

**Semester at Sea
Fall 2007
FINAL COURSE LISTING**

SEMS 101: Global Studies

Professors: Carroll McKibbin, Director

Jeanne Ballentine, Associate Director ([Syllabus](#) - 19 Kb PDF)

Global Studies is an interdisciplinary course that focuses on the countries visited and is tailored especially to meet the global and comparative approach of Semester at Sea. In addition to providing basic information about the countries on the itinerary, Global Studies also provides a meaningful framework by which to compare data, examine issues, and develop concepts. Participants learn how to understand cultural and social phenomena with which they are constantly coming into contact during the semester and to highlight both commonalities and differences from one society to another. Global Studies equips participants with observational and analytical skills for encountering societies different from their own, and different from each other, a key factor in facilitating the integration of class work and field work for all courses.

ANTH 101Z: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Ruth Krulfeld ([Syllabus](#) - 52 Kb PDF)

This course will help students understand universals among human beings as well as the range and diversity of social organizations, beliefs, behavior, and values through examination of cultural differences by means of lectures, readings, and particularly students' observations and experiences in different areas of the world on this voyage. Students will learn what anthropologists do, the questions they ask, and how they conduct field research, i.e., anthropological theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of other societies. We will explore how different cultures address and solve common human problems, for example, why individualism is important in some societies and disvalued in others, how kinship relationships, systems of marriage, and religious beliefs vary, and how human rights are conceptualized. We will examine the reasons for culture shock and ethnocentrism, seek cross-cultural similarities, and study the affects of globalization on diversity. We will seek answers to critical current world problems in the context of anthropological knowledge and the experience gained on this voyage. Special attention will be paid to countries we visit, and students will gain field experience in doing brief projects of relevance to the course in at least three of these different societies. This course has significance for students in many different disciplines. Evaluation will be based on class attendance; a journal; two exams; two field projects; and a paper based on FDPs or independent studies in three countries. No Prerequisites.

ANTH 340Z: Field Methods in Cultural Anthropology

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Ruth Krulfeld ([Syllabus](#) - 59 Kb PDF)

This course is designed to enable students to take advantage of the unusual opportunity to gain direct experience in conducting anthropological field work in the different countries with diverse cultures that we will visit on this voyage around the world, while obtaining guidance and direction in class. The voyage offers the opportunity for cross-cultural comparison and analysis of the field projects that

students will conduct. Daily life aboard the ship also offers the chance to practice observation, gaining rapport, participant observation, note-taking, interviewing, conducting focus groups, designing questionnaires, and other techniques used in field research. Students will learn ways of handling research problems that may arise in the course of their field work. The close contact this experience affords allows students to learn from each others' successes and mistakes in conducting their research. The relationships between theoretical approaches, methodologies, techniques, and data will be addressed. Students will learn to record and analyze their data, and effectively communicate their research in writing. In addition to projects conducted on the ship and in different countries, students will choose a topic for research through FDPs or independent in-port study in three different countries. Methods of evaluation consist of class attendance, preparation, participation, and timely submission of assignments; two quizzes on readings and lectures; a journal; short papers on class projects; and a short paper and class presentation based on FDPs or independent field work in different countries. No Prerequisites.

ANTH 380Z: Special Topics in Cultural Anthropology: Population Displacement and Resettlement: Immigrants, Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Migrant Workers

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Ruth Krulfeld ([Syllabus](#) - 79 Kb PDF)

To understand the world today, it is crucial to know how complex local and global forces produce and respond to population movements and resettlement. Increasingly, as a result of ethnic violence, economic development, environmental disasters, and social, religious, and political pressures, large populations have been displaced and internally or externally resettled in temporary havens and new homelands. Such migrants often maintain contact with places of origin, sometimes traveling back and forth over ever more permeable national boundaries. The study of such population movements has impelled us to rethink our concepts of refugees, immigrants, ethnic identity and nationalism. This course will explore issues of power, human rights, transnationalism, and globalism through examining the root causes of population upheavals, forced and elective migration, adaptation to new homelands, reception by hosts, and the dynamics of rapid culture change. It addresses some of the most difficult, challenging, and interesting global problems of the twenty-first century. Evaluation is based on class attendance, preparation, participation; a paper comparing FDPs or independent studies in three countries; a journal; two class role-playing projects; and two exams. No Prerequisites.

ANTH 282: Archaeology of Hierarchy: Ancient Polities, States and Cities

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Patricia Wattenmaker ([Syllabus](#) - 28 Kb PDF)

This course focuses on the rise and collapse of ancient state, and urban societies. We will examine the development of the earliest state societies in various parts of the world, including many of the places we will be visiting. Case studies include Hawaiian chiefdoms, and state societies of China, the Indus Valley, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Turkey and the Maya Lowlands. Archaeological and textual evidence together document the establishment of the first villages at the end of the Ice Age, the emergence of social inequalities, the origins of the first state and urban societies, and their periodic collapse. Topics discussed include the problematic concept of "civilization," the origins of agriculture and its impact on social life, the shift from

egalitarian societies to those with social ranking, the establishment of cities, the origins of poverty, the beginnings of writing, and the collapse of complex societies.

ANTH 386: The Social Life of Goods and Materials

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Patricia Wattenmaker ([Syllabus](#) - 23 Kb PDF)

Drawing on theoretical works in the social sciences, archaeological case studies, and anthropological studies of modern peoples, this course examines the diverse ways that cultures have used materials and goods to create and transform their worlds. The course takes an inclusive view of material culture that considers settlements, houses, burials and shrines, as well as objects. We consider how the productive context, exchange of goods, physical properties of materials, and their cultural uses endows them with spiritual and social meanings. Topics covered include the use of goods in negotiating social relations, the circulation of goods, gifts and commodities, craft production as ritual, bodies as objects, body adornment, dress, gender and identity, and consumption and globalization. Archaeological examples highlight the role of tradition in the uses of durable goods over generations and across space, providing significant theoretical insights into how goods are infused with social meanings. Ethnographic cases allow us to consider more perishable goods and provide richer documentation of the social roles of goods in the daily lives of people. A cross-cultural perspective that draws on the social uses of goods in the parts of the world we will be visiting furthers our understanding of how goods lacking in intrinsic value take on powerful social meanings.

There are no prerequisites. The course is designed for students with an interest in anthropology, archaeology, economics, art history or related fields.

ANTH 399: Politics of the Past

Subject: Anthropology

Professor Patricia Wattenmaker ([Syllabus](#) - 23 Kb PDF)

In most societies, their histories form an integral component of cultural identity. This makes archaeology, which seeks to construct and understand the past of cultures and regions, deeply meaningful to modern populations. Moreover, archaeological findings often have bearing on modern political issues such as conflicting land claims. Drawing on case studies from the countries we will visit, we will examine how and why societies continually reshape their own histories of as well as the histories of their neighbors. We will also consider how archaeologists' own cultural biases regarding race, gender and class have impacted the ways that the past is portrayed in films, museum exhibits, fiction and scholarly literature. Topics such as museums and nationalism in Japan, the uses of archaeology to fuel or diffuse conflicts in places such as Sri Lanka and India, the emphasis on pre-Islamic cultures in Egyptian archaeology, forensic archaeology and excavation of mass graves, the looting of the Iraq museum, debates surrounding the excavation of burials and repatriation of cultural remains (such as the return of the Lydian treasure to Turkey), and the recent interest in slave quarters of early American plantations serve to highlight some of the ways that the past and present intersect and the impact modern politics has on the way archaeologists work.

No pre-requisites. This course will be of particular interest to students of anthropology, archaeology, art history, history, political science, or law.

