About the Department

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology is intended for students who wish to rigorously analyze and understand our modern, complex society. The faculty in the department of Sociology and Anthropology train students in the theoretical and conceptual foundations of each discipline. Upper-level courses apply that fundamental training to the study of contemporary social issues including education, the health care system, the media, inequality, the family, deviance, and urban phenomena. A global approach allows students to investigate these phenomena not only in the U.S. but also in Asia, India, Latin America, and the Arab world. Students are encouraged to complement their major or minor in Sociology and Anthropology with foreign language training and study abroad. Programs in Mexico and Southeast Asia are directed by faculty in the department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Faculty members representing both disciplines share a fundamental concern for engaging students in critical comparative study of social and cultural phenomena from a wide variety of ethnographic and historical contexts. The faculty attempt to expand students’ intellectual horizons, challenge them to recognize the oftentimes ethnocentric limitations of personal experience and individual biography, and encourage them to become more conscious of the ways human beings come to take the “reasonableness” of their world for granted.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon completion of their studies in Sociology and Anthropology students should be able

- to take a multidisciplinary approach to problems
- to model phenomena with relevant theory and concepts
- to shift between multiple levels of analysis
- to gather data via multiple methodological tools
- to assess the quality of empirical data
- to run statistical tests and draw appropriate inferences
- to conduct independent research
- to write clearly and persuasively
- to make effective oral presentations

A major in Sociology and Anthropology develops knowledge and skills valued in a wide range of career possibilities in the private or public sectors. It also provides excellent preparation for graduate study in anthropology, sociology, social work, public health, law, criminalology, counseling, or public policy. Furthermore, the major is a rewarding end in itself, providing students with valuable experiences for their intellectual growth.

General Requirements for the Major or Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that 11 at least four units of the major or three units of the minor be taken in residence at Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the major or the minor; and 3) all courses taken for a major or minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the major and minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Major

The major in Sociology and Anthropology consists of eleven courses:

- Required Courses: 101, 102, 295 or 296, 298, 299, 301, 490.
- Elective Courses: Four courses in Sociology and Anthropology, two of which must be at the 300-level or above. (CONN 335 and CONN 480 can each be used as one of the 300-level or above electives.)

Majors may satisfy no more than two university core requirements from Sociology and Anthropology offerings. The Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry are not included in this limit.

Requirements for the Minor

A minor in Sociology and Anthropology consists of six courses: 101, 102, 295 or 296 and three electives, one of which must be at the 300 or higher level. (CONN 335 and CONN 480 can each be used as one of the 300-level or above electives.)

Note: The Sociology and Anthropology Department reserves the right to evaluate courses on a case-by-case basis to determine whether they may be applied to a major or minor based on the age of the course.

Course Offerings

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see “Frequency of Course Offerings” on page 10.

Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry. See Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry in the Core Curriculum section of this Bulletin for course descriptions (page 10).

Other courses offered by Sociology and Anthropology

Department faculty. See Connections in the Core Curriculum section of this Bulletin for course description (page 24).

- CONN 335 Race and Multiculturalism in the American Context
- Satisfies the Connections core requirement.
- CONN 395 China and Latin America: A New Era of Transpacific Relations
- Satisfies the Connections core requirement.
- CONN 397 Migration and the Global City
- Satisfies the Connections core requirement.
- CONN 480 Informed Seeing
- Satisfies the Connections core requirement.
- IPE 201 Introduction to International Political Economy
- Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement.

101 Introduction to Sociology

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of sociology. Sociology is a broad discipline which, at its core, constitutes the scientific study of society. Students in this course are exposed to basic concepts, theories, and methods used
in modern sociology. Upon successful completion of Introduction to Sociology, students have a basic understanding of the sociological perspective and the ways in which the discipline frames human behavior at all levels, from a brief encounter of two strangers to global social systems. The course also provides students with specific sociological tools that they can use to better understand their world; the theories, concepts, and ideas covered in this class will help students to recognize the connection between self and society, biography and history, as well as the individual and social structures. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement.

