

SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY

SCPP Co-Directors:

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Students who would like to sign up for the SCPP mailing listserv should fill out this form.

Mission

As part of the College's mission to prepare scientists, policymakers, and an educated citizenry for the moral challenges presented by future scientific advances, Barnard offers a minor in which students can explore a unique collection of courses dealing with issues at the point where science, public policy, and societal concerns intersect. The minor consists of courses divided into two categories. One category is made up of more science-oriented courses and the other is made up of more policy-oriented courses. Students would select a total of 5 courses overall, with at least two from each of the categories. There are two seminar courses that explicitly deal with the interplay between science, policy and society, which are included in both categories, but can only be counted once. SCPP courses come from various disciplines and cover a range of issues, such as medicine, public health, genomics, technology, and the environment. Students who minor in SCPP will learn to analyze issues from scientific, policy, and societal perspectives.

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to commonly asked questions about the SCPP minor can be found in [this document \(click here to download\)](#).

Professor: Brian Morton (Biological Sciences)

Assistant Professor: Amy Zhou (Sociology)

Previous:

Professor: Timothy Halpin-Healy (Physics & Astronomy)

Requirements for the Science, Policy, & Ethics Minor

SCPP Minor Requirements starting Fall 2022

To complete the minor, a student must take a total of five of the courses listed below. At least two must be from Category A and at least two from Category B. The SCPP seminars (SCPP BC3334 and SCPP BC3336) are listed in both Categories. These can be counted towards either Category but can only count as one of the five courses.

	Points
CATEGORY A	
SCPP BC3334	SCIENCE, STATE POWER, ETHICS 4
SCPP BC3336	GENETICS AND SOCIETY 4
BIOL UN3995 (Section 1)	Topics in Biology: Crossroads in Bioethics 1-2
BIOT GU4200	BIOPHARMACEUTICAL DEV # REG 3
COMS W3410	COMPUTERS AND SOCIETY 3.00

COMS BC3420	PRIVACY IN A NETWORKED WORLD	4.00
EEEE GU4005	Conservation Policy	3
EEEE GU4321	HUM NATURE:DNA,RACE # IDENTITY	4.00
EESC UN2330	SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVPT (Either SDEV UN2300 or EESC UN2330 count toward the minor, NOT BOTH.)	3
EESC BC3040	ENVIRONMENTAL LAW	3.00
HSAM UN2901	DATA:PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE	3.00
IEOR E4575	TOPICS IN OPERATIONS RESEARCH	3.00
PSYC BC3387	Topics in Neuroethics	4
PUBH UN3100	FUNDAMENTALS OF GLOBAL HEALTH	3.00
PUBH UN3200	INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH	3.00
PUBH UN3400	Data Science and Health Equity in New York City	3
SDEV UN2000	INTRO TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW	3
SDEV UN2050	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE	3.00
SDEV UN2300	CHALLENGES OF SUSTAINABLE DEV (Either SDEV UN2300 or EESC UN2330 count toward the minor, NOT BOTH.)	3.00
SDEV UN3355	CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAW	3.00
SDEV UN3366	ENERGY LAW	3.00
CATEGORY B		
SCPP BC3334	SCIENCE, STATE POWER, ETHICS	4
SCPP BC3336	GENETICS AND SOCIETY	4.00
ANTH UN3665	The Politics of Care	4.00
HIST BC3910	Global Politics of Reproduction: Culture, Politics, and History	4
HRTS BC1025	HUM RGTS IN THEORY# PRACTICE (Either HRTS BC1025 or HRTS UN3001 may count toward the minor, NOT BOTH.)	3.00
HRTS UN3001	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS (Either HRTS BC1025 or HRTS UN3001 may count toward the minor, NOT BOTH.)	3.00
HRTS BC3850	HUMAN RIGHTS # PUBLIC HEALTH	4.00
HSPB UN2950	Social History of U.S. Public Health	4.00
PHIL BC1001	Introduction to Philosophy	3
PHIL UN1010	METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT	3.00
PHIL UN2702	Contemporary Moral Problems	3
PHIL UN3701	ETHICS	4.00
PHIL V3720	Ethics and Medicine	3
PHIL UN3800	PHILOSOPHY, JUSTICE AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM	4.00
PUBH GU4200	Environment, Health, and Justice: Concepts and Practice	3.00
SOCI UN3120	Trust and Mistrust in Science and Expertise	4
SOCI BC3202	Structural Determinants of Health (Either PUBH6040 or SOCI 3202 may count toward the SCPP minor, NOT BOTH. PUBH P6040 likewise counts as a category B requirement.)	3.00
SOCI UN3246	MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY	3.00
SOCI BC3750	HOW RACE GETS UNDER OUR SKIN: THE SOCIOLOGY OF RACE, HEALTH, AND BIOMEDICINE	4.00
SOCI BC3946	GLOBAL HEALTH, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY	4

