Fall 2016

Undergraduate Courses
(meet major area requirements)

Full Course Descriptions:

ANTH 1010  INTRO. TO ANTHROPOLOGY  3.0  IGOE
TR 8:00 AM-9:15 AM
This course introduces students to the methods, perspectives, and motivations used by anthropologists to study the range and significance of human existence. Students are challenged to follow the way anthropologists approach a research topic, design a question, collect data, and ultimately discuss results via publication. The course surveys the four sub-fields of anthropology (linguistic anthropology, socio-cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, and archaeology) through a combination of texts, multimedia, and guest lectures. The goal of this course is to equip students with an analytical framework which allows the objective appreciation of non-Western languages, social structures, histories and belief systems.

ANTH 1559  INTRODUCTION FIELD ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELDWORK  3.0  BASHKOW
MW 4:00-5:15 PM
How do you study people outside researcher-created contexts like questionnaires and laboratories, in the regular activities and settings of their lives? This course introduces students to the theory, history, ethics, practice, and applications of ethnographic field research, or “fieldwork,” which is valued in diverse fields including public health, development, planning, management, marketing, user experience and product design, and education.

ANTH 2120  THE CONCEPT OF CULTURE  3.0  BASHKOW
MW 11:00-11:50 AM
Culture is the central concept that anthropologists use to understand the striking differences among human societies and how people organize the meaningful parts of their lives. In this course we explore this diversity, examine its basis in the innate developmental flexibility of the human brain and neural systems (neuroplasticity), and consider its implications for human nature, cognition, creativity, and identity. By examining illustrations from varied cultures, history, and our own lives, we will seek a new understanding of humanity and who we are ourselves.

ANTH 2190  DESIRE AND WORLD ECONOMICS  3.0  MENTORE
MWF 11:00-11:50 AM
Because of the current woeful lack of understanding about the economies of other societies, this course offers an insight into the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services practiced by peoples ignored or unknown to classic Western economics. Its principle focus will open upon the obvious differences between cultural concepts of the self and the very notion of its desire. Such arguments as those which theorize on the “rationality” of the market and the “naturalness” of competition will be debunked through the critical purvey of alternative subjectivities. More substantively the course will present societies of the gift, barter, and monetary exchange; the morality of consumption; the value and ethics of production; to name but a few of the topics covered.
This course compares domestic groups in Western and non-Western societies. Considers the kinds of sexual unions legitimized in different cultures, patterns of childrearing, causes and effects of divorce, and the changing relations between the family and society.

An examination of imaginary societies, in particular those in science fiction novels, to see how they reflect the problems and tensions of real social life. Attention is given to "alternate cultures" and fictional societal models. A "cultural imaginary" allow us to think carefully about implications of gender, technology, and social existence that we, for very good reasons, are not allowed to experiment upon. Three papers, mandatory attendance in lecture.

This course is an introduction to medical anthropology. It will teach you to analyze how social, cultural, political, and economic factors impact the body. It will also show you how these factors shape the ways people understand, experience, and respond to states of health and disease. In addition to exploring the medical systems of other cultures, we will also reflect on biomedicine as a cultural artifact.

This course will introduce the student to the social meaning of symbols and rituals. We will look at symbols not only in “rituals” but also those embedded in “everyday life.” Likewise, we will study rituals not only as recognized ceremonies but also as accepted parts of our normal routines.

Ritual provides the characteristic approach of anthropology to the comparative study of religion, and the analysis of ritual is anthropology's major contribution to that project. Everywhere ritual permeates social life, yet in no other category of behavior is the exoticness of other cultures more in evidence. This course asks commonsense questions about religion and ritual, and shows how far we have come towards answering them in a century of theorizing. There are no prerequisites for this course, which is designed to be accessible to those with no background in anthropology.