102 Introduction to Anthropology This course introduces students to the discipline of anthropology, with an intent focus on the sub-discipline of cultural anthropology. Students gain an understanding of the methods, theories, and debates that characterize cultural anthropology through a critical exploration of the concept of culture, the central frame through which anthropologists grapple with gender, ethnicity, politics, economics, religion, tradition, technology, identity, globalization, and much more. The fundamentally cross-cultural, cross-temporal, holistic orientation of anthropology makes it unique among the disciplines, and its practitioners try to broaden any discussion of human beliefs and practices to include examples that are as diverse and varied as possible, while insisting on a singular, underlying, and universal “humanity.” The course draws on ethnography, a term that applies to both the immersive field research that anthropologists engage in, as well as the written analyses of cultures that anthropologists produce to better understand how culture and representations of culture structure relationships of power and inequality in the contemporary world. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Prerequisite: Students who have SOAN 102 transfer credit may not take this course.

202 The Family in Society: Critical Perspectives This course challenges students to learn to “see” families sociologically and to think critically and comparatively about the family as a complex social institution. Rather than assuming a universal model of the family, course readings examine families in the United States and elsewhere in the world as diverse entities shaped by economic and political factors, gender ideologies, racial and class inequalities, sexual norms, and cultural changes. Family ideals frequently clash with contemporary family realities; social science is a powerful tool for illuminating the implications and meanings of family continuity and change.

206 Theories of Deviance and Social Control This course offers an in-depth exploration of multiple theories of deviance and social control. Each section of the class is organized around a particular theoretical orientation; each theory will elucidate both how deviance happens and the mechanism of social control that align with that particular theory. Every theory covered in this course is situated within a social, historical, and political context. Social and scientific theories are socially constructed, and thus, the context in which they emerge and exist is fundamental to their basic understanding. Students also learn how to use this diverse set of theories to make sense of how knowledge, power, and inequalities are all fundamentally tied to the ways in which a society comes to define and control deviance. As the semester progresses, students synthesize and integrate these theories to allow for a deeper, holistic understanding of deviance and social control. Prerequisite: SOAN 101. Offered occasionally.

212 Sociology of Gender Gender surrounds us, but ideas about gender in popular culture often oversimplify its workings. This course provides an overview of a sociological perspective on gender, with close attention to the relational construction of gender difference through analyzing both femininities and masculinities, as well as how gender intersects with other differences such as race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality. The first half of the course examines gender inequality from several classic and contemporary theoretical perspectives. The second half foregrounds empirical research on gender and how gender works and changes over time in institutions that affect our daily lives such as schools, families, and workplaces. Readings focus on the United States as well as other countries within our increasingly globalized world. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement.

213 City and Society More than half of all humans on earth now dwell in cities, and urban life is almost certainly an integral aspect of our collective future. This course introduces students to the sociological and anthropological study of the city through an examination of the theories, concepts, and frameworks social scientists have deployed in seeking to understand cities. This examination includes a focus on urbanization, or the underlying processes by which cities emerge, and on urbanism, or the character of life in an urban built environment. The geographical focus of the class ranges from global cities in other parts of the world to the American cities with which students are familiar. This course includes a fieldwork component that requires students to explore the themes they encounter over the semester in the urban context of Tacoma.

215 Race and Ethnic Relations The goal of this course is to provide an introduction to the forms of difference and inequality reflected, constructed, and reproduced through notions of race and ethnicity. It asks: what are the forms of knowledge, practices, institutions, and values that have informed the nature and meaning of race and ethnic relations in both the US context and globally? Using a historical, theoretical, and comparative approach, the course examines both the origins of contemporary race and ethnic categories and the way those categories have been reconfigured and deployed over time and space as part of diverse political, social, and economic projects. Drawing on specific cases, students explore how notions of race and ethnicity intersect with other forms of difference, such as class, gender, and national identity. Through engagement with sociological/anthropological analyses of race and ethnic difference, the course thus provides students with a conceptual and theoretical toolbox with which to critically examine contemporary race and ethnic relations and engage in informed debate about their implications. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement.

217 International Research Proposal Workshop 0.25 activity unit. This course is designed to guide students through the process of preparing and submitting a proposal for independent research in a foreign/international setting. The course functions as a workshop: students identify potential funding sources, develop relevant proposals, refine those proposals in a collaborative workshop setting, and coordinate with Puget Sound Fellowships Office when appropriate. The class meets monthly, and enrollment is limited. Prerequisite: permission from instructor.

