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# Sociology and Anthropology

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Susan Rodgers, Ph.D., *W. Arthur Garrity, Sr. Professor in Human Nature, Ethics and Society*

Edward H. Thompson Jr., Ph.D., *Professor*

Jerry L. Lembcke, Ph.D., *Associate Professor*

Ann Marie Leshkovich, Ph.D., *Associate Professor and Chair*

Renée L. Beard, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Jeffrey C. Dixon, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Ara A. Francis, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Jennie Germann Molz, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Alexander F. Newell, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Susan Crawford Sullivan, Ph.D., *Edward Bennett Williams Fellow, Assistant Professor*

Melissa F. Weiner, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Caroline A. Yezer, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Francis Britto, S.J., S.T.L., *International Visiting Jesuit Fellow*

Johannes Baptis Hari Kustanto, S.J., Ph.D., *International Visiting Jesuit Fellow*

Cathryn E. Brubaker, Ph.D., *Visiting Assistant Professor*

Diane Niblack Fox, Ph.D., *Visiting Assistant Professor*

Ellis Jones, Ph.D., *Visiting Assistant Professor*

Susan M. Cunningham, Ph.D., *Lecturer and Associate Director, Center for Interdisciplinary and Special Studies*

Leyla Keough, Ph.D., *Lecturer*

Thomas M. Landy, Ph.D., *Lecturer and Director, Center for Religion, Ethics and Culture*

The sociology and anthropology department offers three avenues for specialized study: a major in sociology, a major in anthropology, and a minor in anthropology. The department has one principal mission—to challenge students to examine the social and cultural dimensions of the contemporary world. As social sciences, both disciplines play a distinctive role in the liberal arts curriculum. Each combines a humanistic concern for the quality and diversity of human life with a commitment to the empirical analysis of culture and society. The department welcomes non-majors to courses when space is available. Our curricula also have many ties to Holy Cross's multidisciplinary concentrations.

## Sociology

Sociology courses draw attention to history, culture, and social structure and their effects on people's lives. The curriculum features the analysis of cultures and social institutions, of social problems and social change, and of the contribution of social science to policy formulation and implementation. The courses at the 100-level introduce students to the basic concepts and analytical tools used in sociology. Intermediate (200-level) courses provide more detailed coverage and analysis of distinct institutions, social processes, or substantive areas. Advanced seminars and tutorials typically are limited to sociology majors or students participating in one of the multidisciplinary concentrations housed in the Center for Interdisciplinary and Special Studies. There is sufficient variation in perspective across the sociology curriculum to offer students both knowledge of sociological theory and methods and a foundation for using a sociological imagination.

The sociology major is designed to provide a critical assessment of the modern world and knowledge of the latest issues in social theory and research. The major is appropriate for students with a wide range of educational and career interests including but by no means limited to graduate study in sociology. Majors often pursue graduate work in law, medicine, health care management, communications, urban affairs, and gerontology, and careers in business, government, education, journalism, management, social services, and public health.

Students majoring in sociology must take a minimum of 10 courses, including The Sociological Perspective (Sociology 101); one course in both methods and theory (e.g., Sociology 223, Methods of Social Research; Sociology 241, The Development of Social Theory), one course in Social Statistics

(starting with the Class of 2015), and one advanced 300 or 400-level seminar, tutorial, or research practicum. For the Class of 2015, a minimum of five departmental electives, selected in accordance with student interests and in consultation with a faculty advisor, complete the major. Two of these six electives may be anthropology courses. Class of 2012, 2013, 2014 sociology majors are not required to complete a Social Statistics course but are encouraged to consider taking it. Sociology majors in these class years need to complete six electives beyond SOCL 101, SOCL 223, SOCL 241, and one advanced 300 or 400 level course. The department encourages students to create a “subdisciplinary” specialization, but our primary goal is to help students explore a range of social phenomena and issues. Majors may take up to 14 courses in the department; double majors are limited to 10.

## **Anthropology**

The anthropology curriculum focuses on a comparative, social scientific and holistic study of human cultures around the world. Courses offer students opportunities to study people’s experiences outside the West and regularly address Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific. Courses often highlight the cultures in which faculty work (Africa, Peru, Indonesia, Vietnam) as well as hands-on fieldwork in the Worcester environs. A broad range of courses address art, religion, politics and violence, economic change, globalization, gender, race, urban life, national identities, consumption and fashion. Anthropology expands horizons for all students and can lead to further study or careers in law, development work, diplomacy, human rights endeavors, international business, and medicine, or to graduate studies in anthropology and the opportunity for research abroad.

