NYU DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS (SCA)

Fall 2017 Undergraduate Course Descriptions
(This list is subject to change)

Social & Cultural Analysis 101                              SCA-UA 101.001
Professor Beltran
** Recitation required.
Introduces theories, methods, and political trajectories central to the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis (SCA).
SCA 101 addresses how individuals and populations structure their worlds and navigate the resulting social, cultural, and political terrain. It privileges scholarly work with an intersectional approach, drawing on theoretical insights from such fields as social geography, feminism and queer studies, ethnic studies, urban and metropolitan studies, critical race theory, labor studies, and cultural studies.

CORE – Cultures & Contexts: Contemporary Latino Cultures             CORE-UA 529.001
Professor Marquez
** Recitation required.
Explores the political, social, and cultural practices of Latinos in the United States using a historical and interdisciplinary approach. Draws on literature, history, politics, as well as social and political theory to address issues of participation, under-representation, and civic and economic empowerment. Topics include immigration, social movements, figures of resistance, identities, popular culture, and language. Of particular concern is the idea and representation of a pan-ethnic “Latino” identity encompassing all the diverse national groups, and the emergence of this concept in both the cultural and political life of these communities. (Intro for LAT major/minor & SCA major (not minor), does not count as an elective.)

CORE – Cultures & Contexts: The Black Atlantic              CORE-UA 534.001
Professor Morgan
** Recitation required.
This course considers the Black Atlantic as a socio-cultural economic space from the first arrival of Africans in the ‘New World,’ beginning around in the 15th century, through the rise of slavery in the Americas. During this class we will trace the origins and importance of the concept of the Black Atlantic within broad political contexts, paying special attention to the changing social, cultural and economic relations that shaped community formation among people of African descent and laid the foundations for modern political and economic orders. Once we have established those foundations, we will think about the Black Atlantic as a critical site of cultural production. Using the frame of the Atlantic to ask questions about the relationship between culture and political economy. We will explore a range of genres--film, fiction, music, as well as formal scholarship--so as to explore questions of evidence in the context of the real and the imaginary. Topics to be covered include African enslavement and settlement in Africa and the Americas; the development of transatlantic racial capitalism; variations in politics and culture between empires in the Atlantic world; creolization, plantation slavery and slave society; the politics and culture of the enslaved; the Haitian Revolution; slave emancipation; and contemporary black Atlantic politics and racial capitalism.

CORE – Cultures and Contexts: Asian/Pacific/American Cultures            CORE-UA 539.001
Professor Saranilido
** Recitation required.
Major issues in the historical and contemporary experiences of Asian Pacific Americans, including migration, modernization, racial formation, community-building, and political mobilization, among others. Asian Pacific America encompasses a complex, diverse, and rapidly changing population of people. As an expression/reflection of their cultural identities, historical conditions, and political efforts, we pay particular attention to Asian Americans’ use of cultural productions--films, literature, art, media, and popular culture. (Intro for A/P/A major/minor & SCA major (not minor), does not count as an elective.)

Advanced Research Seminar: Ethnography, Difference & the City                SCA-UA 90.001
Professor Gonick
Access Code required – contact dept.
Prerequisites: Introductory courses for major
This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of designing and carrying out ethnographic research within the urban context. Designed around a semester long research project, the course will draw upon an eclectic selection of readings that both address the theoretical and ethical questions of qualitative research and expose the possibilities of
reflexive methods for urban analysis. In particular, it will focus on ethnography as an adept tool for the study of difference in the city. Seminar sessions will be complemented by field trips in order to explore how we might closely observe questions of difference as they manifest themselves in New York City. (Open to seniors majoring in AFRI, AMST, APA, GSS, LAST, MET and SCA majors with relevant focus/coursework. Prerequisites: either Concepts OR program specific introductory course (CORE, Approaches, Intersections). Contact Krystal.Roberts@nyu.edu with questions & for access codes.)

**Advanced Research Seminar: Digital Humanities**

AMST-GA 2100.001

Professor Ralph & Marquez

This course explores growing field of Digital Humanities with emphasis on the theories and methods that define it. Students will explore how forms of encoding and decipherment have been mobilized by diverse social movements and aesthetic projects from the Haitian Revolution to Hip Hop. In the process, students will collaborate on a semester-long digital humanities project that addresses technology in relation to social transformation. (Open to seniors majoring in AFRI, AMST, GSS, LAST, MET and SCA majors with relevant focus/coursework. Prerequisites: either Concepts OR program specific introductory course (CORE, Approaches, Intersections). Students must submit a 250-word paper as to why they want to take this course. Contact Krystal.Roberts@nyu.edu with questions & for access codes.)

**Senior Honors Seminar**

SCA-UA 92.001

Professor Zaloom

Access Code required – contact dept.

Prerequisites: Introductory courses for major, Strategies for AMST & MET majors.

