

Sociology and Anthropology

Website (<http://www.northeastern.edu/socant/>)

Liza Weinstein, PhD

Associate Professor of Sociology and Chair
l.weinstein@northeastern.edu

Steve Vallas, PhD

Professor of Sociology and Undergraduate Program Director
s.vallas@northeastern.edu

Doreen Lee, PhD

Associate Professor of Anthropology and Anthropology Program Director
do.lee@northeastern.edu

Department Information

900 Renaissance Park
617.373.2686
617.373.2688 (fax)

Sociology and cultural anthropology provide the critical perspective needed for studying the social and cultural arrangements in which people live, for understanding how societies function, for investigating the conditions under which people change their institutions, and for describing the modes and conditions of cooperation that make social life possible.

Courses in the program examine such areas as urbanization, the environment, health, globalization and human rights, gender and sexuality, social movements, the cultural underpinnings of science and technology, new media, and the comparative analysis of advanced capitalist societies. Many courses are directly relevant to majors in other fields, including economics, political science, philosophy, literature, criminal justice, and business.

The major in sociology or cultural anthropology seeks to prepare students for careers in public or private service, including such fields as law, teaching, social work, administration or management, and research.

Academic Progression Standards

Same as university-wide standards described under "Academic Status (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/progression-standards/#status>)."

Preapproved Template Program in Cultural Anthropology

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers a preapproved template program in cultural anthropology. The template program may be paired with another preapproved template program to create a combined major; to see a list of current preapproved template programs, visit the combined majors webpage (<http://www.northeastern.edu/registrar/major-2.html>).

Students may request admission to such a combined major via the Combined Major Approval form (<https://registrar.northeastern.edu/article/combined-majors/>), which requires approval by both disciplines/colleges together with an approved curriculum. For additional information on preapproved template programs, see "Student-Requested Combined Major (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degrees-majors-minors/#stu-req>)." For template program requirements, visit the myNortheastern web portal (<http://www.myneu.neu.edu>), click on the "Self-Service" tab, then on "My Degree Audit."

PlusOne Program (MA) in Sociology

Sociology majors at the end of their sophomore year or the beginning of their junior year may qualify for application to the PlusOne program that combines the BA with the master's degree in sociology. Students interested in this option should consult with the departmental advisor by the end of the sophomore year.

Programs

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

- Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-ba/>)
- Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/cultural-anthropology-ba/>)
- Sociology and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-cultural-anthropology-ba/>)
- Communication Studies and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/arts-media-design/communication-studies/communication-studies-sociology-ba/>)
- Cultural Anthropology and Theatre (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/cultural-anthropology-theatre-ba/>)
- English and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/english/english-cultural-anthropology-ba/>)
- History and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/history/history-cultural-anthropology-ba/>)
- Human Services and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/human-services/human-services-sociology-ba/>)
- International Affairs and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/international-affairs/cultural-anthropology-ba/>)
- Media and Screen Studies and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/arts-media-design/communication-studies/media-screen-studies-sociology-ba/>)
- Sociology and Environmental Studies (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-environmental-studies-ba/>)
- Sociology and International Affairs (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-international-affairs-ba/>)
- Sociology and Political Science (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-political-science-ba/>)

Bachelor of Science (BS)

- Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-bs/>)
- Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/cultural-anthropology-bs/>)

- Sociology and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-cultural-anthropology-bs/>)
- Criminal Justice and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/criminology-criminal-justice/criminal-justice-sociology-bs/>)
- Computer Science and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/computer-information-science/computer-information-science-combined-majors/computer-science-sociology-bs/>)
- Health Science and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/health-sciences/health-science-sociology-bs/>)
- Human Services and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/human-services/human-services-sociology-bs/>)
- Linguistics and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/linguistics/linguistics-cultural-anthropology-bs/>)
- Mathematics and Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/mathematics/mathematics-cultural-anthropology-bs/>)
- Mathematics and Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/mathematics/mathematics-sociology-bs/>)

Minors

- Sociology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/sociology-minor/>)
- Cultural Anthropology (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/sociology-anthropology/cultural-anthropology-minor/>)

Accelerated Programs

See Accelerated Bachelor/Graduate Degree Programs (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/accelerated-bachelor-graduate-degree-programs/#programstext>)

Courses

Anthropology Courses

Search ANTH Courses using FocusSearch (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/class-search/?subject=ANTH/>)

ANTH 1000. Anthropology at Northeastern. 1 Hour.