The anthropology major or minor is available to students in any major except sociology. The major consists of a minimum of 10 courses, including the following required courses: The Anthropological Perspective (Anthropology 101); Ethnographic Field Methods (Anthropology 310); Anthropological Theory (Anthropology 320); one advanced 300 or 400-level seminar, tutorial, or research practicum; and six additional department electives. Two of these six electives may be sociology courses. All electives are chosen in accordance with student interest and in consultation with a faculty advisor. Majors may take up to 14 courses in the department; double majors are limited to 10.

The minor provides students with the opportunity to explore non-Western but also Western cultures from an anthropological perspective. The minor consists of six courses: The Anthropological Perspective (Anthropology 101); Ethnographic Field Methods (Anthropology 310); and four additional anthropology courses chosen with the advice of the anthropology faculty.

## **Advising**

The department maintains an active advising program for sociology and anthropology students. Faculty advisors work closely with individual advisees to clarify course offerings and discuss academic and career goals. The department encourages students to pursue interdisciplinary concentrations, internships, Washington semester, and study abroad, and it provides advice on how to integrate these activities into a course of study. Internship placements are also a good addendum for sociology and anthropology students, and placements can be arranged in a variety of areas, including health related services, media, law, women’s and children’s services, older adult programs, business and criminal justice. Some examples of programs or agencies that have sponsored sociology and anthropology students’ internships are: The Age Center of Worcester, Abby’s House (shelter for women), Daybreak (battered women’s services), AIDS Project Worcester, City of Worcester Planning Department or Public Health Department, Fidelity Investments, and Worcester Juvenile Probation Office.

## **Honors Program**

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers a department Honors Program for students seeking the independent research opportunities associated with writing a thesis, independent of the College Honors Program. Our honors program provides qualified majors the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the discipline through a year-long project of their own design, either empirical or theoretical, and to write an honors thesis during their senior year. To be eligible a student must be a

major with an overall GPA of at least 3.25 and a departmental GPA of at least 3.5, and in most cases, have completed the theory and methods requirements before the senior year. Application to the department is made usually the last week of March and requires an application, transcript, and the thesis proposal. Decisions are made by a Department Honors Selection & Review Committee.

## Honor Societies

Student scholarship is also recognized by the department in terms of students' appointment to membership in *Alpha Kappa Delta*, the international honor society in sociology, or *Lambda Alpha*, the national collegiate honors society for anthropology. Both societies promote human welfare through the advancement of scientific knowledge that may be applied to the solution of social problems. And both societies sponsor annual student paper contests, as well as support students to present their original work at regional and national conferences.

## Sociology

### *Introductory Courses*

#### **Sociology 101 — The Sociological Perspective**

*Fall, spring*

A one-semester introduction to the principles of sociological analysis. Through a critical examination of selected topics and themes, this course develops a sociological perspective for the interpretation and understanding of cultural differences, age and sex roles, discrimination, the family and the workplace, bureaucracies, stratification, the problems of poverty. One unit.

### *Intermediate Courses*

#### **Sociology 203 — Race and Ethnic Relations**

*Annually*

An examination of 1) the emergence of race in modern societies, with special emphasis on the North American context; 2) various theories of race and ethnicity, including the historical conditions under which those theories surfaced; 3) experiences of race and ethnicity in contemporary societies. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

#### **Sociology 205 — Social Class and Power**

*Alternate years*

Examines American class structures and processes, acknowledging the unequal distribution of resources and analyzing aspects of institutionalization serving to support such inequality. Course focuses on the various social, economic, and political indicators of an individual's position in society, including occupation, income, wealth, prestige, and power, as well as characteristics of life at different levels of the class hierarchy. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

#### **Sociology 206 — Sociology of Poverty**

*Alternate years*

Intensive analysis of the lower levels of the socioeconomic status hierarchy in the U.S. How a person's place in the status system structures personal experience, especially for those who are less fortunate. Overview of structural roots of poverty; contributions of classical theorists such as Marx and Weber to debates on poverty; gender and race/ethnicity in relation to poverty. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

#### **Sociology 210 — Corporate & Consumer Social Responsibility**

*Alternate years*

This course asks what it means to be a good citizen, good consumer, and good corporation in light of contemporary social and environmental problems by focusing on the relationship between democracy and capitalism. It investigates the complexities of understanding and implementing social responsibility on the local, national, and global level. One unit.