WMST BC1050	WOMEN AND HEALTH (Either WMST 1050 or WMST 3131 may count toward the SCPP minor, NOT BOTH)	3.00
WMST BC3131	WOMEN AND SCIENCE (Either WMST 1050 or WMST 3131 may count toward the SCPP minor, NOT BOTH.)	4.00

SCPP BC3334 SCIENCE, STATE POWER, ETHICS. 4.00 points.
Seminar

A comparative study of science in the service of the State in the U.S., the former Soviet Union, Fascist Italy, and Nazi Germany during pivotal periods through the first half of the 20th century. Topics to be covered include the political and moral consequences of policies based upon advances in the natural sciences making possible the development of TNT, nerve gas, uranium fission and hydrogen fusion atomic bombs. Considers the tensions involved in balancing scientific imperatives, patriotic commitment to the nation-state, and universal moral principles and tensions faced by Robert Oppenheimer, Andrei Sakharov, Neils Bohr and Werner Heisenberg. Selected readings include: Michael Frayn's play Copenhagen, Hitler's Uranium Club by Jeremy Bernstein, Brecht's Galileo, John McPhee's The Curve of Binding Energy, Richard Rhodes' The Making of the Atomic Bomb

SCPP BC3336 GENETICS AND SOCIETY. 4.00 points.

An exploration of the growing knowledge and technological advances in genetics, with a focus on human genetics, using scientific, popular and artistic sources. The course will cover areas such as genetic testing, personalized medicine, ancestry analysis, genome editing with CRISPR-Cas9, stem cells and cloning. It will involve an examination of scientific sources, portrayals in popular culture and discussions of some of the ethical implications and social/political impacts

Fall 2024: SCPP BC3336

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
SCPP 3336	001/00474	T 2:10pm - 4:00pm Room TBA	Brian Morton	4.00	0/14

SCPP BC3340 Exhibitions: Engaging Public Understanding. 1 point.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Corequisites: Enrollment limited to 18 students.

Museum exhibitions educate the public, inform discourse, and shape opinion. Students work with curators and exhibition designers on conceptualization and research, design and preparation, writing interpretative material, and developing media and ancillary programming. Students engage in the communication of learning goals through both the exhibition's content and its physical manifestation.

Cross-Listed Courses

PHIL BC1001 Introduction to Philosophy. 3 points.

Survey of some of the central problems, key figures, and great works in both traditional and contemporary philosophy. Topics and texts will vary with instructor and semester.

PHIL UN1010 METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT. 3.00 points.

Critical introduction to philosophical problems, ideas and methods

Spring 2024: PHIL UN1010

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 1010	001/11495	T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm 141 Uris Hall	Melissa Fusco	3.00	42/60
PHIL 1010	AU1/18956	T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm Othr Other	Melissa Fusco	3.00	4/5

BIOL UN3995 (Section 1) Topics in Biology: Crossroads in Bioethics. 1-2 points.

Prerequisites: at least one introductory course in biology or chemistry.

This two credit multidisciplinary and interactive course will focus on contemporary issues in bioethics. Each topic will cover both the underlying science of new biotechnologies and the subsequent bioethical issues that emerge from these technologies. Classroom time will be devoted to student discussions, case presentations, and role playing. Topics include human trafficking, stem cell research, human reproductive cloning, neuroethics, genetic screening, human-animal chimeras, synthetic biology, bioterrorism, and neuroimaging.

COMS BC3420 PRIVACY IN A NETWORKED WORLD. 4.00 points.

