Religion, Race and Culture

AMST 140B The Asian American Experience
Examines the political, economic, social, and contemporary issues related to Asians in the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Topics include patterns of immigration and settlement, and individual, family, and community formation explored through historical, literary, personal essays, films, and other popular media sources.
Ms. Dave
TF 1:40 – 3:00

ENGB 38 B Race, Religion and the 20th Century South
Twentieth century fiction of the American South. Racial conflict, regional identity, religion, and modernization from both sides of the racial divide and from both sides of the gender line. Texts by Chestnut, Faulkner, Warren, O’Connor, Gaines, McCarthy, and Eliot.
Mr. Burt
M/WTh 10:10 – 11:00

IMES 104A Islam: Civilization and Institutions
Provides a disciplined study of Islamic civilization from its origins to the current state of the affairs. Approaches the study from a humanities perspective. Topics covered will include, among others, the Qur’an, law, fundamentalist movements, Islam and other religions, modern developments, women in Islam, and Islam and Middle Eastern politics.
Staff
M/WTh 1:10 – 2:00

NEJS 12A Introduction to Christianity
Ms. Brooten
MW 3:40 – 5:00

NEJS 144A Jews in the World of Islam
A social and cultural history of Jewish communities in the Islamic world. Special emphasis is placed on the Jewish communities in the Middle East since 1492.
Mr. Levy
MW 5:10 – 6:30

NEJS 149A The Jews of Muslim and Christian Spain
A survey of Jewish culture, political, intellectual, and social history in the Islamic and Christian spheres from the beginnings of Jewish life in Spain until the expulsion in 1492. Students develop skills in reading historical, literary, and philosophical texts.
Mr. Dexter
TF 10:40 – 12:00

SAS 140A We Who Are at Home: Everywhere: Narratives from the South Asian Diaspora
Looks at narratives from various locations of the South Asian diaspora while paying close attention to the emergence of an immigrant South Asian public culture. Examines novels, poetry, short stories, films, and music in order to further an understanding of South Asian immigrant culture.
Ms. Singh
MW 5:10 – 6:30

Global Perspectives

AAAS 133B The Literature of the Caribbean
An exploration of the narrative strategies and themes of writers of the region who grapple with the persistence of colonialism, class, race, ethnicity, and gender in a context of conflicting allegiances to North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.
Ms. Smith
MW 2:10 – 3:30

AMTH 55A Anthropology of Development
This course combines an examination of the historical development of “development” concepts and institutions with case studies of particular developmental projects in the United States and abroad. Throughout the course, we will sustain a dynamic interplay between development theory and practice.
Ms. Ferry
TF 9:10 – 10:30

ANTH 33B Crossing Cultural Boundaries
An examination of situations where individuals, either actually or imaginatively, willingly or unwillingly cross cultural boundaries separating their own culture and other cultural traditions. The understandings and misunderstandings that result from these encounters are examined in primary texts and images and in scholarly reconstructions.
Mr. Parmentier
TF 1:40 – 3:00

ENV 18B International Environmental Conflict and Cooperation
A study of the development of international environmental law and policy through a historical lens. Examines how early diplomatic initiatives have—and importantly, have not—shaped the contemporary structure of international environmental institutions.
Mr. Chester
MW 5:10 – 6:30

FA 12A History of Asian Art
A selective survey of the art of the three major Asian areas: India, China, and Japan.
Ms. Wong
TF 9:10 – 10:30

FA 122A Modern Architecture Gone Global
Explores major architectural developments over the last century from a global perspective. While tracing European and American movements, links are made to the architectural impulses of Western economies worldwide in places like the Indian subcontinent, Muslim heartland, and North Africa.
Ms. Grigor
TF 10:40 – 12:00

FREN 165 Francophone Literatures
A survey of the poetry, prose, and drama of Francophone writers of Africa or the Caribbean (in alternating sequences). Topics include the Francophone African and Caribbean literatures and the role of women Francophone writers.
Ms. Hale
TF 10:40 – 12:00

HISP 192B Latin American Global Film
An examination of films from Latin American or about Latin American topics. Considering film production and circulation, the class focuses on how images travel, how local stories and images are projected globally, and how Latin American and its “local” cultures are processed outside of their borders.
Mr. Rosenberg
TF 10:40 – 12:00

