MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Courses

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Executive Director and Assistant Dean

- Chad Cyrenne

Director of MAPSS

- Darcy Heuring, History

Assistant Director and Assistant Senior Instructional Professor

- Tori Gross, Anthropology

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- Victor Lima, Economics

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Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences

- Min Sok Lee, Economics
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- Ella Wilhoit, Anthropology
  Assistant Instructional Professor
- Hannah Hamilton, Psychology
- Marshall Jean, Sociology
- John McCallum, History
- Brianne Painia, Sociology
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General Information

The MA Program in the Social Sciences (MAPSS) is an intense, intellectually transformative one-year program. Students concentrate in Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology. Some pursue interdisciplinary work in Comparative Human Development, Social Thought, or Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science. Others may specialize in Quantitative Methods and Social Analysis, Education and Society, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Geographic Information Science, Latin American Caribbean Studies, or the Institute for the Formation of Knowledge.

All BA/MA students take nine graduate courses, beginning in the Autumn Quarter of their fourth year of undergraduate study, selected from all University of Chicago departments and professional schools. Each student works closely with the program directors, our senior academic staff, and an assigned preceptor, designing a customized curriculum and defining an area of scholarly research. They work directly with University of Chicago faculty on the MA thesis.

Students must take MAPS 30000 Perspectives in Social Science Analysis, our core course, in the Autumn Quarter. In addition, students must satisfy a methods requirement by selecting among dozens of graduate alternatives in ethnography, historical methods, involved interviewing, network analysis, survey analysis, content analysis, game theory, rational choice, causal inference, statistics, interpretive methods, comparative case study, and others.

MAPSS offers preeminent training for those aspiring to go on to funded PhD study in the social sciences. Each year 70 to 90 of MAPSS graduates do so successfully, at nearly a 90 percent placement rate. More than 100 MAPSS graduates are pursuing the PhD at the University of Chicago alone.

MAPSS also offers an exceptional program of career placement, working directly with our Director of Career Services, with weekly workshops, on-campus recruitment, and visits by leading alumni who provide mentorship in a variety of fields.
JOINT BA/MA PROGRAM

Students who wish to pursue a joint BA/MA degree should review the requirements (https://socialsciences.uchicago.edu/admissions/ba-ma-applicants/) and consult with their College adviser. They should also meet with the Assistant Dean of Students (Lindsey Weglarz, lweglarz@uchicago.edu) in the Autumn Quarter of their third year.

Please see the BA/MA Degree Requirements (https://mapss.uchicago.edu/bama-degree-requirements-current-uchicago-college-students/) to review the eligibility requirements for the joint degree.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE WORK

MAPSS students must complete our core course, satisfy our methods requirement, and earn a minimum B as their cumulative grade over their nine graduate courses. Students must also submit a faculty-approved MA thesis.

COURSE WORK

Our core course, “Perspectives in Social Science Analysis,” examines the theoretical and methodological approaches that have been broadly influential across the social sciences. It features a mix of foundational and contemporary texts. The course furnishes a common vocabulary and core analytical skills that help students understand how their research commitments have been shaped by past investigators.

Because Perspectives is offered only in the Autumn Quarter, students may not begin the MAPSS program at any other time of year.

Students must also fulfill a methods requirement. MAPSS offers courses in historical, ethnographic, statistical, and interpretive methods. Dozens of other methods courses, including network analysis, game theory, involved interviewing, comparative case study, rational choice, comparative historical analysis, experimental methods, organizational analysis, survey research, and statistical methods are offered across campus each year.

Courses are selected with the guidance of a MAPSS preceptor. Students register for three graduate classes per quarter, beginning in the Fall and continuing through the Winter and Spring. They take graduate courses in all departments and professional schools of the University.

THE MASTER’S THESIS

All MAPSS students must complete an MA thesis. Students have two options to complete this requirement. The first is the academic thesis, which is an article-length piece of original research and writing, modeled on peer-reviewed journal articles in a particular discipline. The goal of this research paper is to engage in scholarly conversation in the student’s discipline or disciplines, and to contribute to that conversation in a modest way.

The second option is the professional thesis, which applies the social scientific knowledge and research methods learned in MAPSS to a concrete problem in a form that is more common in professions outside the academy. The professional thesis is advised by the preceptor in consultation with our faculty director and can take numerous forms.

Some students do their research and write the thesis in the Winter Quarter; most, however, do their research in the Winter Quarter and write the thesis in the Spring Quarter. About 20% of our students graduate in June, the rest graduate in August.

SAMPLE THESIS TOPICS

Some recent MA paper titles include:

"Class or Group Identity? Rethinking the 1967-69 Ocean Hill-Brownsville School Strikes for Left Coalitional Politics"

"Poisoned Futures: Pesticide Usage and Agrarian Suicides in Vidarbha, India"

"Stagnant Employees: Signals of Performance Decline over Tenure Length"

"Performing at Free Street: At-Risk Adolescents’ Experiences in a Dramatic Arts Program"

"Deepening Democracy or Diverting Attention? Participatory Democracy and the Community Council Movement in Venezuela"

"Pricing the Atmosphere: Commensuration and the Case of the Chicago Climate Exchange"

"Democratic Leadership in Athens and its Role in Thucydides’ Political Thought"

"Impact of Rural-Electrification on Educational Outcomes: Evidence from India"

"The Socialization of Math Anxiety: The Relationship Between Early Math Talk and Later Math Attitudes"

"Capacity and the Duty to Intervene: Considerations on the Agency Problem of Humanitarian Intervention"
"Neural Activity Reflecting Affective Impact of Addressee and Emotional Words in Speech Perception"

"Intimate Segregation: Gentrification and the New Landscape of Race"

ADMISSION

MAPS applicants must meet the formal requirements of the Graduate Social Sciences Division which are listed here (https://socialsciences.uchicago.edu/admissions/application-materials/).

Please see this page (https://mapss.uchicago.edu/apply/application-requirements/) for current GRE policy in the Division. For those disciplines that require them, GRE scores are important but play a small role in our review. There are wide variations in the students we admit, and we are much more forgiving than the typical PhD program.

MAPSS offers tuition scholarships at the time of admission. Some financial need-based scholarships may be available through an application process after prospective students are admitted.

Joint BA/MA applicants pay graduate tuition rates, and are eligible to receive the same aid they had in College.

Applicant to the Division of the Social Sciences and the University of Chicago who do not meet waiver criteria must submit proof of English language proficiency. Please contact our Dean of Students Office with any questions: ssd-admissions@uchicago.edu

Part-time study is possible, but part-time students are not eligible for financial aid.

HOW TO APPLY

The application with instructions and deadlines, is available online at: https://socialsciences.uchicago.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/ (https://socialsciences.uchicago.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/). Current students in the University of Chicago College may be eligible to apply through UChicago Advanced Scholars (https://careeradvancement.uchicago.edu/student-opportunities/uchicago-advanced-scholars-program/) instead.

Qualified students in the College who wish to pursue a joint BA/MA degree should consult first with their College Adviser, then with the Assistant Dean of Students for Admissions in the Division of the Social Sciences (Lindsey Weglarz).

Prospective BA/MA students must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies in their college major, filling out a form available through Lindsey Weglarz in the Dean of Students office, to confirm their eligibility for the BA/MA, to specify how many of the 9 graduate courses they would take will be double-counted to satisfy their BA requirements, and to assure that all BA requirements will be met no later than June convocation of their fourth year. That form, with the signature of the Director of Undergraduate Studies (or their designee), must be submitted as part of the BA/MA application.

For additional information about our program, please contact E.G. Enbar, our Student Affairs Administrator, at 773-702-8312 or egenbar@uchicago.edu.

Please also visit our website, at: https://mapss.uchicago.edu/

COURSES MA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

MAPS 30000. Perspectives in Social Science Analysis. 100 Units.
Perspectives in Social Science Analysis is an introduction to interdisciplinary social theory which aims to teach you how to read social science research at the graduate level and develop your ability to formulate and execute a successful master's thesis.
Instructor(s): Jon Rogowski Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 30005. Graduate Practicum in the Social Sciences. 100 Units.
Students interested in gaining additional applied experience or writing an alternative or public facing thesis should consider taking the Graduate Practicum in the Social Sciences course. The practicum is a hands-on experiential course designed to enable students to apply and expand their knowledge in a career pathway based on their unique interests and improve their technical and applied writing skills, all while providing a useful service to a Chicago-based community partner. During the course, students work individually or in small teams to research a career pathway and identify and address issues/needs faced by a local community partner of their choice. Each student or team receives guidance from their instructor and community partner throughout the project. The experience culminates in a final project (report and formal presentation to the community partner and/or class).
Instructor(s): Robinson, Shelly Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): MACS 30005, INRE 30005

MAPS 30124. Computational Analysis of Social Processes. 100 Units.
How does the human social and cultural world develop and change? The focus of this course is on introducing computational methods for studying the evolution of phenomena over time, alongside relevant theories for interpreting these processes from fields such as History, Anthropology, and Sociology. Students will gain hands-
on experience using the Python programming language to harness a diverse set of digital data sources, ranging from satellite images to social media posts. Additionally, they will learn to employ computational approaches, such as simulation and dynamic topic modeling, to study social processes over a variety of different time scales: from the short term (changes in social media network structures over the course of the past week), to longer term (the evolution of English language discourse over the past 100 years), to deep time scales (long-term settlement pattern dynamics over the past 10,000 years).

Instructor(s): Jon Clindaniel
Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): MACS 30124

MAPS 30200. Readings: Social Sciences. 100 Units.
Individualized and independent reading course with selected faculty.
Instructor(s): Mark Hansen
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Note(s): Open only to MAPSS students.