ARCH 331: Basic Science of Architecture

Subject: Architecture

Professor Doris Wilsdorf ([Syllabus](#) - 391 Kb PDF)

Except for the purely artistic and aesthetic, all architecture depends on the basic laws of nature and their more or less skillful use. In terms of the strength and stability of structures, the critical advances have been made over millennia and have spread worldwide. These are exemplified by structures that shall be visited in the course of SAS, most notably the Egyptian Pyramids of ~3000 BC (establishing knowledge of the "angle of repose", the steepest slope of large mechanically assembled stone structures), the Great Wall of China (beginning about 300 BC), the contemporary development of the Roman arch (used for constructing large aqueducts and buildings, e.g. the Coliseum), followed not much later by large domes (e.g. the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul). The Gothic arch developed about 1000 AD underlies all "gothic" cathedrals e.g. in Rangoon and most lately the Washington cathedral. The most recent great advance in the strength of architectural structures is the widespread use of reinforced concrete in sky scrapers and more recently yet that of metal and glass that dominates high-rise construction in modern cities, e.g. among those to be visited Kobe, Qingdao, Hong Kong, Chennai, Ho Chi Minh City, Alexandria, Istanbul and Cadiz. Similarly consequential are (i) indoor water supplies (extending back to antiquity but nowadays enormously expanded through electrical pumping) and (ii) of elevators to transport people and goods through great heights, without which residential housing is limited to about five stories. Electricity is also critically important for all types of appliances and electronics, and similarly for building construction. However, the most important architectural aspect of our SAS voyage is "insolation", i.e. heating through sun light. Empirical measures for its control and thus to keep indoor spaces cool, date back millennia, but decisively effective has been the development of indoor climate control through forced ventilation, heat pumps and refrigeration. Thus insolation and modern as well as traditional measures for its control will be a focal point during SAS. Another very important aspect of architecture relevant to basic science is illumination. This was transformed through electric lighting that now permits "nightlife", while our forebears had to retire at night fall. And regrettably not yet well enough understood by U.S. architects is indoor acoustics and noise control. As a result U.S. hotels, for example, are acoustically inferior to the average European hotel. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

ARTH 105Z World Art: Traditions and Interactions

Subject: Art History

Professor Ralph Croizier ([Syllabus](#) - 33 Kb PDF)

This is an introductory course on world art taught from a non Western perspective. The voyage itinerary dictates this as much as the instructor's background in Chinese cultural history. Only at the end of the voyage will we encounter the western tradition after we have traveled through the modern countries that were, and in some ways, still are repositories of the world's other great cultural traditions-the East Asian, the South/SE Asian, and the Islamic. By then the students should be able to place European art in a more global and comparative context. We will not entirely ignore the art and culture of other peoples, the minority traditions within or on the margins of the 'great civilizations' and cultures in other parts of the world, but the overwhelming emphasis will be on the civilizations of the Eurasian ecumene and their interactions. We will relate the art to its social, political, and cultural context by

considering broad thematic areas such as religion and cultural continuity, rulership and political integration, patronage and social status, gender roles and their depiction. No Prerequisites.

ARTH 205Z: Art and Revolution

Subject: Art History

Professor Ralph Croizier ([Syllabus](#) - 52 Kb PDF)

This is a crossover or interdisciplinary course combining art history and comparative political history. It will start with an analysis of the "life cycle" of the three great social- political revolutions of modern times-the French, Russian, and Chinese. After China, we will consider other variations of Marxist led revolutions, especially Vietnam and Yugoslavia (Croatia), countries which are on our itinerary. We will pay particular attention to how, in all these cases, the revolutionary leadership consciously used art for political mobilization and ideological indoctrination . We will also trace the general pattern of how styles and purpose of art changed during the different stages of each revolution. Because not all 20th century political art and revolutions were Marxist, and a majority of our port stops are in countries that did not try Communism, we will also consider nationalistic, anti-colonial revolutions (India, Burma, Egypt) and examples of nationalistic, but not radical art under more conservative regimes in Japan, Turkey , and Spain. The latter, of course, also provides some examples of the early, heroic stage of revolution with the leftist art of the Civil war period. In sum, it is an interdisciplinary course on how art, mainly visual art with a few side glances at cinema and other media, has been both an expression of political ideologies and an instrument to affect their goals. Suggested Prerequisites: None specifically, but it is desirable that the student has some background in history, art history, or political science.

SEMS 285: Astronomy

Professor Monty Elliott ([Syllabus](#) - 19 Kb PDF)

Astronomy, the oldest of the natural sciences, has played a major role in revealing the basic laws of the natural sciences. Astronomy laid the foundation of the calendar, navigation, and the scientific method of investigation. Lectures and assigned readings will introduce the student to the historical development and recent discoveries of this most active branch of science. The contributions of various cultures to the lore of astronomy will receive special emphasis. Liberal use of graphic diagrams will illustrate difficult concepts. The student will gain insight into how the present model of the cosmos has evolved. The body of knowledge comprising astronomy has been collected from many cultures over thousands of years. In addition to classroom activities, students will learn to visually identify the most important stars, planets, and constellations. Suggested Prerequisite: One year of lower division science.

COMM 369: International Strategy

Subject: Commerce/Business

Professor Stephen Preece ([Syllabus](#) - 60 Kb PDF)

This course addresses advanced topics in international strategic management. It assumes basic knowledge in the principles of strategy, and international business principles, and delves into the deeper intricacies of managing for global success. The format will alternate between discussions of articles/readings, and in-depth case

analyses. Participants will emerge with a deeper understanding of the management challenges inherent in formulating and implementing international business strategies. Emphasis will be placed on achieving an appropriate strategic fit between the resources, organizational forms, and management preferences as specifically applied to the international environment. Cases (focusing on the countries encountered on the voyage) are intended to capture some of the richness and inherent complexities of international strategy, and emphasize the process of crafting management decisions in the global context. Suggested Pre-requisites: Strategic Management, Introduction to International Business.

COMM 384: International Business Context

Subject: Commerce/Business

Professor Stephen Preece ([Syllabus](#) - 114 Kb PDF)

This course addresses the challenges associated with the formulation and implementation of business strategy in the global context. Emphasis is placed on the economic, political, cultural and ethical factors confronting firms doing business across borders. At the end of this course students should understand key concepts (entry modes, government intervention, economic integration, cultural dimensions, and collaboration) necessary for business management in the global context. Specific examples will be drawn from the countries visited in the SAS voyage and the businesses operating there. Students will be required to formulate and implement a negotiations strategy within the context of a complex simulation involving governments, multinational corporations, and host-country firms. Suggested Pre-requisites: Fundamentals of Business Management.

COMM 460: Exploring Globalization Through Contemporary Texts and Film

Subject: Commerce/Business

Professor Stephen Preece ([Syllabus](#) - 116 Kb PDF)

This course addresses current topics in globalization, focusing on the role of business in the international context. Inherently interdisciplinary, major globalization themes include: technology, media, political influence, environment, economic integration, wealth/income disparity, cultural homogenization, and development. Current texts and documentary films will serve as access points for understanding and evaluating some of the most vexing challenges for firms and individual managers as they interact within the global business environment. Individual short business cases will be incorporated throughout, maintaining the managerial perspective on globalization. Suggested Pre-requisite: Introduction to International Business.

SEMS 107: Theories of Interpersonal Communication

Subject: Communications

Professor Tim Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 53 Kb PDF)

This course will examine factors involved in sending and receiving messages in interpersonal relationships and how those factors can lead to miscommunication. After examining several theories and understanding how they help in modeling the process, we will explore perspectives offering insight into interpersonal communication. Of special interest will be culture and all that it comprises. We will also examine the connections between the structure of language and the structure of thought to become aware of interpersonal problems created by unexamined attitudes toward language and its use. Students will analyze types of misevaluation in their

language habits and develop measures to correct these patterns of miscommunication. Prerequisites: None

SEMS 154: Feature Writing

Subject: Communications

Professor Lynne Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 36 Kb PDF)

We will study feature writing as a unique approach to journalism. The course looks at the most common forms of news features. The course objective is to teach students to write media features. Students will learn to analyze feature stories; recognize, develop and "pitch" feature article ideas; locate appropriate outlets for feature stories; write for daily and weekly newspapers, magazines, and online sites. We will discuss news interviews, observation, and other reporting skills as they are used in feature writing. We will discuss story research, story planning, and the art of story telling in non-fiction. The course will give students an opportunity to write several different types of features. Students will write human interest features, news features, seasonal features, how-to features, profiles, and travel features. Special emphasis will be placed on travel features. An objective of the course is to encourage students to publish their work as free-lance writers for commercial publications. Students will take advantage of unique field reporting opportunities during the semester and will write assignments focusing on diverse cultures and lifestyles, history, people, and places. Suggested Prerequisites: A basic news writing and/or news reporting class will be helpful in this course.

