

Women & Gender Studies (WGS) 375: Gender, Race, and Class

An exploration of the intersection of gender, race, and class in the lives of U.S. women and men through a historical approach to the formations of social and political movements, the construction and policing of identity categories, and demands for equality and justice. Satisfies GE Area D1 (Individual and Society) Meets Ethnic Studies requirement.

D2. WORLD HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION

Anthropology (ANTH) 341: Emergence of Civilizations

A presentation of theory and data related to the development and characteristic features of civilization. Such crucial issues as the domestication of plants and animals, the appearance of stratified societies, the emergence of urban life, the emergence of literacy and its implications for thought, and the emergence of the state will be addressed from a comparative perspective. The course takes a global approach to these topics, covering materials from Southwest Asia; Africa; the Mediterranean; and North, Central, and South America. Not applicable to the Archaeology subfield requirement for the anthropology major. Satisfies upper-division GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization). Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor.

History (HIST) 380: Twentieth Century World

An exploration of the origins and development of 20th century ideas, institutions, and systems in global perspective. Forces that have united and divided the contemporary world community are examined: imperialism, science, democracy, communism, nationalism, militarism, racism, cultural traditionalism, and technological disparities. Satisfies upper-division GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization). Prerequisite: juniors and seniors only.

D5. CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Geography (GEOG) 302: World Regions in Global Context

Selected regions of the world form the basis of study. Economic development, political problems, man-land relationships, and global issues are covered. The course uses geographical methodologies and concepts and is interdisciplinary in its observations of world regions. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

Political Science (POLS) 315: Modern Political Ideologies

Examination of the major ideas of important theorists about the relationships among democracy, capitalism, and socialism. A consideration of the actual strengths and shortcomings of some of the current world's major political/economic systems that attempt to put these ideas into practice. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

Political Science (POLS) 307: Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide

A weekly lecture series on the Holocaust, selected genocides, and human rights. Guest lecturers and SSU faculty provide a variety of political and interdisciplinary perspectives on the topics. The course explores the intellectual, emotional, and ethical aspects of the Holocaust and seeks to deepen students' understanding of organized society, political leadership & structure, democratic participation & institutions, and human nature. Students attend a weekly discussion group to explore and synthesize information presented in the weekly lectures. Requirements include written assignments and exams. Prerequisite: upper-division standing. Satisfies upper-division GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

E. The Integrated Person

Anthropology (ANTH) 318: Human Development: Sex and the Life Cycle

An examination of developmental and evolutionary aspects of human reproductive biology and behavior from fetal through adult stages. Sexual selection and life history perspectives on fetal sex differentiation, gender identity, sex role development, puberty and secondary sexual characteristics, and mate choice. Satisfies GE Area E (The Integrated Person). Prerequisite: completion of GE Area B2 and open to juniors, seniors, and graduate students only.

Anthropology (ANTH) 340: Living in our Globalized World

This course explores differences in human cultures primarily as highlighted through cultural interactions. Focus is on learning to perceive how cultural differences influence the dynamics of human interactions and relationships at the level of the individual, the community, the nation, and the world. This will contribute to an understanding of the processes and patterns shaping our lives allowing students to develop the skills and perspectives necessary to live in the global community. Not applicable to the Cultural Analysis and Theory core requirement for the Anthropology major. Satisfies upper-division GE, Area E (The Integrated Person). Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor.

Geography (GEOG) 338: Social Geography

Studies aspects of demography, migration, and the spatial dimension of social organization. Included in the course are the spatial perspectives of social well-being, poverty, crime, and ethnicity. The spatial structure of human settlement, as well as political, religious, and social values will be discussed. Satisfies upper-division GE Area E (Integrated Person).

Gerontology (GERN) 300: The Journey of Adulthood

Introduces the study of aging from biological, psychological, sociological, and environmental perspectives. Aging is presented as a normal state of development with both positive and negative aspects. Specific issues discussed include: health care, housing, income maintenance, and advocacy. Satisfies GE Area E (The Integrated Person).

Psychology (PSY) 302: Life Span Development

A multidisciplinary examination of the cognitive, social, cultural, emotional, and physical development of the human being. Shows how research and theories relate to and assist individuals in their own self-development. Satisfies upper-division GE Area E (The Integrated Person).

Sociology (SOCI) 317 / Gerontology (GERN) 317: Emotions & Adult Life

Emphasizes the social context and social development of emotional responses throughout adulthood. Analyzes the reciprocal relations between social definitions and subjective feelings in connection with life events. Addresses both basic emotions such as fear, anger, pleasure, and excitement, and the more complex emotions such as love, jealousy, grief, sympathy, pride, shame, and despair. Cross-listed as GERN 317. Satisfies GE Area E (Integrated Person).

Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) 350: Gender, Sexuality, and Family

An exploration of changing ideals and practices of gender, sexuality and family life in the United States, drawing especially on recent feminist scholarship. Topics for reading and discussion will focus on both women and men. Fulfills upper-division GE Area E (The Integrated Person).