MAPS 30230. Contemporary Democratic Theory: Realism, Deliberative Democracy, and Agonism. 100 Units.
What is democracy? Is democracy a matter of finding consensus or regulating dissent? How might we go about making our own society more democratic? Should we strive for more democracy or is democracy merely a means to an end? What is the relationship between democratic theory and practice? This course will consider leading attempts in contemporary democratic theory to grapple with these questions and many more. We will consider both the foundational texts of contemporary democratic theory including Hannah Arendt, Carl Schmitt, Jurgen Habermas, and Robert Dahl, and then build from those texts to see how contemporary theorists have attempted to rearticulate, reframe, redesign, and revolutionize democracy in the past 25 years.
Instructor(s): Smith, Max
Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 30233. Race in Contemporary American Society. 100 Units.
This survey course in the sociology of race offers a socio-historical investigation of race in American society. We will examine issues of race, ethnic and immigrant settlement in the United States. Also, we shall explore the classic and contemporary literature on race and inter-group dynamics. Our investigative tools will include an analysis of primary and secondary sources, multimedia materials, photographic images, and journaling. While our survey will be broad, we will treat Chicago and its environs as a case study to comprehend the racial, ethnic, and political challenges in the growth and development of a city.
Instructor(s): S. Hicks-Bartlett
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring. Autumn quarter offered at the Undergraduate level only and Spring offered at the Graduate level only
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20233, RDIN 20233, SOCI 30233

MAPS 30289. Intermediate Regression and Data Science. 100 Units.
This course is designed to provide intermediate-level training in research methods that would pick up immediately after traditionally introductory-level classes that end with multiple regression. This course is designed to be a standalone package of training that will provide tools of immediate use in students' own research or to make them more capable RAs in larger projects. I expect the course will provide the most utility to advanced BA and MA students that will not have time to complete many advanced, specialized courses. However, it would also serve as a useful bridge to more advanced statistical coursework. Students will also learn how to present findings in competent and accessible ways suitable for poster or conference presentations.
Instructor(s): M. Jean
Terms Offered: Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Applied statistics at the level of multiple regression
Note(s): Students are encouraged to bring a laptop to this class to follow along with certain lessons
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20289, EDSO 23089, SOCI 30289, EDSO 30289

MAPS 30500. Computing for the Social Sciences. 100 Units.
This is an applied course for social scientists with little-to-no programming experience who wish to harness growing digital and computational resources. The focus of the course is on learning the basics of programming and on generating reproducible research. Topics include coding concepts (e.g., data structures, control structures, functions, etc.), data visualization, data wrangling and cleaning, version control software, exploratory data analysis, etc. Students will leave the course with basic computational skills implemented through many methods and approaches to social science; while students will not become expert programmers, they will gain the knowledge of how to adapt and expand these skills as they are presented with new questions, methods, and data. The course will be taught in R.
Instructor(s): Jean Clipperton
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Note(s): MACS students have priority.
Equivalent Course(s): SOCS 26032, SOCI 40176, ENST 20550, SOCI 20278, MACS 20500, MACS 30500, PLSC 30235, PSYC 30510, CHDV 30511

MAPS 30550. From Data to Manuscript in R. 100 Units.
This course tackles the basic skills needed to build an integrated research report with the R programming language. We will cover every step from data to manuscript including: Using R's libraries to clean up and re-format messy datasets, preparing data sets for analysis, running statistical tools, generating clear and attractive figures and tables, and knitting those bits of code together with your manuscript writing. The result will be a reproducible, open-science friendly report that you can easily update after finishing data collection or receiving comments from readers. Never copy-paste your way through a table again! The R universe is large, so this course
will focus specifically on: The core R libraries, the tidyverse library, and R Markdown. Students will also learn about the use of GitHub for version control.

Instructor(s): N. Dowling Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): This is a project-based course. Students must already be in possession of a (partial or whole) dataset for which they would like to create a preliminary research report (e.g., for thesis submission, publication, or similar). No prior programming experience necessary.
Equivalent Course(s): PSYC 30550, CHDV 30550, MACS 30550, PSYC 20550, CHDV 20550

MAPS 30600. MA Writing and Research. 100 Units.
Student initiated research and writing for the MA thesis.
Instructor(s): John Hansen Terms Offered: Spring Winter

MAPS 30617. Organizational Analysis. 100 Units.
Organizations - NGOs, corporations, social movement organizations, governments, etc. - impact almost every aspect of social life; in addition, organizations have become some of the most significant actors in modern society. The course will provide a grounding in the sociological literature on how organizations function as well as the dynamics that govern both their internal structures and how they interface with society. We will cover rational, ecological, and resource-based approaches, as well as others. We will study organizations in local and global contexts, their role in economic production, their impact on members and non-members, as well as public policy. Throughout, we will engage questions pertaining to where organizations come from, how they function, when they 'succeed' and 'fail', as well as their social consequences. At the completion of the course, students will apply the concepts covered in class to a final project.
Instructor(s): Arroyo, Pedro Alberto Terms Offered: Autumn Winter
Equivalent Course(s): EDSO 30617, MACS 20617, SOCI 20585, PBPL 23002, SOCI 30337, MACS 30617

MAPS 31404. More than Human Ethnography. 100 Units.
In this course we explore the growing field of multispecies ethnography. We will focus on examples of multi-species work emerging primarily from anthropology in recent decades, reading foundational texts on interspecies engagements, exploitation, and dependencies by Deborah Bird Rose, Eduardo Kohn, Anna Tsing, and Augustin Fuéntes among many others. We will consider the role other species played in early ethnographic and archaeological work, will examine ethnoprimitological studies, and will contemplate recent examinations of "becoming with" other animals, plants, fungi, bacteria, 'aliens,' and mutants-encountering complex ecological kin relationships, examining natural-cultural borders, and examining the legacies of decolonial scholarship. The course is a discussion-based seminar, with significant time devoted both to understanding the theoretical potentials of multispecies work and its logistical or methodological aspects-querying how multispecies studies have been conducted in practice. As multispecies and posthumanist approaches encourage a decentering of traditional methodologies, we will also couple ethnographic examples with literature by biologists, philosophers and at least one novelist.
Instructor(s): Wilhoit, Mary Terms Offered: Spring Winter
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 32404, GNSE 21404, GNSE 31404, ANTH 21426, CEGU 21426, ANTH 33807

MAPS 31405. Neoliberalism, Self and Society. 100 Units.
Drawing on ethnography and cultural theory, this course examines the profound impact of neoliberal ideology on the everyday lives of individuals and communities across the globe. We will explore the ways neoliberalism, the idea that the mechanisms of free markets naturally precipitate economic growth and thus societal progress, shapes institutions, social norms, and, most importantly, individuals' understandings of themselves and others. Students will analyze the penetration of market logics into spheres of social life far beyond what used to be understood as "the marketplace," such as education, politics and governance, healthcare, and the family. They will reflect on the effects of market logics on lived realities, both in material and ideological terms. As unfettered global markets produce growing inequality and insecurity, neoliberal tenets valorizing competition and productivity tell those who suffer from and witness such negative effects that they are unavoidable; the result of some people working harder and being better than others. This course will question neoliberalism's normative assumptions, drawing on ethnographic accounts of contemporary life in various regions and contexts across the globe. Students will end the course with an understanding of neoliberalism as an ideology and the ability to engage in discussions on neoliberalism that have emerged recently in the qualitative social sciences.
Instructor(s): Gross, Tori Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31408. Interfaith Relations in Medieval Europe. 100 Units.
This course explores the varied contexts in which Christians, Muslims, and Jews encountered one another during the European Middle Ages. Drawing on primary sources in English translation, the course will introduce students to interfaith relations in a range of geographic settings (from Western and Central Europe to Iberia and the Mediterranean) and across multiple thematic categories of investigation (cohabitation, trade, warfare, cultural exchange and collaboration, polemic, conversion). The course will encourage students to consider how the three religious' experiences of one another, as well as their practices of thinking about one another, shaped each faith community. Students will learn how to carefully analyze a wide variety of medieval sources, and they will be familiarized with major scholarly paradigms for understanding interfaith relations, assessing the ways an 'intolerant' medieval past has been used to construct modern notions of pluralism.
Instructor(s): Cantor-Echols, David Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): MDVL 21408
MAPS 31455. Crises in American Democracy. 100 Units.
This course will examine a series of crises in the history of American democracy, from the contested origins of self-government in the 18th century to the present. We will consider direct, existential threats to democracy on multiple scales, from the racist coup d’etat of Wilmington, North Carolina in 1898 to the global antidemocratic insurgencies of the mid-20th century, along with subtler crises of intellectual confidence and self-justification within democracy. Readings will focus on concrete historical experience in the United States, but we will also make interdisciplinary forays into the political science of democratic deconsolidation and the normative theory of democracy, and will consider international contexts as crucial to the evolution of popular sovereignty in the United States.
Instructor(s): John McCallum Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31500. Historical Methods. 100 Units.
This course offers a graduate-level introduction to professional historical methods, with a dual focus on contemporary historiographical trends and hands-on practice with archival material. Students will read one recent book each week and will use classroom discussions to consider how the text fits into larger arguments and trends in the field. Students will also work collaboratively to examine published, digital, and manuscript archives relating to a cluster of topics to be determined in the first two weeks of the quarter. Advanced undergraduates, particularly students with a strong interest in archival research, may enroll with instructor permission.
Instructor(s): John McCallum Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Open to MAPSS students only and undergraduates with consent.