#### **Sociology 215 — Sociology of Law**

*Every third year*

This course examines the social context of law, the legal structure of the United States, and the relationship between society and law. As a society, we create laws to address social problems and to provide social control, thus as society is constantly changing, law does as well. This course will look at law as a social construction and will consider the ways in which legal structures reflect society's norms and values and the relationship between law and social change. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 219 — Deviance**

*Annually*

An introduction to the sociological study of deviance, this course explores 1) key theoretical perspectives to deviance and social control, 2) how people come to view certain attitudes, conditions, and behaviors as odd, morally reprehensible, or illegal and 3) the identities and life chances of people who are labeled as “deviant.” Pays close attention to the relationship between deviance, power and social inequality. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 223 — Methods of Social Research**

*Annually*

An introduction to the logic and procedures of social scientific research. Readings, lectures, and laboratory exercises are directed toward the development of skills in theory construction, research design, operationalization, measurement, data collection, analysis and interpretation. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 241 — Development of Social Theory**

*Annually*

A descriptive and critical study of the 19th- and early 20th-century social thought which informs contemporary sociological theory. Some attention is given to historical influences on emerging sociological theory. Emphasis is placed on four major theorists: Durkheim, Marx, Weber, Simmel and on the 20th-century developments in functionalism, symbolic interactionism and the sociology of knowledge. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 245 — Modernity: Culture, Consciousness, & Institutions**

*Every third year*

An examination of some of the ways in which modernity constitutes what might be called a “world-organizing” system. Topics include technology, the rise of capitalism, and the effect of modernity on community and family life, religion, bureaucratization, loyalty, authority. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 246 — Sociology of News**

*Alternate Years*

What Americans know about their social and political world is heavily mediated by “the news.” This course draws on sociology of media research and wider media studies to ask: what social forces shape how journalists cover the news? How might U.S. media be reformed? Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 247 — Sociology of TV and Media**

*Alternate Years*

This course investigates the evolving role of television in shaping our understanding of the world as it relates to democracy, consumerism, human relationships, and how we make sense of our own lives. More specifically, the course examines the nature of entertainment, advertising, news and the institutions that create television programming. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 255 — End of Life Issues**

*Every third year*

Sociological inquiry into how elders, their families, healthcare and social service professionals and the U.S. legal system negotiate the choices that need to be made in late life. How end of life matters are deeply shaped by social structure. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 256 — Self and Society**

*Every third year*

Addresses the relation of the individual to society through the study of the self. Theoretical issues include human nature; the social and cultural construction of the self; subjective experience and self-consciousness; social interaction, social structure, and the self; and the politics of identity. Emphasis on studies of everyday life in the symbolic interactionist, dramaturgical, and interpretive traditions. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 257 — Aging and Society**

*Annually*

A thorough introduction to the sociological study of people’s experience of late life. Strives to increase awareness of the social, cultural, and historical affects on aging by examining people’s accounts of late life and aging, their social and psychological compensations, and the bearing of late life experiences on end-of-life decisions. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 259 — Children and Violence**

*Alternate years*

This course is organized around three general themes: (1) an introductory overview of the topic of violence, including theoretical background and structural factors; (2) an analysis of violence-related issues, including family, street, and school-based causes and consequences; and (3) consideration of prevention and intervention strategies and relevant policy implications. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 260 — Sociology of Education**

*Alternate years*

A critical examination of education in the U.S., with a special emphasis on public schooling. This course considers how the functions and goals of education have changed over time, factors leading to the current crises in education, and controversial programs for fixing the problems such as vouchers, charter schools, and multicultural education. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 261 — Sociology of Religion**

*Annually*

An analysis of religion as a socio-cultural product. Emphasis on the interrelationship between religion and society in a cross-cultural perspective. Major topics include the social functions of religion, the organization of religious practice, and the impact of social change on religion. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 262 — Sociology of Mental Health**

*Every third year*

The study of mental health is a significant area of sociological inquiry. Special attention is paid to epidemiology and the socio-cultural forces influencing symptom presentation, diagnosis, and service delivery. Topics include the history of mental health treatment, medicalization, in-patient care and hospitalization, deinstitutionalization and community-based services, stigma management, and the research within forensic psychiatry. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 263 — Medical Sociology**

*Annually*

A critical study of the institution of modern medicine. Special attention is paid to socio-cultural and political factors influencing susceptibility, diagnosis and treatment. Topics include the social meaning of disease, patienthood, the medical profession, and the organization of medical care. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 264 — Sociology of Power**