225 Asian Medical Systems A basic introduction to three traditional medical systems of Asia: Ayurveda, Chinese medicine, and Tibetan medicine. The course examines theoretical underpinnings, trainings of practitioners, materials and techniques utilized in treatment, and important historical developments in each system. Additionally, the course explores issues of the interface between biomedicine and these systems, and larger issues of globalization in the practice and consumption of traditional medicines. Taking an anthropological approach, the course aims to understand each system from within itself while also paying close attention to the social and cultural conditions under which each
system has thrived and has also faced challenges. The course examines how systems of healing are both biologically and culturally based, and considers how these medical systems relate to issues of national identity and global politics.

230 Indigenous Peoples: Alternative Political Economies  This course examines the situations, problems, and continually developing strategies of indigenous peoples living in various countries and regions scattered throughout the world. While the central concern of this investigation focuses on so-called “tribal” peoples and their increasingly threatened, yet still instructive lifeways, the course also deliberately considers selected points of contrast and comparison involving “modern” societies as well. Toward this end, the course uses the approach of political anthropology, which has traditionally been associated with the study of small-scale societies (wherein the realms of “politics” and “economics” are inseparably interlinked with other sociocultural institutions such as “religion” and “kinship”). The ultimate aim of the course is threefold: first, to acknowledge the tragedy of past and presently-continuing destruction of indigenous peoples’ physical, social, and cultural lives; second, to learn about and from the resilience and resistance such people have shown over millennia; and third, to inspire hope that it is still not too late for “modern” and “tribal” people humbly and profitably to learn from each other. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Offered occasionally; offered Fall 2012.

235 Linguistic Anthropology  This course is an introduction to the sub-discipline of linguistics within the broader discipline of anthropology. The course covers methods used and theories formulated in the study of language in anthropology. These include the structure of language; language through history; a comparison between human and non-human modes of communication; the innate human capacity for language; the relationship between language, thought, and culture; and the study of language, power, and identity. A cross-cultural perspective is emphasized in this class. Offered occasionally.

240 Social Movements  This course surveys major theories and research on social movements. Issues of recruitment, organization, tactics, resource mobilization, the role of the mass media, the impact of official agencies, and effects on public policy are examined. Selected movements are analyzed in relation to political institutions, socioeconomic structures, and cultural trends. Among the movements studied: the civil rights movement, women’s movement, environmental movement, labor movement, right-wing movements, the pro- and anti-abortion movements, and popular liberation movements in the Third World. Offered occasionally.

280 Archaeological Foundations  As one of the four fields of anthropology, archaeology seeks to uncover artifacts and the material culture of human life in order to understand past civilizations and the long-term development of human societies across space and time. This course offers an introduction to the field of archaeology, providing an overview of its goals, theory, methods, and ethics. Students have the opportunity to learn and practice basic archaeological techniques, as well as to reflect on the significance of these techniques for understanding other peoples. Through study of specific cases, students are also exposed to some of the major debates that have shaped the field including, for example, questions of artifact authenticity, ownership, and repatriation; the reliability of diverse forms of knowledge and methods; the origins, evolution, and diffusion of human cultures; and the impact of new technology on archeological methods. Offered every other year.

295 Social Theory  This course offers an in-depth survey of sociology’s foundational theoretical perspectives. Students analyze, compare, and apply the ideas of a range of classic and contemporary social theorists, and in doing so develop a keen appreciation for how the lens we use to think about and perceive various social phenomena profoundly shapes our questions and conclusions about the world. The course focuses on the kinds of questions that have been asked by influential nineteenth- and twentieth-century thinkers, as well as the theories they have constructed to answer them. The first half of the course focuses on the “classical” theorists, including Marx, Durkheim, and Weber. The second half is devoted to several contemporary perspectives that build on and extend the classical theories, including feminist theory, Goffman, Bourdieu, and Foucault. The idea of “emancipation” is used as a heuristic tool for thinking through a range of social theories.

296 Anthropological Theory  Anthropological theory sees the world through a disciplinary lens that focuses on culture—shared understandings—while looking broadly and holistically at the human condition across a broad range of times and places. This course invites students to “think anthropologically” as they become familiar with the various lines of thought that have characterized anthropology since its earliest days to the present. In addition, students also learn to grapple theoretically with a contemporary problem and articulate their thoughts on the issues in terms of relevant anthropological theorists. Examples of problems that could be considered in the course include the following: the issue of “ownership” of indigenous culture, the unresolved problems of multiculturalism, or the interrelationships linking globalization, terrorism, and genocide. The course involves heavy reading demands and is conducted seminar style with students expected to lead and contribute to class discussions on a daily basis.