MAPS 31501. The Craft of History. 100 Units.
The topic of this graduate seminar will be Foucault’s pathbreaking theorization of power. After briefly examining alternative conceptions of power in political thought, we will consider the impetus for Foucault’s post-archaeological turn to the question of power and track the development of the concept through his publications and lecture courses. Our basic aim will be to grasp the particularities of the forms of power he identifies (disciplinary power, biopower, pastoral power), with special attention to their historical specificity, relation to knowledge and the subject, and modes of resistance, as well as the theme of political rationality. Along the way we will ask: What is it possible to say about power in general? What political possibilities do these analytics open or foreclose? The last few weeks of the course will be devoted to recent book-length studies that theorize power-relations through a Foucauldian lens.
Instructor(s): Dawn Herrera Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31502. Foucauldian Analytics of Power. 100 Units.
The topic of this graduate seminar will be Foucault's pathbreaking theorization of power. After briefly examining alternative conceptions of power in political thought, we will consider the impetus for Foucault's post-archaeological turn to the question of power and track the development of the concept through his publications and lecture courses. Our basic aim will be to grasp the particularities of the forms of power he identifies (disciplinary power, biopower, pastoral power), with special attention to their historical specificity, relation to knowledge and the subject, and modes of resistance, as well as the theme of political rationality. Along the way we will ask: What is it possible to say about power in general? What political possibilities do these analytics open or foreclose? The last few weeks of the course will be devoted to recent book-length studies that theorize power-relations through a Foucauldian lens.
Instructor(s): Dawn Herrera Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21505

MAPS 31503. Sarah Baartman through Schitt’s Creek: an Introduction to Gender and Popular Culture. 100 Units.
Throughout the twentieth century, scholars from Simone de Beauvoir through Judith Butler have argued that genders are learned, enacted and ascribed identities, worked out through interaction. As such, the production of gender is carried out to some extent in relation to cultural models and artifacts that people use to make sense of, model and reject gendered identities, characteristics and roles. This course takes popular culture, including film, television, literature and social media, as a starting point for understanding the often taken-for-granted characteristics deemed gendered in Western culture and elsewhere. Attending to race, class, sexuality, age and other social categorizations throughout, we will draw on representation and cultural theory as well as ethnographic works, mingling a close reading of theorists such as Erving Goffman and bell hooks with detailed attention to the latest reality show or trending hashtag. While we will focus primarily on the most widely disseminated and economically powerful imagery, we will also attend to alternative, resistant and activist media. This is an introductory graduate-level course; graduate students at all levels are invited to join, selected spots are reserved for advanced undergraduates.
Instructor(s): Mary Elena Wilhoit Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Undergrad cap at 5
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 31503, ANTH 32930, GNSE 21503

MAPS 31504. Ethnographic Approaches to Power and Resistance. 100 Units.
This introductory graduate course will examine understandings of power articulated by influential political theorists and ethnographers. We will explore key theoretical concepts, including discipline, governmentality, sovereignty, hegemony, agency, and resistance, as well as their application within textured, intersubjective, and affectively oriented ethnographic texts. Seeing power grounded in tentative and unstable practices, we will focus on the tensions between nation-states, informal networks, and the actions and aspirations of individual
MAPS 31505. Critical Approaches to Labor Studies. 100 Units.
Work occupies a central role in our lives. This course will provide a critical overview of labor studies. We will cover topics such as the concept of the working class; labor process theory; perspectives on labor market segmentation based on race, ethnicity, gender, class and migrant status; the types of jobs that are available in the labor market, and what they mean for the workers who hold them. While covering the entire field of labor studies is beyond the scope of any single course, we will draw upon selected readings examining occupations in agriculture, manufacturing, services and the gig economy from different parts of the world. We will also cover issues around informal work and emotional labor. This course is open to students across disciplines interested in critical labor studies. It is particularly recommended for thesis proposal writers. All class meetings are mandatory.
Instructor(s): Victoria Gross Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 22765, ANTH 34730

MAPS 31506. The Anthropology of Bodily Modification. 100 Units.
From the urge to dye one’s hair through the desire to reshape the body entirely, humans have desired to modify their corporeal forms throughout documented history. This is, in fact, one disposition or ability that seemingly sets humans apart from many cousin species. But our processes of bodily modification are also intrinsically cultural-one person’s adornment is another’s mutilation. In this class we examine bodily modification practices cross-culturally, studying the mundane and the extreme, from shaving to tattooing to neck-lengthening to medically unnecessary amputation. We examine gendered forms, from makeup to Botox to foot-binding, and we interrogate racialized and post-colonial practices, such as hair straightening, skin-bleaching, and plastic surgery. We will trace desires for bodily modification across time and space and consider the body as the earliest canvas, examining the very earliest evidence of bodily adornment, which appears to predate so-called cave painting. In short, we will attempt to historicize, contextualize and give meaning to cross-cultural behaviors of bodily modification, using ethnographic texts, cultural theory and historical and archaeological evidence.
Instructor(s): Mary Elena Wilhoit Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This is an introductory graduate level course; undergraduates are welcome with instructor consent.

MAPS 31507. Gig Work & Emotional Labor in Services. 100 Units.
In this course, we will understand work organization and labor practices in the informal as well as the gig (or the platform) economy. We would particularly examine issues of labor recruitment and control in the informal and the gig economy using the lens of gender, race, social class and other identities. The course is open to undergraduates and graduate students, and would be of particular use for students planning to write a senior honors thesis or a master’s thesis proposal or a dissertation research proposal. This course also serves as one of the approved electives for the Inequality, Social Problems and Change minor in the College, and for students in SSA’s master program of study on Addressing Inequality: Innovations in Policy Practice.
Instructor(s): Amit Anshumali Terms Offered: Autumn Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 31507, GNSE 21504, SOCI 30322, CRES 21505, SOSC 21505

MAPS 31508. The Collective Self: Critical Reflections on Coming Together and Breaking Apart. 100 Units.
This course will examine the historical contingencies and ideological underpinnings of concepts and practices of identity, understood most broadly as delineations between self and other. Starting with understandings of individual and collective personhood developed in enlightenment philosophical discourse, entrenched in the modern nation-state, and expanded through the violence of colonialism, we will trace the production and reproduction of interconnected forms of identity - ethnic, cultural, national, and religious - in practices of boundary making that always remain incomplete. Grounded in the humanistic social sciences and focused in particular on anthropology, this course will introduce seminal theories of identity and difference in order to provide a range of resources to help students interrogate allegiances articulated in the tones and textures of everyday life, as well as in modern-day eruptions of large-scale violence.
Instructor(s): Tori Gross Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 31509. Migration and Development. 100 Units.
In this multidisciplinary course, we examine the key issues and problems of migration (internal & international) and development. This overview course draws on scholarship from a variety of perspectives including sociology, demography, applied economics, anthropology, human rights, gender and labor studies. While the literature on migration is extensive and beyond the scope of a single course, the readings in this class are based on empirical research that deals with the interrelationship between migration and development. The course is open to undergraduates and graduate students, and would be of particular use for students planning to write a senior honors thesis or a master’s thesis proposal or a dissertation research proposal. This course also serves as one of...
the approved electives for the Inequality, Social Problems and Change minor in the College, and for students in SSA’s master program of study on Addressing Inequality: Innovations in Policy Practice
Instructor(s): Amit Anshumali Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 21509, SOCI 30328, HMRT 31509, GNSE 31509

MAPS 31520. History and Social Scientific Explanation. 100 Units.
History is a literary art, a political pursuit, and a popular preoccupation. Is it also a science? This course offers a graduate-level introduction to the social scientific study of the past, with a focus on interdisciplinary efforts to explain the contemporary world in terms of the longue durée. The course is designed to offer MA students in history an opportunity to reflect on their discipline’s place within social science, and to give students in other fields a chance to explore the temporal dimensions of their own research. The course is organized to run in parallel with “Perspectives in Social Science Analysis,” and readings have been selected to be put in dialog with the themes discussed in that class. Non-MAPSS students are welcome to enroll with instructor permission, but will be encouraged to consult some additional texts.
Instructor(s): McCallum, John Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31525. Variations on Marx. 100 Units.
The work of Karl Marx features a number of characteristic themes, among them dialectics, the relation of structure and agency, ideology, the movement of history, and of course, capital itself. Contemporary interpreters have developed these themes in complex, often surprising, and sometimes contradictory ways. This course traces some of their most prominent variations, sounding them out through critical and cultural theory, feminist materialism, Black Marxist thought, and structuralist and post-structuralist critique.
Instructor(s): Herrera, Dawn Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 31527. Class Conflict: Aristotle, Machiavelli, and Marx. 100 Units.
Rising inequality, resurgent left- and right-wing populist movements, and the shifting political allegiances of various class groupings in American politics have left us once again to wonder about the relationship between class, politics, and civil conflict. This course will explore three foundational theories of class conflict, and their afterlives. We will look to understand both the primary sources and how these three theories have influenced how class is conceptualized and deployed in political debates. We will begin in the Greek world with Aristotle’s attempt to provide a philosophical articulation of the class conflict and class interests which dominated in classical Greece. We will study Aristotle’s diagnosis of causes and consequences of class conflict in Greece and his effort to offer a philosophically inflected solution for the declining Greek city-states. From there, we will turn to Niccolo Machiavelli’s theory of the humors. His groundbreaking effort was the first to challenge the Aristotelian fear of class conflict and articulate a positive role for ongoing class-based dissension. Finally, we will turn to Karl Marx’s epoch-making account of capitalism’s effect on class politics. We will look beyond his famous account of the proletariat to consider his account of how capitalism transformed class in Europe, the place of class conflict in history, and whether this class analysis remains viable in given the transformations of capitalism.
Instructor(s): Smith, Max Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31550. Christendom, Its Neighbors, and Its Others. 100 Units.
To what extent did Christian societies of the European Middle Ages come to define themselves through their thinking about and interactions with non-Christian “others”? If the rise of Christendom saw the exclusion of non-Christians and other minorities (Muslims, Jews, lepers, heretics), resulting in the “formation of a persecuting society,” what are we to make of the many examples of cohabitation, trade, and cultural exchange between medieval Christians and these “others”? Beginning with readings of key texts of early Christianity, this course draws on primary sources from across Europe and the Mediterranean as well as secondary literature, interrogating the spiritual, political, economic, and cultural dynamics which animated the formation of European Christendom, from roughly 1100-1500. We will examine varied cases of religious encounter, exchange, and violence, reckoning both with their representation and reception, in their time and our own. Students will engage with major scholarly paradigms for analyzing pre-modern interfaith relations, assessing the role of an “intolerant” medieval past in defining modernity.
Instructor(s): Herrera, Dawn Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 31555. Historical Methods: Silence, Erasure, and Archival Imagination. 100 Units.
This course, which is primarily geared toward MA students embarking on thesis projects, explores the problems, questions, pragmatic concerns, and challenges that arise in “doing history,” with particular attention paid to the problem of archival silences, erasures, and other source limitations. We will read a range of classic and emerging historical scholarship and examine assigned texts to fully assess the authors’ methods: how was this work actually done? What questions did the author develop to frame their research? What sources did they use and how did the author navigate the problems of the archive? How does the work connect to wider debates or answer critical questions in the author’s field? This course also addresses the pragmatic concerns of embarking on historical research. Students will have the opportunity to locate and evaluate potential sources for their research and critically grapple with the relevant historiography related to their projects through course assignments.
Instructor(s): Lyons, Deirdre Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31600. Ethnographic Methods. 100 Units.
As ethnography has matured over the past century, it has also extended itself into all corners of academia, becoming a cornerstone for empirical research not just in anthropology, but the humanities, social sciences,
professional schools, and at times the natural sciences as well. What, then, is the appeal of this process of knowledge production? What are the norms of ethnographic research? And what does it take to become a skilled ethnographer? This course will attempt to answer those questions through a mixture of theory and practice. Each week we will discuss foundational anthropological texts on method, complemented with practicums and workshops, during which students will apply the theoretical insights gained from their readings to their own empirical research projects. The course will cover both the practicalities of fieldwork (how to find and get access to a site, how to build rapport with informants and make lasting contacts, how to conduct different kinds of interviews, etc), as well as the deeper ethical, epistemological and ontological issues raised by ethnography (the problems of representation, the ethics of participant observation, the subject position of the ethnographer). Through that students will learn how to embody a rigorous, theoretically informed, and critically reflective methodological practice and will demonstrate a skilled understanding of this through their own “mini-ethnography,” which will be undertaken on a topic of their choosing.