Intended for first-year students in the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. Introduces students to liberal arts; familiarizes them with their major; develops the academic skills necessary to succeed (analytical ability and critical thinking); provides grounding in the culture and values of the University community; and helps to develop interpersonal skills—in short, familiarizes students with all skills needed to become a successful university student.

ANTH 1101. Peoples and Cultures. 4 Hours.

Surveys basic concepts in cultural anthropology by looking at a range of societies and the issues they face in a globalizing world. Examines the manner in which cultures adapt to, reject, or modify all of the changes they face. These changes impact everything from traditional family structure, to religion, gender, all the way to patterns of joking and concepts of beauty the world over.

ANTH 1990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 2300. Reading Culture through Ethnography. 4 Hours.

Examines culture by reading some of the discipline's best-known ethnographic works and by revisiting core anthropological themes and methods. Emphasizes critical reading practices within anthropology, how ethnographies and their subjects are constructed, and how anthropologists bring their perspectives to bear upon the study of culture.

ANTH 2302. Gender and Sexuality: A Cross-Cultural Perspective. 4 Hours.

Examines popular and scientific notions about sex, gender relations, family, and kinship. Examines why our images of family, masculinity, and femininity are not universal by analyzing the patterns of sex roles, sexual practices, and kinship in other cultures. Discusses how and why relations between men and women change during times of socioeconomic and political change. ANTH 2302 and WMNS 2302 are cross-listed.

ANTH 2305. Global Markets and Local Culture. 4 Hours.

Examines selected topics in the socioeconomic transformation of other cultures, including urbanization, industrialization, globalization, commodity production, and international labor migration. Focuses on the impact of global capitalist development on contemporary developing and postcolonial societies as well as local responses and/or resistances to those changes.

ANTH 2306. Global Markets and Local Cultures Abroad. 4 Hours.

Examines selected topics in the socioeconomic transformation of other cultures, including urbanization, industrialization, globalization, commodity production, and international labor migration. Focuses on the impact of global capitalist development on contemporary developing and postcolonial societies as well as local responses and/or resistance to those changes. To be taken as part of a Dialogue of Civilizations. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 2315. Religion and Modernity. 4 Hours.

Introduces a cross-cultural, comparative perspective on religious practice and belief. Explores theoretical definitions of and methodological approaches to the study of religion, as well as more specific concepts of ritual, myth, healing, and identity. Select case studies allow for an in-depth look at the unique formations of a few religious practices and groups.

ANTH 2365. Sport, Culture, and Society. 4 Hours.

Looks at the ways in which sport reflects and obscures social and cultural institutions. Half of the course focuses upon American sport, and the rest upon the global character that modern sport has taken on. Case studies are used from the United States, Dominican Republic, Japan, Brazil, and elsewhere.

ANTH 2990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 3120. Consumer Cultures. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to anthropological theories of consumption and debates about the "social life of things." Explores the politics invested in material objects ranging from hijab fashions in Teheran to forms of global hipsterism, debates about nationalism and commodity cultures, as well as the political economy of production and consumption. Includes, but is not limited to, commodity fetishism, value, social/cultural capital, distinction, neoliberalism, consumerism, and materiality.

ANTH 3410. Ethnographic Field Experience. 4 Hours.

Offers students an opportunity to experience fieldwork while studying current ethnographic methods and theory and to design a semester-long ethnographic field research project. Field sites may include public and outdoor spaces, online communities, cultural centers, schools, immigrant neighborhoods, sports organizations, social service agencies, nonprofit groups, religious institutions, etc.

ANTH 3417. Political Anthropology. 4 Hours.