SEMS 105: International Communications

Subject: Communications

Professor Lynne Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 22 Kb PDF)

This course will examine the theories, problems, and controversies associated with mass communication throughout the world, with a special emphasis on the nations and regions we will be visiting during our voyage. We will discuss the difficulties of international and Intercultural communication, issues of press freedom, law and ethics, propaganda, information flow within and between nations, and marketing communications in the print and broadcast media. We will look at the relationship between the media and national development. Comparisons will be drawn between communications in advancing non-Western nations and systems of advanced nations of the United States and Western Europe. Prerequisites: None

SEMS 108: Communication Styles

Subject: Communications

Professor Lynne Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 39 Kb PDF)

This course surveys the nature, processes, and consequences of communication between individuals and groups from different cultures and subcultures. We will discuss the important role of context (historical, social, geographical and cultural) in interactions. The topics and activities are designed to develop communication skills that improve competence in intercultural situations, particularly focusing on communication customs, gestures, and communication styles of the countries visited on the voyage. Students will develop a better understanding of their own culture and its influences and its impact upon the people and places we encounter on our voyage. Prerequisites: None.

DRAM 492Z-4: Introduction to Theatre Studies

Subject: Drama

Professor Kevin Doyle ([Syllabus](#) - 111 Kb PDF)

The purpose of Introduction to Theatre Studies is to increase students' understanding, appreciation, and critical perceptions of the theatrical event. Lectures and discussions will focus on the elements of theatrical practice; artists and innovators of theatre throughout history; and on the theatre's development as an art form and a social phenomenon; participation in class forum discussions and sharing of critiques and short reports will offer avenues to explore students' individual theatrical interests; and attendance at theatrical events will offer first-hand experience in the unique theatre artistry of countries on our itinerary. This course will introduce universal theatre practices with theories in all areas of production (writing/directing/acting/designing). Lectures with discussions will introduce the unique theatre history and forms of all countries visited. Suggested Pre-requisites: No prerequisites.

DRAM 492Z-5: Introduction to Political Theatre

Subject: Drama

Professor Kevin Doyle ([Syllabus](#) - 22 Kb PDF)

The study of drama from historical to contemporary dramas and comedies for analysis of plot, theme, character, language, ideas and staging. The final project is an original script to be presented to the class (read by members of the class) which will include, among others, the elements mentioned above. Focus will be on political plays. The greatest political drama, now and throughout history, presents a work that has an idea based on a solid understanding of the very position they oppose. The best plays that deal with racism, for example, leave an audience believing that they, too, are potentially just as racist. The best political and social theatre occurs when good and evil are knotted together. While some might argue that the arts are inherently political in the broader context this course will focus on direct political and political/social issues relevant to not only the U.S. but, as much as possible, the countries visited on the SAS voyage. The works studied will be viewed not only as commentary but intended by the playwrights as activism. How is theatre a tool for political activism? Can theatre be effective in the political arena? No suggested prerequisites.

DRAM 492Z-6: Modern Acting Techniques

Subject: Drama

Professor Kevin Doyle ([Syllabus](#) - 22 Kb PDF)

The Modern Acting class will explore the evolution of Acting in the 20th Century up to the present. By understanding this evolution actors will realize the social issues that surrounded a particular theatrical movement, the ideas that were present during the writing of a play and its production, and the methods applied by the actors at the time. As we discuss and explore this evolution we will experience as best we can the changes that occurred and the theoretical shifts from generation to generation. After an overview with some exercises, we will introduce the Meisner Technique and spend the majority of time with The Viewpoints. An introduction to the theater history and practices of each port country will be given and experiences will be incorporated into our work. The course will culminate with original short productions (developed with The Viewpoints) based on work in class, productions seen in ports and other

experiences from the countries we visit. Suggested Prerequisite: This is an upper-division performance course so at least an Acting 1 class is required.

ECON 227: Macroeconomic Issues of Globalization

Subject: Economics

Professor Charles R. Britton ([Syllabus](#) - 21 Kb PDF)

Macroeconomic Issues of Globalization deals first with a development of macroeconomic principles. Once these macroeconomic principles are mastered then analysis of the global economy can be undertaken. Macroeconomics is the study of how all economic systems perform. Theoretical explanations of short-run problems and unemployment and inflation are analyzed. The long run problem of economic growth is also addressed. Macroeconomic analysis of the domestic economy can also be applied to the global economy. The problems of economic development of developing economies and transitional economies can be analyzed using macroeconomic principles. The impact of international trade upon the domestic economy is easily analyzed with a basic understanding of economic principles. Globalization is another element of the overall macroeconomic issues to be studied. No Prerequisites.

ECON 225: Introduction to Money and Banking

Subject: Economics

Professor Charles R. Britton ([Syllabus](#) - 19 Kb PDF)

The field of Money, Banking and Financial Markets has never been more interesting. Financial innovation and deregulation of financial institutions have created major changes in the domestic financial landscape. At the same time geopolitical considerations have produced changes in the international financial structure. This course analyzes how the economy is affected by financial institutions and markets. The economic policies conducted by the Federal Reserve System will be examined to determine the effects upon the domestic economy (economic growth, unemployment, and inflation) as well as the international economy (exchange rates, and balance of payments). Suggested Prerequisite: Principles of Economics.

ECON 226: Introduction to International Trade

Subject: Economics

Professor Charles R. Britton ([Syllabus](#) - 19 Kb PDF)

Economies of the world are becoming increasingly interdependent upon each other. Even a large diversified economy like that of the United States is not isolated from international policies and politics. The recent technological advances are even changing the pattern of comparative advantage in the global economy. While barriers to foreign trade are lower than at any time in history, trade blocs like the European Community and the North American Free Trade Agreement are developing in all regions of the world. This course will address the relevant issues of international trade and finance including balance of payments, exchange rates, trade barriers, international capital flows, the theory of comparative advantage, and gains from specialization and trade. These topics will become all the more interesting when discussed in the context of politics and culture of the different countries visited this semester. Suggested Prerequisite: Principles of Economics.

PLIR 2052: International Political Economy

Subject: Politics/Economics

Professor Ellen Fitzpatrick ([Syllabus](#) - 45 Kb PDF)

This course is an introduction to the broad structures and processes of the contemporary international political economy (IPE). The course analyzes the dynamic intersection of global economics and politics examining the historical and current behavior of states and markets. The course includes an introduction to the basic theoretical paradigms in (IPE), including the liberal, economic nationalist, structuralist, and feminist perspectives and uses these frameworks to explore how asymmetric power between rich and poor countries affect the process and outcomes of globalization. No prerequisites.

SEMS 363: Poverty, Disease and the Environment

Subject: Economics

Professor Ellen Fitzpatrick ([Syllabus](#) - 48 Kb PDF)

This course examines the interrelationships between poverty, disease and the environment by exploring the health and environmental effects of global and national economic policies that are often promoted by the wealthy countries and global multilaterals and sustained by poor countries. Students will gain an understanding of the multiple interactions among humans, the environment, microorganisms, and other causes of disease, as well as skills in the critical thinking and the analysis of data from a variety of sources. Students will assess and propose policies using the yardstick of health and environmental sustainability. Prerequisites: lower division social science class.

