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 Spring 2017 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

**AAAS 102A: African Cinema**
Explores the development and development of African cinema in the context of African history, culture and politics. Examines issues of social change, gender, class, tradition, and modernization through various African cinematic experiences. (nw ss) S. Hassan
**TH 2:00-4:50 PM**

**ANTH 128B: Ethnicity in Israel: Anthropological Perspectives**
Examines how anthropology thinking about minority groups has shaped the study of ethnic relations in Israel. This focus on anthropological thinking about “cultural” minorities sheds light on advantages and blind spots in anthropological theories. (ss)
A. Levy
**TH 5:00-6:20 PM**

**HIST 129A: Women in Christianity: A Transnational Modern History**
Examines the social and cultural history of women in Christianity in the modern period. We will cover the “lived religion” of women within the 3 main branches of Christianity on 6 continents. (ss)
A. French
**TH 5:00-6:20 PM**

**HIST 152A: American History, American Literature**
Readings and discussions on the classical literature of American history, the great books that have shaped our sense of the subject. (ss)
I. Campbell
**TH 3:30-4:45 PM**

**JAPN 140A: The World of Early Modern Japan**
A survey of the most celebrated works of literature from Japan’s early modern period (1600-1688). Explores a wide range of genres, including fiction, travelogues, monogatari, dramatic forms such as the puppet theater and kabuki, as well as poetry. All readings available in English translation. (hum nw) M. Fraleigh
**TH 6:30-7:50 PM**

**LAAS 144B: Mapping Latino Boston**
This course explores Latino, Caribbean, and Hispanic migration in the greater Boston area. Visualization of history and culture are carried out through photography, the production and analysis of digital maps, narratives constructed from interviews and mapping data. (ss)
L. Christoforidou
**M, W, Th 1:00-5:50 PM**

**NEJS 128A: Introduction to Christianity**
An introduction to the social and cultural history of women in the Christian tradition. This will cover the “lived religion” of women within the 3 main branches of Christianity on 6 continents. (ss)
B. Broten
**M, W 3:30-4:50 PM**

**NEJS 195A: Muhammad: Life, Teachings, and Legacy**
Studies the life of Muhammad based upon the earliest biographical accounts and the academic analyses in both Islamic and non-Islamic sources, accounting for the diversity and dynamism of his legacy in different aspects of Islam, such as Shi’ism and Sufism. (hum)
S. Laher
**TH 5:00-6:20 PM**

**RECS 153A: Russian Short Fiction: The Art of Detachment**
Focuses on the great tradition of the short story as practiced by Russian/Russian Jewish writers and the changes and diversification among this genre. The genre invites extreme stylistic and narrative experimentation ranging from the comic to the tragic, as well as being a vehicle for striking expressions of complex social, philosophical, and religious themes. (hum)
R. Miller
**M, W 2:00-3:20 PM**

**RECS 159A: Russian and Soviet Cinema**
Examines the Russian/Soviet cinematic tradition from the silent era to today, with special attention to cultural context and visual elements. Film masterpieces directed by Bauer, Eisenstein, Vertov, Tarkovsky, Tarkovskij, Mukhalakov, and others. Weekly screenings. (hum)
P. Powlesstock
**TH 2:00-3:20 PM**

### Global Perspectives

**AAAS 122A: Politics of Southern Africa**
Study of clashing nationalisms, alternative patterns of development, and internationalization of conflict in southern Africa. The political economy of Southern Africa in regional context and its effect on the politics of the neighboring countries. Particularly Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, and Zimbabwe. (nw ss) W. Nyangoni
**T 6:30-9:00 PM**

**AAAS 146B: African Icons**
From Walatta Petros, a 17th century Ethiopian nun turned social reformer, to the social activist Fela Kuti, this course introduces a range of iconic images in Africa's history to students who also acquire the important theoretical and analytical skills associated with sound historical research and writing. (nw ss)
C. Ray
**T 9:30-10:50 AM**

**AAAS 162A: Assassination: A History of 20th Century Africa**
Examines the assassinations of a range of different political, cultural, and activist figures, such as Patrice Lumumba, Steve Biko, and Ken Saro-Wiwa. (nw ss)
M. Gellman
**T 11:00-12:20 PM**

**AAAS/FA 74B: Introduction to African Art**
Survey of the visual arts traditions of Africa. Investigates the different forms of visual art in relation to the social, economic, and socio-cultural context. Symbolism and complexity of Africa’s visual arts traditions explored through analysis of myth, ritual, cosmology, and politics. (hum)
S. Hassan
**TH 5:00-6:20 PM**

**ANTH 131B: Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective**
Examines issues in contemporary Latin America and the Caribbean. Covers the perspectives of ethnographic sociocultural anthropology, based primarily on books and articles drawing on long-term ethnographic research. (ss)
E. Ferry
**TH 2:00-3:20 PM**

**CHIN 136B: Chinese Modernism in International Context**
Examines the origins, recurrences, and metamorphoses of modernistic styles and movements in twentieth-century Chinese literature, film, fine art, and intellectual discourses. (hum nw) P. Wang
**T, Th 11:00-12:20 PM**

**ENG 127B: Migrating Bodies, Migrating Texts**
Beginning with the region’s representation as a tabula rasa, examines the textual/visual construction of the Caribbean as colony, homeland, paradise, Babylon, and how the region’s migrations have prompted ideas about ethnicity, feminism, imperialism, and diaspora. (hum nw) F. Smith
**M 3:30-4:50 PM**

### Gender and Sexuality

**NEJS 115B: Gender, Sexuality and the Bible**
The Bible’s depiction of gender, relationships, and social values shapes contemporary culture. These topics include the legal status of women, masculinity, prostitution, and how particular readings of the bible have shaped modern ideas about gender and sexuality. (hum)
J. Vayntrub
**M, W 1:00-5:00 PM**

**NEJS 166A: Carnal Israel: Exploring Jewish Sexuality from Talmudic Times to the Present**
Explores the construction of masculinity in Jewish communities from Talmudic times to the present. Themes include rabbinic views of sex, midrash, illicit relations, masculinity, sexual norms, and Sephardic sexual practices, sexual symbolism in mystic literature; the discourse on sex, race, and nationalism in Europe; debates about masculinity, sexual orientation, and transgender identities. (hum)
C. Freeze
**T 11:00-12:20 PM**

### SOCI 115A: Masculinities
Men's experiences of masculinity have only recently emerged as a central issue in society. This course inquires into concepts, literature, and phenomenology of femininity. (ss)
G. Fellman
**TH 1:00-3:50 PM**

### SOC 121A: Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in America: A Sociological Approach
Provides an introduction to the broad sociological studies of religion, gender, and sexualities; it examines the interactions between religious communities, practices, and identities both inform and are informed by gender and sexuality. (ss)
M. Clendenen
**M, W 1:00-5:00 PM**

### SQS 6B: Sexuality and Queer Studies
Examines cross-cultural and historical perspectives on sexual meanings, experiences, representations, and activist movements within a framework for contemporary critical theories of gender and sexuality. (ss)
J. King
**M, W 2:00-3:00 PM**

### SQS 126A: Trans(gress)ing the 'Normal': Transgender and Sex/Gender Nonconforming Lives
Introduces the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies. Social, cultural, political and historical changes will be our focus in order to gain a deeper insight into the formation and circulation of "transgender" as a category, as well as into transgender lives, identity and politics. (ss)
A. Zengin
**T 5:00-6:20 PM**