Examines the anthropology of politics, focusing on the anthropology of the state. Studies the history of political anthropology with its roots in British structural-formalism and contextualizes it within the anthropology of Africa and witchcraft. Explores the linkages between the nation and the state, using classic works of Benedict Anderson on nationalism, before commencing an in-depth study of the problems of the state, classical theories of the state and statecraft, and how these ideas are traced to contemporary ethnographies of politics. Students interested in the study of resistance, displacement, social exclusion, citizenship, state violence, and communities may find this course relevant to their interests.

ANTH 3418. Wired/Unwired: Cybercultures and Technopolitics. 4 Hours.

Explores the impacts of technology and new media on politics, society, and culture. Emphasizes the socioeconomic and political frameworks within which technologies are embedded as well as the role of technology and the Internet in contemporary political and cultural movements. Topics may include the political and cultural effects of the census, the radio, and the camera; the history of the Internet; virtual worlds and communities; online politics and activism; as well as blogging, gaming, and social networking.

ANTH 3421. Foundations of Anthropological Theory. 4 Hours.

Introduces the foundations of anthropological theory. Examines recurring themes surrounding structure and agency, culture and power, and the tension between the individual and society. Addresses these questions by returning to anthropology's Enlightenment roots, early evolutionary thought, classic and contemporary theories, as well as ongoing critiques of the discipline. Explores different schools of thought, including functionalism, structural functionalism, symbolism, interpretivism, and more recent theoretical developments that address history, political economy, reflexivity, poststructuralism, and feminism, as well as transnational/global and activist approaches. Requires prior completion of two ANTH courses numbered 1000 or above.

ANTH 3990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 4350. Ethnography of Southeast Asia. 4 Hours.

Offers a seminar on the societies and cultures of Southeast Asia. Uses an interdisciplinary approach to this diverse and dynamic geopolitical region, with readings from anthropology, history, political science, and literature. Covers the major political and cultural changes that have shaped Southeast Asia in relation to the world—from the age of colonial expansion, to the rise of nation-states, to the present global era. Examines central questions in the ethnography of Southeast Asia, emphasizing the postcolonial legacies of Southeast Asia, states and violence, culture and mobility, and pressing contemporary issues in globalizing Southeast Asia. ANTH 4350 and INTL 4350 are cross-listed.

ANTH 4500. Latin American Society and Development. 4 Hours.

Explores the processes of social, economic, and cultural change in Latin America. While concentrating on the present, traces class formation, agrarian structures, ethnic identity, ceremonial organization, gender roles, and political conflict since the colonial era in a range of countries. Emphasizes the relationship of communities and national political and economic systems. May emphasize Central America and Mexico or countries in South America through case studies. ANTH 4500 and INTL 4500 are cross-listed.

ANTH 4505. Native North Americans. 4 Hours.

Examines Native American cultures and their reactions to Anglo-American attempts to, first, remove them from their lands and, then, incorporate them into the contemporary framework of modern America. Selects specific groups to explore contemporary issues, including native gaming, racism, gender, cultural appropriation, and economic development.

ANTH 4510. Anthropology of Africa. 4 Hours.

Explores Africa's changing place in the world. Studies the history of Africa and explores the role of ethnography in the making of colonial Africa and the cultural transformations and continuities produced by the emergence of African cities during and after colonialism. Studies postcolonial Africa to critically and comparatively engage with contemporary issues facing African societies. Considers the efflorescence of new cultural forms of music, art, film, and literature, in conjunction with new sources of identity such as nationality, religion, ethnicity, consumption, and migration. ANTH 4510 and INTL 4510 are cross-listed.

ANTH 4515. Culture and Politics in Modern India. 4 Hours.

Introduces the histories, cultures, and peoples of India. Seeks to convey a sense of how knowledge has been constructed about the region and how the subcontinent has been shaped by its engagements with the world through such processes as colonization, state building, and globalization. Uses readings, films, and class discussions to examine themes and topics that include Orientalism, postcolonialism, caste and community, gender and sexualities, conflict and violence, development and resistance, and transnational structures and processes. Critically evaluates some commonly held assumptions, including classical understandings of tradition and modernity, cohesion and conflict, and nation and identity. ANTH 4515 and INTL 4515 are cross-listed.