Majors who have completed 48 points of graded work in CAS and have a 3.65 GPA or higher (both overall and in the major) are encouraged to register for Senior Honors Seminar (SCA-UA 92) in the fall semester of their senior year. Upon successful completion of the seminar requirements, students will be eligible to register for Senior Honors Thesis (SCA-UA 93) in the spring. Information about honors can be found at [http://sca.as.nyu.edu/object/sca.related.honors](http://sca.as.nyu.edu/object/sca.related.honors). (Only open to majors.)

**Elementary Swahili I**

SCA-UA 121.001

Professor Nanji

Provides students with an elementary understanding of Swahili, a Bantu language with a rich oral and written tradition that is spoken by about 100 million people from Somalia to Mozambique and Zanzibar. After a short presentation of Swahili’s history, codification, and relation to other languages, students are drilled in phonetics and grammar. They are also introduced to some poems, songs, and oral narratives. (One semester of Swahili or Yoruba can count as SCA faculty elective for AFRI or SCA majors/minors.)

**Race, Football and American Culture**

SCA-UA 153.001

Professor Dent

This interdisciplinary course will explore the evolution of American football into a mirror of black life and politics and a reflection of race relations in American culture. This examination of race and American culture through the prism of American football will lead us to the following question: How does the sport reflect the realities of how Americans live with race when considering that 100 percent of NFL team owners are white while 65 percent of the players in the NFL are black? This question will be explored along with an examination of the role of race in the patterns of positions most likely held by black players on the field. In a sport where a majority of the players are black, the majority of those holding the heroic and prized quarterback positions are white. We will explore the ways media projections of rarified black quarterbacks (i.e., Cam Newton) are so often tainted with stereotyping. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, SCA)

**Haiti-History, Society and Culture**

SCA-UA 168.001/ same as FREN-UA 833

Professor Dash

Taught in English. The past two hundred years have taken Haiti from pariah state to failed state. Haiti is loved or despised because it is seen as absolutely different. Haiti is indeed different but its difference is historical and not inherent. Its revolutionary origins so challenged the prejudices of its time that Haiti has been conspicuously consigned to the margins of modern history. This course is an introduction to key issues in Haitian society, history and culture and provides an overview of the political changes that have made a relatively isolated, national culture increasingly diasporic and transnational. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, SCA)
Topics in Africana Studies: (De)Tangling the Business of Black Women’s Hair

SCA-UA 180.001 / same as SOC-UA 970.002

Professor Jones

For many black women, notions of beauty and their understanding of their race, gender, sexuality, and class identities are linked to hair. Divided into three sections, this course will first seek to understand the historical, economic, and cultural dimensions of black women’s hair. We will cover topics such as labor, the beauty and service industry, and how the black beauty salon presents a rare opportunity for black women to become entrepreneurs. The second part of the course will examine how the beauty salon as a place presents the opportunity for intra-racial community building and networking, with predominately Asian-owned hair supply stores and the rise of African- and Dominican-owned hair salons. Third, we will examine how black women interpret the connections between their racial and gender identity and their hair; and we will examine how the politics of hair links to notions of racial authenticity, colorism, class, and attractiveness. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, GSS, SCA; counts as Common Elective for all 7 SCA majors.)

Topics in Africana Studies: Caribbean Writing, Reggae, and Routes

SCA-UA 180.002

Professor Goffe

This course examines the cultural, racial, and linguistic diversity of Caribbean literary production. Exploring aesthetic movements of the twentieth-century such as Négritude, Créolité, and Coolitude, students will use an interdisciplinary approach reading various texts, novels, poetry, photographs, music, and films to supplement an understanding of what comprises Caribbean literature and the vernacular history of the region. A crucible of indigenous, African, European, and Asian influences, the Caribbean has been shaped by the intersection of these disparate cultures as well as forced and voluntary migrations and exiles. Students will analyze various literary imaginaries that disrupt visions of the Caribbean as vacation paradise. Through exploring everyday Caribbean cultural practices and narrative forms from calypso, to voodoo, to reggae, to Santeria, the afterlives of the institutions of slavery and indenture come to bear in the present. Together students will produce a seminar soundtrack, selecting songs—from a range of genres—relevant to the week’s readings. Songs will be mixed into a collective track as part of the final project. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, APA, GSS, LAT, MET, SCA)

Topics in Africana Studies: The Criminal Justice State

SCA-UA 180.003

Instructor: Professor Johnson

This course explores the political development of the American criminal justice state. We investigate the origins of the politics of “law and order” from the mid-twentieth century to today, against a broader backdrop of partisan competition, metropolitan transformation, and the racial and ethnic politics. Some of the topics that will be covered in this course include issues such as sentencing disparities; racial differences in death penalty cases; “stop and frisk” policy; and, felon disenfranchisement. Lecture, readings and in-class discussions will be supplemented by guest speakers drawn from organizations involved in the criminal justice system.

(Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, LAT, MET, SCA)

Topics in Pan-Africanism: Elementary Yoruba I

SCA-UA 181.001

Instructor: TBD

Yoruba is a language spoken in West Africa by approximately 20 million people. The main objective of this course is to develop elementary knowledge of the African language Yoruba, appropriate for the introductory level. By the end of the course, the student should be able to: (1) to read, write and understand simple concepts in Yoruba, minimally understand and be understood in Yoruba, and have fundamental knowledge of the Yoruba culture. (One semester of Swahili or Yoruba can count as SCA faculty elective for AFRI or SCA majors/minors.)

Intersections: Race, Gender and Sexuality in U.S. History

SCA-UA 230.001

Professors Duggan and Gopinath

**Recitation required.

Drawing on the histories of African, Asian, Latino, European, and Native Americans of both genders and many sexualities, explores the complex and important intersection of gender, race, and sexuality in the United States from the 17th century through the 20th, in historically related case studies. Starting in the period of European imperialism in the Americas, it examines the ways that gender, race, and sexuality shaped cultural and political policies and debates surrounding the Salem witch trials; slavery, abolition, and lynching; U.S. imperialism in Puerto Rico and Hawaii; the politics of welfare and reproduction; cultural constructions of manliness, masculinity, and citizenship; and responses to the AIDS pandemic in a
global context. (Counts as EITHER an Intro for GSS major/minor OR SCA major (not minor) OR as SCA faculty elective for AFRI, AMST, APA, GSS, SCA programs)

Topics in American Studies: Embodied Pasts: Interpreting Human Remains  SCA-UA 280.001
Professor Barrett
This course offers critical reflection on the idea of embodiment and histories of analyzing human remains within the North Atlantic. Can the “bio-logic” of Eurocentrism be separated from the historic use of skeletal remains for white-supremacist socio-political ends? Whose bodies have been the focus of osteological inquiry? By whom? What are the limits of interpreting contextualized sociality from human remains? How have emergent technologies of DNA analysis influenced the problems and promises of interpreting human pasts and presents? Employing a biocultural understanding of human lived experience, this course offers students a survey of bioarchaeological readings within socio-historical context. Specific emphasis will be placed on understanding emerging debates around ethical bioarchaeological practice and the bio-power of forensics. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, MET, SCA)

Topics in American Studies: Childhood, Colonialism, and Nationbuilding  SCA-UA 280.002
Professor Barrett
Childhood and adulthood, as conceptual products of the European enlightenment, were utilized by European colonizers to justify human exploitation. Distinctions between “child” and “adult” were contextually applied toward particular ends. Childhood(s) served as theoretical, imagined, and physical site(s) for producing and reproducing hierarchies. Laws, contracts, correspondence, images, and skeletal records demonstrate how sameness and difference were enacted to construct English, American, and masculine gendered “white” identities in relationship with systematically excluded members of the empire, colony and state.

Daily ascriptions and performance of “place” and emergent ideas of “race” invoked paradoxical claims of fixity and malleability. Historicizing childhood tells the stories of growing empire and nations - constructing, contesting, and transforming the limits of inclusion and exclusion at the boundaries of humaness. Students will engage with archival sources from seventeenth to nineteenth century Virginia and New York, while reading theoretical, cross-cultural, and historical perspectives on childhood and positionality. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, MET, SCA)

Topics in American Studies: Armed Resistance / same as Empire, Revolution, and the Media: Armed Resistance  SCA-UA 280.003/same as MCC-UE 1352.001
Professor Ralph & Chumley
This course examines revolutionary movements in diverse locales and historical moments. In exploring how and why people take up arms against the state, we ask: how do revolutionaries establish and institutionalize a unique political agenda? What counts as political education? How do armed insurgents define their constituencies and recruit people to their cause? How do they use media, rhetoric, images and aesthetic forms—from speeches to songs and flags to uniforms—to achieve legitimacy? In posing these questions, we will consider the unique forms of diplomacy and methods of exchange that define each revolutionary movement. We will also consider the problem of how to read historical documents (as well as novels, poems, and images) each of which has its own stakes. Armed conflicts we will discuss include: The American Revolution, the Haitian Revolution, the Taiping Rebellion, the Boxer Rebellion, the Cuban Revolution, the August Revolution in Vietnam, and the Eritrean liberation struggle against Ethiopia. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, APA, GSS, LAT, MET, SCA)

Topics: Is This What Democracy Looks Like?  SCA-UA 280.004
Professor Beltran
Is This What Democracy Looks Like? Participation, Representation, and Popular Rule is a course about democracy — about the perils and possibilities of self-rule. Democracy has been invoked to legitimate claims and validate regimes across the globe. Today, there is almost no civilization that does not bear democracy’s mark. In the United States, political actors have been working (albeit unevenly) at democracy for more than two centuries. The struggle and bloodshed in the name of democracy has given the U.S. some of its most noblest moments, yet democracy itself remains the most flawed, confusing, threatened, and complex of human institutions. By engaging works of political and social theory, history, gender studies, and critical race theory, the course seeks to deepen our understanding of this most cherished yet contested political ideals, making us better equipped to answer the question: “What does democracy mean to me?”