Introduction to relevant major bio-cultural and medical anthropological approaches, ethnographic methods and comparative cultural perspectives for studying and understanding human rites of passage, now undergoing unpredictable changes under globalization. After a general discussion, the course will focus on ethnographic methods and studies for explicating (a) birth and birthing, and child rearing issues; (b) American dietary culture, health concerns and self-identity; (c) of the marginalized migrant worker; (c) institutional health care of the socially abandoned and dying; and (d) coping anthropologically with dying.
death, life and afterlife. The class members will be encouraged to undertake appropriate independent study and writing exercises during course.

Students will be encouraged to engage in interesting and lively class discussion and writing projects on the topics both assigned and student selected.

Back to top

Major Area Requirements

ANTH 2400 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE 3.0 STAFF
MWF 9:00-9:50 AM

A survey of topics having to do with the relationship between language, culture, and society. We will consider both how language is described and analyzed by linguists and how evidence from language can shed light on a variety of social, cultural, and cognitive phenomena. Topics include: nature of language, origins of language, how languages change, writing systems, use of linguistic evidence to make inferences about prehistory, the effects of linguistic categories on thought and behavior, regional and social variation in language, and cultural rules for communication. Course includes a plus obligatory discussion section. Satisfies the College Non-Western perspectives requirement.

ANTH 2420 LANGUAGE AND GENDER 3.0 CONTINI-MORAVA
MW 4:00-4:50 PM

In many societies, differences in pronunciation, vocabulary choice, and/or communicative style serve as social markers of gender identity and differentiation. We will compare gender differences in our own society with those in other societies including non-Western ones. Topics to be addressed include: the relation between gender difference and gender inequality (in scholarly discussion of language as well as in language itself); intersection of gender, race, and social class in language use; gender and non-verbal communication (including representations of gender in advertising and the media); issues of nature vs. nurture in explaining these differences. Requirements will include a paper based on fieldwork conducted jointly with a working group, an individual paper, participation in the required discussion section, and a take-home essay question exam focusing on the course readings and lectures.

ANTH 2440 LANGUAGE AND CINEMA 3.0 LEFKOWITZ
MWF 9:00-9:50 AM

This course takes a historical look at the role that speech and language have played in Hollywood movies. We will look at the artistic controversies, aesthetic theories, and technological challenges that attended the transition from silent to sound films as a backdrop to the main discussion of how gender, racial, ethnic, and national identities were constructed and reproduced through the representation of speech, dialect, and accent. This course provides an introduction to the study of semiotics but requires no knowledge of linguistics or of film studies.
ANTH 2470  REFLECTIONS OF EXILE  3.0  LEFKOWITZ
MW 2:00-3:15 PM

Covers Jewish languages Yiddish, Judeo-Arabic, Ladino, and Hebrew from historical, linguistic, and literary perspectives. Explores the relations between communities and languages, the nature of diaspora, and the death and revival of languages. No prior knowledge of these languages is required.

ANTH 2500  CULTURES, REGIONS, AND CIVILIZATIONS  3.0  STAFF
MWF 11:00-11:50 AM

TBA

ANTH 2560  HIERARCHY AND EQUALITY  3.0  KHARE
W 3:30-6:00 PM

This course explores overlapping applications in Political and Medical Anthropology by focusing on selected “health culture issues” across the developing and developed societies. After discussing some key relevant anthropological data collection methods, analysis and perspectives, the course will be devoted to (a) anthropology of social inequalities amid women’s reproductive and children’s health care issues; (b) a medical and political anthropological discussion of the women’s changing “motherhood” and the related reproductive justice issues; (c) the class-caste-ethnicity based inequalities and “marketing” challenging “transnational surrogacy”; and (d) cultural relativism, inequalities and anthropology of human rights issues in globalizing health care cultures.

The class students will be encouraged to initiate and develop their own course suitable discussion and writing projects during the semester.