ANTH 4580. Special Topics in Anthropology. 4 Hours.

Designed as a specialized themes course for students with prior experience in anthropology and/or sociology. Offers unique opportunities—visiting guests, special thematic interests—which are not part of the regular curriculum. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 4600. Senior Seminar. 4 Hours.

Designed to deal with anthropological theory and work with students who are asked to apply these theories to some of their own work. Content may vary.

ANTH 4970. Junior/Senior Honors Project 1. 4 Hours.

Focuses on in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student's major field. Combined with Junior/Senior Project 2 or college-defined equivalent for 8-credit honors project. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 4971. Junior/Senior Honors Project 2. 4 Hours.

Focuses on second semester of in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student's major field. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 4990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 4992. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.

Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

ANTH 5400. Cities in Global Context. 4 Hours.

Examines the roots of the urbanization process, major ways of thinking about it, and the development of world cities and megacities. The 21st century will be a century in which urbanism is a central problem and opportunity. Considers the economic, political, cultural, and environmental dimensions of urbanism across the globe. Includes specific case studies from around the world. Encourages students to develop a knowledge of particular cities in order to examine the key themes of the course. INTL 5400, ANTH 5400, and SOCL 5400 are cross-listed.

Sociology Courses

Search SOCL Courses using FocusSearch (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/class-search/?subject=SOCL/>)

SOCL 1000. Sociology at Northeastern. 1 Hour.

Intended for first-year students in the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. Introduces students to liberal arts; familiarizes them with their major; develops the academic skills necessary to succeed (analytical ability and critical thinking); provides grounding in the culture and values of the University community; and helps to develop interpersonal skills—in short, familiarizes students with all skills needed to become a successful university student.

SOCL 1101. Introduction to Sociology. 4 Hours.

Explores basic concepts and theories concerning the relation between individuals and society. Emphasizes the influence of culture, social structure, and institutions in explaining human activity. Discusses and analyzes social groups, socialization, community, class, power, and social change, among other substantive issues.

SOCL 1120. Society and Health. 4 Hours.

Applies social scientific perspectives to the study of health, illness, and healthcare. Explores the ways that societal factors such as race, class, and gender interplay with health, healthcare, and health disparities. Studies neighborhoods and social networks in relation to health. Introduces basic sociological concepts relevant for the study of health and healthcare, such as social construction and medicalization. Offers students an opportunity to develop critical assessment skills while exploring a range of explanations for why, despite having the most expensive healthcare system, the United States ranks comparatively low in life expectancy and health and well-being outcomes. Uses lectures, case-based learning, and small-group workshops to explore the ways that our social environment shapes health in contemporary U.S. society. PHTH 1120 and SOCL 1120 are cross-listed.

SOCL 1215. Understanding Russia. 4 Hours.

Focuses on contemporary Russian society. Emphasizes the current and recent social, economic, and political characteristics of Russia and the ways in which it has evolved in the post-Soviet period. INTL 1215 and SOCL 1215 are cross-listed.

SOCL 1228. Social Problems. 4 Hours.

Analyzes in both empirical and theoretical terms many of the social problems currently facing Americans. Among these are deepening inequality and poverty among working and middle-class Americans, particularly racial minorities, women, and youth; related problems of racism and sexism; growing unemployment; international ecological crisis; deterioration of the health system; crime; and war and militarism. Strategies and political options for solving these problems are considered.

SOCL 1241. Violence and Society. 4 Hours.

Examines the notion of violence and its pervasive presence in the social institutions we create and maintain every day. Conducts sociological analysis of the issues we address, borrowing from other disciplines as they prove helpful. Sociology tells us that beliefs, values, and norms that characterize the United States legitimize the preference for violence, largely through the obvious venues of the mass media that glorify violence but also in the subtler structural arrangements collectively constructed and maintained in our everyday behaviors. Offers students an opportunity to understand how the structure of our society and its social institutions inhibit or facilitate violent behavior.

SOCL 1245. Sociology of Poverty. 4 Hours.