The ubiquity of computers and networks in business, government, recreation, and almost all aspects of daily life has led to a proliferation of online sensitive data: data that, if used improperly, can harm the data subjects. As a result, concern about the use, ownership, control, privacy, and accuracy of these data has become a top priority. This seminar course focuses on both the technical challenges of handling sensitive data, the privacy implications of various technologies, and the policy and legal issues facing data subjects, data owners, and data users

Fall 2024: COMS BC3420

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
COMS 3420	001/00246	W 4:10pm - 6:00pm 111 Milstein Center	Rebecca Wright	4.00	0/24

EEEB GU4005 Conservation Policy. 3 points.

Prerequisites: Students should have completed at least one course in ecology, evolution or conservation biology.

The purpose of this course is to arm emerging scientists with an understanding of conservation policy at the city, state, federal and international levels. Our focus will be on understanding the science that informs conservation policy, evaluating the efficacy of conservation policies for achieving conservation goals, and learning about the role that scientists play in forming policy.

Fall 2024: EEEB GU4005

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
EEEB 4005	001/12071	T 10:10am - 12:00pm 1015 Ext Schermerhorn Hall	Viorel Popescu	3	0/20

EEEB GU4321 HUM NATURE:DNA,RACE # IDENTITY. 4.00 points.

The course focuses on human identity, beginning with the individual and progressing to communal and global viewpoints using a framework of perspectives from biology, genetics, medicine, psychiatry, religion and the law

EEEB GU4700 RACE:TANGLED HIST-BIOL CONCEPT. 4.00 points.

Enrollment limited to 15. Priority given to EBHS majors/concentrators.

From Aristotle to the 2020 US census, this course examines the history of race as a biological concept. It explores the complex relationship between the scientific study of biological differences-real, imagined, or invented and the historical and cultural factors involved in the development and expression of "racial ideas." Scientific background not required. [Additional hour for film screenings weekly in second half of the semester—attendance at films is mandatory.] Please note that this course DOES NOT fulfillment the SC requirement at the College or GS.

EESC UN2330 SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVPT. 3 points.

CC/GS: Partial Fulfillment of Science Requirement

The course provides students with the natural science basis to appreciate co-dependencies of natural and human systems, which are central to understanding sustainable development. After completing the course, students should be able to incorporate scientific approaches into their research or policy decisions and be able to use scientific methods of data analysis. The semester will highlight the climate system and solutions from both physical and ecological perspectives; water resources; food production and the cycling of nutrients; and the role of biodiversity in sustainable development. The course emphasizes key scientific concepts such as uncertainty, experimental versus observational approaches, prediction and predictability, the use of models and other essential methodological aspects.

Fall 2024: EESC UN2330

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
EESC 2330	001/11447	T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm Room TBA	John Mutter, Jenna Lawrence	3	0/120

EESC BC3040 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW. 3.00 points.

Process-oriented introduction to the law and its use in environmental policy and decision-making. Origins and structure of the U.S. legal system. Emphasis on litigation process and specific cases that elucidate the common law and toxic torts, environmental administrative law, and environmental regulation through application and testing of statutory law in the courts. Emphasis also on the development of legal literacy, research skills, and writing

Spring 2024: EESC BC3040

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
EESC 3040	001/00831	F 8:40am - 11:10am 530 Altschul Hall	Dana Neacsu	3.00	13/20

HIST BC3910 Global Politics of Reproduction: Culture, Politics, and History. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

Comparative, cross-cultural examination of social organization and historical construction of human reproduction, with emphasis on 20th century. Topics include role of states and local and transnational "stratification" of reproduction by race, class, and citizenship; eugenics; population politics; birth control; kinship as social and biological relationship; maternity; paternity; new reproductive technologies.

HRTS UN3001 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS. 3.00 points.

Evolution of the theory and content of human rights; the ideology and impact of human rights movements; national and international human rights law and institutions; their application with attention to universality within states, including the U.S. and internationally

Fall 2024: HRTS UN3001

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
HRTS 3001	001/10538	M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm Room TBA	Andrew Nathan	3.00	0/150

HRTS BC3850 HUMAN RIGHTS # PUBLIC HEALTH. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: Enrollment in the course is open to 18 undergraduates who have completed at least one core course in human rights and / or international law. This seminar introduces students to the field of health and human rights. It examines how to advocate for and implement public health strategies using a human rights framework. It takes note of current international and domestic debates about the utility of a human rights-based approach; to health, discusses methods and ethics of health-related human rights research, and examines case studies of human rights investigations to explore the role of human rights analysis in promoting public health

Fall 2024: HRTS BC3850

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
HRTS 3850	001/00169	T 4:10pm - 6:00pm 113 Milstein Center	Widney Brown	4.00	0/20

HSPB UN2950 Social History of U.S. Public Health. 4.00 points.