Instructor(s): F. McKay
Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31750. Data Analysis for Social Research. 100 Units.
The purpose of this course is help students build a solid foundation of statistical methods for social research and become proficient in using computer software for survey data analysis. Techniques acquired in this class are essential for social scientific research, and in graduate programs in sociology and professional schools such as social work, as well as job market positions which require basic to intermediate quantitative skills. Topics of this course range from the nuts and bolts of probability distributions and statistical inference to multivariate regression and its diagnostics. This course is intensive and moves pretty fast, and students are expected to work hard to have these skills “imprinted” in their minds. Further, students will have the opportunity to conduct a mini-research exercise in the second half of this course.

Instructor(s): Muh-Chung Lin
Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 31800. Interpretive Methods in Political Theory. 100 Units.
A graduate-level survey of salient interpretive approaches to contemporary political thought, with attention to the constitution of politics as an object of theoretical knowledge, the role of historical tradition, and questions of agency and normative grounds. The course provides an introduction to historical, analytical, and critical theory methods. We will consider both effective current deployments and major critiques of the interpretive methods in question, as well as the broader issue of what work in the discipline can (or ought to) accomplish.

Instructor(s): Dawn Herrera Helphand
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 31800

MAPS 31801. The Practice of Political Theory. 100 Units.
This course will introduce students to several leading approaches in contemporary political theory as practiced in American political science departments. The courses’ primary goal is to facilitate the study of the methodologies behind various approaches to political theory. In the course we will study the philosophical presuppositions that undergird various methods, some of the foundational texts in them, and more recent works that exemplify the approach. Ultimately, we will ask how we, as political theorists, might use and improve upon these methods in our own research, and what these methods can tell us about how political theory is practiced today. The course will include sections on history of political thought, critical theory, normative political thought, comparative political thought, and post-modernism among others. The course is designed to fulfill the MAPSS requirement for methods for students focusing on political theory. The course is open to undergraduates and non-mapss students by instructor’s consent. It is ideal for any student considering or writing a BA or MA thesis in political theory or pursuing graduate education.

Instructor(s): Smith, Max
Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31803. Game Theory for Political Scientists. 100 Units.
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to game theory and its applications in political analysis. Through the utilization of mathematical tools and formal models, students will analyze a wide range of topics in politics, including electoral competition, special interest politics, political parties, bureaucratic delegation, coalition building, revolution and regime change, and democratic backsliding. By the end of the course, students will have gained a solid understanding of how game theoretic models can be used to analyze complex political phenomena in both democratic and authoritarian contexts.

Instructor(s): Qian, Juan
Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31805. Survey and experimental methods in political science. 100 Units.
This is an introductory research design and methods course for graduate students who are interested in quantitative research methods - particularly survey and experimental approaches. We will focus on the ways in which political scientists collect, analyze, and interpret survey and experimental data. Students will learn about the fundamentals of research design and quantitative analysis, including theory building, measurement, hypothesis testing, as well as data cleaning, management, and analysis. Prior coursework in statistical methods or coding is not required and will be covered as part of the course.

Instructor(s): Proctor, Andrew
Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31901. The Politics of Industrial Transformation. 100 Units.
This course examines the political sources of and responses to industrial and technological development, a key determinant of the wealth of nations and a crucial component of solutions to global challenges. Key topics include the relationship between state and market; institutional sources of comparative advantage; the role
of national security; the relationship between the national and the global; the challenges of regulating new industries; and the potential of mobilizing industries to address climate change. Readings will focus on the post-WWII era, and the experiences of developed countries, particularly those of the U.S., will be discussed in conjunction with those of developing countries.

Instructor(s): Xu, Yan
Terms Offered: Spring Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MAPS 21901, PLSC 31901, PLSC 21601

MAPS 31903. Chinese Politics. 100 Units.
This course takes an in-depth look into Chinese political institutions and behaviors through a comparative perspective. It is divided into four modules. Module one overviews the historical development of the Chinese state and explores how its imperial legacies have shaped political norms and practices in the modern era. Module two examines the roles and functions of the PRC’s major political institutions, including the Party, the central and local bureaucracy, the people’s congresses, and the judiciary. We hope to understand how those institutions engage with each other in policymaking and implementation, and when tensions will arise among different agencies. Module three investigates three major “paradigm shifts” in modern Chinese politics, namely Mao’s socialist transformation in 1949, Deng’s reform and opening-up in 1978, and Xi’s power consolidation since 2012. We will discuss the political and economic challenges those reforms aim to address, and their effects and consequences. Lastly, module four explores major governance challenges facing the Chinese regime, including corruption, censorship and propaganda, the disputes over Taiwan, among many others.

Instructor(s): Qian, Juan
Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 31904. Politics and Legacies of Mao’s China. 100 Units.
The 27-year rule of Chairman Mao Zedong (1949-1976) left a complicated and long-lasting legacy for modern China. How did Mao’s political agenda and policies shape the modern Chinese state in the long run? Moreover, how did Mao’s political legacies impact the political norms and institutions of contemporary China? This course aims to take a deeper look at major political campaigns and transformative policies in the Mao era, understand their objectives and consequences, and evaluate their long-term impacts on contemporary Chinese politics, economy, and society. By reading cutting-edge scholarly works by historians, political scientists, and economists, this course will guide students to contemplate whether Chinese politics in the reform era (1978 - present) marks a break-up from the pre-reform era, or a continuation of the latter. Overall, this course will enable students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the trajectory of Mao’s China and its implications for the present era.

Instructor(s): Qian, Juan
Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 31905. The Politics of Technological Change. 100 Units.
This course examines how politics has shaped technological change and has in turn been shaped by it, touching upon topics of development, security, and globalization. The first half of the course discusses important political factors behind technological change including the pursuit of economic competitiveness and national security. It gives special attention to why a few countries in East Asia were able to narrow their technological gap with the west and emerged as economic powerhouses. The second half of the course shifts to the political implications and responses to the emergence of new technologies, particularly information technologies, covering topics such as authoritarian rule, security, and regulation.

Instructor(s): Xu, Yan
Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 32000. Writing History: Methods of Narrative Analysis and Persuasion. 100 Units.
TBD

MAPS 32205. Taking Back the Land: Anthropology, Geography & Ethnoscience for Land Justice. 100 Units.
In a world of settler property regimes, corporate holdings and national parks, how are communities reclaiming the lands they’ve lost? National parks overturned; indigenous community conservation areas established; food deserts restored with expanding networks of community gardens; the last decade has seen an eruption of opportunities for land justice amidst continuing challenges from ongoing processes of capitalism, colonialism, and climate change. This course offers a wholistic anthropological approach to land justice activism that begins with strategies for building collaborations, before looking at tools to help assert claims over territories and resources, and finally, exploring ways of restoring reclaimed lands with new foodways, forests, and community governance. Alongside critical readings and guest teachings from land justice activists in Southeast Asia and North America, the course will examine how a diversity of citizen science tools are being combined with indigenous, anthropological, geographic, and ecological methods to formulate a toolkit for land justice activism and community land/resource management. From counter mapping territory with remote sensing to effective strategies used to block mining projects; from indigenous conservation planning to guerrilla gardening; this course will explore different approaches to reclaiming lands and resources.

Instructor(s): Marshall Kramer
Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GLST 22205, ANTH 32207, CRES 23305, HIPS 22205, CHSS 32205, ANTH 22206, ENST 22205

MAPS 32805. BAD VIBES ONLY?: NEGATIVE EMOTIONS AND THE POLITICS OF QUEER-FEMINIST CRITIQUE. 100 Units.
This course examines the role of negative emotions in the history of political thought and subsequently, in feminist and queer politics. Emotions in general, and negative emotions in particular, tend to be thought of as antithetical to politics. The liberal tradition boasts a longstanding view of emotions as personal and pre-political. When it does take emotions seriously, it tends to emphasize the democratic value of ‘good vibes’
like love, empathy, and generosity. Feminist and queer critics of liberalism have long challenged this view of emotions, and indeed, have drawn upon negative emotions in particular to articulate their critiques of, as well as to imagine alternatives to, liberal conceptions of justice, freedom, and equality. In the first part of this course, we will familiarize ourselves with the way negative emotions have been theorized in the writings of Aristotle, Nietzsche, and Freud, among other canonical thinkers in the history of political thought. In the second part, this seminar will turn to focus each week on the way ‘bad vibes’ like envy, resentment, rage, and grief have informed queer-feminist critiques of liberal notions of equality, justice, and freedom. Readings will include Ahmed, Ngai, Butler, and Hartman. Students will consider how negative emotions or affects like rage, grief, and the like can be mobilized towards political ends, as well as the theoretical and practical consequences of these emotions’ characterization as political.

Instructor(s): Agatha A. Slupek Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 23148, PLSC 32805, PLSC 23148, GNSE 32805

MAPS 32900. Revising History: Modern American Case Studies. 100 Units.
How do historians change their mind? What kinds of evidence reverse old judgments, how is error diagnosed, and how do new interpretations take root? When does “revisionism” give rise to lasting controversies, and when do scholars simply shrug off old debates and turn to new questions? This course offers a graduate-level introduction to the bread-and-butter of the professional historian: the constant reconsideration of the past as a provisional body of knowledge. Readings will be drawn from modern U.S. history and will explore a series of major case studies including recent reevaluations of populism, immigration, race and empire, conservative thought, economic inequality, and environmentalism. This course is open to advanced undergraduates with instructor consent and can fulfill the methods requirement for MAPSS students.