Analyzes American poverty in historical perspective, drawing on comparisons with other countries. Critically evaluates sociological research and theories relating to poverty. Considers causes and effects of poverty as well as societal responses to poverty and its consequences. Suitable for students in applied fields, such as nursing, criminal justice, education, allied health, premed, and prelaw.

SOCL 1246. Environment and Society. 4 Hours.

Examines the social, political, and economic forces behind the global environmental crisis. Topics include such issues as global warming and climate disruption, world resource availability and the global economic crisis, environmental justice and social inequities in the exposure to ecological hazards, science and technology, environmental degradation in the Third World, globalization and unfair trade, state power and the role of the polluter-industrial complex in the United States, the history of the environmental movement, and exemplary environmental policies and programs. This theoretically oriented course also involves practical experience in environmental problem solving.

SOCL 1255. Sociology of the Family. 4 Hours.

Focuses on families historically and across cultures and classes. Considers changes in contemporary families in terms of gender, family composition; women's labor force participation, divorce, cohabitation, and other transformations. SOCL 1255 and WMNS 1255 are cross-listed.

SOCL 1260. Gender in a Changing Society. 4 Hours.

Considers why and how gender is socially constructed in U.S. society and looks at different theories of gender. Explores gender as an institution as well as different (cultural) expressions of masculinities and femininities. Includes topics of gender in everyday life as well as gender as an organizing principle in the institutions of families, education, workplaces, sexualities, religion, the media, politics, and forms of gender violence. SOCL 1260 and WMNS 1260 are cross-listed.

SOCL 1275. Social Stratification. 4 Hours.

Explores the causes and consequences of the unequal distribution of prestige, power, and wealth in human societies. Topics may include theories of social stratification; varieties of human stratification systems; various dimensions of stratification (race, gender, class); and the ideologies used to justify (and criticize) inequalities. While the features of multiple societies are considered, primary emphasis is on the development and contemporary structure of the American class system.

SOCL 1280. The Twenty-First-Century Workplace. 4 Hours.

Analyzes dramatic changes occurring in the work lives of Americans and considers the future of American workers within the global economy. Explores emerging labor markets, gender, race, and technology in shaping contemporary American work settings.

SOCL 1290. Juvenile Delinquency. 4 Hours.

Examines the sociological and psychological approaches to juvenile delinquency and their implications for a typology of delinquency. Discusses problems of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation.

SOCL 1295. Drugs and Society. 4 Hours.

Focuses on historical and contemporary drug issues through the lens of classic sociological concerns. Rather than looking at only the legal/illegal discourse or historical/contemporary production, distribution, and use of drugs, the course frames drug topics around issues of class, race and ethnicity, age, and gender, asking the question of which drugs are used by whom and why at certain life stages. Specific topics include the high incarceration rates for nonviolent drug offenders; the role of drugs in death and dying via death penalty drugs and/or hospice care; mental health and drug treatment; and the potential perjury of global drug testing and management.

SOCL 1346. Environmental Activism and Movements: An Open Classroom. 4 Hours.

Offers an open-classroom experience focusing on the role of environmental activists and movements in addressing the global ecological crisis, emphasizing how to evaluate the organizing strategies, political tactics, organizational forms, and policy goals adopted by various environmental movement organizations (EMOs). Offers students an opportunity to understand the most effective means for bringing about meaningful social and environmental transformation. Includes numerous guest presentations from prominent environmental scholars, activists, filmmakers, and journalists, and includes guest panels and new film showings; these presentations are open to the larger Northeastern community.

SOCL 1350. Feminist Resistance. 4 Hours.

Engages students in the study of a variety of forms of feminist resistance in recent history, emphasizing the US in the context of cross-cultural examples. Students examine key feminist texts and manifestoes and study feminist activism in coalition with other social movements. Students identify and analyze unique features of gender-based activism in itself and in its intersections with other social movements, including movements and activism focused on race, class, sexuality, and physical ability. WMNS 1350, SOCL 1350, and HIST 1350 are cross-listed.

SOCL 1990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 2225. Sociology of Disability. 4 Hours.

