



## American Studies Spring 2016 Course Offerings John Pettegrew, Director

### **AMST, SOAN 397 -10, 497-010 Communities in Post-Industrial America** 3 credits

Communities—whether based on where we live, our identities, or our experiences—define social life. Yet communities are rarely as simple, harmonious or static as they seem. Studying a community means studying how power operates within that community, and how the community is impacted by the world outside it. This course explores the concept of community in various U.S. contexts and the ethics of studying communities. Readings include sociological and anthropological case studies of postindustrial American communities. The class will investigate the use of digital tools in the practice of undertaking community studies in the 21st century. Students will conduct mini ethnographies within Bethlehem to produce their own community study. No prior experience with interviewing or with ethnography is required.

**Professor Kanosky** T, Th; 2:35-3:50 p.m.

### **AMST 396-010, 425-10 Community Study through Documentary Film** 4 credits

A film production course concentrating on lighting, sound, shooting interviews (among other types of shots), and Final Cut Pro editing; matched with producing a team-made thirty-minute documentary film on a local historical or contemporary topic of critical interest **Professor Setton** *Department permission required.* W; 1:10-4:00 p.m.

### **AMST 496-012: #Black Lives Matter: A Literary History of Resistance in American** (HU) CBE Diversity 3 credits

This course will examine an African American literary history for the contemporary “Movement for Black Lives” (i.e. the Black Lives Matter movement). Formulated in the aftermath of the shooting of Trayvon Martin, Black Lives Matter organizers and activists have worked consistently to establish an intersectional emphasis on the identity politics of social justice movements. The course juxtaposes the BLM movements’ emphasis with and amongst the Black writers who have been writing about black lives mattering since the arrival of captured and enslaved Africans in America. This course is also available to graduate students who will be required to read an enhanced syllabus, give in-class presentations and write a final seminar paper. Course texts include: Dessa Rose, A Red Record, “The Ethics of Living Jim Crow,” The Fire Next Time, Between the World and Me, and The View from Flyover County. **Professor Peterson** M; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

### **AAS, SOC 313-10 Social Movements** (SS) 4 credits

Explores the origins, dynamics, and consequences of social movements through both sociological theory and empirical case studies. Covers questions of what constitutes a social movement, where and when social movements arise, who joins a social movement, and how social movements are able to contribute to change. Answers to these questions highlight issues of social movement recruitment and leadership, interactions between movements and the media, the state, and the broader public, ideology, strategies and tactics, and the factors contributing to the success and failure of social movements. Course readings drawn from case studies on civil rights, women's rights, gay rights, the environment, American Indians, abortion, globalization, antiapartheid, democratization, peace, and Islamic fundamentalism. Prerequisite: One 100-level SSP course. **Professor Munson** T, Th; 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

### **\*\*AAS, COMM, WGSS 376-10 New Media, Race and Gender** (SS) 4 credits

This class will take an exploratory approach to understanding the relationship between race, gender and new media. To this end, it will examine depictions of racial minorities and women online; how users access and use new media across race and gender (including a look at the digital divide); and differences in use of social media websites across race and gender. The goal of this course is for students to understand the ways in which existing racial and gender categorizations are/are not transmitted to the online community and do/do not become an extension of present social hierarchy. *Open only to Africana Studies, COMM and WGSS majors/minors. All others require instructor permission.* **Professor El-Burki** T, R; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

### **ENG 318-10 Imagining Freedom: 19th Century African American Lit & Politics** (HU) CBE Diversity 3 credits

This course will provide an interdisciplinary survey of African-American literature and politics from the 1820s to the turn of the twentieth century. We will read diverse texts, including autobiographical slave-narratives, novels and poems, protests against slavery and lynching, demands for political equality, calls for slave rebellion and appeals for inter-racial cooperation. We will read some of the most famous writings in the African-American tradition, including works by Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Booker T. Washington and W. E. B. Du Bois. (Other readings will include works by David Walker, Maria Stewart, Henry Highland Garnet, Harriet Wilson, T. Thomas Fortune, Ida B. Wells, and Charles Chesnut.) By listening to spirituals and work-songs, we will also attempt to hear the aspirations of those who endured the experience of slavery and its aftermath, as they have been handed down through vernacular musical traditions. Throughout the term, we will focus on the varied efforts of African Americans to imagine the possibility – and the content – of freedom, in the face of slavery, political disenfranchisement, economic exploitation, and racial discrimination. These imaginings of freedom are among the richest cultural legacies of the American people, and they are a necessary part of any effort to understand the contradictory history of the United States. No prior study of African-American history or culture will be required, but a willingness to engage in interdisciplinary inquiry will be expected. **Professor Moglen** T, R; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

### **AAS, POLS, GS, ASIA 343-10 Global Politics of Race: Asia and Africa** (SS) CBE Diversity 4 credits

An examination of the concept of “race” and its impact on domestic and international politics. **Professor Fennell** T; 4:10 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### **ENGL 319-011 American Horror Film** (HU) 3 Credits

Examination of the horror film from its beginnings to the present, including classic horror of the 1930's, the emergence of the slasher film in the 1970's, the self-reflexive horror of the 1990's, the faux-documentary horror at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the virulent renaissance of the genre in our post 9/11 world, notably so-called “torture porn” and the return of the “possession” film. The will ask fundamental questions about what we find horrifying, as well

as particular questions about the changing shape of horror through the decades. The course will focus on U.S. film but will sometimes include the highly influential horror traditions of other countries (for example, Germany, Japan, and Spain). **Professor Keetley** T, Th; 1:10-2:25

**ENG 318-13 Imagining Freedom: 19<sup>th</sup> C. African American Literature & Politics** (HU) CBE Diversity 3 credits

Topics in African-American culture and/or the cultures of the African diaspora. Topics may be focused by period, genre, thematic interest or interdisciplinary method including, for example, Nineteenth-century African-American Literature and Politics; African-American Folklore; Black Atlantic Literature, The Harlem Renaissance; and African-American Women Writers **Professor Moglen** T, Th; 2:30-3:50 p.m.