ANTH 2590  SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY  3.0  STAFF
MWF 12:00-12:50 PM

TBA

ANTH 2621  CULTURE, GENDER AND VIOLENCE  3.0  HANDLER
MW 10:00-10:50 AM

Beginning with a discussion of the cultural patterning of social action, this course examines sex, gender, and sexuality as culturally constructed and socially experienced, with special attention to non-Western examples that contrast with sex and gender norms in the U.S. The course then focuses on gender violence at U.S. universities, asking whether structural violence can be effectively countered by programs that focus on individual responses.

ANTH 2800  INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY  3.0  LAVIOLETTE
MW 10:00-10:50 AM

Anthropological archaeology, which is the focus of this class, contributes to anthropology more broadly through the study of past societies very different from our own. Through research, archaeologists (re-)construct the broad sweep of human experience and history, mostly before the advent of written records. Combining often humanistic questions on one hand, and mostly scientific methods on the other, archaeology offers perspectives on such things as daily life, religion, economy, and social relations in the
past through the systematic analysis of artifacts, faunal and botanical remains, structures, and landscapes. Archaeology is quite visible to the public, and it is fascinating. But how does it actually work? What are archaeology’s unique contributions to our knowledge of the deep and more recent past? This survey course attempts to provide you with answers to these questions. In addition to two 50-minute lectures, students enroll in a weekly discussion section.

### ANTH 2810 HUMAN ORIGINS 3.0 HANTMAN
MW 3:30-4:45 PM

The course provides an overview and assessment of the theory, methods, and data used by anthropologists to reconstruct human physical and cultural evolution. Chronologically, the course spans the time from the initial appearance of distinctly human ancestors (ca 4.5 million years ago) to the period just prior to the rise of plant and animal domestication and early village life (ca 10,000 B.C.). The course is divided into three topical components: 1) a review of evolutionary theory, and the ever-growing American controversy surrounding that theory; 2) an in-depth survey of the data used to support current models of the complex ancestral tree of human evolution, and 3) a study of the origins of uniquely modern human behaviors of the relatively recent past, such as complex language, ritual, religion and art, as well as the question over how, when and where 'modern' humans evolved. Throughout we will examine anthropological perspectives in evolutionary studies as they compare and /or contrast with interpretations of unique (innate?) human behaviors argued for in the literature of evolutionary psychology and biology, as well as how those arguments are represented in the popular media and in public policy debates. The grade for the course is based on two quizzes (40% total) and a mid-term and final exam (60% total).

### ANTH 3010 THEORY AND HISTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY 3.0 DAMON
MW 3:30-4:45 PM

This course is designed for students who are majoring in anthropology but others are welcome. It presents a broad historical outline of major theoretical approaches in the field from the late 18th century to the present. These approaches will be examined in relation to both evolving debates within the discipline, and the larger historical, cultural and intellectual contexts in which they were produced, which they to some degree reflect and direct. We also discuss the enduring relevance of these theories for the concluding section shows present-day reconceptualizations of themes opened up during the discipline’s founding. For the 18th and 19th centuries the course stresses close reading of contemporary constructions and reflections on those times. From the mid-20th century students will read primary and foundational texts leading into contemporary attempts to define and redefine the discipline. Although the primary readings stress trajectories now realized in Cultural/Social Anthropology, parallel readings from Archaeology and Linguistics percolate through the semester and will be addressed in lectures and short reaction papers. In preparation for approaching the first 150 years of the discipline students watch three movies and be prepared to discuss them in detail at the class’s first meeting. The movies are: The Mission (1986), Black Robe (1991) and The Bounty (1984).

### ANTH 3129 MARRIAGE, MORTALITY, FERTILITY 3.0 SHEPHERD
TR 3:30-4:45 PM

This course will explore the ways that culturally formed systems of values and family organization affect population processes in a variety of cultures. Topics to be discussed will include (1) marriage strategies and alternatives, the problem of unbalanced sex ratios at marriageable age, systems of polygamy and polyandry, divorce, widowhood and remarriage; (2) fertility decision making, premodern methods of birth control and spacing, infanticide; (3) disease history, the impact of epidemics and famine, the differential impact of
mortality by gender, age, and class, the impact of improved nutrition and modern medicine; (4) migration, regional systems, and variation through time and space in the structure of populations.

