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 2015 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 cross these groupings. For additional course descriptions, please visit the registrar’s website: www.brandeis.edu/registrar/

**Religion, Race and Culture**

**AAAS 115A: Introduction to African History**
 explores the history of African societies from their earliest beginnings to the present era. Topics include African history in antiquity as early as 11000 BCE, the rise of Christianity and preindustrial political, economic, and cultural developments. (nw, ss)

Ms. Wendol

T, F 11:00 AM – 12:20 PM

**AAAS 160B: If We Must Die: War and Military Service in African American History**
 examines the role and the military has played in the history of African Americans from slavery to the present. We will explore themes of violence, freedom, citizenship, manhood, internationalism and civil rights. (ss)

Mr. Williams

M, W 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**AMST 55A: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in American Culture**
 Provides an introductory overview of the study of race, ethnicity, and culture in the United States. Focuses on historical, sociological and political movements that affected the arrival and settlement of African, Asian, European, American Indian, and Latino populations in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. (ss)

Ms. Powers

T, 3:30 PM – 4:50 PM

**ENG 38B: Race, Region, and Religion in the Twentieth-Century South**
 Explores the relationship among race, religion, and modernization in fiction from both sides of the racial divide and from both sides of the gender line. (hum)

Mr. Kimelman

T, Th 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

**HINDI 10A: Beginning Hindi**
 Introduces the student to the Hindi language with instruction in script, grammar, comprehension, and vocabulary.

Ms. Ramachand-Tewarie

M, T, W, Th 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM

**ITAL 106A: Advanced Italian through Narrative, Film, and Other Media**
 Courses intersect three genre-representative Italian texts (prose, poetry, drama) and culture. Reading and listening activities followed by in-class discussions and presentations are designed to strengthen communication and reading skills. (fl, hum)

Ms. Wasson

M, W, Th 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM

**AMST/MUS 38A: Music as Social Experience**
 Will focus on select repertories, beginning with Native American and African-American traditions along with a New England psalm singing from the eighteenth century and extending into a wide range of musical theater, jazz, and art composers up to the twenty-first century. (ss)

Ms. Musil

M, W, Th 1:00 PM – 2:10 PM

**NEJS 5A: The History of Judaism**
 A survey of the Jewish experience and thought, focusing on the varieties of historical Judaism, including its classical forms, its medieval patterns and transformations, and its modern options. (hum)

Mr. Kimelman

T, F 9:30 AM – 10:50 AM

**NEJS 124B: Divinity, Difference and Desire: An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism**
 A survey of Jewish mystical thought in history. (hum)

Mr. Mirsky

M, W, Th 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

 Introduces the New Testament and related early Christian literatures, including African American Jewish families, organizations, and behavior patterns in the second half of the twentieth century. (hum)

Ms. Fishman

T, Th 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**PHIL 146A: Idea of God**
 Engages in a philosophical investigation, not of religion as an institution but of the very idea of God. This course will examine the connection between human beings and divine being and address the issue of the relation of God's essence to his existence. (hum)

Mr. Yourgrau

M, W 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**POL 145B: Muslims in the West: Politics, Religion, Law**
 This seminar looks at religious discrimination as a barrier to the civic and political inclusion of Muslim immigrants in the western legal systems and courts, and the general public, and what we know about the balance among "fundamentalist," "moderate," and "progressive" Muslim viewpoints. (ss)

Ms. Zengin

T 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM

**RECS 135A: Russian Short Fictions: The Art of Narrative**
 Focuses on the great tradition of the short story as practiced by Russian and Russian-Jewish writers and the connection and divisions among them. This genre invites extreme stylistic and narrative experimentation ranging from the comic to the tragic, the despairing to the vehicular for striking expressions of complex social, philosophical, and religious themes. (hum)

Ms. Miller

M, W 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

**SAS 100A: India and Pakistan: Understanding 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, ss)

Ms. Singh

T 11:00 AM – 12:20 PM

**Global Perspectives**

**AAAS 158A: Theories of Development and Underdevelopment**
 The purpose of this seminar is to acquaint students with contending theories of development and underdevelopment, emphasizing the open and contested nature of the process involved and of the field of study itself. (sw, ss)

