

## USIE Seminars – Spring 2015

### **Anthropology 88S: *The Anthropology of Gender and International Development***

**Student Facilitator: Megan Moran | Faculty Mentor: Akhil Gupta**

Broad historical and theoretical introduction to gender, as cultural change, and inter- and intra- national economic and political development. Overview of anthropology of development focusing on gender through application of feminist Marxist, Hegelian dialectical theory, and political economy approach. Balance of theoretical reading and case studies highlighting global uneven development.

### **Biomedical Research 88S: *Picking Your Brains: Neuroanatomy through Mysterious Clinical Cases***

**Student Facilitator: Shaina Sedighim | Faculty Mentor: Rafael Romero**

Introduction to basic neuroanatomy as presented through a series of mysterious medical cases; basics of medical diagnosis, neurological exam, brain mechanisms of memory, movement, perception, and language. Students will have a chance to step into a physician's shoes, make assessments, analyses, and attempt to elucidate where in the brain a lesion may be present.

### **English 88SA: *American Bards—Who Are Our Voices? (And What Do They Say?)***

**Student Facilitator: Samantha Allan | Faculty Mentor: Michael Cohen**

American songwriters, poets, throughout twentieth century who we consider cultural and subcultural icons, how we remember them, why—includes Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes, Allen Ginsberg, Bob Dylan, Maya Angelou, Joni Mitchell, Tupac, others.

### **English 88SB: *Economic Influences in "Game of Thrones"***

**Student Facilitator: Mary Haithcoat | Faculty Mentor: Christopher Mott**

Examination of George R.R. Martin's "A Game of Thrones" through the lens of economic theory.

### **English 88SC: *Looking Forward, Thinking Ahead—Futurisms in Literature, Film, and Other Media***

**Student Facilitator: Shawn Zhang | Faculty Mentor: Christopher Mott**

The simultaneous desirability and temporal unavailability of the future has made it one of the most sought after objects in the human pursuit. We have tried time and again to imagine, predict, and actively create futures of our own choosing. What do these attempts say about ourselves, our values, and our obsessions? Examining a variety of sources taken from a broad spectrum of times and places, this class seeks to understand the whats, whys, and hows of our eternal fascination with the future.

### **Epidemiology 88S: *You Only Live Once—How Public Health Maximizes Life Expectancy***

**Student Facilitator: Maria Nataly Diaz | Faculty Mentor: Paul Hsu**

Overview of the top public health accomplishments in the 20th century that led to a 27.62-year increase in life expectancy in the United States. It is based an interdisciplinary approach that will use a combination of discussions, lectures, movie clips, and interactive activities to engage students in the material and establish a collaborative learning environment. Students will focus on public health achievements ranging from decreases in incidence of infectious diseases, heart disease, stroke, and tobacco use to increases in food and water safety, nutrition, and exercise.

### **Film and Television 88S: *Sinking Your Blade into Anime—Introduction to Japanese Animation***

**Student Facilitator: Kevin Nguyen | Faculty Mentor: Charles Sheetz**

Like a samurai's katana slashing its enemy, the pirate kings and giant robots of Japanese Animation have left their mark on the Western pop culture scene, emerging from a niche market in Japan to a globalized phenomenon. Exploration of Japanese Animation, or "anime," as a uniquely stylized medium of entertainment, cultural movement, and gold mine for thematic analysis. Introduction to anime for interested newcomers, but also opportunity for deeper interaction among existing fans. Viewings consist of entire Fate/Zero (2011) series and samples from other representative works.

### **History 88S: *Keepin' It Real: The History of the Hip Hop Generation***

**Student Facilitator: Rafael Silva | Faculty Mentor: Mary Corey**

Designed for both majors and non-majors. Exploration of Hip Hop's meteoric rise as an American cultural phenomenon, with special consideration of landmark artists, songs, and genres. Historical survey of late twentieth century America will ground the story of Hip Hop in contemporary political, economic, social, and cultural circumstances.

### **Physiological Science 88S: *Emergency Code Stroke: Stroke Education in Los Angeles***

**Student Facilitator: Elias Saba | Faculty Mentor: Patricia Phelps**

As students living in Los Angeles, it is incredibly important to understand the steps we can take to smooth the health disparities found in our communities and take an active role in improving the lives of those who live around us. In this course, we dissect the public health landscape of Los Angeles by focusing on strokes and the way socioeconomic, genetic, and cultural differences play a role in both the risk of stroke, the access to stroke prevention and awareness initiatives, as well as medical response and recovery afterwards. Beyond basic stroke morphology, students can expect to learn about local stroke awareness initiatives, the evolving status of emergency response in Los Angeles, factors resulting in increased disease risk, local health policy, and the role UCLA will play in addressing the health disparities the city of Los Angeles faces.