Asian American Literature  SCA-UA 306.001 / same as ENGL-UA 716 and COLIT-UA 301
This overview course examines the production of Asian American writing and literary/cultural criticism up to the present. Focuses on significant factors affecting the formation of Asian American literature and criticism, such as changing demographics of Asian American communities and the influence of ethnic, women’s, and gay/lesbian/bisexual studies. Included is a variety of genres (poetry, plays, fiction and nonfiction, literary/cultural criticism, and nontraditional forms) by writers from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Explores the ways in which the writers treat issues such as racial and ethnic identity, immigration and assimilation, gender, class, sexuality, nationalism, culture and community, history and memory, and art and political engagement. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, APA, SCA)

**Elementary Filipino I**  
Professor Magtoto  
An introduction to Filipino with an emphasis on mastering basic grammar skills and working vocabulary. Lessons incorporate discussions on history, current events, literature, pop culture, and native values. The course is open to beginning language students and lessons are modified according to the needs of individual students. Because language is key to connecting with community concerns, the course also includes field trips to Filipino neighborhoods in Queens and Jersey City. (One semester of Filipino or Cantonese can count as SCA faculty elective for APA or SCA majors/minors.)

**Intermediate Filipino I**  
Professor Francia  
At this level, when the basic skills and working vocabulary have been mastered, emphasis can be placed on the linguistic rules to enable the student to communicate with more competence. There is also focus on translation. Lessons use a holistic approach and incorporate discussions on history, current events, literature, pop culture, and native values. To observe and experience the language at work, the course includes field trips to Filipino centers in the New York-New Jersey area as well as invited guests who converse with students in Filipino about their life and work. (One semester of Filipino or Cantonese can count as SCA faculty elective for APA or SCA majors/minors.)

**Elementary Cantonese I**  
Professor Hui  
An introduction to Cantonese with an emphasis on the spoken and written language and conversational fluency as a primary goal. The course emphasizes grammar, listening comprehension, and oral expressions. It is designed to give beginning students a practical command of the language. Upon completion of the course, students can expect to converse in simple sentences and recognize and write about 350 Chinese characters. Students with passable conversation ability or native speakers from Cantonese-speaking communities should not enroll in this course. (One semester of Filipino or Cantonese can count as SCA faculty elective for APA or SCA majors/minors.)

**Intermediate Cantonese I**  
Professor Hui  
This is an advanced-level language and culture course following Elementary Cantonese. At this level, when the basic skills and working vocabulary have been mastered, emphasis is placed on the linguistic rules to enable students to communicate with more competence. The lessons focus not only on language, but also use a holistic approach and incorporate discussions on history, current events, literature, pop culture, and native values. Because language is key to connecting with community concerns, the course also includes field trips to Chinatown and other Cantonese-speaking neighborhoods. (One semester of Filipino or Cantonese can count as SCA faculty elective for APA or SCA majors/minors.)

**The Constitution and People of Color**  
Professor Ouyang  
Examines how the American legal system decided constitutional challenges affecting the empowerment of African, Latino, and Asian American communities from the 19th century to the present. Topics include the denial of citizenship and naturalization to slaves and immigrants, government-sanctioned segregation, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, the prison industry, police brutality, post-9/11 detention issues, and voting rights. Course requirements include attendance at a community function involving constitutional issues, a midterm, and an interactive oral and written final project comparing a present-day issue affecting racial minorities in New York City and proposing measures to collectively address the issue. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, APA, LAT, SCA; counts as Common Elective for all 7 SCA majors.)
Topics in A/P/A Studies: Chinatown: New York, Havana, Kingston  
**Professor Goffe**

This course examines the flow of labor migration between three metropolises—New York, Havana, and Kingston—in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. When President Obama announced the beginning of normalizing relations between the United States and Cuba after 50 years of Cold War policy, he not only resumed diplomatic avenues but also the channels of migration, culture, and commerce that used to flow freely between the United States, Cuba, the Caribbean, and Latin America. Indeed, few are aware that in the early twentieth-century Chinese migrants regularly traveled between Havana, Kingston, and New York. Part of this legacy can be seen in the Cuban Chinese restaurants of New York. While most can imagine the cityscape of New York’s bustling Chinatown, what of Havana’s Chinatown and Kingston’s? Students will explore the cross-cultural currents of the Chino Latino experience, including salsa and reggae as well as other diasporic forms that developed from the interaction of these three cities. From the legacy of indentured Asian and African slave labor on Cuban and Jamaican sugar plantations to Chinese laundry and restaurant work in New York’s Chinatown, in this seminar students will consider the way racialized labor shapes the built environment and the formation of interracial intimacies in the modern metropole. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for this major/minor AFRI, A/P/A, AMST, GSS, LAT, MET, SCA)