PLCP 300Z: The Political Economy of Conflict and Terrorism

Subject: Politics/Economics

Professor Ellen Fitzpatrick ([Syllabus](#) - 56 Kb PDF)

This course develops a political and economic framework for understanding the complex roots to conflict. It builds on this foundation to explore the systematic changes observed in the global political economy that may contribute to conflict and terrorism; growing inequality of income, increasing inability to meet basic needs, and changes in the role of the state. Several social science theories of conflict are also explored including economic grievance, the kleptocratic state, control of resources, and military and humanitarian interventions. The latter part of the course focuses specifically on terrorism; how terrorism is defined, why it emerges at specific times, the objectives of terrorist organizations and the methods used to counter terrorist activities in various parts of the world. The conflicts in the Middle East in the last 3 decades are used as a case study. Suggested Prerequisites: introductory social science class.

SEMS 165: Natural History of the Earth

Subject: Environmental Science

Professor Nancy Muleady-Mecham ([Syllabus](#) - 39 Kb PDF)

Natural history is a term used infrequently in biological circles, but it is common among people who interact with nature. Natural history encompasses the night sky, climate and weather, paleontology and geology, plants, animals, and all other kingdoms of life. Natural history reflects the curiosity of humanity in the world

around us and how it functions, can be utilized, and be enjoyed. This course will explore the best of the planet as we learn how to become naturalists. We will learn constellations and the lore of the night sky, seine fish in the ocean and explore the tiny phytoplankton. We will explore the ring of fire and its relationship with volcanoes and earthquakes. Asian fossils will introduce us to early man. Our binoculars will help us to learn the art of bird and animal watching. Plant identification and its uses from construction to medicine will give way to the desert's hidden wonders and so much more. This is a class that will start or reinforce your joy and wonder of planet earth. But it will also alert you to the innumerable threats to life on earth. Much of the reading will identify threats to planet earth and its natural history, and will hopefully invoke appreciation and provoke protection of this precious globe. Suggested Prerequisites: Students with an insatiable curiosity and spirit of adventure, coupled with a love of nature, will thoroughly enjoy this course. A pair of lightweight binoculars is highly recommended. A hand lens and 2 magnifier boxes are also useful.

SEMS 167: Ecosystems, Biodiversity, and Conservation

Subject: Environmental Science/Biology

Professor Nancy Muleady-Mecham ([Syllabus](#) - 48 Kb PDF)

From the oceans to the sky, planet earth is full of life. All life is dependent on other life and components. These dependencies and interactions have developed over time and space and form unique biological entities known as ecosystems. Natural ecosystems can be found to include hot vents thousands of feet below the ocean, tide pools, shorelines, deserts, forests, subalpine, alpine areas, and more. Students will receive a basic review of biology to build a common foundation to explore the ecosystems of the world. Words like biome, niche, and habitat will expand our vocabulary and understanding of the ecology of interactions between occupants of ecosystems. Students will learn about specific occupants of these ecosystems, from unicellular life to vertebrates, fungi, plants and more. The diversity of life in each ecosystem will be studied and compared from country to country. Areas on earth where high biodiversity occurs with species that are endangered are called hotspots. Hotspots, threats to habitats that make up these ecosystems, as well as threats to plant and animal occupants will be determined. A global perspective of air, water and ground pollution will be addressed in detail, especially through reading assignments. Solutions to these threats through education and conservation interventions will be discussed. Suggested Pre-requisites: This course is suggested for anyone who would like to learn about the incredible diversity of habitats on planet earth, the occupants of those habitats, and conservation efforts to maintain healthy ecosystems globally. There are no prerequisites, but a keen interest in learning and exploring are requirements.

MDST 261Z: Genders and Sexualities in World Cinema

Subject: Film Studies

Professor Mike Budd ([Syllabus](#) - 41 Kb PDF)

This course explores a variety of representations of genders and sexualities in films from countries we are visiting this semester as well as films about those countries made by filmmakers from other cultures. In addition to these cross-cultural analyses, we'll compare the ways that different filmic modes (classical narrative fiction, documentary, and art cinema) mediate social formations of gender and sexuality. What can we learn about genders and sexualities in these countries and cultures

through the films? What are the dominant, residual and emergent constructions of gender and sexuality in the films? Films usually reproduce and naturalize (make natural) dominant ideologies and social practices, but they can also challenge, presenting radical alternatives to entrenched patriarchies and compulsory heterosexuality, advancing social change for women and sexual minorities. In this course we will explore some of the complexities of these processes through close analysis of films and film excerpts and consideration of historical and social conditions, including the specific situations of film production, distribution and exhibition/viewing in the countries we are visiting. Suggested Prerequisites: At least one course in film studies.

MDST 260Z: Hollywood and the World

Subject: Film Studies

Professor Mike Budd ([Syllabus](#) - 41 Kb PDF)

Hollywood dominates film (and television) markets in most countries of the world. Many outside the U.S. decry this global Hollywood hegemony and work to protect their national cinema industries, but conventional wisdom suggests that audiences almost everywhere prefer American movies. Is this situation the result of cultural and economic imperialism, part of a history of colonial and neo-colonial domination, or is it the workings of free markets? Does Hollywood's control of screens around the globe produce a deracinated and hypercommercial mass culture that isolates people from their national and indigenous self-representations - or does it bring everyone together in a digital global village of movies, TV and video games? In this course these larger issues will constitute a conceptual framework for more concrete analyses of a variety of films and film excerpts from the countries we will visit this term. We will use approaches from the social sciences, arts and humanities to understand and compare a wide variety of film representations coming from Hollywood, the country represented, or other nations. Suggested Prerequisites: At least one course in film studies.

MDST 160Z: Introduction to World Cinema

Subject: Film Studies

Professor Mike Budd ([Syllabus](#) - 45 Kb PDF)

This course introduces you to the close analysis, cultural interpretation and global diversity of film as an artistic, social and industrial medium. Using a wide variety of films and film excerpts from around the world, virtually all from countries we'll be visiting this semester, we will develop and apply concepts of national and transnational cinema, realism and modernism, form, style, genre, ideology, and culture. In addition we will focus on specific kinds of film techniques such as mise en scene, cinematography, editing and sound. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

SEMS 272: Cultural Geography

Subject: Geography

Professor Robert Cecil ([Syllabus](#) - 64 Kb PDF)

This course is field driven and is concerned with the role of humans in changing the landscapes of planet earth. It focuses on the cultural differences that are evident in the application of technologies in the pursuit of human survival. It is also concerned with the approaches used throughout time in geography; and other social sciences; to study and analyze human domination over the planet, and the resulting cross-

cultural interactions. The vast and eclectic subject matter is examined across a spectrum of scales, from the micro to the macro; using a variety of methodological and philosophical approaches. In turn, the latter are dissected historically, in order to trace the evolution of thinking in the discipline. The course is also an overview of the evolution of the ideas, concepts and theories used to explain the current major cultural geographical patterns on the planet. There are many controversies in approaches, methods and interpretations; and these must be examined objectively. Consequently, a dialectic method is used to present different viewpoints; and to allow students to draw conclusions based on their own critical thinking skills. Of necessity, we strive to understand how our interpretations are clouded by our own cultural attributes, such as: preconceptions, perceptions, biases and values (or lack of them). There is an attempt to incorporate ideas from non-English-speaking writers and we venture into philosophical discussions within limits. We focus on both traditional and non-traditional subject matter; with examples and case studies tailored to the countries to be visited. Prerequisites: An introductory course in general geography or sociology; or any other social science subject; would be an asset. However, there is no mandatory prerequisite.