**ENGL 478-10 Contemporary American Literature** (HU) 3 credits

Topics in American Literature since World War II. Lectures and class discussions of new writers and of recent works of established writers around various themes of import for the contemporary period. **Professor Foltz** T; 4:10-7:00 p.m.

**HIST 319-011 Colonial America** (SS) 3 credits

Founding and growth of colonies in North America through 1763. Emphasis on motives for settlement, Native American-European relations, and the economic, social, and political development of the British West Indies, and mainland provinces. **Professor LeMaster** T, Th; 2:35-3:50 p.m.

**HIST 325-011 History of Sexuality and the Family in the U.S.** (SS) CBE Diversity 3 credits

Changing conceptions of sexuality and the role of women, men, and children in the family and society from the colonial to the postWorld War II era. Emphasis on the significance of socioeconomic class and cultural background. Topics include family structure, birth control, legal constraints, marriage, divorce, and prostitution. **Professor Najar** M, W; 12:45-2:00 p.m.

**HIST 351-011 "The Gangs of New York"** (HU) 3 credits

The course will use the Martin Scorsese film "The Gangs of New York" as a window to examine the social economic transformations of New York City in the middle of the nineteenth century. Emphasis will be on immigration, slum gangs and street violence, politics, the Draft Riot of 1863, and the Tweed Ring. A recurrent theme will be to compare the historical record with the film's depiction of those events. There will be a required evening showing of the film. Not available for pass/fail. **Professor Simon** M, W, F; 10:10-11:00

**HIST 401-10 Historical Research** 3 credits

Techniques of research in history: training in the critical handling of documentary materials, in measuring the value of evidence, and in formal presentation of the results of research. Students will write an original research paper using primary materials. Required of all graduate students in history. **Professor Bulman** Th; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

**HIST 421-10 Readings in Topics in the Atlantic World** 3 credits

Study in small groups under the guidance of a faculty member on a particular topic in the history of the Atlantic World. **Professor Essien** W; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

**HIST 438-10 Techniques in Public History** 2-3 credits

Designed to introduce students to a variety of public history techniques. Instructor will focus on one of the following topics each term: archives, documentary film, exhibit design, historical editing, material culture, oral history. **Professor Carrell-Smith** By arrangement.

**HIST 442-10 Readings in Twentieth Century American History** 3 credits

Study in small groups under the guidance of a faculty member of the literature of the 20th century. **Professor Pettegrew** T; 4:10 - 7:00 p.m.

**\*\*HMS 395-10 Food, Medicine & Public Health** (SS) 4 credits

During this course, students will examine the intersection between the American diet and food system, the medical system and public health efforts to promote healthier lifestyles. Focus areas will include basics about nutrition and a healthy diet, common nutrition related diseases (diabetes, cancer, heart disease, kidney disease, etc), their etiologies and pathophysiology, how our diets and our food system is contributing to chronic disease in our country, how food can BE a medicine/cure for many diseases, how public health is impacted by our food system and diets, and how medical and public health interventions should be modified to promote health and well-being. Pre-requisite, HMS 180 or HMS 160. **Professor Coyle** T, Th; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

**POLS 317-010 The American Presidency** (SS) 3-4 credits

Role of the executive in the American political process. Includes an analysis of the historical development, selection process, and scope of executive power. Emphasizes domestic and foreign policy initiatives of selected presidents from FDR to today. **Professor Ambar** T, Th; 9:20-10:35 p.m.

**POLS 352-010 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties** (SS) 4 credits

A continuation of themes, issues, and debates of the previous semester (POLS 351). This course addresses the major cases and controversies within several legal domains, including the freedoms of and from religion; freedom of speech; freedom of association; freedom of the press; the right to bear arms; the rights of criminal defendants and suspects; the right to privacy; capital punishment; and, the equal protection of law. **Professor Beienburg** T, Th; 2:35-3:50 p.m.

**POLS/PHIL 367-010 American Political Thought** (SS, WI) 4 credits

Critical examination of American political thought from the founding of the Republic to the present. Writings from Madison, Hamilton, and Jefferson to Emma Goldman, Mary Daly, Malcolm X, Henry Kariel, and others will be discussed. **Professor Matthews** T, Th; 1:10-2:25 p.m.

**POLS 375-010 Seminar: Green Polity** (SS) 4 credits

Development of guidelines and applications for public policy and political action directed toward environmental sustainability and political feasibility. Focus on problem-solving and policy design, connecting sustainable environmental goals with workable and responsive institutional designs. **Professor Wurth** M, W; 11:10-12:25 p.m.

\*\*restricted enrollment, department approval required