Instructor(s): John McCallum Terms Offered: Autumn

MAPS 32905. Topics in the History of Attention. 100 Units.
Our data,” said a recent social critic, “is the oil of the twenty-first century.” In these infinite reserves, perhaps no data is more “ours” than the data we generate simply by paying attention to some things over other things. This particular feature of how our minds work has become the natural resource supply for the vastly profitable attention economy. But hasn’t it always been thus? In this course we will explore how something every human has always had becomes a new resource and a new problem from one historical moment to another. We will pursue our quarry with zealous particularism and zealous universalism, by tracking discourses of attention across several recurring themes: questions of autonomy and choice; problems of overabundance; forms of collective attention, trained attention, and pathological attention—including pathologies of excess, deficiency, and erroneous attention. Throughout the course we will ask what problems of attention say about the cultures and societies that produce them, and how all problems of attention might be different historical attempts to come to terms with human limitation and human potential.

Instructor(s): Huang, Lily Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 22905, CHSS 32905

MAPS 33002. Introduction to Machine Learning. 100 Units.
This course requires Python programming experience. The course will train students to gain the fundamental skills of machine learning. It will cover knowledge and skills of running with computational research projects from a machine learning perspective, including the key techniques used in standard machine learning pipelines: data processing (e.g., data cleaning, feature selection, feature engineering), classification models (e.g., logistic regression, decision trees, naive bayes), regression models (e.g., linear regression, polynomial regression), parameter tuning (e.g., grid-search), model evaluation (e.g., cross-validation, confusion matrix, precision, recall, and R2 for classification models; RMSE and Pearson correlation for regression models), and error analysis (e.g., data imbalance, bias-variance tradeoff). Students will learn simple and efficient machine learning algorithms for predictive data analysis as well as gain hands-on experience by applying machine learning algorithms in social science tasks. The ultimate goal of this course is to prepare students with essential machine learning skills that are in demand both in research and industry.

Instructor(s): Wang, Zhao Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Python programming experience required.
Equivalent Course(s): MACS 33002, PLSC 43505, MÁCS 23002

MAPS 33007. Schooling and Social Inequality. 100 Units.
How and why do educational outcomes and experiences vary across student populations? What role do schools play in a society’s system of stratification? How do schools both contribute to social mobility and to the reproduction of the prevailing social order? This course examines these questions through the lens of social and cultural theory, engaging current academic debates on the causes and consequences of social inequality in educational outcomes. We will engage these debates by studying foundational and emerging theories and examining empirical research on how social inequalities are reproduced or ameliorated through schools. Through close readings of historical, anthropological and sociological case studies of schooling in the U.S., students will develop an understanding of the structural forces and cultural processes that produce inequality in neighborhoods and schools, how they contribute to unequal opportunities, experiences, and achievement outcomes for students along lines of race/ethnicity, class, gender, and immigration status, and how students themselves navigate and interpret this unequal terrain. We will cover such topics as neighborhood and school segregation; peer culture; social networks; elite schooling; the interaction between home, society and educational institutions; and dynamics of assimilation for students from immigrant communities.
Instructor(s): Lisa Rosen Terms Offered: Autumn. Offered 2023-24
Note(s): This course is open only to students pursuing the MAPSS Education Certificate. This course is consent-only.
Equivalent Course(s): EDSO 33006, SOCI 30298

MAPS 33009. Research Practice Partnerships in Education. 100 Units.
Research and data are vital for educational improvement, yet researchers often wonder why their findings are not used in practice while policymakers and practitioners long for useful information to guide their work. Research-practice partnerships provide a mechanism for producing research that is relevant to decision-making and useful to practice. They focus research on questions that are immediately pressing to practice, incorporate practitioner knowledge, and communicate findings in ways that are attentive to the broader political context in which educators work. In this class, we will examine the ways in which data and research are used in policy and practice. We will consider the various conceptual models that exist around the production and use of research, and the realities of how those models operate in practice. We will learn about different approaches to conducting research-practice partnerships, and examine particular examples of work—considering how the work was done, what was learned, and how the research was used in policy or practice. The course will also consider the challenges involved in developing and maintaining research-practice partnerships, and structures that can facilitate the work.
Instructor(s): Elaine Allensworth Terms Offered: Spring. Offered 2021-22
Prerequisite(s): It is recommended that students take Introductory Statistics or a research methods course concurrent with or prior to this course.
Note(s): Students will find it helpful to have prior knowledge of education policy, and a basic understanding of research methods and policy evaluation.
Equivalent Course(s): EDSO 33009, EDSO 23009

MAPS 33313. Marx: Themes and Variations. 100 Units.
This course undertakes an intensive survey of major themes in the work of Marx (and Engels), with attention to their antecedents in philosophy and political economics and their course of development from the early to the late work. We will consider divergent approaches to Capital, considering commentaries by Louis Althusser, David Harvey and William C. Roberts.
Instructor(s): Dawn Herrera Helphand Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 23315

MAPS 33315. The Origins of Totalitarianism. 100 Units.
An in-depth study of Hannah Arendt’s pathbreaking Origins of Totalitarianism and selected recent scholarship. We will proceed thematically through the work’s three volumes: 1) Antisemitism; 2) Imperialism, and 3) Totalitarianism. Topics under discussion will include the nation-state, colonialism, race, refugee rights and mass politics.
Instructor(s): Dawn Herrera Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 28506

MAPS 33456. Olympic Games and Human Rights. 100 Units.
If cultural difference is as real and important as Anthropology has conventionally maintained, how is it possible that 204 “national cultures” and uncountable sub-national cultural formations find such considerable significance in the Olympic Games? We will additionally explore what an Anthropological approach contributes to understanding, in real time, a major Human Rights drama and accompanying protest actions. Beginning in February, the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games will unfold in a nation holding over a million of its own citizens in concentration and forced labor camps for no other reason than their religion and ethnicity. The Chinese Communist Party’s explicit policies against Uyghur and other Turkic-speaking peoples in Xinjiang province have been judged an ethnocide by many and a full genocide by increasing numbers of foreign legislatures, heads-of-state, academics, independent experts, Human Rights organizations, and other NGOs.
Some of these groups are promoting the rubric “Genocide Olympics” to characterize Beijing 2022 and to pressure the Olympic Sport System into acting against Chinese government policy in Xinjiang. The International Olympic Committee has so far been unwilling to do this, while insisting that it still stands for Olympism and Human Rights. Meanwhile, in this era of Black Lives Matter and #MeToo athlete activism, protest actions are anticipated in Beijing by some Olympic athletes, with significant consequences expected for all involved.
Instructor(s): John MacAlloon Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 23456, ANTH 33456, SOSC 23456

MAPS 33501. Gender, Sex, and Empire. 100 Units.
This course examines the complex and contested relationships between gender, sex, sexuality, social organization and power in histories of (primarily British) imperialism and colonialism from the early conquests in the New World through the twentieth century. Employing insights from gender history, postcolonial studies and feminist theory, we look at a broad range of historical case studies to explore themes such as the intersectionality of race, class and gender; the instability of gender ideologies; how power was articulated through the categories of gender and sexuality; the politics of intimacy; and the regulation and ‘improvement’ of colonial bodies. Our goal is to better understand the ways that gender, sex, sexuality and Western imperialism were co-constitutive in distinctive colonial contexts, and the ways that techniques of power were borrowed, adapted and homogenized across the Western imperial world in response to changing political and economic imperatives.
Instructor(s): Darcy Heuring Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 33501, HIST 23308, GNSE 25706

MAPS 33502. Gender, Sex, and Culture. 100 Units.

This introductory graduate course examines the social construction of gendered identities in different times and places. We study culturally-specific gendered experiences, ‘roles,’ rights and rebellions around the world, discussing the individual and social consequences of gender and the interrelationships between gender and other categories for identity including race, class and sexuality. While focusing on the global diversity of gendered experience and expectations, we also examine gender in the US, taking a critical approach to understanding gendered inequality and gender-based and sexual violence both abroad and at home. Finally, we examine the role of gendered expectations in Western science, the relationship between gender and ‘globalization,’ and the contemporary movements affecting change in gendered norms, especially in the arts and media. Advanced Undergraduates admitted with Instructor consent.

Instructor(s): Mary Elena Wilhoit Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Advanced Undergraduates admitted with Instructor consent.
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 33506, ANTH 25216, ANTH 32925, GNSE 23506

MAPS 33505. Slavery and Emancipation: Caribbean Perspectives. 100 Units.

This graduate-level reading colloquium explores the interpretive problems and perspectives critical to understanding the historical dynamics of slavery and emancipation in the Caribbean. Between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries, over five million African men, women, and children were trafficked to the Caribbean as enslaved captives. During this period, Africans and their descendants, as well as the tens of thousands of slaveholders, indentured laborers, Indigenous peoples, and free people in the region, forged the political, economic, social, and cultural dynamics that arguably made the Caribbean the birthplace of the modern world. Through course readings in foundational and emerging scholarship, we will examine how slavery and emancipation underlined crucial historical transformations and problems in the Caribbean, with attention to their global repercussions. Students will also have the opportunity to draw comparisons with other regions in the Atlantic World. Upper-level undergraduates may enroll with instructor consent.

Instructor(s): Lyons, Deirdre Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 29006, ANTH 26452, HIST 39006, ANTH 46452

MAPS 33506. Ethnographic Research Methods. 100 Units.

This introductory graduate course examines ethnography, the primary research methodology of Anthropologists and a technique also employed by many other social scientists. We study the evolution of ethnographic practices and ethnographic writing over the last 150 years, and we practice the methods of ethnography, including sampling techniques, participant observation, interview techniques and various kinds of data analysis, throughout. We examine alternative forms of ethnography such as visual ethnography, testimonio or life-history, and autoethnography to better understand the ever-evolving techniques anthropological research can take, and we devote significant study to the application of ethnographic research outside the field of Anthropology and outside the academy. Beginning in week two students will design their own ethnographic research project, writing up a formal proposal and progress reports; this project eventually provides the data for their final paper in the class. Undergraduates admitted with Instructor consent.

Instructor(s): Mary Elena Wilhoit Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30321

MAPS 33508. Anthropology of Power, Status, and Performance. 100 Units.