SEMS 270: Geography of the Cities of the World

Subject: Geography/Urban Studies

Professor Robert Cecil ([Syllabus](#) - 59 Kb PDF)

This course examines the cities of the world, ranging in size from small island capitals to world giants, such as New York, London and Tokyo. The course shows the nature and functions of the component parts of cities, selecting a different component for in depth study in each city. In addition, the different types of world cities are explained, with a strong focus on primate cities of the developing world. Global and in-country historical events are used to analyze and explain the creation and evolution of cities, and the overall human conditions as they exist today. The lectures will examine the range and variation of the human condition in the cities of the world. Specific features, of human activities, that dominate specific cultural areas will be emphasized. The most widely recognized cities in different cultural areas will be examined in some local detail, as deeply as time permits. Other lesser known cities will also be looked at, more superficially. Concepts, models, physical and human characteristics and critical issues will be introduced throughout the lectures. The course covers the very basic nature of cities across the world. It is about morphology (what they are like) and physiology (how they operate and what problems they face). The course has a very strong sociology focus. Human geography and sociology are intertwined, and that relationship is emphasized strongly in this course. As the ship will visit specific cities, assignments will be designed to cover local aspects of urban "metabolism" from city to city. Prerequisites: An introductory course in general geography or sociology; or any other social science subject; would be an asset. However, there is no mandatory prerequisite.

SEMS 470: Population and Development: Asia and the Mediterranean

Subject: Geography

Professor Robert Cecil ([Syllabus](#) - 84 Kb PDF)

The methods and techniques of human geography and demography are combined to focus on the issues of development in Asia and parts of the Mediterranean. The course is grounded in the spatial concepts of human geography, and recognizes the

importance of scale along with human and environmental heterogeneity in establishing similarities and differences in the population geography of the vast region. The demographic transition model is used as a fundamental conceptual framework for the analysis of economic development, which is intertwined with, and examined within, all other forms of human development. The course will examine relationships between populations and their economic development and: food, agriculture, the environment, education, health, gender, urbanization, migration and family planning. The course begins by examining Asia and the Mediterranean, population and development, in that order; as separate sets of elements: then, the three sets will be intertwined to examine the relationships between population and other key variables, at different scales. The latter will range from the local, in the form of case studies, "up the ladder" to the national; we shall also examine our phenomena regionally. Although population and development are our main concern, we shall branch out to examine some of the key factors "in that equation" in as much depth as possible. We shall use reprints from issues of journals as a text; striving to use current articles. And we shall discuss the contents of the course reprints, on a weekly basis. We shall use the contents of that material as points of departure to study conceptual frameworks, methods of analysis, quality of data and the pitfalls inherent in the analysis of geography, demography and development. We shall use a general social science text for background. Critical thinking is encouraged, along with reflections on the nature and reliability of the data that we use, and the conclusions that we draw. At all times we shall keep the constraints of cross-cultural interpretations foremost in our deliberations. Prerequisites: At least one course in a social science.

SEMS 166: Physical Geology

Subject: Geology

Professor Monty Elliott ([Syllabus](#) - 19 Kb PDF)

This is a non-laboratory first course in physical geology. Course emphasis is placed on natural processes and mineral and energy resources. All topics are abundantly illustrated and explained. Geologic principles are linked to the geographic and cultural characteristics of each country on the itinerary. The primary course objective is to give the student scientific principles to tie cultural characteristics and human history to geology. An additional objective is to impart an appreciation and understanding of the natural processes and products characterizing our environment. No prerequisites.

SEMS 363: Oceanography

Subject: Geology

Professor Monty Elliott ([Syllabus](#) - 20 Kb PDF)

This introductory course provides a short overview of our reasons for studying the ocean. Discussion covers our need to better understand the effects of economic activities such as fishing (Japan) and petroleum exploitation; the close relationship between physical and biological aspects of the marine environment that exists in marine ecology; the interactions between the atmosphere and the ocean as they relate to climate, ocean waves, and currents; and the effects of disposing of our wastes in the ocean. Objectives of the course include developing an appreciation for the intricate inter-relationships of the natural sciences in the oceans. Students will learn how the oceans affect food, transportation, and climatic control around the world. Geographic features of the ocean will be taught via outline maps and wall

maps. Students will relate classroom principles to shore excursions in visited countries. Suggested Prerequisite: One year of lower division science.

SEMS 217: Explorers, Missionaries and Traders: Travelers and World History, 1400-1850

Professor Tom Taylor ([Syllabus](#) - 41 Kb PDF)

This course examines the role that early modern travelers played both as historical actors and commentators in the early modern world. Travelers have always been important actors in history. They have been crucial agents in cross-cultural contact and communication, carry values and ideas around the globe. They have been carriers of plants, animals, diseases and genes that have reshaped the physical and cultural world. Finally, they have been important historical reporters, their tales of their journals and travels shaping much of our historical understanding of world history. The course will be organized geographically to take advantage of the unique opportunities provided by Semester at Sea. Travelers will be chosen to highlight key historical themes in the areas we will be visiting. We will examine their writings to understand both the ways they shaped history and the ways their writings shape our understanding of the past. Finally, we will take advantage of the fact that we will be sailing many of the routes taken by these travelers to consider the role that the geography, climate and physical structures of lands and waters play in the history of the early modern world.

SEMS 218: The World at War, 1900-1950

Professor Tom Taylor ([Syllabus](#) - 42 Kb PDF)

This course will examine the global causes and impacts of World Wars I and II. Starting with an overview of the international situation in the late nineteenth century it will then focus on the growing problems of nationalism in Europe and the Ottoman Empire that led to the outbreak of war in 1914. The of WW I from European war to global conflict, the role that class, gender and race played in shaping the war and post-war worlds will also be considered. The first part of the course will conclude with an examination of the Peace of Paris and its meaning for the history of the twentieth century. The second half of the course will highlight the global impact of the Great Depression of the 1930s, the rise of authoritarian regimes, especially in Germany and Japan, and the brutal reality of war in Europe and Asia. The course will conclude with a look at the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan and the search for international peace amidst the chaos of 1945. Note: This course will be taught chronologically. Topics being covered in class may not correspond with port visits. However, this course will be taught in a way that it will raise important historical issues for all the ports of call being visited.

SEMS 323: Revolution, Rebellion and the Making of the Modern World, 1850-2000

Professor Tom Taylor ([Syllabus](#) - 40 Kb PDF)

This course will examine the role that revolutions and rebellions have played in shaping the modern world, 1850-2000. This course will be organized geographically in order to take advantage of the unique opportunities presented by Semester at Sea. Case studies of revolutions and rebellions from around the modern world will be used to develop a general theory of these historically critical events. Through field

study we will study the historical legacy of these revolutions and rebellions in the 21st century. No prerequisites.

SEMS 211: Global History Makers: Nationalism and the Modern World

Subject: History

Professor Augusto Espiritu ([Syllabus](#) - 56 Kb PDF)

While there is no doubt that common people are the "makers" of history, there is also no question that certain individuals have made an enormous impact, especially in ushering in vast parts of the world into the "modern," particularly in terms of building the nation-state, rallying ethnic nationalisms, and linking their countries to security alliances and transnational bodies, such as the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, or non-governmental organizations. This course will focus on the lives and selected writings of important leaders of the world, from the nineteenth century pioneers of modernization and cultural nationalism in Japan and Hawaii (the Meiji emperors and Queen Liliuokalani, respectively) to the complex nationalist figures of China, Vietnam, India, Egypt, Turkey, and the former Yugoslavia, including Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Ho Chi Minh, Mohandas K. Gandhi, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Kemal Ataturk, and Marshall Tito. The course will focus attention on the travel experiences that helped to create these leaders as cosmopolitan figures and will also include a critical examination of how these individuals have been made into heroes and heroines of the nation-state. Suggested Prerequisites: At least two lower division courses in history, social science, or humanities.

SEMS 219: A World in Movement: Transnational Histories of Migration

Subject: History

Professor Augusto Espirtu ([Syllabus](#) - 49 Kb PDF)

Immigrants are making daily news throughout much of the world and migration has become a widespread phenomenon of the twenty-first century. But global migrations have a long transnational history, rooted in capital expansion, colonization, and decolonization movements that long ago established patterns of movement and native resistance to immigration in various parts of the world. This course examines global migration, especially from the standpoint of labor migrants and women, from several perspectives: nineteenth century European migration into the Americas, the Chinese diaspora into Southeast Asia, and large-scale Asian migration into Hawaii; twentieth century Asian migration into Europe and the Middle East; and twenty-first century Asian and African migrations into Japan and Spain respectively. Besides reading about migrant oral histories and films, students will have an opportunity to learn oral history techniques themselves and will conduct interviews for their final project. Suggested Prerequisites: At least two lower division courses in history, social science, or humanities.