ANTH 3152 AMAZONIAN PEOPLES 3.0 MENTORE
MW 2:00-3:15 PM

Analyzes ethnographies on the cultures and the societies of the South American rain forest peoples, and evaluates the scholarly ways in which anthropology has produced, engaged, interpreted, and presented its knowledge of the 'Amerindian.'

ANTH 3155 ANTHROPOLOGY OF EVERYDAY AMERICAN LIFE 3.0 DAMON
MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

Taking a production and exchange orientation to society, this course uses anthropological models to analyze aspects of the US experience in North America and its extension into the world. The models will be drawn primarily from anthropology’s analysis of exchange, rites of transition, sacrifice and mythology. Although introduced by issues drawn from the immediate conditions of American culture, the course has a serious historical orientation, beginning with the Second Great Awakening (ca1800-1840). Part of that orientation gives special attention to the centennial of two important moments, the completion of the Panama Canal, one of several great communication projects initiated in the 19th century, and the start of the West’s major wars, WWI&WWII, and their legacies. We conclude with an analysis of the most recent of our periodic, if not cyclical, crises, the financial crisis that peaked in 2007-8.

ANTH 3270 ANTHROPOLOGY OF POLITICS 3.0 ARMENGOL
MWF 12:00-12:50 PM

TBA

Back to top

Major Area Requirements

ANTH 3395 MYTHODOLOGY 3.0 WAGNER
TR 12:30-1:45 PM

Mythodology: A participatory crash-course in the obviation skill set: how to “solve” a myth or story as if it were a topological mind-puzzle. All the student is required to do is furnish a myth or story of their own choosing, analyze it in class presentation, and prepare a final paper on the subject. Class attendance mandatory.

ANTH 3480 LANGUAGE AND PREHISTORY 3.0 DANZIGER
WF 9:00-9:50 AM

This course covers the basic principles of diachronic linguistics -- the study of how languages change over time -- and discusses the uses of linguistic data in the reconstruction of prehistory. Students will acquire the
techniques of linguistic reconstruction, and consider the use of linguistic evidence in tracing prehistoric population movements, in demonstrating contact among prehistoric groups, and in the reconstruction of daily life. Examples and case studies will be drawn from the Mayan languages of Central America, and will include discussion of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican writing systems and their ongoing decipherment. Over the semester, students will be responsible for completing several homework assignments based on course content, and a final exam.

ANTH 3589 THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF NOW 3.0 HANTMAN
TR 3:30-4:45 PM

This course looks at the study of material culture to reflect on changes in American culture over the last century, with a particular focus on race and gender. We will look at the logics of exhibiting archaeological collections today as well as current policies concerning what constitutes an important archaeological site. Archaeological methods used today in forensic and environmental studies are also reviewed.

ANTH 3890-001 ANTHROPOLOGY OF DEATH AND DYING 3.0 FRASER
TR 11:00-12:15 PM

TBA

ANTH 3590-002 MODERN FAMILIES, GLOBAL WORLDS 3.0 MCKINNON
MW 3:30-4:45 PM

TBA

ANTH 3705 ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE MIDDLE EAST 3.0 WATTENMAKER
TR 2:00-3:15 PM

This course explores the ways that Middle Eastern ethnographies have contributed to anthropological debates on, and popular understanding of, topics such tribalism, gender and religion, religion and secularism, colonialism, nationalism, nomadism and markets. We will examine the portrayals of Middle Eastern societies in the Western world and consider how this has changed through time. A series of ethnographies (and films) will highlight both the heterogeneous nature of Middle Eastern societies and the anthropological issues confronted by these works.