This introductory graduate course examines the nature of power and status through the theoretical lens of performativity. We will engage with notions of performativity, articulated by influential theorists of linguistics, gender, and religion, that demonstrate the abilities of performances to effect change in the world. Thinking with performativity, we will interrogate practices of negotiating power and status in a broad range of social, political, and geographical contexts. How is the power made and unmade through particular acts? How is status, a particular type of power differentiation, created collectively and individually through acts of saying and doing? Such questions will animate our explorations of power and status in recent ethnographies focused on Asia, the Americas, and Europe.

Instructor(s): Victoria Gross Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 34735, ANTH 22770, GNSE 22770

MAPS 33555. Empires and Colonies of the Atlantic World. 100 Units.

This graduate-level reading colloquium explores classic and emerging scholarship that examines the rise and consolidation of European overseas empires and colonies in the early modern Atlantic world (c.1400-1850). While we will analyze transatlantic European imperial structures, the course will pay particular attention to the perspectives of the colonized peoples (such as enslaved and freed people of African descent, creole populations, and Indigenous peoples) and places (such as the Caribbean, West Africa, Latin America, and North America) in the Atlantic World. Among the thematic topics we will discuss include: colonization; the rise of slavery and the slave trade; cross-cultural and political connections; the consolidation of race; gender, sexuality, and the family; the environment; the plantation complex; work and economy; social life; anti-colonial and anti-slavery struggles, revolution; abolition; and the reconstitution of colonial and imperial structures after slave emancipation. Upper-level undergraduates may enroll with instructor consent.

Instructor(s): Lyons, Deirdre Terms Offered: Spring
MAPS 33600. War, Law, Norms: Violence and Its Limits. 100 Units.
Violent contention is ubiquitous in the human past, but so are ethical norms and legal rules which seek to put 
limits on permissible attacks against others. Do they work? Can scraps of paper, or collective conscience, put 
the brakes on a dynamic of destruction which would otherwise lead to unconstrained killing? This graduate 
seminar will look at this fundamental question through the lens of a rapidly evolving historical literature 
on the laws and ethics of war, ranging from the arbitration of blood feuds in the Icelandic Sagas through the 
surprising influence of the much-derided 1928 Kellogg-Briand Pact outlawing war on the unfolding of 21st 
century history.
Instructor(s): John McCallum Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Undergraduates by consent

MAPS 33650. Researching Crime and Punishment in Chicago and Beyond. 100 Units.
This seminar builds toward the draft of a viable research paper on crime, adjudication and punishment. A 
local focus on Chicago is encouraged but not required. You will practice archival, statistical, interview and/or 
ethnographic research using method(s) and data source(s) of your choosing. Over ten weeks, you will learn to 
identify and describe the key stages, actors, rules and norms at work in the criminal legal system. To accomplish 
this goal, you will read and evaluate important case law and court opinions as well as empirical papers on crime 
and punishment. These papers will be focused on criminal practice in Chicago. Many of these readings will focus 
primarily on past and present racial inequalities.
Instructor(s): Bourne, Kyla Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 34500. Anthropology of Museums I. 100 Units.
Using anthropological theories and methodology as a conceptual framework, this seminar will explore the 
organizational and ideological aspects of museum culture(s). The course includes visits to museums with guest 
museum professionals as guides into the culture of museums.
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 24510, CHDV 34501, ANTH 34501, MAPH 34400, SOCS 34500

MAPS 34512. Ethnographic Writing: Practices of Research and Representation. 100 Units.
This course gives students opportunities to develop their own craft of ethnography through hands-on 
research and writing and in-depth explorations of recent ethnographic work. Ethnography, “the writing of a 
person,” by definition, refers to groups of people as its object and to processes through which an ethnographer 
tries to represent such groups. It also refers to academic texts that are the product of an ethnographer’s 
representational efforts. In this course, students will engage with ethnography multivalently - as research 
practice, analytical generalization, and literary product. We will reflect upon processes of representation through 
which ethnographers apply their findings to groups (implicitly or explicitly) and the choices and interpretations 
they make along the way. Some questions we will ask are: How does the ethnographer deploy particular 
control, such as modes of communication, spatial and architectural configurations, and historical contexts to 
make arguments? How is language used to represent experience convincingly? With these questions in mind, 
we will approach book and article-length ethnographies focusing on four expansive themes - migration, global 
interconnectivity, nation-states, and neoliberalism. Our readings will inform students’ development of their 
own ethnographic practices. This course will be especially helpful to MA and advanced undergraduate students 
engaged in the production of ethnographic theses.
Instructor(s): Victoria Gross Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 35720, ANTH 25720

MAPS 34513. Theoretical Approaches to Political Anthropology: Sovereignty, Authority, and Refusal. 100 
Units.
This course will explore understandings of power and its production articulated by ethnographers and political 
thinkers whose work has been influential in anthropology. We will focus on competing claims to sovereignty 
and authority that reveal the tentative, emergent, and contingent nature of power. Spanning various regions, 
the course content will elucidate the tensions between nation-states, informal/illegal networks, and the actions 
and aspirations of individual subjects. Some of the questions we will raise include: What are the roles of 
performances, narratives, and acts of exclusion and violence in the making of sovereignty and authority? How 
are competing de facto and de jure forms of power negotiated in various spaces ranging from the institutional 
to the intimate? The centrality of both physical violence and the complacency born of naturalized political 
institutions and economic rationality will arise in our examinations of political mobilization and possibility. This 
course will give students opportunities to develop conceptual understandings of various modes of power that 
offer insights into the forces of colonialism, global interconnectivity, and politics that shape the 21st century 
world. As this is a methodology course (fulfilling the MAPSS requirement), students will spend substantial 
class time reflecting upon the theoretical approaches of contemporary ethnographers and developing their own 
thetical approaches to their thesis projects.
Instructor(s): Gross, Victoria
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 34725, ANTH 24725

MAPS 35150. Anthropology of Israel. 100 Units.
This seminar explores the dynamics of Israeli culture and society through a combination of weekly screenings 
of Israeli fictional and documentary films with readings from ethnographic and other relevant research. Among 
the (often overlapping) topics to be covered in this examination of the institutional and ideological construction
includes both the design of longitudinal studies and the use of statistical techniques to analyze longitudinal data.

This course will introduce students to longitudinal research methods used in psychological research. This course focuses on basic demographic concepts, fertility transition, extreme fertility regimes, epidemiological transition, differential health and mortality, health behaviors, population aging, migration, household formation, second demographic transition, and population and environment. Students are evaluated by their participation, leading discussions, reflection memos, and a final project.

Instructor(s): Muh Chung Lin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 36450

MAPS 36455. Relationships and Health: The Need to Belong. 100 Units.
This seminar will explore the theory that the need to belong is a fundamental human motivation. In our discussions of relevant psychology journal articles, we will examine the connections between relationships and health, how the need to belong is related to empathy, reactions to rejection, and substitutes for belonging. We will also discuss the policy implications of aging.

Instructor(s): Muh-Chung Lin Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MACS 36000, MACS 26000

MAPS 36500. Social Demography. 100 Units.
This course seeks to introduce important topics in social demography to master and upper-level undergraduate students. Social demography studies the social aspects influencing the population processes. Specifically, this course focuses on basic demographic concepts, fertility transition, extreme fertility regimes, epidemiological transition, differential health and mortality, health behaviors, population aging, migration, household formation, second demographic transition, and population and environment. Students are evaluated by their participation, leading discussions, reflection memos, and a final project.

Instructor(s): Muh Chung Lin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 26501

MAPS 36601. Watergate and American Democracy. 100 Units.
Contemporary American history begins with the Watergate crisis and the resignation of Richard Nixon from the presidency. But how does Watergate fit into the wider fabric of American history? This course considers the implications of Watergate for American democracy in a wider chronological perspective, beginning with the revolutionary generation's ambivalence about monarchical power and ending with the legacies of Nixon's scandal for his successors.

Instructor(s): John McCallum Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 39000. Longitudinal Research. 100 Units.
This course will introduce students to longitudinal research methods used in psychological research. This includes both the design of longitudinal studies and the use of statistical techniques to analyze longitudinal data.
Students will gain experience with reading longitudinal research reports using longitudinal data and develop the skills necessary to conduct and report on their own longitudinal research.

Instructor(s): Hamilton, Hannah Terms Offered: Winter

MAPS 39200. Latin American Religions, New and Old. 100 Units.
This course will consider select pre-twentieth-century issues, such as the transformations of Christianity in colonial society and the Catholic Church as a state institution. It will emphasize twentieth-century developments: religious rebellions; conversion to evangelical Protestant churches; Afro-diasporan religions; reformist and revolutionary Catholicism; and new and New Age religions.
Instructor(s): D. Borges Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 29000, RLST 21401, HIST 39000, LACS 29000, LACS 39000, HIST 29000, HCHR 39200

MAPS 40164. Involved Interviewing: Strategies for Interviewing Hard to Penetrate Communities and Populations. 100 Units.
Imagine that you must interview someone who hails from a background unlike your own; perhaps you need to interview an incarcerated youth, or gather a life history from an ill person. Maybe your task is to conduct fieldwork inside a community that challenges your comfort level. How do we get others to talk to us? How do we get out of our own way and limited training to become fully and comfortably engaged in people and the communities in which they reside? This in-depth investigation into interviewing begins with an assumption that the researcher as interviewer is an integral part of the research process. We turn a critical eye on the interviewer’s role in getting others to talk and learn strategies that encourage fertile interviews regardless of the situation or context. Weekly reading assignments facilitate students’ exploration of what the interview literature can teach us about involved interviewing. Additionally, we critically assess our role as interviewer and what that requires from us. Students participate in evaluating interview scenarios that are designed to explore our assumptions, sharpen our interviewing skills and troubleshoot sticky situations. We investigate a diversity of settings and populations as training ground for leading effective interviews. The final project includes: 1) a plan that demonstrates knowledge of how to design an effective interviewing strategy for unique field settings; 2) instructor’s feedback on students’ personal journals on the role of
Instructor(s): S. Hicks-Bartlett Terms Offered: Autumn Winter
Prerequisite(s): Ugrad Level restricted to 3rd and 4th year Sociology Majors ONLY
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 40164, SOCI 20547