SEMS 325: American Empire

Subject: History

Professor Augusto Espiritu ([Syllabus](#) - 51 Kb PDF)

Few today doubt that the United States is an "empire," although many question what kind of empire it is and whether or not it is an "exceptional," "benevolent" empire or simply akin to any other exercise of imperial sovereignty in history. This course examines the making of the American imperium, arguing that the United States has been an empire from the beginning as a result of its European imperial origins and

just as importantly its territorial expansion by force, intimidation, purchase, or treaty at the expense of British, French, and Spanish Empires and non-Western peoples. After tracing the United States' territorial expansion in the North American continent and the Caribbean, the course examines the flashpoints of inter-imperial rivalry - Hawaii, Japan, China, & Hong Kong in the nineteenth century; South Asia and the Middle East in the twentieth century; and United States-European relations in the new millennium. The course will examine not only the US geo-strategic goals and American perspectives but also the perspectives of various conquered, colonized, or dependent peoples on US expansion, using primary source documents, literature, and film. Suggested Prerequisites: Limited to advanced undergraduates with upper-division history, social science, or humanities.

HIST 200Z: China in the Modern World

Subject: History

Professor Ralph Croizier ([Syllabus](#) - 34 Kb PDF)

This is a course on Modern Chinese History with an emphasis on the recent past since the death of Mao Zedong. Taking advantage of the unique opportunities offered by Semester at Sea's itinerary, much of the course will be taught as comparative history highlighting various aspects of China's historical experience by comparing them with developments in other Asian and non Asian countries. To provide some historical depth to this comparative approach, the first part of the course, up to and including our China stop, will provide a more conventional chronological survey of Modern Chinese History strongly emphasizing contact and interaction with the rest of the world. Taught only partly through lectures, the course will involve students in out of class group and individual learning. Suggested Prerequisites: Something on China, not necessarily history, would be helpful, but not essential.

LNGS 325: Introduction to Linguistics

Subject: Linguistics

Professor Marianne Cooley ([Syllabus](#) - 26 Kb PDF)

This introductory course in linguistics, the scientific study of human language, gives students the basic tools for analyzing language structure. The course covers basic phonetics and phonological analysis (sounds of language and their structure in specific languages), morphology (word formation), syntax (sentence structure), and semantics/pragmatics (meaning). It also surveys some of the major subdisciplines of modern linguistics. Major themes include the nature of human language and its use by humans for communication in society, appreciation of the diversity in human language, and awareness of language change and variability. Students will acquire basic skills in linguistic analysis and preparation for advanced courses in linguistics. Course activities will include lecture/discussion, videos, hands-on exercises, observations, and three exams.

LNGS 200T: Languages of the World: Impact of the Spread of Global English

Subject: Linguistics

Professor Marianne Cooley ([Syllabus](#) - 35 Kb PDF)

This course integrates surveys of the languages where we visit and the impact on them of the spread of global English. It describes relationships of languages through both genetic and typological classifications and gives some attention to writing systems. It further recounts the international spread of English caused by 19th

century English colonialism and 20th-century American technological, economic, and media power and then considers its impact on native languages and their speakers. The course examines the usefulness of an international lingua franca for communicative functions in transportation and travel, business and trade, technology and science, higher education, media, international NGOs and diplomacy, between both L2/L2 speakers and L1/L2 speakers. This usefulness for communicative functions is compared to that of identity. Suggested Prerequisites: None, though an introductory course in language/linguistics or a foreign language would be helpful.

LNGS 300T: History of the English Language

Subject: Linguistics

Professor Marianne Cooley ([Syllabus](#) - 27 Kb PDF)

This course examines the historical development of the English language with attention to both its internal linguistic structural changes and its external historical cultural, and sociolinguistic influences. The study begins in the present-day with English now having a global presence, and then returns to its prehistoric ancestry (Indo-European and Germanic) before then turning to its spread from small island in northwest Europe to its presence on all continents. Specifically, Old English, Middle English, Early Modern English, Late Modern English, and Global English periods will be surveyed. Course activities will include lecture/discussions, in-class exercises dealing with structures in different periods, tapes, videos, exams, and field observations of lexical contact between English and the languages of the countries visited. Suggested Prerequisites: None, though an introductory course in language/linguistics would be helpful.

SEMS 103 Media Studies: Mass Communication Theory and Process

Subject: Media Studies

Professor Tim Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 56 Kb PDF)

From research methods to the theories and models providing the framework for discovery, this course will introduce students to the world of mass communication. It will demonstrate how mass communication research methods, theory, and models join together to produce powerful insights on how media develop as products of their distinctive cultures. This course introduces students to theories ranging from process and effects research to content-influence studies in media sociology. Media content, mass communications effects, audience psychology, and sociological aspects of mass media also will be discussed. This course will be comparative. All that we discuss will be questioned and contrasted. We also will examine the complex tension between (and among) culture, communication and media systems and the objectives of those systems. Prerequisites: None.

SEMS 307: Media and Consumer Culture

Subject: Media Studies

Professor Tim Walters ([Syllabus](#) - 69 Kb PDF)

The purpose of this course is to explore how communication is related to the development of society ? particularly with respect to the rise of consumerism. We will examine the relationship between communication and society and how these two interact within the context of culture. Students will examine how culture impacts media and how media impacts culture. This course will also investigate the nature and functions of culture within a consumer society. We will be particularly concerned

with how production, dissemination, and reception help shape the meanings, uses, and values assigned to objects and everyday lives. This includes constructing a personal identity within society. Among the questions that we will address are the following: How does an economy oriented around the principles of mass production and mass consumption affect other aspects of our individual and communal lives? Should we care that consumption has replaced production as the primary definition of our identities? How does the saturation of commercial messages affect us? Does it matter that cultural commodities are increasingly produced for us by centralized industries, rather than by us at localized sites? How does the consumer culture affect the building blocks of society? Prerequisites: None.

MUSI 107: Introduction to Global Music

Subject: Music

Professor Lara Pellegrinelli ([Syllabus](#) - 211 Kb PDF)

This course will introduce students to a variety of musical styles from around the globe. Following our voyage, we will explore an incredible array of sonic creations from slack key guitar and taiko drumming to filmi and flamenco. The class however is designed to provide more than audio tour: it will challenge students to think critically about the music they encounter—not only its sonic structure and aesthetics, but its various cultural contexts, the technologies and industries which enable them to hear it, the identities of those who perform it, the ways in which audiences consume it, and the many kinds of meanings it may hold. Both the product of and an agent for globalization, we will see that music is an inherently mobile and hybrid form. There are no prerequisites for this course, although students may find that some musical background is helpful.

MUSI 306: Musical Ethnography

Subject: Music

Professor Lara Pellegrinelli ([Syllabus](#) - 40 Kb PDF)

This course will use ethnography, the scientific investigation and description of cultures, as an introduction to the various musical cultures on our route. Not only will we read musical ethnographies to provide historical context for our sonic journey and to engage important cultural, social, and political issues, but also as works of literature, theoretical models, and evidence of varied approaches to ethnographic method. Students will be expected to critique these readings, typically drawn book-length, single-author works written in the last thirty years. Prerequisite: an introductory level anthropology course.