298 Social Research  This course covers experimental and quasi-experimental design, the design of social surveys, and techniques of data analysis appropriate for each type of design. Individual student research projects are required. Prerequisites: SOAN 101 or 102 or permission of instructor.

299 Ethnographic Methods  Ethnography is the study of human cultures. Ethnographic methods are the constellation of research methods that anthropologists (and nowadays, many others) use in exploring, understanding, and writing about human cultures. This course introduces students to the methodological craft of ethnographic inquiry, and includes an examination of the historical development of this methodological toolkit, the theoretical implications of this approach to research, the ethical considerations paramount to ethnographic research, and the practical concerns involved in “doing” ethnography. Students will have the opportunity to practice and deploy these research methods in fieldwork settings in the greater Tacoma area. The course is structured around the design and implementation of an independent research project that utilizes these methods for anthropological inquiry. Prerequisites: SOAN 101 or 102 or permission of instructor.

301 Power and Inequality  This course examines social and economic inequality in the United States and globally. The goal of the course is to understand the extent of inequality as well as the power structures that systematically distribute resources in a particular way. The course introduces concepts and theoretical approaches that are fundamental to the social sciences. The policy implications that emerge from these comparisons are also discussed. Satisfies the Social Scientific Approaches core requirement. Prerequisites: SOAN 101 or 102 or permission of instructor.

305 Heritage Languages and Language Policies  Using the perspectives of linguistic anthropology and sociolinguistics, this course investigates not only languages and the people who speak them, but also
some of the ideologies and policies (in schools, government, and work) that impinge on issues of language rights and practice. Beginning with a comparative consideration of the semantic “load” carried by several specific key words in different languages/cultures, the course proceeds to examine the larger theme of language loss, looking in particular at endangered indigenous languages. Complementing this focus on the threat faced by “small” languages around the world, the course also considers examples of systematic efforts, on the part of native speakers and policy makers, to affirm linguistic diversity in multicultural societies, exploring in this connection such topics as bilingualism and diglossia (including Ebonics and Creoles). The course ends with a critical look at some of the rhetoric, ideologies, and policies geared to promote or challenge monolingualism in the U.S.

308 Visual and Media Anthropology Students focus on visual anthropology in its primary and original form: as a research practice. Specifically, they investigate and practically explore the use of visual media as a tool for anthropological research and presentation. They discuss visual anthropology both as a supplement to textually-focused ethnography, and as an end in itself, in the creation of a visual product that explicates cultural realities. This course focuses on visual forms of communication by analyzing and questioning how facts travel in the world through old and new media such as film, video, photography, including their digital forms. Students are introduced to the history of ethnographic film and contemporary changes that have widened the possibilities of visual anthropology beyond its early confines as a tool for illustration. Critical theory, methods, and ethical concerns are all part of the current refashioning of visual anthropology and are critical components of the class. Students will also be introduced to the emerging sub-discipline of media anthropology, which focuses on the intersections of culture and media consumption, production, and materiality. The class explores the history of media and cultural studies, and how they have informed contemporary media anthropological approaches. The class combines the discussion of theoretical and ethical issues, film and video screenings, and practical assignments in visual ethnography, using a variety of available media. Prerequisite: SOAN 102.

310 Critiquing Education Measuring students, norming test results, ranking students and schools, and “racing to the top” are endeavors that produce, according to a competitive paradigm, not only triumphant winners, but also deficient losers. Are there better, more inclusive and more socially just ways to envision and carry out the mission of education? How else might stigmatized students – those who are often perceived only as marginalized, “broken,” and in need of “fixing” – be seen and positively incorporated in school systems? This course explores these related questions, using an anthropological approach to identify the possible riches as well as perceived liabilities “brought to school” by those students who often struggle disproportionately in most educational systems. They include students whose biopsychological functioning is different enough for them to be labeled as “disabled”; students who are poor or have access to very limited economic resources; aboriginal students still negatively affected by their parents and grandparents having been forced to live far from family and home in residential boarding schools; and students whose home language is either a language other than English or a devalued variety of English. Class readings include both ethnographic accounts of such students’ lived experiences as well as investigations of various proposed policies of school reform.