MAPS 40177. Coding & Analyzing Qualitative Data using MAXQDA. 100 Units.
This focus of this course is on coding and analyzing qualitative data (e.g., interview transcripts, oral histories, focus groups, letters, and diaries, etc.). In this hands-on-course students learn how to organize and manage text-based data in preparation for analysis and final report writing of small scale research projects. Students use their own laptop computers to access one of two free, open-source software programs available for Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems. While students with extant interview data can use it for this course, those without existing data will be provided text to code and analyze. This course does not cover commercial CAQDAS, such as AtlasTi, NVivo, The Ethnograph or HyperText.
Instructor(s): S. Hicks-Bartlett Terms Offered: Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Ugrad Level restricted to 3rd and 4th year Sociology Majors ONLY- Consent of instructor REQUIRED
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20548, SOCI 40177

MAPS 40200. Seminar: Bourdieu/Sociobiography. 100 Units.
This seminar explores the conceptual architecture of Pierre Bourdieu’s social theory, with special attention to its implications for biography and autobiography.
Instructor(s): John MacAlloon Terms Offered: Winter. T/Th 11:00-12:20 pm
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 40165

MAPS 40401. Computation and the Identification of Cultural Patterns. 100 Units.
Culture is increasingly becoming digital, making it more and more necessary for those in both academia and industry to use computational strategies to effectively identify, understand, and (in the case of industry) capitalize on emerging cultural patterns. In this course, students will explore interdisciplinary approaches for defining and mobilizing the concept of “culture” in their computational analyses, drawing on relevant literature from the fields of Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology. Additionally, they will receive hands-on experience applying computational approaches to identify and analyze a wide range of cultural patterns using the Python programming language. For instance, students will learn to identify emerging social movements using social media data, predict the next fashion trends, and even decipher ancient symbols using archaeological databases.
Instructor(s): Clindaniel, Jon Terms Offered: Autumn Winter
Prerequisite(s): No previous coding experience required. A Python boot camp will be held at the beginning of the quarter to teach the coding skills necessary to succeed in the course. Open to Advanced Undergraduates with Instructor Permission.
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 40404, MACS 20400, MACS 40400, PSYC 40460

MAPS 40905. Theory, Method & Evidence: Finding Persons in the Social. 100 Units.
There has been a disconnect between the theories and methods we use to examine the world. The veritable explosion of methodologies, or ways to find evidence on the world and persons, leaves many with a lack of coherent understanding of what exactly is being produced. This class will examine methods and forms of
evidence across multiple fields of social inquiry to ground students, with some focus on the methods of biological and physical sciences. This class will examine critically what counts as evidence and what counts as a method—including a historically situating of the conceptualizations of method and evidence for the respective fields. We will pay special attention to shifts in the formulation of our scientific triad of Data, Evidence, and Ideas across space and time. By the end of the class, students will have a deeper understanding of evidence and method across multiple fields of social inquiry, including the relevance of the replication crisis.

Instructor(s): Gugwor, Resney
Terms Offered: Spring

MAPS 47501. Olympic Games and Human Rights. 100 Units.
If cultural differences are as powerful as Anthropology has conventionally stressed, how is it possible that over 200 national and innumerable sub-national and transnational cultural formations have found common cause in the modern Olympic Games? This course explores, theoretically and historically, the emergence of the Olympic Games as the liturgy of the world system of nation states and the current dialectic between the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Sports Industry. Extensive reading and an independent research paper will be required.

Instructor(s): John MacAloon
Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 25090, ANTH 20420, ANTH 30420

MAPS 49800. Research Experience: Psychology Lab. 000 Units.
All MAPS and MACSS students with a confirmed Psychology lab placement will be pre-registered. Students should contact Sabrina Biggus (sbiggus@uchicago.edu) to specify the lab placement they have. This course does not count as one of the three for-credit courses you must take each quarter to maintain full-time status in your MA program.

Instructor(s): Staff
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MACS 49800

COURSES ECMA

ECMA 30750. The Theory of Market Design. 100 Units.
This course will provide an introduction to social choice, two-sided matching, house allocation, school choice, and the recent theoretical developments in kidney exchange. We will develop formal, mathematical language to evaluate and compare different mechanisms including deferred acceptance, top trading cycles, the probabilistic serial mechanism and others. Our approach will be axiomatic; we will explore the tradeoff between the efficiency, incentive compatibility and fairness in the design of mechanisms. This course will be proof-based, so is appropriate for advanced students acquainted with formal mathematical reasoning.

Instructor(s): J. Root
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20100/20110 and MATH 20300/20310/20700

ECMA 30770. Decision and Strategy. 100 Units.
This course provides a formal introduction to game theory with applications in economics. We will study models of how individuals make decisions, and how those decisions are shaped by strategic concerns and uncertainty about the world. The topics will include the theory of individual choice, games of complete and incomplete information, and equilibrium concepts such as Nash equilibrium. The applications will include oligopoly, auctions, and bargaining. The course is appropriate for advanced undergraduates who are interested in a rigorous mathematical approach to understanding human behavior.

Instructor(s): B. Brooks
Terms Offered: TBD
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites for Undergraduates: ECON 20100/ECON 20110 and MATH 20300/MATH 20310/ MATH 20700, or consent of instructor
Note(s): Student may count only one of [ECON 10700 or ECON 20700 or ECON 20770/ECMA 30770] toward the 42 credits required for graduation.
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 20770

ECMA 30780. Decision and Strategy II. 100 Units.
We continue the formal introduction to decision theory and game theory begun in ECMA 30780, with a specific focus on models of incomplete information. Topics covered include subjective expected utility, Bayesian games, contract theory, and mechanism design. Among the applications we will consider are auctions, collusion, entry deterrence, and strategic communication. The course is appropriate for advanced undergraduates who are interested in a rigorous mathematical approach to decision making in strategic situations.

Instructor(s): B. Brooks
Terms Offered: TBD
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20770/ECMA 30770 or consent of instructor
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 20770

ECMA 30800. Theory of Auctions. 100 Units.
In part, this course covers the analysis of the standard auction formats (i.e., Dutch, English, sealed-bid) and describes conditions under which they are revenue maximizing. We introduce both independent private-value models and interdependent-value models with affiliated signals. Multi-unit auctions are also analyzed with an emphasis on Vickrey’s auction and its extension to the interdependent-value setting.

Instructor(s): P. Reny
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): PQ for Undergraduates: ECON 20100 (or Econ 20110), and MATH 20300 (or Math 20310 or Math 20700), and STAT 23400, 24400 or STAT 24410
ECMA 31000. Introduction to Empirical Analysis. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the key tools of econometric analysis: Probability theory, including probability spaces, random variables, distributions and conditional expectation; Asymptotic theory, including convergence in probability, convergence in distribution, continuous mapping theorems, laws of large numbers, central limit theorems and the delta method; Estimation and inference, including finite sample and asymptotic statistical properties of estimators, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing; Applications to linear models, including properties of ordinary least squares, maximum likelihood and instrumental variables estimators; Non-linear models. Assignments will include both theoretical questions and problems involving data. Necessary tools from linear algebra and statistics will be reviewed as needed.
Instructor(s): J. Hardwick Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): PQs for Undergraduates: Econ 21030 or Econ 21110 or Econ 21130

ECMA 31100. Introduction to Empirical Analysis II. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to applied econometrics and builds on tools studied in ECMA 31000. Topics include: Selection on observables, instrumental variables, time series, panel data, discrete choice models, regression discontinuity, nonparametric regression, quantile regression.
Instructor(s): J. Hardwick Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisite for Undergraduates: Econ 21030 or Econ 21110 or Econ 21130 or ECMA 31000 or ECMA 31130. Undergraduates who have taken Econ 21020 are encouraged to obtain instructor consent for enrollment.

ECMA 31130. Topics in Microeconometrics. 100 Units.
This course focuses on micro-econometric methods that have applications to a wide range of economic questions. We study identification, estimation, and inference in both parametric and non-parametric models and consider aspects such as consistency, bias and variance of estimators. We discuss how repeated measurements can help with problems related to unobserved heterogeneity and measurement error, and how they can be applied to panel and network data. Topics include duration models, regressions with a large number of covariates, non-parametric regressions, and dynamic discrete choice models. Applications include labor questions such as labor supply, wage inequality decompositions and matching between workers and firms. Students will be expected to solve programming assignment in R.
Instructor(s): T. Lamadon Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites for Undergraduates: ECON 21020 OR ECON 21030

ECMA 31140. Perspectives on Computational Modeling for Economics. 100 Units.
In this course students will learn several computational methodologies and tools to solve, simulate, and analyze models that are the backbone of current macroeconomic analysis. While learning the relevant computational methods is the main objective, the theoretical economic aspects of the model will be stressed and the students will be required to apply their economic knowledge and skills to interpret and analyze the results. We will examine non-stochastic and stochastic general equilibrium models, both under local and global approximations. The main part of the course will deal with representative agent models, but a significant part will be devoted to introducing students to the solution of heterogeneous agent models as well.
Instructor(s): Salas, Sergio Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): PQ for undergraduates: Econ 20200/20210 and MATH 19620/Stat 24300/Math 20250 and Stat 23400/Stat 24400/Stat 24410.
Note(s): MACSS students have priority. Equivalent Course(s): MACS 30150

ECMA 31210. Time Series Analysis for Macroeconomics and Finance. 100 Units.
This course will cover various methods and their applications in time series analysis and emphasize empirical exercises by students. The structure of the course starts with theoretical foundations drawing from standard textbooks of Hayashi (2000) and Hamilton (1994) and covers applications to answer important questions in macro and finance. The topics include time series OLS with applications in the Fama interest rate regression and Hansen’s study of foreign exchange markets, GMM with the Fama-French model of equity returns, and state-space models with applications to GDP nowcasting. Familiarity with matrix algebra and elementary econometrics is required.
Instructor(s): F. Hayashi Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites for Undergraduates: ECON 20200/20210 and ECON 21020/21030
Note(s): This course may count as a data science course for the data science specialization in the same set of options as ECON 21300, ECMA 31320, ECMA 31330, ECMA 31340, ECMA 31350 or ECMA 38010.