Topics in Gender & Sexuality Studies: Sex Work and the City in the Americas  
**Professor Alvarez**

Comparing three iconic cities—Buenos Aires, New York, and Rio de Janeiro—this course will study the key importance that sex work has had for the symbolic and material development of urban modernity. We are going to compare the historical geographies of urban sex work, its relations with discourses of race and criminality, as well as the interplay between the repressive urban politics of dictatorship and ‘zero tolerance’, and the emergence of niche markets and countercultural spaces, such as a trans/travesti prostitution circuit. In more recent times, we shall look at disputes over the neoliberal city in terms of gentrification, real estate, and the commodification of intimacy (which simultaneously provoke processes of ‘cleansing’ of urban space and a rapidly expanding sex market). How, finally, have organizations of sex workers and queer/sexual rights movements responded, in Latin America and the U.S., to these tensions and conflicts? (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, GSS, LAST, MET, SCA.)

Topics in Gender & Sexuality Studies: Hegemonic Masculinities in the Americas  
**Professor Alvarez**

From scaremongering against ‘Mexican rapists’ in the U.S. elections to self-representations of Latino men as the tropical (passionate, violent, spontaneous) ‘other’ of white Anglos, hegemonic constructions of masculinity in the Americas have always mirrored one another. In this course, we shall attempt to deconstruct essentializing visions, by looking into their historical emergence and close relations with socio-economic processes such as women’s entry into the industrial workforce or the history of labor migration in the Americas. How has late-capitalist, precarious labor contributed to the erosion and/or re-assertion of traditional, patriarchal gender relations? Have neoliberalism and globalization produced ‘glocal’ forms of male violence? Finally, how have these been contested by women and sexual minorities? Here, we shall analyze and compare in particular the recent movements against femicide (and ‘travesticide’) that have mushroomed across Latin America or the recent Women’s March on Washington. (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, GSS, LAST, SCA.)

Topics in Gender & Sexuality Studies: Queer Utopias  
**Professor Dinshaw**

Are utopias always a little bit queer? In this course we will explore utopias past, present, and future, drawing on critical theory to help illuminate various visions of the perfect No Place. A nowhere that is somewhere, at least in the mind: from imaginary landscapes (the Garden of Eden, located on medieval maps) to real places (Black Mountain in North Carolina), from the body as assemblage to the digital GIF file, we will outline some characteristics of utopian thinking -- never without dystopia -- and queer world-making. Analyzing the conditions of possibility of such thinking, we will seek the transformational and follow our longing, reading medieval fables of monks visiting Paradise; early modern science fiction; and modern and contemporary visions in a range of genres and media, including speculative fiction, manifesto, memoir, film, digital media, performance, and activism. Authors/artists/dreamers who will help us imagine a better, queerer place may include Theodor Adorno, Gloria Anzaldúa, Ernst Bloch, Octavia Butler, Margaret Cavendish, Samuel Delany, Harry Dodge, Michel Foucault, Kazuo Ishiguro, Jill Johnston, Elektra KB, Audre Lorde, José Estéban Muñoz, Beatriz Preciado, Jack Smith, and Valerie Solanas (Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, GSS, SCA; counts as Common Elective for all 7 SCA majors)
Approaches to Metropolitan Studies  
Professor Sugrue  
** Recitation required.  
A broad and interdisciplinary introduction to the field of urban studies, surveying the major approaches deployed to investigate the urban experience in the social space of the modern city. Explores the historical geography of capitalist urbanization with attention to North American and European cities, to colonial and postcolonial cities, and to the global contexts of urban development. Major topics include urban politics and governance; suburban and regional development; urban social movements; urban planning; and the gendering of urban space and racial segregation in urban space.  
(CORE Soc. Sci, intro for MET major/minor & SCA major [not minor], not an elective)

Cities in a Global Context  
Professor Cardoso  
What is a global city? How does a global perspective shape our understanding of urban spaces and the politics of creating social and spatial order in cities? Draws on ethnographic examples from a range of cultural and geographic contexts to explore 21st-century urbanization. Through examples from both the Global North and the Global South, traces how different issues related to governance, development, and citizenship can inform an understanding of modern cities.  
(Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, AMST, APA, MET and SCA)

Community Empowerment  
Professor Brettschneider  
Empowerment is defined as those processes, mechanisms, strategies, and tactics through which people, as well as organizations and communities, improve and gain mastery over their lives. It is personal as well as institutional and organizational. We address these issues in a wide variety of community settings.  
(Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, MET, SCA)