312 Indonesia and Southeast Asia in Cultural Context This course provides an anthropological overview of Southeast Asia, one of the most diverse and fascinating regions of the world, with a focus and required field component in Indonesia. Because of the Indonesia trip, the course requires an application and students are responsible for some expenses, including airfare. As a survey of Southeast Asian cultural groups and histories from an ethnographic perspective, the course begins on campus, but finishes in Yogyakarta, Central Java—a city often described as the cultural heart of Indonesia, and the country’s center of higher education. In the first section of the class students investigate the prehistory, archaeology, and initial migration to the region. Students then examine the origins of agriculture and the development of complex state societies, and the influence of world religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, and particularly Islam) in the cultural development of SE Asia. Students then look at case studies of ‘indigenous’ peoples in the region. Students also explore the economic and cultural impact of European colonialism and the response of SE Asian people to the European presence, as well as the post-colonial period of nation building. The final section of the course is more geographically focused, and looks at the cultural component of many important issues in modern day Indonesia, including environmental decline and deforestation, the impact of globalization and industrialization, the problems of ethnic and religious minorities, and human rights concerns. Students develop individual research projects that incorporate both library research and ethnographic fieldwork while in Indonesia. The Indonesia portion of the course lasts approximately 18 days, beginning shortly after the semester ends, and features an immersive stay at a local university including language instruction, guest lectures by Indonesian scholars, trips to cultural and historic sites, ethnographic projects, a multi-night stay in a rural village, and potential trips to Bali or other neighboring islands. Puget Sound students stay in the dorms alongside Indonesian students, some of whom sit in on class sessions and help introduce the visitors to their culture and lifestyle through group activities. Two faculty members accompany the group, and course meetings continue abroad, while taking advantage of the Indonesian setting with ethnographic assignments and individualized research projects developed prior to departure. The course is limited to 10-12 students and requires an application and instructor permission. There are fees related to the trip, including the plane ticket. Contact the course instructor for more information. Prerequisite: SOAN 102, application, and permission of instructor. NOTE: This course will require an 18-day field component in Indonesia, and will require students to pay their own airfare, as well as other potential program fees. Applications will be accepted from all students who have met the prerequisite of SOAN 102 (Cultural Anthropology), and a panel of two faculty members (the instructor and one other member from Sociology and Anthropology or the Asian Studies Program) will evaluate applications on the basis of: (1) academic performance, (2) well-articulated ability/willingness to deal with adverse situations and cultural difference, (3) recommendations by Puget Sound faculty members, (4) interest and enthusiasm for study in and about Southeast Asia, and (5) a clean disciplinary record at the university.

314 Criminology The field of criminology covers two main areas: (1) analysis of law-breaking and (2) investigation of the ways in which laws are made and enforced by the criminal justice system. The first seeks to answer the question, Why do people break (or follow) the law? The second asks, How is (criminal) law made and enforced? These issues are examined historically and cross-nationally but there is particular attention given to contemporary conditions in the United States, a country with a high rate of offending and probably the highest rate of incarceration in the world. In addition to investigating the variation in offending and victimization, the course examines the extent to which the U.S. criminal justice system is biased against certain classes and groups. Offered occasionally.

315 Identity Politics in Latin America This course explores the rise of identity politics within Latin America since the 1990s. It asks how ethnic, racial, feminist, sexual, and transnational identity politics have
shaped the nature and goals of a diverse array of social movements in the region. It draws on ethnographic analyses to analyze how specific instances of identity politics emerged from particular historical and national contexts to challenge traditional hierarchies of power in new ways. The course also utilizes fictional, testimonial, and film sources for further investigation of the experiences of participants within these movements and their implications for transformations in Latin American society. Prerequisite: LAS 100 or SOAN 120, or permission of instructor. Offered occasionally.