ANTH 3840 ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MIDDLE EAST 3.0 WATTENMAKER
MW 2:00-3:15 PM

This course is an introduction to the prehistory/early history of the Middle East (Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Levant and southeast Anatolia) from 10,000 to 4,000 BP.

ANTH 4591-01 ANIMALS: GOOD TO THINK 3.0 DOUGLASS
TR 11:00-12:15 PM

Animals: Good to Think will be a seminar on the anthropology of human cultural relations with animals. It is inspired in part by the recent research and theory in animal studies. The seminar will emphasize only a few of many possible themes, such as animals as symbol, animals as spectacle and sport, animals as domesticates, “pets” and food, and animals as scientific object. We will especially emphasize horses.
ANTH 4591-02 REGIONAL AND TRANSLOCAL SYSTEMS 3.0 SICOLI
TR 9:30-10:45 AM

Course looks at the role of regional systems of communication and circulation of objects in building translocal relationships. Students read across anthropological subfields with a main focus on Meso-America as a culture area and supplemented by case studies from other world regions. We question how regional patterns emerge from interactions across space and time. For example, how do grammar and discourse features circulate within and across apparent linguistic and cultural boundaries? And how can ethical systems such as kinship and marriage contribute to patterns that are distributed beyond the scale of human lives and individual memories? We also ask how “regions” are inferred through demographic and economic patterns of production and circulation that we can examine through archaeology, and those interpretable through the bodily inscription like genetics and ritual performance? Students write regular responses to readings throughout the term, contribute to class discussions, work in groups, and develop a final project which aims to integrate their engagement with Anthropology.

ANTH 4841 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS II 3.0 NEIMAN
W 3:30-6:00 PM

This is a second course in statistical methods useful in many disciplines, including archaeology, anthropology, and environmental sciences. The goal is to equip students with statistical skills useful in analyzing empirical variation, deciphering links to the environmental and historical contexts in which that variation occurs, and using the results to advance scientific understanding. Coverage includes probability distributions, basics of maximum-likelihood and Bayesian estimation, linear and generalized-linear models, non-parametric smoothing, multivariate distances, Mantel regression, and ordination methods (principle components, correspondence analysis, and multidimensional scaling). The course emphasizes practical data analysis using SAS and R. Prerequisite: an introductory course in statistical data analysis.

Back to top

Major Area Requirements

ANTH 5200 HISTORY OF KINSHIP STUDIES 3.0 MCKINNON
R 3:30-6:00 PM

This course explores the development of kinship studies in anthropology from 19th century evolutionary theorists through the classic kinship studies of the 20th century—including British descent theory, French alliance theory, and American cultural theory—to more recent developments relating to “house societies” and “cultures of relatedness.” The course is a critical appreciation of a body of literature that has been central to the development of anthropological theory for over 100 years. It seeks to understand how these “scientific” theories were culturally constituted, what the analytic consequences were of their particular cultural and historical configurations, and what their relation was to discourses of social in/equality and narratives of evolution, development, and modernization.

ANTH 5541 TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS 3.0 SICOLI
R 2:00-4:30 PM
Students build knowledge and practice of the analysis of peoples’ joint-engagement in embodied interactions. We examine the history of the use of film and video in interaction analysis and the affordances of these media for examining spatiotemporal configurations of talk, techniques of body action, and tool use in social interaction. How does action weave together multiple sensory modalities into semiotic webs linking interactions with more durable institutions of social life? What are the theoretical consequences for an anthropology that takes the multimodal construction of meaning seriously? Course includes workshops on video recording, and the transcription and coding of both verbal and non-verbal actions. Transcript analysis “data sessions” will be conducted throughout the term, allowing student to hone their analytical skills for video analysis. Students work on projects incorporating video production and analysis.