*Every third year*

A critical study of the social bases of power and of the existing constraints and limitations upon its exercise. Emphasis is given to major power theories, the forms and processes of power, and the consequences of these different understandings for the exercise and use of power. Consideration is given to the redistribution of power and its responsible use in contemporary society. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 265 — Sociology of Work and Labor**

*Every third year*

This course focuses on topics related to the study of work and labor in the United States today. The course has a strong historical dimension and some of the material crosscuts sociology, history, and economics. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 271 — Families and Societies**

*Annually*

Examination of patterns in American family behavior. Strives to increase awareness of the social, cultural, and psychological facets of family life by examining kinship relations, child socialization, dating behavior, patterns of sexual activity, parental decisions, family development, divorce, violence in the family. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 275 — Sociology of Men**

*Alternate years*

An analysis of men's experiences as men and the (sub)cultural blueprints for masculinities. Drawing on a social constructionist perspective, topics include men's power over women and other men, sexualities, bodies, homophobia, success-orientations, relations with families, anti-femininity and violence, and health. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 277 — Gender and Society**

*Annually*

On women's and men's gendered experiences at the individual, interactional, and institutional levels; how gendered experiences vary by race/ethnicity, sexuality, social class, and other ways. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 278 — Gender, Body, Health**

*Annually*

This course examines the body as a medium for self-expression and an entity to be controlled. The body is a site where men and women "do gender"; this can have both positive and negative effects on health. Among the topics covered; transgender and intersex conditions; culture and bodies; expression and repression; violence; sports; health behavior engagement; childbirth. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 279 — Men, Women and Medicine**

*Alternate years*

This course examines the ways that medicine as a social institution is a gendered (and sometimes sexist) workplace, has historically medicalized and socially controlled women's lives more than men's, and (re) defines standards of masculinities and femininities with health definitions. Topics include gender and medical workforce issues, the experiences of women physicians and men nurses, medicalized masculinities/femininities and the implication for men's and women's health, sexual and reproductive health, and the growth of cosmetic surgery for gendered bodies and sexing the body. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 280 — Global Culture and Society**

*Every third year*

Examines the way social identities and everyday cultural practices are linked to global circulations of capital, taste, fashion, and power. Through a comparative analysis of representations of globalization, cultural products such as McDonald's and Sesame Street, mega-events such as the Olympics, virtual cultures and

technologies, and leisure and consumption practices such as shopping, eating, and international tourism, students will gain a critical understanding of the debates surrounding cultural imperialism, cultural homogenization, and the hybridization of culture. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Sociology 299 — Special Topics**

*Annually*

These intermediate level courses address selected sociological issues not covered by the regular curriculum. They are offered on an occasional basis; topical descriptions for specific offerings are available before the enrollment period at the departmental office. Prerequisite: Sociology 101. One unit.

**Advanced Courses**

**Sociology 346 — Reading the Times**

*Every third year*

The seminar uses The New York Times as a window for a sociological analysis of the society in which we live. It is also a window on American journalism. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 359 — Girls and Violence**

*Every third year*

Examines the social science literature pertaining to girls both as victims and as perpetrators, as well as structures influencing personal experiences and interpersonal dynamics. In addition to theory related both to gender and violence, topics covered include bullying and relational aggression, sexual harassment, gangs, child sexual abuse, trafficking, and living in a war-torn society. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 361 — Catholic Thought and Social Action**

*Alternate years*

An advanced community-based learning seminar integrating topics of Catholic social teaching with the study and practice of community organizing. Course includes sociological analysis of Catholic social thought, leadership, power, poverty, social movements, and organizational behavior. Students will analyze and write about their projects in light of course readings. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 371 — Family Issues**

*Every third year*

An advanced topical seminar providing a critical analysis of social structural processes that foster and maintain family stresses and conflict. Examines the bearing of sources of family diversity (e.g., culture, political economy) on such stresses as single-parenting, health, devitalized relations. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 375 — Men and Violence**

*Every third year*

A capstone research-based seminar that examines the ways masculinities are associated with interpersonal violence, especially within intimate relationships. The semester involves reviewing key sociological questions and perspectives, reading original texts in the sociology of men, learning how to use SPSS and analyze available survey data, and developing an original research project and paper on men and violence. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 380 — Sociology Capstone**

*Annually*

This seminar is designed as a final course for majors. Students examine fundamental sociological questions, apply methodological skills in original research, and think reflexively and sociologically about their identities as senior Holy Cross students and members of American society. Prerequisites: permission of instructor, Sociology 101 & 223. One unit.