Examines how the social model of disability has challenged the predominant medical model defining disability as simply biological impairment and abnormality. Offers students an opportunity to explore how the sociological perspective contributes to understanding lived experiences of disability and how disabilities are deeply interlinked to experiences of racial-ethnic, gender, and class inequality. According to the World Health Organization, some 15 percent of the world's population lives with disability. Yet what exactly is a disability? Successful students are expected to become conversant with theories of the social-historical construction of disabilities, the differences between visible and invisible impairments, the contributions of disability rights activism, and the bioethical questions about difference raised by medical technologies.

SOCL 2268. Social Movements. 4 Hours.

Introduces the social, cultural, and political dynamics that surround social movements, both historically and in the contemporary world. Emphasizes theory and research on national and transnational social movements, including studies of revolutions and political upheavals, demands for civil and human rights, movements for gender equality, and other instances of movements for social and political change. Emphasizes how structural factors shape social movement emergence and development and how social movements in turn shape the structure of societies.

SOCL 2270. Race and Ethnic Relations. 4 Hours.

Focuses on racial and religious groups, particularly with reference to the United States. Places special emphasis on historical development, specific problems of adjustment and assimilation, and present-day problems and trends. SOCL 2270 and AFAM 2270 are cross-listed.

SOCL 2300. Social Theory. 4 Hours.

Reviews the dominant theoretical traditions in classical and contemporary sociology, showing the links between the social thought of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and current social thought. Requires prior completion of two sociology courses numbered 1000 or above.

SOCL 2303. Gender and Reproductive Justice. 4 Hours.

Introduces the social, legal, and economic barriers to accessing reproductive healthcare domestically and internationally. Draws on various theoretical and analytic tools including critical race theory, critical legal theory, sociology of science, human rights, feminist theory, and a range of public health methods. Access to reproductive health services, including abortion, is one of the most contested political, social, cultural, and religious issues today. Covers domestic, regional, and international legal and regulatory frameworks on sexual reproductive health. HIST 2303, SOCL 2303, and WMNS 2303 are cross-listed.

SOCL 2320. Statistical Analysis in Sociology. 4 Hours.

Offers students an opportunity to obtain knowledge and skills essential for understanding the theory and practice of social statistics commonly used in social research. Topics covered include the operationalization of abstract concepts; descriptive statistics; correlation; bivariate regression; central limit theorem; confidence intervals; hypothesis testing; and key concepts such as association, causation, and spurious relationships. Statistical software is used to complete assignments.

SOCL 2321. Research Methods in Sociology. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to the range of research methods used by sociologists. Covers experimental research, field research, survey research, and historical-comparative research. Sampling, the rules of evidence in empirical research, research ethics, and the place of values are discussed. Required for sociology majors.

SOCL 2358. Current Issues in Cities and Suburbs. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to pressing urban issues: urban sprawl, poverty, education, transportation, economic development, and housing, through an intensive analysis of the Boston metropolitan area. The course is cotaught by university faculty and practitioners in government, community, and nonprofit organizations throughout the metropolitan area. Offers students the opportunity to analyze Boston data, go on outings to see development in progress, talk with urban practitioners about what they do, and conduct research on an urban issue of their choice.

SOCL 2359. Current Issues in Cities and Suburbs Abroad. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to pressing urban issues—urban sprawl, poverty, education, transportation, economic development, and housing—through an intensive analysis of the metropolitan area. Taught by university faculty and local practitioners in government, community, and nonprofit organizations. Offers students an opportunity to analyze urban data, to go on outings to see development in progress, and to talk with urban practitioners about what they do in urban contexts outside of the United States. To be taken as part of a Dialogue of Civilizations. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 2450. Class, Power, and Social Change. 4 Hours.

Focuses on theories of social inequality as applied to the exercise of power and large-scale social change. Examines contemporary events in order to understand power structures.

SOCL 2990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 3100. Gender, Social Justice, and Transnational Activism. 4 Hours.