ECMA 31320. Applications of Econometric and Data Science Methods. 100 Units.
This course builds on the theoretical foundations set in Econ 21030 and explores further topics pertinent to modern economic applications. While the course content may change from year to year according to student and instructor interests, some potential topics are panel data methods, treatment effects/causal inference, discrete choice/limited dependent variable models, demand estimation, and topics in economic applications of supervised and unsupervised learning algorithms. The course will involve analytically and computationally intensive assignments and a significant empirical project component.
Instructor(s): A. Hortacsu Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): CMSC 12300/14200/15200/16200 and ECON 21020 (ECON 21030 Honors Econometrics preferred) or consent of instructor

ECMA 31330. Econometrics and Machine Learning. 100 Units.
This course reviews modern methods from econometrics, statistics and machine learning, and presents applications to economic problems. Examples of methods covered are simulation-based techniques, regularization via coefficient and matrix penalization, and regression and classification methods such as trees, forests and neural networks. Applications include economic models of network formation, and dimension reduction for structural economic models. The course involves programming and work with data. Beyond econometric background such as ECON 21030, students should have a solid background in computation.
Instructor(s): S. Bonhomme Terms Offered: Not offered in 2022-2023
Prerequisite(s): CMSC 12300/14200/15200/16200 and ECON 21020 (ECON 21030 Honors Econometrics preferred)

ECMA 31340. Big Data Tools in Economics. 100 Units.
The goal of the class is to learn how to apply microeconomic concepts to large and complex datasets. We will first revisit notions such as identification, inference and latent heterogeneity in classical contexts. We will then study potential concerns in the presence of a large number of parameters in order to understand over-fitting. Throughout the class, emphasis will be put on project-driven computational exercises involving large datasets. We will learn how to efficiently process and visualize such data using state of the art tools in python. Topics will include fitting models using Tensor-Flow and neural nets, creating event studies using pandas, solving large-scale SVDs, etc.
Instructor(s): T. Lamadon Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): PQs for Undergraduates:ECON 20100/20110 and ECON 21020/21030

ECMA 31350. Machine Learning for Economists. 100 Units.
This course reviews modern machine learning techniques and their applications in economics. The course covers some of the classical techniques, including lasso, regression trees, random forests, principal components analysis, and neural networks, as well as cutting-edge double machine learning methods. Applications include economic models of network formation, program evaluation, demand estimation, and asset pricing. The course involves programming and working with data. Students are expected to have a solid background in statistics, econometrics, and computation.
Instructor(s): K. Ponomarev Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): For Undergraduates: CMSC 12300/14200/15200/16200 and ECON 21020 (ECON 21030 Honors Econometrics preferred)

ECMA 31360. Causal Inference. 100 Units.
This course reviews modern causal inference techniques and their applications in business and economics. The course covers the treatment-control comparison estimator, regression adjustment, matching (on covariates and propensity score), difference in differences (canonical and with staggered treatment), panel data methods, regression discontinuity design (sharp and fuzzy), instrumental variables and local average treatment effect (LATE) estimator. At different points during the course, we mention how machine learning (ML) techniques have recently been used to enrich the classical methods. The course involves programming (R language) and working with data. Students are expected to have a solid background in statistics (working knowledge of R and familiarity with RStudio) and econometrics.
Instructor(s): M. Tartari Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 21020/21030

ECMA 31810. The Scale-up Effect in Public Policy: Understanding and addressing threats to scalability. 100 Units.
In recent years, citizens and lawmakers have become increasingly enthusiastic about adopting evidence-based policies and programs. Social scientists have delivered evidence on countless interventions that positively impact people’s lives. And yet, most programs, when expanded, have not delivered the dramatic societal impacts promised. In order to truly reap the benefits of evidence-based interventions (practices, programs, and policies), researchers and practitioners must figure out how to take these programs from small-scale experiments and implement at scale in a way that enables population-level impacts. This course builds on an economic model (The science of using science: towards an understanding of threats to scalability by Omar Al-Ubaydli, John List, and Dana Suskind) to explore the threats to scalability i.e. phenomenon by which the magnitude of a treatment effect changes when an intervention moves from research setting to population-wide implementation. This course will examine some of the most critical questions of public policy: Why have we failed to bring evidence-based programs found to be effective in small-scale experiments to the population level? How can we scale such programs effectively? How can researchers, practitioners, and policymakers work together to bring fundamental changes in research and program design.
Instructor(s): Suskind, D; Gupta, S Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): PPHA 43650

ECMA 33221. Introduction to Advanced Macroeconomic Analysis II. 100 Units.
This course introduces concepts and tools for advanced macroeconomics. It builds on ECMA 33220. We discuss the decision of consumption and investment over time, monetary economics, fiscal policy, asset pricing, and international economics. We introduce numerical methods to solve problems in economics and finance such as methods to solve nonlinear equations and to generate random numbers. These methods are useful when we...
solve economic models through value-function iterations, quadratic linearization, and other methods. Some topics discussed are the welfare cost of inflation, portfolio allocation, the yield curve and economic activity, optimal taxation, and financial markets and monetary policy. As ECMA 33220, this course is useful for students interested in increasing their knowledge in macroeconomics for careers involving macroeconomic analysis and as preparation for graduate school. Knowledge of calculus and linear algebra is expected.

Instructor(s): A. Silva
Prerequisite(s): For Undergraduates: ECON 20200/20210 and ECON 21020/21030

ECMA 33230. Macroeconomic Crises. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to economic theories of "crises" or particular periods of rapid (negative) changes in real and financial variables that are distinct from long-run growth and regular business cycles. In particular, we will cover the origin of various types of financial crises, i.e. speculative bubbles, bank runs, credit crunches, and sovereign debt crises and defaults. Time permitting, we will also study currency crises and speculative attacks. Throughout, our focus will be on the implications for fiscal and monetary policy.

Instructor(s): N. Balke
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 23950 and ECON 21020 (or ECON 21030)

ECMA 33240. Quantitative Analysis of Macroeconomic Policy. 100 Units.
This course focuses on application and covers three commonly used models in macroeconomics, including structural VAR, DSGE models and state space and regime switching models. Various research tools developed to implement these models, such as how to identify structural shocks and analyze their dynamic effects, and how to conduct counter-factual policy simulations, will be discussed and implemented.

Instructor(s): Staff
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 21200 or STAT 26100 or BUSN 41202 or Instructor Consent

ECMA 33330. Introduction to Dynamic Economic Modeling. 100 Units.
This course provides an introduction to dynamic economic models, with applications to macroeconomics, labor economics, financial economics, and other subfields of economics. The core methodology will be consistent over time, but the applications will vary from year to year. The course will analyze decentralized equilibrium and social planner's problems in dynamic environments. It will focus on developing techniques for analyzing such models graphically, analytically, and computationally. Students should be familiar with constrained optimization (e.g. Lagrangians), linear algebra, and difference equations, as well as microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics at an intermediate level.

Instructor(s): R. Shimer
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20200 (or ECON 20210) and ECON 21020 (or ECON 21030)

ECMA 33603. Introduction to Macroeconomics and Financial Frictions. 100 Units.
This course studies the behavior of consumers, investors, and firms when they face frictions to take their decisions. These frictions can be in the form of costs to change portfolios, to change prices, or to find another investor to trade. Frictions also appear in the form of borrowing costs, the possibility of default, or the need to use money to carry on transactions. We show how taking into account these frictions change predictions about the economy. Borrowing constraints, for example, affect interest rates, and the need to rebalance portfolios changes predictions on optimal taxation. We discuss models, techniques and papers that show the relevance of frictions for economic analysis.

Instructor(s): A. Silva
Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): PQ for Undergraduates: ECON 20200/20210 and ECON 21020/21030

ECMA 33620. Introduction to Heterogeneous Agent Macroeconomics. 100 Units.
This class is an introduction to macroeconomics with heterogeneous households. We will study consumption-savings problems, income dynamics, wealth inequality in partial and general equilibrium, and the effects of fiscal and monetary policy in the presence of household inequality. The class will make use of theoretical analysis, empirical analysis and computational methods. Material will be presented in both discrete and continuous time. Students will analyze micro-level data on wealth, income and consumption, and will learn how to write code to solve heterogeneous agent models on a computer. Familiarity with a statistical package such as R or Stata, and a programming language such as Matlab, Python, Julia, Fortran or C is highly recommended.

Instructor(s): G. Kaplan
Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates: PQ: ECON 20200/20210 and ECON 21020/21030

ECMA 33550. The Practicalities of Running Randomized Control Trials. 100 Units.
This course is designed for those who plan to run a randomized control trial. It provides practical advice about the trade-offs researchers face when selecting topics to study, the type of randomization technique to use, the content of a survey instruments, analytical techniques and much more. How do you choose the right minimum detectable effect size for estimating the sample size needed to run a high quality RCT? How do you quantify difficult to measure outcomes such as women's empowerment or ensure people are providing truthful answers when you are asking questions on sensitive topics like sexual health? When should you tie your hands by pre-committing to your analysis plan in advance, and when is a pre-analysis plan not a good idea? This course will draw on lots of examples from RCTs around the world, most (though not all) from a development context. Alongside field tips, it will also cover the concepts and theory behind the tradeoffs researchers face running RCTs. The course is designed for PhD students but given its practical nature is open to and accessible to masters students who plan to work on RCTs.
Instructor(s): Glennerster, Rachel
Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): PPHA 35561, ECON 35550

ECMA 36700. Economics of Education. 100 Units.
This course explores economic models of the demand for and supply of different forms of schooling. The course examines the markets for primary, secondary, and post-secondary schooling. The course examines numerous public policy questions, such as the role of government in funding or subsidizing education, the design of public accountability systems, the design of systems that deliver publicly funded (and possibly provided) education, and the relationship between education markets and housing markets.
Instructor(s): D. Neal
Prerequisite(s): ECON 21020 or ECON 21030
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 26705, EDSO 26700

ECMA 38010. Empirical Industrial Organization. 100 Units.
This course will provide an introduction to state-of-the-art methodologies in Empirical Industrial Organization. We will use real-life data to learn about consumers and firms. We will cover demand and preference estimation, production function estimation, empirical models of market entry, and auctions. We will also discuss applications including prediction, policy analysis, and price optimization. Students will learn about theory, estimation, optimization, and practical considerations. Students will apply what they learn using R.
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites for Undergraduates: ECON 20100/20110 and ECON 21020/21030

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