Mr. Nyangoni

T 6:30 PM – 9:20 PM

**ANTH 158A: Urban Worlds**
 Explores some of the essential concepts of urban theory and the current state of urban studies and urban experiences around the world. Topics include the city and marginality, urban modernity, gender and public space, gentrification, urbanization, transgression and, urban nature. Case studies may be from cities such as Lagos, New York, Paris, Dubai, and Rio de Janeiro. (ss)

Mr. Majumder

T, Th 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**ENG 232: The Black Transnational Romance**
 Explores the romance in black diaspora fictions spanning the 20th and 21st centuries, including writers from the Caribbean, South Asia and Africa. (hum)

Ms. Brooten

T, Th 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**HIST 71B: Latin American and Caribbean History II: Modernity, Medicine, Sexuality**
 Studies the idea of "modernity" in Latin America and Caribbean, centered on roles of health and human reproduction in definitions of the "modern" citizen: post-slavery labor, race and national identity; modern politics and economics; health, gender, and sexualities. (nw, ss)

Mr. Childs

M, W, Th 10:00 AM – 11:50 AM

**HISP 164B: Studies in Latin American Literature**
 A comparative and critical study of main trends, idioms, and the historical context of Latin American literature, nation and history in Latin America, and humor in Latin America. (fl, hum, ni)

Mr. Rosenberg

M, W 3:30 PM – 4:50 PM

**LALS 170A: Sports, Games, and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean**
 Sports are one of Latin America's biggest exports and imports. This course will explore the intersections of historical studies and interdisciplinary readings, examines the politics and social forces behind sports such as soccer, cricket, baseball, wrestling, and bullfighting (ss)

Ms. Brown

M, W, Th 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM

**POL 134B: The Global Migration Crisis**
 Looks at immigration from the perspectives of policy-makers, migrants, and the groups affected by immigration in sender nations as well as destination countries. Introduces students to the history of migration policy, core concepts and facts about migration in the West, and to the theories and disagreements among immigrant scholars. (ss, ss)

Ms. Klausen

M, W 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

**POL 144A: Latin American Politics I**
 Revolution, order, and regime transition in northern Latin America. Specific examination of the Mexican and Cuban revolutions and their outcomes. (nw, ss)

Mr. Fried

M, W, Th 12:00 PM – 1:20 PM

**Gender and Sexuality**

**AMST 127B: Women and American Popular Culture**
 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. (ss)

Ms. Powers

T, Th 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**ENG 87A: Sex and Race in the American Novel**
 Reading texts across racial, geographical, and temporal divides, this course investigates the representation of non-normative racial and sexual identities as signaled, haunted, or repaired by an appeal to race. (hum)

Ms. Abdur-Rahman

T, F 11:00 AM – 12:20 PM

**NEJS 188B: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Jews and Christians: Sources and Interpretations**
 Introduction to the classical Jewish and Christian sources on same-sex love and gender ambiguity and to a variety of current interpretations of them, to the evidence for same-sex love and gender fluidity among Jews and Christians through the centuries, and to current religious and public policy debates about same-sex love and gender identity and expression. (hum)

Mr. Bahram

M, W 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM

**NEJS 178A: Love, Sex, and Power in Israeli Culture**
 Explores questions of romance, gender, marriage, and jealousy in the Israeli context by offering a feminist and psychoanalytic reading of Hebrew texts, works of art, and film. (fl, hum)

Ms. Szobol

T, Th 3:30 PM – 4:50 PM

**SQS 160A: Transnational Sexualities**
 Explores the transnational politics of gender and sexualities across cultures. (nw, ss)

Ms. Zengin

M, W 2:00 PM – 3:20 PM

**WMGS 105B: Feminisms: History, Theory, and Practice**
 Examines diverse theories of sex and gender within a multicultural framework, considering historical changes in feminist thought, the theoretical understandings of various feminist practices, and the implications of diverse and often conflicting theories for both academic inquiry and social change. (oc, ss)

Ms. Freeze

T 11:00 AM – 12:20 PM

**WMGS 140A: Diversity of Muslim Women's Experience**
 A broad introduction to the multidimensional nature of women's experiences in the Muslim world. (nw, ss)

Ms. Shavarini

M, W 11:00 AM – 12:50 PM