

Perspectives Cultural Studies: Big Data in Social Science

Instructor: Bentley, Lindner, Price
Course Number: CCS 2350H
Class Number: 19378
Day & Time: TuTh 10:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

The availability of big data is dramatically changing how culture is analyzed in business and computational social sciences. Unfortunately, big-data “nowcasting” and social analysis often act like a “black-box” with data from yesterday in, and predicted data for tomorrow out. This class is about what we can do to more actively grapple with big data, combining established theory with new computational tools for extracting meaning from social data. The class will emphasize hands on projects, balanced with articles exploring the theory and practice of cultural analysis using quantitative and computational methods. Students are not expected to already know theories of culture or how to code, but to be open to learning in a collaborative environment.

Art Museum Ethics

Instructor: Wolf
Course Number: HON 4397H
Class Number: 29697
Day & Time: Monday; Time: TBA

Most of the thought, policies and procedures regarding the ethics of collecting, conservation, exhibition and stewardship that art museums follow were established some time ago. As practices of art-making have changed and as our society has become more pluralistic, many of the presuppositions that the various codes of museum ethics have accepted a priori would seem to need re-evaluation. Among the many problems to be considered are the following: 1) Acquisition and stewardship of site-specific, artist-installed works. 2) Problems museums face in the digital age: information versus surrogacy. 3) Cultural property and repatriation issues. 4) Creating a culture of recognition for stewardship. Readings will be by artists, museum directors, curators and conservators, all from the post-World War II era.

Counts toward the Creative Work minor

Meditation and Mindfulness

Instructor: Lamson
Course Number: HON 4198H
Class Number: 29665
Day & Time: Fr 03:00 P.M.-04:00 P.M.

A regular meditation practice can alleviate stress, cultivate self-compassion, and enhance mental concentration and focus. In this class we will explore various forms of meditation from an array of contemplative traditions. These include vipassana, or insight meditation, Tibetan meditation practices, and zazen, or silent illumination. Our meetings will consist of a guided meditation and a discussion of how we can integrate meditation and mindfulness into to our daily lives. No previous meditation experience is required, just a beginner’s mind. Please bring a yoga mat and a cushion to sit on.

Counts toward the Medicine & Society minor

America Eats: An Introduction to Food History

Petition for Honors credit

Instructor: Perales/Romero

Course Number: HIST 2346

Class Number: 22821

Day & Time: We 02:30 P.M.-04:00 P.M. (hybrid)

Across generations, food has been fundamental to our basic human needs. In studying food, we learn more about the social worlds we inhabit, and how we participate in shaping the economy, culture, and environment in local, national, and global contexts. In this course, we will examine the many ways that the diverse people living in what became the United States have related to and defined themselves by the foods they cultivated, prepared, and consumed. Our class provides a highly selective overview of the development of American cuisine(s) from the colonial period to the present day. We will look at food through a variety of thematic lenses including labor, gender, race/ethnicity, environment, and memory. Using readings, films, cookbooks and recipes, site visits, and other resources, we will join at a common table to explore the ways that food reminds us of who we are and have been, while also pointing us toward what we might become.

Comparative Modernisms: The Global South

Petition for Honors credit

Instructor: Tiwari

Course Number: CCS 3356

Class Number: 29113

Day & Time: MoWe 01:00 P.M.-02:30 P.M. (hybrid)

This course is cross-listed as WCL 3397(24011) and ENGL 3396

This course will examine modernism as a “world” aesthetic and its different forms in the global south, especially Latin America and South Asia, by looking at poems, essays, novels, letters, and plays written and translated in English by “third world writers.” Like all “isms,” modernism is a controversial term. Its meaning is subjective, gendered, political, cosmopolitan, and yet immediately rooted in local movements. Our aim in this class is to examine the multiple nodes of modernist centers to imagine a comparative global modernism that goes beyond the traditional Eurocentric canon.