Landscapes of Consumption  
Professor Zaloom  
Examines three key moments: the late 19th century and the invention of urban commodity spectacles, post-war America and the rise of suburban consumer spaces, and contemporary America and the selling of the commodity city. Examines classic theoretical works that probe the relationships between people, things, and cities and discusses changing forms and practices of consumption and urbanism. Empirical case studies range from the development of the department store, to the fashioning of the commodity city, to the work of shopping, and to the emergence of a thriving urban debt industry.  
(Counts as elective for these SCA majors/minors: AMST, MET, SCA)

Climate Change & Environmental Justice  
Professor Ross  
Readings from climatologists, economists, anthropologists, geographers, cultural analysts, and activists. Examines the natural and social impact of global warming in the context of the climate justice movement, which is modeled on American-derived principles of environmental justice in the 1990s and poses a legal and humanitarian challenge to those who place their faith in market-driven solutions. Examines how populations are unevenly affected by climate change, and how this imbalance is being addressed by advocates of decarbonization.  
(Counts as SCA faculty elective for these majors/minors: AMST, MET, SCA)
Cross-listed Electives

**Minorities in the Media**

*SCA-UA 702.001/ same as JOUR-UA 503.002*

Professor Newkirk

It has been 40 years since President Johnson’s National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders released its findings on the civil unrest that erupted in urban areas across the nation. The panel, commonly referred to as the Kerner Commission, concluded that we are living in two nations, “black, white, separate and unequal,” and devoted an entire chapter to the impact the media had on the nation’s race relations. “We believe that the media have thus far failed to report adequately on the causes and consequences of civil disorders and the underlying problems of race relations,” the report said. It added: “The media report and write from the standpoint of a white man’s world. The ills of the ghetto, the difficulties of life there, the Negro’s burning sense of grievance, are seldom conveyed.”

The report criticized as “shockingly backward” the industry’s failure to hire, train and promote African Americans. At the time, fewer than five percent of the newsroom jobs in the United States were held by African Americans. Today, despite the progress that’s been made in the hiring and coverage of African Americans and other so-called minorities, many critics say that the Kerner Report findings continue to resonate today. With the report as a backdrop, we will examine the portrayals of racial and ethnic minorities in the media, paying particular attention to African Americans – the subject of the Kerner Report – but also others, including Latinos, Asians, women, and gays and lesbians.

Topics: Underground Alien Outsider Queer: Black Culture at the Margins

*SCA-UA 721.001/ same as IDSEM-UG 1937*

Professor Cooksey

Please see Gallatin for description.

(Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, GSS, LAST and only for SCA majors)

**Topics: Feminism, Empire, and Postcoloniality**

*SCA-UA 721.002/ same as IDSEM-UG 1523*

Professor Cruz Soto

Jamaica Kincaid once said, “I now consider anger as a badge of honor. [It is] the first step to claiming yourself.” Anger, rather than Betty Friedan’s “problem that has no name,” has haunted the life of many women whose negotiations of the meaning of gender, race and sexuality are marked by the violence of colonial-imperial encounters. Accordingly, this course examines the following questions: How have colonial-imperial encounters shaped the imagination of gender, race and sexuality? How have women built feminist solidarities amidst, or perhaps based on, the shared experience of violence and anger? In turn, how has the imagination of gender, race and sexuality redefined the histories of colonies and empires? To pursue these questions, course readings include literary and other scholarly texts engaging feminist and postcolonial theory. Readings range from Kincaid’s The Autobiography of My Mother and Rigoberta Menchú’s I, Rigoberta Menchú: An Indian Woman in Guatemala to other texts by scholars like Uma Narayan, Patricia Mohammed, Vandana Shiva, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak and Ann Stoler. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: GSS, LAST)