Introduces key issues, themes, and debates in feminist transnational theory, practice, and activism in contemporary contexts and how it has changed under socioeconomic, political, and cultural processes of globalization. Examines differences among women relating to race, class, sexuality, national identity, and political economy in reckoning with possibilities for sustainable social justice. Students interrogate the relationship between the local and global; the production of knowledge in different regional spaces; the pragmatics of political mobilization; the varying contours of "social justice"; and other key issues. Offers students an opportunity to discuss the impact of globalization, neoliberalism, and state and intimate violence on gendered politics and relations and to contend with the politics of difference, to debate its challenges, and to imagine possible futures for transnational gender justice. POLS 3100, SOCL 3100, and WMNS 3100 are cross-listed.

SOCL 3408. Sociology of Organizations. 4 Hours.

Examines sociological perspectives on the structures and processes of large-scale formal organizations in Western society and contemporary organizational theory and research, with illustrations from business, governmental, and other organizations.

SOCL 3414. The Sociology of Campus Life. 4 Hours.

Focuses on campus life through the lens of classic sociological concerns of race, class, and gender. Offers students an opportunity to address core contemporary issues in higher education; to develop an understanding of campus life from the perspective of learning that occurs both inside and outside the classroom; and to assess how that learning impacts their views of themselves and their larger context. Also offers students an opportunity to develop an understanding of student commitment to issues of social change and social justice. HUSV 3414 and SOCL 3414 are cross-listed.

SOCL 3440. Sociology of Human Service Organizations. 4 Hours.

Introduces selected theoretical perspectives on human service organizations, emphasizing defining organizational goals and effectiveness. Gives students the opportunity to become familiar with the nature of human service organizations, to compare these organizations to business and industrial organizations, to outline specific problems that human service organizations face, and to propose potential solutions.

SOCL 3441. Sociology of Health and Illness. 4 Hours.

Offers a substantial overview of the sociology of health and illness. Medical sociology is an important subfield of sociology with important links to public health, social psychology, psychology, and other medical fields. Emphasizes several critical areas: society and disease; theoretical understandings of health inequalities; medicalization and social control; healthcare professions and professionalization; and the American healthcare system. Offers students an opportunity to obtain analytical frameworks to explore other topics in medical sociology not covered in this course.

SOCL 3465. Globalization and the Evolution of Human Societies. 4 Hours.

Examines current issues of globalization from a sociological viewpoint, emphasizing the forces that create ties between societies and the consequences of these ties. Analyzes the structures of human societies, the ways in which they change over long periods of time, and the consequences of changes for people's actions and beliefs. Stresses the importance of social "environments" in understanding social change and of the process of social adaptation. Uses sociological concepts to analyze current issues of globalization, their origins, and ways of dealing with them.

SOCL 3485. Environment, Technology, and Society. 4 Hours.

Focuses on the connections between the development of modern nation-states and the control of nature. Explores the role human societies play in such events as climate change, tsunamis, and droughts. Asks how industrialization and the process of science and technology development are related to our transforming environmental conditions, as well as how the social sciences, the sciences, and engineering are transforming to address these issues. Draws on social theory, environmental history, anthropology/sociology, art/design, and open-source technologies to investigate theoretically and methodologically the sources, experiences of, and solutions for environmental health questions.

SOCL 3487. Applied Sociology: Practice and Theory. 4 Hours.

Offers the academic component of the experiential education requirement for sociology majors; to be taken after students have completed the experiential component. Provides a seminar format in which students will reflect upon their approved experience (that is, co-op, internship, community service, and so on) and integrate it into a research project. Students who have completed study abroad or a service-learning course in the department may not have to take this course.

SOCL 3990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4514. "The Wire" and the Study of Urban Inequalities. 4 Hours.

Offers a seminar examining a range of topics related to the issue of urban inequality. Uses the HBO series *The Wire* (which aired from 2002–2008) as a vehicle to explore how crime and social control, labor markets, housing policies, local politics, and other urban institutions both reflect and contribute to systemic inequality in U.S. cities. The material for this class consists of academic readings and seasons one through three of *The Wire*.

SOCL 4518. Law and Society in a Digital World. 4 Hours.