**Sociology 381 — Qualitative Research Capstone**

*Every third year*

This seminar enables students to learn the underlying logic of qualitative research approaches and to develop skills in moving from description to theory building with qualitative data. Students will also become familiar with key aspects of qualitative research design, as well as issues related to rigor, soundness and the ethical dimensions of qualitative research. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 385 — Technology, Mobility & Social Life**

*Alternate years*

A seminar on how social life is increasingly organized through various intersecting mobilities (travel, migration, and virtual or communicative mobilities, such as cybertourism and mobile communication). Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 399 — Selected Topics in Sociological Analysis**

*Annually*

A critical examination of selected topics utilizing sociological theory and research methods. Topics and staff rotate. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 492, 493 — Directed Honors Research**

*Fall, spring*

Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester.

Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Selection & Review Committee. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Sociology 494, 495 — Directed Research**

*Fall, spring*

Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology majors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.

**Sociology 496, 497 — Directed Reading**

*Fall, spring*

An individualized reading program addressing a topic in sociology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of a sociology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to sociology majors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.

**Sociology 498, 499 — Special Projects**

*Fall, spring*

Program for individual students who wish to pursue supervised independent study on a selected topic or an advanced research project. Ordinarily projects are approved for one semester. Open to selected third- and fourth-year students with preference to sociology majors. Each project must be supervised by a faculty member. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.

## **Anthropology**

### ***Introductory Courses***

**Anthropology 101 — The Anthropological Perspective**

*Fall, spring*

A one-semester introduction to the main modes of sociocultural anthropological analysis of non-Western cultures, such as those of Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, Melanesia, Polynesia and Native America. Attention also to anthropology of the U.S. Topics include: ethnographic methods; concepts of culture; symbolic communication; introduction to anthropological approaches to kinship, religion, gender, hierarchy, economics, medicine, political life, transnational processes, and popular culture. One unit.

**Anthropology 130 — Anthropology of Food**

*Alternate years*

Food lies at the heart of human social systems worldwide, as symbolic good, gift, and token of love and political control. This course addresses such topics as: gender hierarchies, eating, and food; foods such as sugar and chocolate and colonial systems of power; food/body/power dynamics; food and social identity construction; and famine in a time of world plenty. Focus is on specifically anthropological approaches to food cultures in Asia, Africa, Latin America, with comparative material from the U.S. One unit.

**Anthropology 170 — Contemporary Asia**

*Alternate years*

This course examines contemporary Asia as an interconnected region that influences world events and as diverse societies, cultures, and nation states that face particular problems as they struggle with issues of globalization, modernity, and neoliberalism while trying to maintain a sense of national or cultural identity. Readings focus on India, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Philippines, and the Asian diaspora. Topics include religion, aging, family, gender, politics, economics, class, labor migration, consumerism, ethnicity, and Orientalism. One unit.

### ***Intermediate Courses***

**Anthropology 255 — Genders & Sexualities**

*Alternate years*

This course asks students to critically explore the contemporary anthropological scholarship on gendered social worlds and ways of imaging sexualities, across diverse cultures. At issue: how do gender ideologies relate to social hierarchy and systems of power? How do various ways of representing the reproductive body relate to social class? To nationalism? Focus is on non-Western cultures (e.g., Japan, Papua New Guinea, Brazil). Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 256 — The Imagined Body**

*Every third year*

In cultures worldwide, the ways that human bodies are thought about, controlled, manipulated, and put on public display are patterns that are often imbued with political dynamics of power and resistance. This course draws on ethnographic material from Papua New Guinea, India, island Southeast Asia, east Asia,

sub-Saharan Africa, and the contemporary United States to look at issues of body, gender, social hierarchy, and state power. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 261 — Witchcraft and Cultures of Terror**

*Alternate years*

The witch represents evil within one's midst, disguised as a neighbor or even family member, driven by antisocial impulses. This class considers the role of fear in social organization and cultural imagination. We examine why images of fear are so cross-culturally compelling, the ways witchcraft discourse serves as an idiom for social conflicts both local and large scale, and the effects of techniques of eradication societies employ to rid themselves of evil. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 262 — Anthropology of Religion**

*Every third year*

A social scientific, cross-cultural consideration of religious worlds created in such locales as village and urban Indonesia, India, Papua New Guinea, and Africa, especially in terms of their power dynamics vis-a-vis social hierarchies. Covers classic topics such as the study of ritual and ecology, village myth, trancing, shamanism, witchcraft, and sorcery accusations, but also deals at length with such matters as the connections between Christian missions and empire. Also turns an anthropological gaze on contemporary U.S. religions. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 267 — Political Anthropology**