**Topics: Becoming “Global” in the Early Modern World**

*SCA-UA 721.003/ same as IDSEM-UG 1700*

Professor Forman

Over and over, we are told that the world we live in is becoming increasingly global. All its parts are connected to one another, and goods, people, culture, and information can move from one place to another, seemingly without barriers. Yet how new is this phenomenon? Scholars have pointed to the middle of the sixteenth century as the moment when the economy became global, and the age of exploration and colonization began to connect many parts of the world to each other in a complex network that included cooperation, piracy, and slavery. This course will explore the emergence of a global consciousness in the early modern period. Our primary questions include: to what extent did people in this century begin to imagine and experience the world globally (that is, as an entity whose regions were interdependent rather than separate)? Does the change in understanding of the world vary by region, by class, ethnicity, gender, or religion? How did globalization influence cultural developments? What influence did global encounters have on European identities—for example on ideas about, and experiences of, gender, sexuality, class religion, and citizenship? Was the global economy seen as cooperative or competitive? To answer these questions, we will consider how the attempts to create, and the struggle to understand, this global world produced new narratives and forms of interdisciplinary thinking. In order to see how the issues surrounding globalization as we understand them today have a long and complex history, we will also study works that put the past in present in conversation with each other. We will investigate a wide variety of primary works, such as travel narratives, plays, poems, early forms of ethnography, films, engravings, and globes, as well as secondary works by literary scholars, anthropologists, and historians of labor, the economy, and science. While the focus is on the “European” and emerging “American” perspective, we will also read several works that challenge the Eurocentric view of globalization that was emerging and still dominates much of contemporary discourse of globalization. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI and only for SCA majors)
Topics: Covering Sub-Saharan Africa SCA-UA 721.004/ same as JOUR-UA 505.001
Professor Edozien

Africa covers a vast area of 55 countries and 1.1 billion inhabitants. There are countries that are emerging economic powers and heading towards industrialization. In other cases, some countries are taking the lead in developing technology hubs, and testing out new forms of mobile banking and virtual money. Other countries wield considerable “soft power” via their film, music and contemporary culture and they are driving the way Africans present themselves to the world. Comprehensive coverage of Africa is scant. The sparse coverage is often a variation of an incomplete portrait that has dominated the Western media for the last 50 years: tales of starvation, political instability and disease are mainstays. There is often little or no historical or political context in most of this coverage.

This course will provide students with an understanding of contemporary issues around the various regions on the African continent. We will examine the role of religion, including religious extremism that has led to the near-splintering of several societies; the struggles to develop viable democratic models; cultural norms and practices; and issues of economic development and empowerment. We will focus on the challenges of telling stories from Sub-Saharan Africa that are not the same old stories, with the same tired clichés.

We will accomplish this by reading works that combine history, political analysis and narrative journalism. This historical and political background will help students to eventually write about the region with depth and nuance, and to evaluate the coverage that they read. In addition, we will analyze the evolution and implications of the myriad of U.S. foreign policy actions on the African continent.

Today, Africa is poised for an era of political and cultural renewal. The continent’s population is expected to double by 2050 and its influence on the world stage is growing.

We will discuss the challenges of reporting from regions with competing narratives, authoritarian regimes that have little respect for a free press, and places where journalists must work under constant danger. We also will strive to on occasion have guest speakers who have worked as foreign correspondents or editors managing coverage of Africa. By the end of this course, you will hopefully be a more informed reader and analyst of events in the continent. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI)

Journalism and Society: Women in the Media SCA-UA 733.001/ same as JOUR-UA 503.001
Professor Sternhell

Women & the Media is a collaborative seminar designed to examine the complex relationship (or different, contradictory relationships) between those humans we call “women” and those forms of discourse we call “media.” We will consider women both as subjects and objects, as artists and models, as creators of “media” in its many forms and as media’s creations. What does our culture’s “media” tell us about its ideas of gender? What, if anything, does our gender tell us about our readings of “media”? Student participation in this seminar is key: students are expected to attend all sessions, to complete all the reading (there’s lots of reading!), to participate actively in discussion, and to lead one of the class sessions themselves. Leading a class means opening the day’s conversation with a presentation, critiquing and elaborating on the assigned reading, bringing in additional relevant material, and suggesting questions or issues that seem particularly interesting or troublesome. The purpose of the course is to develop our critical and self-critical faculties as journalists, media critics, consumers of media, and women or men—to think clearly, challenge our pet assumptions, and have fun. Along with attendance and informed class participation, students are required to conduct a mini research project and present their findings to the class. I want you to pick a “women and media” topic that really interests you and then report the hell out of it. If you’re interested in the effect of music videos on teenage girls, for instance, you would first put together an extensive bibliography of what has already been written on the subject. You would figure out what the key questions in the field were: do media images affect teens’ behavior or not, and how can anyone tell? You might interview some of the leading researchers in the area and tell us what they say. You’ll certainly want to read the most important books/articles on your subject. A paper is not required; instead, students will present their findings to the class during our last three sessions. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: GSS and only for AMST & SCA majors)

American Dilemmas: Race, Inequality, and the Unfulfilled Promise of American Education
  **Recitation Required** SCA-UA 755.001/ same as TCHL-UE 41.001

his course provides students with background on the historical & sociological foundation of education in the United States. It examines the role that education has played in advancing civil & human rights I it explores the ways in which education continues to be implicated in the maintenance of social inequality in American society. Through readings, lectures, films & class debates, students will gain an understanding of some of the most complex & controversial issues confronting education today including: affirmative action, Bi-Lingual Education, Special Education, the achievement gap, school
choice & vouchers, & the role of race & culture in student achievement. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, LAST, MET and only for AMST & SCA majors)

