

Exploration • Understanding • Pluralism

Fall 2009 Courses

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/.

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 history, literature, personal essays, films, and other popular media sources.
Ms. Dave TF 1:40 – 3:00

ENG38B Race, Region and Religion in the 20th Century South

Twentieth century fiction of the American South. Racial conflict, regional identity, religion, and modernization in fiction from both sides of the racial divide and from both sides of the gender line. Texts by Chestnutt, Faulkner, Warren, O'Connor, Gaines, McCarthy, and Ellison.
Mr. Burt MWTh 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 affairs. Approaches the study from a humanities perspective. Topics covered will include the Qur'an, tradition, law, theology, politics, Islam and other religions, modern developments, women in Islam, and Islam and Middle Eastern politics.
Staff MWTh 1:10 – 2:00

NEJS 128A Introduction to Christianity

An introduction to Christian beliefs, liturgy, and history. Surveys the largest world religion: from Ethiopian to Korean Christianity, from black theology to the Christian right. Analyzes Christian debates about God, Christ, and human beings. Studies differences among Catholics, Protestants, and Orthodox.
Ms. Broten 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 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. Decter 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, film, 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 issues of colonialism, class, race, ethnicity, and gender in a context of often-conflicting allegiances to North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.
Ms. Smith MW 2:10 – 3:30

ANTH 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 over the 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

ENVS 18B International Environmental Conflict and Collaboration

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 relations.
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 past century from a global perspective. While tracing European and American movements, links are made to the architectural implications of Western ambitions worldwide in places like the Indian subcontinent, Muslim heartland, and North Africa.
Ms. Grigor TF 10:40 – 12:00

FREN 165B Francophone Literatures

A survey of the poetry, prose, and drama of Francophone writers of Africa or the Caribbean (in alternating sequence). Topics include Negritude, French and African languages, tradition and change, oral and written literature, Islam, the influence of film, 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

HSSP 102A 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 Communists 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. Thaxton 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 MWTh 9:10 – 10:00

SAS 100A Introduction to South Asia

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

Gender and Sexuality

AMST125A History of US Feminisms

An investigation of the development and politics of women's rights in the United States. Explores the internal and external coalitions and conflicts at the nexus of race, ethnicity, sexuality, and religion. Examines the transnational shift to organizing for human rights.
Ms. Antler & Ms. Hansen TF 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 studies, 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. Brainerd 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, religion, independence, tropical exoticism, dictatorship, and social movements.
Ms. Arrom 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, evaluating this evidence in light of biological, cultural, and social-cognitive theories as well as methodological issues.
Ms. Zebrowitz F 9:10 – 12:00

WMGS 89A Internship in Women's and Gender Studies: Prevention of Violence against Women and Children

Combines fieldwork in domestic and sexual violence prevention programs with a fortnightly seminar exploring cultural and interpersonal 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