316 Cultural Politics of Global Development This course examines how culture, identity, and ethics are implicated in economic development efforts around the globe and here at home. Through a critical examination of major development theories and their assumptions about the nature of the global system and the meaning of difference within it, the course explores whose ideas about development matter, how they manifest in terms of particular policies and politics, and what stakes they pose for different social groups. In particular, the course explores how race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, health, environment, and education, among other things, have structured development differences. In doing so, the course interrogates the role that colonialism, science, capitalism, and activism have played in shaping development norms and challenges to them. The course engages interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to development through a combination of theoretical and ethnographic texts, as well as experiential learning. This course counts as one of the core courses for the Global Development Studies Designation. Not offered 2018-2019.

318 Gender, Work, and Globalization The world is becoming increasingly interconnected, with the movement of people, capital, and cultures across borders transforming lives all over the globe. Yet globalization also shapes, and is shaped by, gender, class, race/ethnicity, age, sexuality, and other axes of difference and inequality. This course examines how gender relations are embedded in practices of globalizing capitalism. Not only does globalization shape the lives of men and women in distinct ways, but the social and economic changes accompanying globalization affect power relations involved in masculine domination. The course will examine key developments at the nexus of globalization and gender: the feminization of poverty, feminization of migration, and feminization of workforces which are consistent features of transnational production processes. Besides analyzing the gendered consequences of globalization, including how globalization shapes the lived experiences of women worldwide, it also foregrounds how gendered subjects constitute processes of globalization. Special attention is given to how gender shapes our ideas of what counts as “work”, both paid and unpaid, globally, as well as how gender permeates institutions, especially workplaces, but also the government and international organizations. Offered occasionally.

323 The Political, Economic, and Social Context of International Tourism In the contemporary world, tourism is often the foremost process that brings together people from different parts of the world, allowing those from vastly different societies to interact on a face-to-face basis under peaceful, if not always equal, circumstances. As such, tourism as a phenomenon and as a process raises questions about global interconnections and global movements of finance, cultural and material artifacts, ideas, and people across national and cultural boundaries. The two questions this course addresses throughout the semester are 1) what are the economic, political, social, cultural, and environmental impacts of tourism in low and middle income countries? and 2) what are the tradeoffs associated with tourism? In tackling these two questions the course examines a wide range of issues, including the political, economic, social, and cultural implications of tourism, the impact of global tourism on environmental and global conservation efforts, and tourism as a vehicle of social change and as a facilitator of cultural and material globalization. Crosslisted with IPE 323.

335 Third World Perspectives This course examines the dilemmas, challenges, and prospects for selected regions of the developing world - south - as seen through the eyes of intellectuals and leaders from these regions. The course critically examines the values reflected in the ideas/writings of selected “third world” intellectuals and leaders, specifically focusing on how these values shape 1) assessment by intellectuals and leaders of social, cultural, economic, and political dilemmas in the Third World; and 2) the alternatives leaders and intellectuals articulate for overcoming these dilemmas. In the process the course examines the social forces that significantly helped shape the social realities being addressed from a Third World Perspective. Offered occasionally; not offered 2012-2013.

340 Global Political Economy The course has a two-fold purpose: first, to analyze the political, economic, and cultural forces creating interdependence in the world, and second, to adopt a comparative perspective and to investigate in some depth the social systems in a variety of countries. Offered occasionally.

350 Border Crossings: Transnational Migration and Diaspora Studies This course is designed to explore diverse and changing forms of transnational migration across a global landscape, with a focus on the dynamic relationships that define migrants’ relationships to both home and host communities. The course draws upon anthropological and sociological contributions to migration studies, transnationalism, and diaspora studies in order to examine the articulation of culture and identity amidst the complexities of the contemporary world. The course also utilizes case studies that allow students to analyze diasporic experiences both in the United States and abroad. This course allows for a sustained discussion on the changing relationships between people, place, and culture, and the role of anthropological methods in investigating them. Prerequisite: none; SOAN 101, 102 or 295 strongly recommended. Offered occasionally.

352 Critical Studies of Organizations, Work, and Management Changes in transportation, information, and communication technology, as well as artificial intelligence and automation are rapidly transforming occupational and commercial arrangements. These forces of transnational economic integration undermine conventional organizational and commercial forms, and in so doing alter the ways people execute work and management in many fields. This course examines these phenomena by focusing on work and management in different phases of product and service supply chains locally and globally, in addition to examining differences in experience of these processes on the basis of race, class, gender, nationality, and other intersecting social dimensions. Offered occasionally.