HISP 193C Latin American Global Perspectives on Health
A primer on major issues in health care in developing nations. Topics include the natural history of disease and levels of prevention; epidemiological transitions; health disparities; and determinants of health including culture, social context, and behavior.
Ms. Bhalotra
MW 5:10 – 6:30

POL 147A The Government and Politics of China
Introduction to major themes of Chinese politics, emphasizing the rise of the Chinese Communist party and the post-1949 trends in domestic politics, while also surveying historical, sociological, and cultural influences in Chinese politics. Attention to the nature of the traditional state, impact of colonialism, national revolution, and the course of contemporary state development.
Mr. Thaxter
MWTH 12:10 – 1:00

POL 164A Conflict and Peacemaking in the Middle East
Evolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the efforts to resolve it. Focuses on key documents and developments with particular emphasis on the Palestinian-Israeli dimension, and the different narratives adopted by the parties on the conflict.
Mr. Feldman
F 9:10 – 12:00

POL 175B Global Civil Society
The role of international organizations in the contemporary global political and economic system, the ways in which they influence or contribute to major international policy issues, and the interactions between international organizations and global civil society.
Ms. Thorne
MW 9:10 – 10:00

SAS 101A Introduction to South Asia
An exploration of the history, societies, cultures, religions, and literatures of South Asia—India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Uses perspectives from history, anthropological, and literary, and film to examine past and contemporary life in South Asia.
Ms. Singh
MW 2:10 – 3:30

Gender and Society

AMST 121A An Introduction to Women's Studies
An introduction to the processes of social science and general education.
Mr. Atwood
MW 10:40 – 12:00

AMST 127B Women and American Popular Culture
Examines women’s diverse representations and participation in the popular culture of the United States. Using historical contexts of advertising, film, television, music, and literature, discusses how constructions of race, gender, class, sexuality, ethnicity, and religion have shaped women’s encounters with popular and mass culture.
Ms. Dave
TF 10:40 – 12:00

ECON 69A The Economics of Race and Gender
The role of race and gender in economic decision making. Mainstream and alternative economic explanations for discrimination, and analysis of the economic status of women and minorities. Discussion of specific public policies related to race, class, and gender.
Ms. Braintree
MW 2:10 – 3:30

HIST 173B Latin American Women: Heroines, Icons, and History
Explores Latin American women’s history by focusing on female icons and heroines such as La Malinche, Sor Juana, Eva Peron, Carmen Miranda, and the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo. Topics include conquest, mestizaje, religious, independence, tropical feminism, dictatorship, and social movements.
Ms. Arron
TF 12:10 – 1:30

POL 125A Women in American Politics
Addresses three major dimensions of women’s political participation: social reform and women-identified issues; women’s organizations and institutions; and women politicians, electoral politics, and party identification. Covers historical context and contemporary developments in women’s political activity.
Ms. Greenlee
T 1:40 – 3:30

PSYC 160B Seminar on Sex Differences
Considers research evidence bearing on sex differences in the cognitive domain and in the social domain, evolution in the light of biological, cultural, and social-cognitive theories as well as methodological issues.
Ms. Zebrowitz
F 8:10 – 12:00

WMS 89A Internship in Women’s an Gender Studies: Prevention of Violence against Women
Combines fieldwork in domestic and sexual violence prevention programs with a fortnightly seminar exploring cultural and intersectional facets of violence from a feminist perspective. Internships provide practical experience in local organizations such as rape crisis, battered women’s violence prevention, and child abuse prevention programs.
Ms. Hunter
Th 2:10 – 5:00

at Brandeis, you are encouraged to learn about a wide variety of human societies, cultures, and countries and about causes and consequences of differences among racial, ethnic, religious, and other groups. Listed below are a sampling of the Fall 2009 courses that address these issues; we hope that you will consider including some of them in your studies. They are grouped under “Gender and Sexuality,” “Religion, Race, and Culture,” and “Global Perspectives,” though naturally many of the courses intersect these groupings. For additional course offerings, please refer to the registrar’s website: www.brandeis.edu/registrar/.