ANTH 5590-001 TECHNO SCIENCE 3.0 WESTON
W 2:00-4:30 PM
TBA

ANTH 5590-002 CARE AND ABANDONMENT 3.0 SCHERZ
W 2:00-4:30 PM

This seminar in medical anthropology is open to graduate students and advanced undergraduates. It will explore the norms, practices, and forms of reasoning which shape processes of care and abandonment across a range of contemporary cases. We will begin with Michel Foucault’s writings on biopower, or how “making live” and “letting die” became central to liberal forms of governance, exploring how this form of governance is enacted in a range of contemporary contexts. Along the way, we will also step back to take a wider view of the turn towards the theorization of caregiving in anthropology as it relates to questions of morality, kinship, personhood, and medicine and how a focus on abandonment and abjection has altered the field of anthropology in recent decades.

ANTH 5600 FEMINIST AND QUEER ANTHROPOLOGY 3.0 IGOE
TBA

This seminar engages gender and sexuality from anthropological, and thus cross-cultural perspectives. We will draw from diverse conversations in and across feminist and queer theory, broadly construed, particularly (though not exclusively) the works of anthropologists. Issues, questions and topics include (but are not limited to): positionality, intersectionality, post-colonialism, feminist and queer archeology, contact zones, feminist and queer critiques of socio-biology and nature, performativity, practice theory, and ethnography of self. In addition to these theoretical explorations, we also consider strategies for teaching and learning about gender and sexuality in classrooms that are also often complex contact zones (spaces in which people from diverse backgrounds are brought together in conversation). Advanced undergraduates and students from disciplines other than anthropology are welcome to enroll.
Prin. of Social Analysis  Archaeology  Linguistics
1559, 2120, 2190, 2230, 2310, 2340, 2560, 2621, 2320
, 2400, 2210, 2500, 2590, 3129,
3152, 3155, 3270, 3395, 3590-01, 3590-02, 3705, 5590-
01, 5590-02, 5600

Major Requirements

Beyond the West
(for the major: note that some of these courses do not meet the College's Nonwestern requirement)

2500, 3152, 3590, 3705, 3840

Senior Seminars

4591-01, 4591-02

Graduate Courses

5200   HISTORY OF KINSHIP STUDIES
5541   TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS
5590-01 TECHNOSCIENCE
5590-02 CARE AND ABANDONMENT
5600   FEMINIST AND QUEER ANTHROPOLOGY
7060   PROPOSAL WRITING
7129   MARRIAGE, MORTALITY, FERTILITY
7400   LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY
7420   THEORIES OF LANGUAGE
7480   LANGUAGE AND PREHISTORY
7589   ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Full Course Descriptions:
This course explores the development of kinship studies in anthropology from 19th century evolutionary theorists through the classic kinship studies of the 20th century including British descent theory, French alliance theory, and American cultural theory— to more recent developments relating to “house societies” and “cultures of relatedness.” The course is a critical appreciation of a body of literature that has been central to the development of anthropological theory for over 100 years. It seeks to understand how these “scientific” theories were culturally constituted, what the analytic consequences were of their particular cultural and historical configurations, and what their relation was to discourses of social in/equality and narratives of evolution, development, and modernization.

This seminar in medical anthropology is open to graduate students and advanced undergraduates. It will explore the norms, practices, and forms of reasoning which shape processes of care and abandonment across a range of contemporary cases. We will begin with Michel Foucault’s writings on biopower, or how “making live” and “letting die” became central to liberal forms of governance, exploring how this form of governance is enacted in a range of contemporary contexts. Along the way, we will also step back to take a wider view of the turn towards the theorization of caregiving in anthropology as it relates to questions of morality, kinship, personhood, and medicine and how a focus on abandonment and abjection has altered the field of anthropology in recent decades.