360 Sociology of Health and Medicine This course examines the sociological dimensions of health, illness and the profession of medicine. Specifically, this course will address five primary themes: 1) The social construction of health and disease and medical knowledge; 2) health and illness behavior: the study of behaviors related to staying healthy and to interpreting and responding to symptoms of illness; 3) Social Epidemiology: the study of patterns of distribution of disease and mortality in the United States; 4) the organization of the United States health care system compared to systems found in the other countries; and 5) the socialization and organization of health care professionals.

365 Global Health This course serves as an introduction to issues surrounding global health. Students explore multiple mechanisms that lead to health inequalities around the world, along with policies and interven-
tions that aim to deal with issues of morbidity and mortality at a national and/or global scale. Topics covered in this course include, but are not limited to: the impact of globalization on the health of specific populations, socioeconomic contexts of disease, issues of infectious disease and nutrition, the interplay between culture and health, ethical and human rights concerns, and the role of NGOs and non-profits in global health.

370 Disability, Identity, and Power  Disability studies offers perhaps the most trenchant critique of “the hegemony of the normal”—that is, the reification and privileging of certain numerical indices (for example, IQ score; body mass index; weight and height; complete blood count; range of motion; brainwave frequencies; and other such measurements which are then regarded as “better” or “worse” than comparable numbers). While certainly accepting the importance of such measurements in designing treatments and strategies to improve the quality of life for people living in pain, disability studies seeks to balance this “experience-distant” emphasis on “the quantified life” with “experience-near” insights. Thus disability studies seeks out, reflects on, and tries to incorporate and prioritize the meta-biological realities of the lived experiences of people with disabilities (defined here as lifelong or chronic biological and/or psychological impairments), especially in policy-making endeavors inspired by ideals of social justice. Hence this course focuses on issues of power, disparity, and diversity of experience and identities, particularly as these affect and are affected by the minds and bodies of individuals who “have” (or are socially close to people who “have”) conditions that mark them as “not normal”. Unlike studies done from the perspective of the healing professions, where non-normalcy is regarded as a condition to be helped or remedied, this course, following the perspective of disability studies, is less concerned with identifying and “fixing” deviation from some statistically defined ideal range, and more directly focused on socially grounded, ever-dynamic identity construction and its relation to emancipatory political change, especially when these processes involve confrontations between individuals with disabilities and the various social institutions (e.g. education, health care, legal and economic systems) they (or their caregivers) must deal with throughout their lives. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement.

380 Muslim Cultures and Communities  Islam has significant influence on a broad array of nations, ethnic groups, and local expressions of culture, and plays a role in shaping societies’ politics, economics, and law. Taking a practice-focused, anthropological perspective on the study of religion, this course examines the many ways in which culture and society have been co-influenced by Islam in different parts of the world, including here in the Pacific Northwest. The objective of this course is to move beyond stereotypes and essentialization to better understand the diverse, lived experience of Muslims around the world, and the ways that collaborат-ive, ethnographic social science can help in understanding Islam as a way of life. The course aims to help students develop a critical awareness of the ways Muslims’ understandings of their faith can be mediated by social, economic, and political phenomena. Students further explore representational politics and power relations surrounding Islam, and how Western powers have historically represented the Islamic world and Muslims, both at home and abroad.

390 Men and Masculinities  This course offers a critical analysis of what it means to be a man using a sociological lens. Feminist scholars made gender visible, problematizing both femininities and masculinities in order to challenge and transform unequal gender relations. Yet until recent decades, men were rather invisible as men, as gendered beings, in academic research. Building on the insights of gender studies, the course emphasizes the socially constructed, power-laden, and historically and culturally variable character of masculinities in its multiple forms. Readings highlight the individual, interactional, and institutional processes through which men become men and “do masculinity” in relation to both women and other men. Using an intersectional approach, the course also explores how masculinities are shaped by other axes of difference and inequality, including class, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, and age. Masculinities are analyzed across multiple contexts over the life course, including intimate relationships, schools, families, workplaces, and organizations. Diverse forms of masculinities in the United States as well as masculinities in Mexico, Russia, and Western Europe will be considered.