Explores the ways in which the legal system shapes and is, in turn, shaped by ideological and political movements. For example, the bitter controversy over whether runaway juries have created "jackpot justice" by awarding huge sums to plaintiffs is a reflection of deep cultural and political divides over individual rights and corporate power. Also examines new legal principles that are currently evolving to deal with such misdeeds as systematic corporate misconduct, cyber crimes, and harassment.

SOCL 4520. Race, Class, and Gender. 4 Hours.

Considers the intersection of race, class, and gender in social structure, institutions, and people's lives. Utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to focus on the socially constructed nature of these concepts and how they shape and create meaning in individual lives. Difference with an emphasis on inequality and varying life chances is central for understanding our society and is central to our work. Requires a significant amount of reading. Class format is like a seminar; students are expected to participate, take responsibility, and write a paper. SOCL 4520 and WMNS 4520 are cross-listed.

SOCL 4522. Political Ecology and Environmental Justice. 4 Hours.

Engages advanced sociological research on topics relating to political ecology and environmental justice, with the goal of producing a publishable report(s) to be published and posted on the Northeastern Environmental Justice Research (NEJRC) website and circulated on various national environmental list-serves. Possible topics of investigation could include the power of the polluter-industrial complex in the American political system; the role of trade agreements in relation to the globalization and the export of environmental hazards; climate justice, with an analysis of the manner in which climate change is exacerbating social and environmental injustices, especially for the poorest and most politically powerless populations in the world system; or many other important issues.

SOCL 4523. Sexualities. 4 Hours.

Offers a primarily sociological overview of the field of sexuality studies. Explores the ways in which sexual behaviors and identities are in fact shaped by social norms, values, and expectations; the meanings and statuses ascribed to sexual acts, behaviors, identities, and communities; and the interactive processes by which sexualities are achieved. Also brings an intersectional framework to discussions by emphasizing how our understandings of sexuality interact with categories of gender, race, nation, and class. Examines a variety of topics, such as transgenderism, power, extreme and illicit sex, socialization, pornography, and politics. SOCL 4523 and WMNS 4523 are cross-listed.

SOCL 4528. Computers and Society. 4 Hours.

Focuses on the social and political context of technological change and development. Through readings, course assignments, and class discussions, offers students an opportunity to learn to analyze the ways that the internet, artificial intelligence, and other technological advances have required a reworking of every human institution—both to facilitate the development of these technologies and in response to their adoption.

SOCL 4580. Special Topics in Sociology. 4 Hours.

Designed as a specialized themes course for students with experience in sociology and/or anthropology. Takes advantage of unique opportunities—visiting guests, special thematic interests—which are not part of the regular curriculum. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4600. Senior Seminar. 4 Hours.

Offers students an opportunity to integrate and apply knowledge of the discipline by building on completed course work and conducting original research on a topic of their choice. Requires students to produce a research paper due at the end of the semester. This seminar operates as an intellectual workshop in which students share the process, as well as the results, of their research with the group. The class comes together to inform, guide, critique, and support one another's research efforts in a collaborative fashion. Students are expected to make constructive comments on the work of others and to freely exchange ideas.

SOCL 4970. Junior/Senior Honors Project 1. 4 Hours.

Focuses on in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student's major field. Combined with Junior/Senior Project 2 or college-defined equivalent for 8-credit honors project. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4971. Junior/Senior Honors Project 2. 4 Hours.

Focuses on second semester of in-depth project in which a student conducts research or produces a product related to the student's major field. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4991. Research. 4 Hours.

Offers an opportunity to conduct research under faculty supervision.

SOCL 4992. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.

Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4993. Independent Study. 1-4 Hours.

Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 4994. Internship. 4 Hours.

Offers students an opportunity for internship work. May be repeated without limit.

SOCL 5400. Cities in Global Context. 4 Hours.

Examines the roots of the urbanization process, major ways of thinking about it, and the development of world cities and megacities. The twenty-first century will be a century in which urbanism is a central problem and opportunity. Considers the economic, political, cultural, and environmental dimensions of urbanism across the globe. Includes specific case studies from around the world. Encourages students to develop a knowledge of particular cities in order to examine the key themes of the course. INTL 5400, ANTH 5400, and SOCL 5400 are cross-listed.