Cities, Communities, & Urban Life
SCA-UA 760.001/ same as SOC-UA 460.001
Professor Horowitz
**Recitation Required

Historical development of American cities and ongoing processes of urban community life. Are cities sites of individual opportunity and rich communal life, or sources of individual pathology and community decline? What social, economic, and political factors promote one outcome or the other? How do different groups fare in the urban context, and why? (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, LAST, MET and only for AMST & SCA majors)

Shaping the Urban Environment
SCA-UA 762.001/ same as ARTH-UA 661.001
Instructor: Broderick

Introduces basic concepts of Western urbanism, focusing primarily on Europe and the United States. Lectures, readings, and course work present both a survey of city form since antiquity and an analysis of contemporary urban issues. Students investigate key elements of urban development, including roads, walls, water, housing, transportation, and open space, as well as factors influencing these elements, such as types and shapes of cities, engineering, and architectural form as an expression of political systems. Special attention is given to real estate development, landmark preservation, city planning, and community participation in New York City. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, LAST, MET and only for AMST & SCA majors)

18th & 19th Century African American Literature
SCA-UA 783.001/ same as ENGL-UA 250, HIST-UA 250
Professor McHenry

This course examines the development of black literary expression in the eighteenth and nineteenth century United States by reading a diverse selection of writers and texts (some classic, some not) that have fundamentally shaped what might be called the African American literary tradition. Through slave narratives, poetry, novels, autobiographies and memoirs, and speeches and journalism we will trace the dynamic circulation and transmission of ideas by African Americans, free and slave, as well as the relationship between cultural production and historical phenomena. We will pay particular attention to the ways that African Americans negotiated and troubled the divide between history and fictional forms, and how their fictions worked to produce alternative understandings of national history and civil liberty than that which had emerged from the “founding fathers.” The second part of the semester will take up post-emancipation literature: why, we will ask, did black authors return their readers to ante-bellum slavery in the post-bellum years seemingly at the very moment they wished to cultivate their image as “new Negroes” and self-consciously create a Negro literature with a lasting impact in the twentieth century? How did African Americans negotiate through language and in literary terms the competing and contested concerns of heritage and historical memory, on the one hand, with the deterioration of race relations and rise of slavery’s legacy of racial thought in the years W.E.B. Du Bois famously identified with the “problem of the color line”? Students will be introduced to the critical questions and paradigms that are central to African American letters, exploring how this literature engages with the politics of cultural identity formation, and notions of freedom, citizenship, and aesthetic forms. (Counts as cross listed elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, SCA and only for AMST & SCA majors.)

Race and Ethnicity
SCA-UA 803.001/ same as SOC-UA 135.001
**Recitation required.
Instructor: TBD

What is ‘race’ exactly? Defining the concept presents a real challenge. This class explores what race and ethnicity mean, beginning with historical ideas about human difference. Comparing American beliefs and practices to those found in other societies, we will pay special attention to the particular notions and hierarchies of race that emerge in different times and places. The course also investigates the roles that institutions like the media, the arts, the state, and the sciences play in shaping our understandings of race and ethnicity. We will conclude by considering the predictions that scholars have made about the future of racial stratification in the United States. (Counts as cross-listed elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, APA, LAT and only for AMST & SCA)

Africa Before Colonialism
SCA-UA 809.001/ same as HIST-UA 55.001
Professor D’Avignon
Africa, the ‘Dark Continent’ of the euro-American imagination, was long portrayed as a land without history. In this course
we debunk the myths, exploring African civilization and culture in the centuries before European colonialism. We will examine how ecology, slavery and the slave trades, and Africa's place in Atlantic and Indian Ocean networks shaped medieval Mali, the Swahilli Coast, the South African cape colony—and the world. There are no prerequisites for this course.
(Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI and only for SCA majors)

Topics: Crime & Punishment in Black & White  
SCA-UA 816.001/ same as HIST-UA 565.001  
Professor Sammons  
Please see History department for description.  
(Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI and only for AMST & SCA majors)

Intro to African Literature: The African Novel  
SCA-UA 839.001/ same as ENGL-UA 175.001  
Professor Quayson  
Please see English department for description.  
(Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI and only for SCA majors)

Black Women in America  
SCA-UA 861.001/ same as HIST-UA 661.001  
Professor Mitchell  
Offered every year. 4 points. Explores varieties of African American women's experiences (including class, ethnicity, sexuality, region, and generation). Endeavors to go beyond the black/white binary by considering black women’s relationships to both intraracial and broader communities. Additionally, assesses how gender, race, and class have influenced black women's work, activism, political involvement, and creative output in the United States. Takes an interdisciplinary approach by drawing from history, memoir, sociology, feminist theory, film studies, legal theory, and the popular press. (Counts as cross listed faculty elective for these majors/minors: AFRI, GSS and only for AMST & SCA majors)