407 Political Ecology  Political ecology is an active interdisciplinary framework with foundations in anthropology, geography, environmental studies and the biological sciences. Its central contention is that our understanding of environmental issues and environmental change must include an analysis of the social, political, economic, and cultural context in which they are produced. Through a set of advanced readings in the social sciences, students become familiar with the genealogy of this interdisciplinary approach, the keystone texts that inform contemporary political/ecological work, and the new directions that comprise the cutting edge of political ecology. Recurring themes in the reading list will examine indigenous peoples struggle over resources, the construction of nature through the capitalist lens, and an examination of sustainability in both discourse and practice. Students conduct original ethnographic research that builds upon these areas of interest. Advanced coursework in anthropology, sociology, and/or international political economy is strongly recommended. Crosslisted with IPE 407.

416 Modern India and Diaspora  This course is designed with a two-fold focus: 1) to provide an in-depth sociological examination of pertinent developments and trends shaping modern/contemporary India; and 2) to situate India’s trajectory as a modern society in a broader international (both regional and global) context. Specifically, the course centers on the (a) critical social transformations in Indian society since the beginning of the 20th century; and (b) an examination of India’s relationships and links to the broader global community. The 20th century marks a period of “great transformations” in the narrative of India. Its salience is reflected in the fact that the period draws on the intersection of the late colonial as well as the post-colonial period in India. The course emphasizes the complex links and transition between British colonialism and the post-colonial period in India, and India’s relationship with the global system. Offered occasionally.

420 Sociology through Literature  Sociology has long sought scientific status. In the process, it has tended to squeeze out the human and personal from its vocabulary and methods. This course is designed to tackle the crucial questions of sociology by approaching them through an examination of works of literature (for novelists are often excellent microsociologists) and through personal social histories to try and arrive at the abstract and theoretical aspects of sociology from the personal and concrete. The unifying theme of the course is emancipation. This course is conducted in seminar format requiring extensive class participation.

481 Special Topics  This seminar involves an in-depth examination of selected topics in anthropology and/or sociology. A different topic is selected by faculty each time it is offered. Relevant theory and current research are examined. Students are responsible for research papers and presentations under close supervision of the faculty. May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.

490 Senior Thesis  In this capstone course students bring together their previous conceptual, theoretical, and empirical knowledge and
skills in sociology and anthropology in order to propose and ultimately answer a social-scientific research question. Much of the work is done independently while under the supervision of the thesis instructor. 

Prerequisites: SOAN 101, 102, 295 or 296, 298, 299, 301. Section A offered only Fall semester and must be combined with SOAN 491. Section B offered only in spring semester.

491 Senior Research Seminar In this capstone course students bring together their previous conceptual, theoretical, and empirical knowledge and skills in sociology and anthropology in order to propose and ultimately answer a social-scientific research question. Much of the work is done independently while under the supervision of the thesis instructor. 

Prerequisite: SOAN 490.

494 Research Assistantship Conducting original, independent research is central to the experience of the Sociology and Anthropology major. This activity credit course pairs a student with a SOAN professor to collaborate on a sociological or anthropological research project in progress. In the capacity of research assistant, the student contributes to the project through tasks that may include interviewing, interview transcription, survey administration, data indexing, data summary, bibliographic research and literature review, data coding, data input, and research briefs. Specific details for each project will be specified in a written proposal prepared by the student and professor and approved by the department chair. The proposal will (a) articulate the nature and aims of the research project; (b) set forth the terms of the work to be undertaken by the student; and (c) identify the desired research skills and objectives to be pursued. At the end of the semester, the student prepares a written summary of the experience, reflecting on skills obtained, challenges faced, knowledge acquired, and experiences gained through the assistantship. 

Prerequisites: SOAN 101 and 102 and instructor permission. Pass/fail only.

495/496 Independent Study

497 Internship In this seminar students examine theoretical issues surrounding work or volunteerism in areas relevant to sociology and cultural anthropology while drawing from a field experience. Students do not need an internship placement at the time of registration but must have one by the start of the course. 

Prerequisite: shortly after registration students must meet with the instructor and an internship coordinator from Career and Employment Services for assistance in locating a placement.

498 Internship Tutorial Students who enroll in this course work with a faculty member in the Sociology and Anthropology Department to develop an individualized learning plan that connects the actual internship site experience to study in the major. The learning plan will include required reading, writing assignments, as well as a culminating project or paper. 

Prerequisite: approval of tutorial professor and the Internship Coordinator.