PHIL 121Z: Introduction to Modern Political Thought

Subject: Philosophy

Professor Steven Frankel ([Syllabus](#) - 44 Kb PDF)

Political philosophy examines the nature of the good society and the good life. In order to explore these issues, political philosophy inquires about the nature of justice. The purpose of this course is to introduce modern responses to the questions about the nature of justice and the good society. This semester we have a unique opportunity to observe firsthand a variety of answers to these questions and to compare them with the answers offered by modern political thinkers. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PHIL 122Z: Ethics as an Introduction to Philosophy**Subject: Philosophy**

Professor Steven Frankel ([Syllabus](#) - 37 Kb PDF)

How should I live? What should I do? How can I determine whether an action is right or just? These are enduring and perennial questions that philosophers have long considered and attempted to answer. This course explores the ethical writings of several philosophers in order to help us clarify and articulate our own values as well as to discover the nature of philosophy. This semester we have a unique opportunity to witness and reflect on various accounts of the best way of life. The texts of Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes and Mill will be our point of departure for thinking about the societies that we visit. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PHIL 123Z: From the Early Modern to the Postmodern World**Subject: Philosophy**

Professor Steven Frankel ([Syllabus](#) - 38 Kb PDF)

Although religion and philosophy ask many of the same questions about the world and our place in it, their answers appear to diverge widely and dramatically. This course examines the nature of this tension by exploring modern philosophical attempts to grasp the nature of religious experience. This semester we have a unique opportunity to observe firsthand a variety of religious expressions and to use philosophy to help make sense of these observations. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 200Z: International Terrorism**Subject: Political Science**

Professor Jawad Barghothi ([Syllabus](#) - 27 Kb PDF)

What precisely is terrorism? What are the methods, tactics, and strategies of terrorist organizations? We will look at the emergence of terrorism, including its ancient roots, and how it has changed over time. We will also examine a host of specific topics, including: suicide bombing, jihadist movements, nuclear terrorism, state and state-sponsored terrorism, counter-terrorism, and U.S. policy. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 101Z: Introduction to Comparative Politics**Subject: Political Science**

Professor Jawad Barghothi ([Syllabus](#) - 25 Kb PDF)

This course examines both the international relations and comparative politics of the Middle East, covering a wide variety of topics and issues. Three of the most important themes to be discussed are the role of Islam in regional politics, the question of nationalism and national identity, and the effects of Western imperial impact on the modern Middle East. We will examine how each of these key elements has affected the historical development and contemporary politics of the region. In addition, the course will examine the politics of the various countries in a comparative perspective. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 341Z: Politics of the Middle East**Subject: Political Science**

Professor Jawad Barghothi ([Syllabus](#) - 25 Kb PDF)

Through a combination of readings, lectures and discussions, this course introduces students to the field of comparative politics. The class is designed with three objectives in mind. The first is to increase the student's knowledge about basic facts about different regions and nations. The second is to familiarize the student with competing interpretations of aspects of comparative politics. The final is to encourage the student to examine and challenge their own view of different nations and regions. Suggested Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 101Z: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Subject: Political Science

Professor Fred Mabbutt ([Syllabus](#) - 20 Kb PDF)

A central principle of political science is comparison. By comparing the various countries on our voyage, we will not only learn more about them, but also more about our own country. Through examining their history, we can begin to understand the source of their values or political culture as well as the cleavages that create both domestic and foreign conflict. Since politics is about power, this course will evaluate the ancient question: Cui bono? i.e. Who benefits from their form of government? How is wealth distributed? How do class and religion influence political behavior? How do their laws reflect this? And, how has the most recent form of globalization affected their lives? Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 313Z: Political Economy of Development

Subject: Political Science

Professor Fred Mabbutt ([Syllabus](#) - 21 Kb PDF)

The post-colonial age has been characterized by two contradictory tendencies: economic globalization and political fragmentation. The first has promoted economic growth, but benefits of that growth have been very unevenly distributed. And while the imperial age had reduced the number of independent countries in the world to 59 by 1914, today there are about 200 countries in the world. This political tendency has been associated with revolution, civil war, and instability, all of which have played a serious role in the impoverishment of some of the poorer countries we will visit. This course will examine this phenomenon and focus on various models of economic and political development used by some of the countries we will visit. Prerequisites: None.

PLCP 340Z: Foreign Policy of the United States: American Empire?

Subject: Political Science

Professor Fred Mabbutt ([Syllabus](#) - 21 Kb PDF)

Seeing international conflict in apocalyptic terms is hardly unique to the United States. To a large extent, it is a universal trait. Until the 18th century Enlightenment, most people in the West accepted warfare as an inescapable part of life. The Enlightenment popularized the belief that wars were part of the barbaric past and that democracies did not go to war with each other. Thomas Jefferson advocated an "Empire of Liberty" and the Bush administration has applied that idea to the Middle East, arguing that a new democratic Iraq will transform the Middle East into a more peaceful region. Critics dispute the Enlightenment premise, and maintain it will only stimulate more terror against what they term a "New American Empire." This course focuses on American foreign policy and national security interests, placing them within a framework of American development. It will examine the current debate on

American Empire and weigh the evidence pro and con as to its existence and its relationship to our present concern about global terrorism. Prerequisites: None.

SEMS 426: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Family

Subject: Psychology

Professor Alicia Skinner Cook ([Syllabus](#) - 40 Kb PDF)

This course explores family systems from a cross-cultural perspective and examines the internal and external forces influencing contemporary family life in each of the countries visited. Particular emphasis will be placed on the nature and structure of family systems, the relationships among family members, and interplay of social and cultural factors as family units interact with the larger society. Attention will be given to the role of culture, religion, and economics in shaping and defining family life at different stages of the life cycle. Specific topics covered include childbearing, parenting styles, mate selection, marriage and divorce, kinship ties, and caregiving of older family members. Roles and responsibilities of family members, age and gender expectations, and patterns of communication will be explored through class assignments. Students will develop an appreciation of the diversity among families both within and across cultures, and they will have opportunities to observe families in various cultures as they interact in daily life. Suggested Prerequisites: An introductory psychology or sociology course is recommended.

SEMS 228: Psychology of Gender Across Cultures

Subject: Psychology

Professor Alicia Skinner Cook ([Syllabus](#) - 41 Kb PDF)

This course will promote critical thinking regarding gender in cultural context as students are exposed to issues and research on gender across the life cycle. The focus will be on ways that culture both shapes and reflects differences in behavior and expectations for females and males from birth through late adulthood and in the contexts of family, work, and the larger society. Theories regarding the nature and development of gender roles will be examined with reference to cultural views of masculinity and femininity and the psychological development of women. Students will explore the differential impact of social policies on men and women and learn about current programs that address gender issues related to poverty, violence against women, and opportunities for education and employment. Using a comparative perspective, students will become actively engaged in identifying cultural messages in print media regarding gender roles and expectations in each country visited on the voyage. Suggested Pre-requisites: An introductory psychology or women's studies course is recommended.

SEMS 226: Children and Youth in Global Context

Subject: Psychology

Professor Alicia Skinner Cook ([Syllabus](#) - 45 Kb PDF)

This course will examine key issues affecting the well-being of children and youth from a global perspective. The interface of cultural values with dominant areas of social concern will be considered within the contexts of family, school, and community. We will examine the major agents and processes of socialization for each country visited and explore the theme of tradition versus change. Challenges and opportunities for children and youth in an era of rapid global change will be addressed, particularly as related to education and work force preparation. Particular

attention will be given to gender issues, rural/urban differences, socio-economic factors, and ethnic variations within specific countries. Models of effective intervention for at-risk children and youth will be explored and critiqued, and factors promoting healthy development will be identified. Research on risk and resilience will be integrated with content throughout the course. Students will have opportunities to observe and interact directly with children and youth from diverse cultures during various field experiences. Suggested Prerequisites: One course in child development, adolescent development, or developmental psychology.