This seminar engages gender and sexuality from anthropological, and thus cross-cultural perspectives. We will draw from diverse conversations in and across feminist and queer theory, broadly construed, particularly (though not exclusively) the works of anthropologists. Issues, questions and topics include (but are not limited to): positionality, intersectionality, post-colonialism, feminist and queer archeology, contact zones, feminist and queer critiques of socio-biology and nature, performativity, practice theory, and ethnography of self. In addition to these theoretical explorations, we also consider strategies for teaching and learning about gender and sexuality in classrooms that are also often complex contact zones (spaces in which people from diverse backgrounds are brought together in conversation). Advanced undergraduates and students from disciplines other than anthropology are welcome to enroll.

ANTH 7010 HISTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY THEORY I 3.0 WESTON
M 2:00-4:30 PM
Explores the diverse intellectual roots of the discipline, showing how they converged into a unitary program in the late nineteenth century, and how this program was criticized and revised in the first half of the 20th century.

ANTH 7060 PROPOSAL WRITING 3.0 LAVIOLETTE
W 4:30-7:00 PM

A workshop for graduate students preparing dissertation proposals and writing grant applications.

ANTH 7129 MARRIAGE, MORTALITY, FERTILITY 3.0 SHEPHERD
TR 3:30-4:45 PM

This course will explore the ways that culturally formed systems of values and family organization affect population processes in a variety of cultures. Topics to be discussed will include (1) marriage strategies and alternatives, the problem of unbalanced sex ratios at marriageable age, systems of polygamy and polyandry, divorce, widowhood and remarriage; (2) fertility decision making, premodern methods of birth control and spacing, infanticide; (3) disease history, the impact of epidemics and famine, the differential impact of mortality by gender, age, and class, the impact of improved nutrition and modern medicine; (4) migration, regional systems, and variation through time and space in the structure of populations.

ANTH 7400 LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY 3.0 DOBRIN
R 4:30-7:00 PM

This course is an advanced introduction to the study of language from an anthropological perspective. It presupposes no prior coursework in linguistics. The aim is to prepare graduate students to use what they learn in their own research. Topics include language structure, the nature of indexicality and the use of linguistic symbols, the linguistic shaping of worldview, language as a form of social action, ethnographic approaches to study of language, the meaningfulness of linguistic differences, storytelling in social life, and more. Students will explore the implications of these topics through readings, discussion, and an application of linguistic anthropological concepts to a particular ethnographic setting chosen in consultation with the instructor. The course fulfills the linguistics requirement for anthropology graduate students and the theory requirement for linguistics graduate students.

ANTH 7420 THEORIES OF LANGUAGE 3.0 CONTINI-MORAVA
TR 12:30-1:45 PM

We will survey a number of modern schools of linguistics, both American and European, trying to understand each approach in terms of its historical context, the goals it sets itself, the assumptions it makes about the nature of language, and the relation between theory and methodology. Grades will depend on: four or five written homework assignments that ask you to look at some data from a particular theoretical perspective; weekly reading responses, a take-home, open-book final exam; and evidence (from class discussion) that you have been doing the readings, which are an essential part of the course.

ANTH 7480 LANGUAGE AND PREHISTORY 3.0 DANZIGER
WF 9:00-9:50 AM

This course covers the basic principles of diachronic linguistics – the study of how languages change over time -- and discusses the uses of linguistic data in the reconstruction of prehistory. Students will acquire the techniques of linguistic reconstruction, and consider the use of linguistic evidence in tracing prehistoric population movements, in demonstrating contact among prehistoric groups, and in the reconstruction of
daily life. Examples and case studies will be drawn from the Mayan languages of Central America, and will include discussion of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican writing systems and their ongoing decipherment. Over the semester, students will be responsible for completing several homework assignments based on course content, and a final exam.

ANTH 7589 ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MIDDLE EAST 3.0 WATTENMAKER MW 2:00-3:15 PM

This course is an introduction to the prehistory/early history of the Middle East (Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Levant and southeast Anatolia) from 10,000 to 4,000 BP.