*Every third year*

This course takes a broadly comparative and historical perspective, using cross-cultural analysis to understand the workings of politics and power, often in non-Western contexts. Topics include: colonialism and its impact on colonized populations; the formation of post-colonial national states; leadership, authority, and the construction of political subjects; and the links between local processes and global political systems. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 268 — Economic Anthropology**

*Every third year*

An introduction to the issues, methods, and concepts of economic anthropology. This course places economic features such as markets, commodities, and money into a larger cross-cultural context by exploring relations of power, kinship, gender, exchange, and social transformation. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 269 — Fashion and Consumption**

*Annually*

A comparative, cultural anthropological exploration of fashion and consumption as tools for the creation, expression, and contestation of social, cultural, economic, political, and individual identities. Topics include: sociological and semiotic theories of materialism and consumption, subcultural styles, colonialism, race, gender, veiling, globalization, and ethnic chic. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 271 — Anthropology of Peace and War**

*Annually*

This class explores a variety of conceptual approaches to peace and war as it focuses on ways people have lived the experiences of war, peace, and peacemaking. Students bring the concepts and the experiences together in term-long research that makes an important contribution to the class. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 274 — Art & Power in Asia**

*Every third year*

How does art interrelate to political power and to wealth? This course examines such questions in regard to the art of ancient kingdoms in Asia such as Cambodia's Angkor Wat and Indonesia's Borobudur. Also at issue are the contemporary arts of Southeast Asia, seen too through this anthropology of art lens. Additionally, this course looks at the power dynamics of international art collecting of Asian art and artifacts; the politics and aesthetics of putting Asian art into worldwide museums is also studied. Includes museum study tours. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

**Anthropology 299 — Special Topics**

*Annually*

These intermediate level anthropology courses address a variety of issues of contemporary ethnographic importance. Prerequisite: Anthropology 101 recommended. One unit.

***Advanced Courses***

**Anthropology 310 — Ethnographic Field Methods**

*Annually*

An examination of cultural anthropology's main data-gathering strategy: long-term ethnographic fieldwork of small communities, often located in non-Western cultures. Topics include: review of the methodology literature, participant observation, in-depth interviews, designing field studies, oral histories, spanning deep

cultural divides via fieldwork. Involves hands-on fieldwork in Worcester or Holy Cross. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 320 — Theory in Anthropology**

*Annually*

A historical examination of the development of different theoretical perspectives in sociocultural anthropology. This course explores, compares, and critiques different schools of thought about human society and culture, from the 19th to the 21st centuries, looking at the ways in which anthropological scholars and those from related disciplines have attempted to understand and explain the human condition. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 361 — War, the Environment, Human Health**

*Annually*

A historically informed anthropology seminar about linked issues often seen in isolation from each other. How has violence shaped environments? How has violence shaped the public health in places, like Vietnam? Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 373 — Culture and Human Rights**

*Alternate years*

A seminar that critically examines the debates surrounding the politics of Western human rights interventions into the non-Western world, as well as local or indigenous mechanisms of social justice and post-conflict recovery. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 399 — Selected Topics in Anthropological Analysis**

*Annually*

A critical examination of selected topics utilizing anthropological theory and research methods. Topic and staff rotate. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 492, 493 — Directed Honors Research**

*Fall, spring*

Honors students undertake a research project under the direction of a department faculty member. The results are presented in the form of a thesis and two semesters credit, granted at end of second semester. Candidates selected from invited applicants to the Department Honors Selection & Review Committee. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit.

**Anthropology 494, 495 — Directed Research**

*Fall, spring*

Students may undertake independent research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Individuals contemplating a research project should make inquiries during their third year, since the project is usually initiated by the beginning of the fourth year. Preference for sociology/anthropology majors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.

**Anthropology 496, 497 — Directed Readings**

*Fall, spring*

An individualized reading program usually addressing a topic in anthropology not covered in course offerings. Reading tutorials are under the supervision of an anthropology faculty member, usually limited to the fourth year students, and arranged on an individual basis. Preference to anthropology majors. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.

**Anthropology 498, 499 — Special Projects**

*Fall, spring*

Program for individual students who wish to pursue supervised independent study on a selected topic or an advanced research project. Ordinarily projects are approved for one semester. Open to selected third- and fourth-year students with preference to sociology/anthropology majors. Each project must be supervised by a faculty member. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. One unit each semester.