### **Political Science 88S: *The United Nations Millennium Development Goals—Multinational Cooperation, Human Rights, and International Order***

**Student Facilitator: Jasleen Bains | Faculty Mentor: Deborah Larson**

We will observe how states in the 21st century have cooperated with one another to combat disease, terrorism, and economic disaster. Students will gain an understanding of the role human rights play in vaguely defined principles, such as peacekeeping and security. This course examines negotiations from the UN Security Council to the UN Human Rights Council to understand international efforts in transnational issues. The course is divided into three themes: (1) security (2) development and assistance (3) human rights and international law. These frameworks will be used to evaluate the UN Development Millennium Goal of the week. This course is an introduction to contemporary human rights problems and the global response to these issues.

### **Psychiatry 88S: *Mindful Movement—Growing Interest For Mindfulness Meditation***

**Student Facilitator: Kush Bhatt | Faculty Mentor: Marvin Belzer**

This course will explore the practice of mindfulness meditation and the increasing importance of mindfulness in the western world. We will begin by discussing the origins of mindfulness in the East and the introduction of mindfulness in the West. We will then go on to examine promising contemporary research regarding mindfulness in medicine and psychology. In addition to this, we will also be looking at the application of mindfulness practice in various settings such as schools, hospitals, and businesses. Lastly, students will be encouraged to develop their own practice of mindfulness through exposure to mindfulness events on the UCLA campus.

### **Psychology 88S: *The Enigma of Subjective Experience***

**Student Facilitator: Cody Kommers | Faculty Mentor: Martin Monti**

Designed for students of any major. Examination of current theories of consciousness from both philosophy and neuroscience. Survey big questions of consciousness: How does the objective world give rise to subjective experience? Is consciousness a fundamental element of our universe? Can computers become conscious? Focus on group discussion with interactive demonstrations and guest lectures. Culmination in a deeper ability to question personal beliefs about consciousness and to incorporate an explanation of consciousness into scientific worldview.

### **Sociology 88S: *Social Identities and Interaction***

**Student Facilitator: Lital Slobodsky | Faculty Mentor: Jerome Rabow**

People, especially students at liberal colleges and universities, pride themselves on not being racist, not being sexist, and not being homophobic. But in reality, when we look at the general population, most people are not even aware of how they each partake in our prejudiced society. This course is intended to raise awareness about people's identities in order to help them understand the privileges and difficulties that others outside of their identity have to face. Topics include positive social identity, racism, sexism, homophobia, and division of society into dominants and subordinates. Subtopics include experience and perception of social identities, privilege, and development of identities throughout history. Readings will focus on personal experiences relating to race, gender, and sexual orientation.

### **Surgery 88S: *Trauma—A Matter of Life or Death***

**Student Facilitator: Beatrice Sun | Faculty Mentor: Eric Ley**

A devastating motor vehicle accident, a fall from a ladder, a gunshot wound to the chest. Trauma is all around us, but when accidents occur, who is responsible for taking care of the victims? What life-saving measures can be taken immediately after? How is a hospital emergency room structured for efficiency? How is a homeless man treated, and where does he go after leaving the hospital? Exploration of different topics in trauma such as human factors, patient transport, emergency procedures, and policies. Examination of case studies, and discussion of the intersection between trauma and non-medical aspects of society. Introduction to approaching papers and current events from a multidisciplinary perspective.

### **World Arts and Cultures 88S: *Social Media for Social Action***

**Student Facilitator: Amanda Hoskinson | Faculty Mentor: David Gere**

Can changing your profile picture change the world? Do online petitions actually accomplish anything? Why does Facebook want me to donate to Ebola efforts? This seminar will not only allow you to explore these problems; it will provide a sandbox for you to try to fix some of them yourself. Social Media for Social Action is a project-based seminar intended to provide students with theory based social media skills for any industry. This seminar will focus on one sector of social media in particular, social action. Throughout the course students will engage in critical discussion about social media, social action, and where these issues connect. Students will also learn basic non-profit marketing skills on three primary platforms (Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook). The seminar will culminate in students running a campaign of their own design for the Art and Global Health center, a campus non-profit.