SEMS 494: People, Pathology and World Medicine

Subject: Public Health, Biology

Professor Nancy Muleady-Mecham ([Syllabus](#) - 49 Kb PDF)

Worldwide, people exist in a multitude of environments and cultures. At some time in their lives, all persons may become ill or injured. Entire communities may suffer from local health issues related to sanitation and nutrition. People can be exposed to epidemics, both preventable through vaccinations, and unforeseen, such as a new influenza strain. Mass casualty issues, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, or war-related trauma can effect and overwhelm a country. This course will prepare students to learn about the medical issues that effect people around the world and the differing cultural and community responses. A basic introduction to human anatomy and physiology will be combined with information on disease and trauma processes (pathology) to human systems, including discussion of historical pandemics and disasters. Students will discover that different cultures throughout the world will be facing different medical issues, i.e. heart disease and obesity-related Type II diabetes in the USA, versus stomach cancer in Japan. The core of the course will involve student field research and exposure to the great variety of people from country to country and their healthcare issues. How do individuals, communities, and countries respond to these needs? What are the available healthcare interventions in pre-hospital, clinics, and hospital settings? What alternatives are there to Western medicine? How are nutrition and sanitation issues addressed in rural and urban environments? The class work will concentrate on the anatomy and physiology of humans and the pathology of diseases that threaten populations around the world; while the fieldwork will bring students face-to-face with real-life health issues. Suggested Prerequisites: This course is suggested for juniors and seniors. A previous course in general biology or health care is helpful but not mandatory.

SEMS 173: Science and Religion

Subject: Religious Studies

Professor Doris Wilsdorf ([Syllabus](#) - 98 Kb PDF)

Through lectures and class discussions, the widespread public perception that science conflicts with basic religious tenets is examined. That perception tends (i) to undermine traditional religious beliefs, and/or (2) to cause an anti-science attitude by religious believers that is detrimental in an advanced technological culture such as ours. However, closer examinations of the evidence reveals that science and religion are in harmony, provided only that religious texts are not read literally, which is logical because relativity theory, quantum mechanics and cosmology prove the nature of the creation and by implication even more so the nature of the creative spirit, to be beyond the grasp of common sense and hence to be "ineffable", i.e. inexpressible in words. Most significantly that same fact has been expounded by religious founders and saints in all of the great religions since at least the fourth

century BC. From all of the available evidence it is concluded that, aside from evident differences of specifics, the great religions share a common basis and that they are in harmony with modern science; indeed that "science" and "religion" are two aspects of ONE creation which two aspects are inseparable like particles and waves according to quantum physics. No Prerequisites.

SEMS 281: Leadership Development

Professor Bernard J. Strenecky ([Syllabus](#) - 40 Kb PDF)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad based knowledge of the theoretical constructs underlying leadership in a global society and to provide learning opportunities that will help develop knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to be an effective leader. Special emphasis will be placed on the role of followership, ethics, international dimensions of leadership and the development of a personal leadership model. Students will be expected to assume a student leadership role in the Semester At Sea community.

SEMS 283-1: International Service Learning (Section 1)

SEMS 283-2: International Service Learning (Section 2)

Subject: Service Learning

Professor Bernard J. Strenecky ([Syllabus](#) - 29 Kb PDF)

This course is designed to provide students with skills essential for the development, implementation and evaluation of international service learning programs. Special Emphasis will be placed on cross cultural understanding, team building and the creation of a viable service learning program. Each student will be required to develop a plan of action for securing a position in the international sector.

SOC 195Z Special Topics in Social Issues: Population and Society

Subject: Sociology

Professor Theodore Caplow ([Syllabus](#) - 24 Kb PDF)

An introduction to comparative demography, addressing the major events in the life course - birth, education, family formation and dissolution, education, employment, and unemployment, disease, aging, retirement - and the influence of gender, class, caste, wealth, religion, and ethnicity. Students will learn how to make use of such demographic measures as life expectancy and life span; birth, death, infant mortality and morbidity rates; residential, occupational and geographic mobility; the demographic transition; the population pyramid; GDP per capita; educational achievement; gender inequality; Gini coefficients and human development indices; all with particular reference to the countries visited. Suggested Pre-requisites: No formal requirements but some familiarity with elementary statistics will be useful.

SOC 300Z: War and Peace in the Nuclear Age

Subject: Sociology

Professor Theodore Caplow ([Syllabus](#) - 42 Kb PDF)

A systematic account of how the world's institutions for making war and keeping peace were permanently changed by the advent of the atomic bomb in 1945, with particular reference to the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union; the sixty-odd wars of colonial liberation; the American military involvements in Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan; the India-Pakistan confrontation;

and new forms of insurgency including the jihad movement and the tactics of terrorism. The changing roles of the United Nations, NATO, the European Union and regional security alliances will be examined, along with the successes and failures of the nonproliferation regime, and the prospects for the continued effectiveness of nuclear deterrence. Suggested Prerequisite: Nine credits of college-level social science

SOC 395Z: The Development Procession

Subject: Sociology

Professor Theodore Caplow ([Syllabus](#) - 26 Kb PDF)

This course traces the origins of modern technology and shows how the early utilization of metallurgy, guns, steam power and ocean navigation enabled Europeans to take control of the other continents by conquest or settlement between the seventeenth and the twentieth centuries, thereby creating a procession of nations arrayed by level of development, with those at the head of the procession enjoying a standard of living far beyond the dreams of those at the tail. That is still the dominant pattern of today's world, where Norway, ranked first in development, has a per capita GDP of more than \$38,000 while the corresponding figure for Niger, ranked last, is less than \$800. There are similar gaps between these countries in life expectancy, literacy, nutrition and every other measure of well-being. Globalization has been shortening the parade and advancing some nations, but the basic pattern persists and it is uncertain whether the earth has sufficient resources ever to support any large fraction of its population at the level of the present leaders. Suggested Prerequisite: Nine credits of college-level social science.

SEMS 123: Introduction to Sociology

Subject: Sociology

Professor Christine Wernet ([Syllabus](#) - 35 Kb PDF)

This course is designed to give you a new perspective on the world. Instead of focusing on the individual level which is so common in our culture, we will use a much more broad and holistic approach to viewing society and individuals. As we circumnavigate the globe this course will give you a unique insight into the cultures we visit; we will look at how the social situation impacts individual behavior. This course will cover a general introduction to the field of sociology including sociological theories and concepts such as culture, social structure, deviance, population, urbanization, social institutions (such as religion, family, and education), social change and social inequality in the United States and in countries we visit around the world. The "sociological imagination" will be used to apply these theories and ideas to everyday life in the countries we visit. No prerequisites.

SSEMS 125: Global Introduction to Sociology

Subject: Sociology

Professor Jeanne Ballantine ([Syllabus](#) - 28 Kb PDF)

Why are there starving, homeless, desperately poor people in the world, while others are rich beyond measure? Why do groups of people hate each other? Go to war? Commit genocide? Why do some people commit crimes, engage in corruption or terrorist acts? Why do you hold certain religious and political beliefs while others believe quite different things? Are some people just wrong? Why are countries' political and economic systems so different? So many global questions, so little time,

but we'll do our best to explore the world on our itinerary and cover the basics of the sociological perspective, how sociologists conduct their work, and how sociology can be useful to you. General topics in the course include culture, socialization, groups and organizations, deviance, stratification, minority relations, gender issues, institutions (family, religion, health and others depending on time), population, urbanization, and change. No prerequisites.

SEMS 405: Comparative Perspectives on Women

Subject: Sociology

Professor Jeanne Ballantine ([Syllabus](#) - 33 Kb PDF)

Get ready to travel the world through the eyes of over 50 percent of the population—girls and women! Gender is the basis for assigning roles and status to members of all societies. Using a cross-cultural interdisciplinary approach and very interesting text and readings, students will study the status of women around the world. Topics include theories of gender roles; women's relations to institutions in society (family, religion, education, politics and power, economics, and health); work and the "global factory" system (multinational/ transnational corporations); minority women; abuse of women (battering, slavery, trafficking, dowry deaths, female infanticide, female circumcision, drug dumping, etc); standards of beauty; women's movements and changing roles; and other issues related to specific parts and depending on interests of the class and as class time allows. No prerequisites.