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an historical understanding of the role public health has played in American history. The underlying assumptions are that disease, and the ways we define disease, are simultaneously reflections of social and cultural values, as well as important factors in shaping those values. Also, it is maintained that the environments that we build determine the ways we live and die. The dread infectious and acute diseases in the nineteenth century, the chronic, degenerative conditions of the twentieth and the new, vaguely understood conditions rooted in a changing chemical and human-made environment are emblematic of the societies we created. Among the questions that will be addressed are: How does the health status of Americans reflect and shape our history? How do ideas about health reflect broader attitudes and values in American history and culture? How does the American experience with pain, disability, and disease affect our actions and lives? What are the responsibilities of the state and of the individual in preserving health? How have American institutions—from hospitals to unions to insurance companies—been shaped by changing longevity, experience with disability and death?

NSBV BC3387 TOPICS IN NEUROETHICS. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: BC1001 and one of the following: Neurobiology, Behavioral Neuroscience, Fundamentals of Neuropsychology, or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Prerequisites: BC1001 and one of the following: Neurobiology, Behavioral Neuroscience, Fundamentals of Neuropsychology, or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 20 students. Recent advancements in neuroscience raise profound ethical questions. Neuroethics integrates neuroscience, philosophy, and ethics in an attempt to address these issues. Reviews current debated topics relevant to the brain, cognition, and behavior. Bioethical and philosophical principles will be applied allowing students to develop skill in ethical analysis

Spring 2024: NSBV BC3387

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
NSBV 3387	001/00073	Th 9:00am - 10:50am 308 Diana Center	E'mett McCaskill	4.00	16/16

Fall 2024: NSBV BC3387

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
NSBV 3387	001/00136	Th 9:00am - 10:50am 308 Diana Center	E'mett McCaskill	4.00	0/16

PHIL V2593 Science and Religion. 3 points.

Open to all undergraduates. **Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.**

The course investigates what many people have viewed as a "quarrel" between science and religion. It explores what science is, and what religion is, and asks what authority can offer for the various claims they make. As the natural sciences provide increased knowledge of the cosmos, is there still a place for religion? The course has no prerequisites.

PHIL UN2702 Contemporary Moral Problems. 3 points.

Questions about how people should act have historically been central to philosophy. This course introduces students to philosophy through an examination of some important moral problems that arise in the twenty-first century. The aim is not only to offer ideas for thinking through the issues covered, but also to provide tools for general moral reflection. Topics covered will include: the legitimacy of asking migrants to abandon their traditional practices, responsibilities to distant people and to future generations, abortion and genetic testing of the unborn, the proper treatment of animals, and the permissibility of war and terrorism.

PHIL UN3654 Philosophy of Psychology. 3 points.

Considers psychology from the perspective of philosophy of science and the plausibility of various philosophical positions in light of the best current theories of psychology. Examines the assumptions and explanatory strategies of past and present "schools of psychology" and the implications of recent work in psychology for such perennial philosophical problems as moral responsibility and personal identity.

PHIL UN3701 ETHICS. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: one course in philosophy.

Corequisites: *PHIL V3711* Required Discussion Section (0 points).

Prerequisites: one course in philosophy. Corequisites: PHIL V3711 Required Discussion Section (0 points). This course is mainly an introduction to three influential approaches to normative ethics: utilitarianism, deontological views, and virtue ethics. We also consider the ethics of care, and selected topics in meta-ethics

Spring 2024: PHIL UN3701

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3701	001/11560	M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm 142 Uris Hall	Michele Moody-Adams	4.00	68/100

Fall 2024: PHIL UN3701

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3701	001/12279	M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm Room TBA	Michele Moody-Adams	4.00	0/80

PHIL V3720 Ethics and Medicine. 3 points.

BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Reason and Value (REA)., BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Ethics and Values.

Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Limited enrollment by permission of the instructor. First-day attendance required.

Philosophical examination of moral issues in medical theory and practice. Analysis of the ethics of the doctor-patient relationship, e.g., informed consent, truth-telling, paternalism; topics in bioethics, e.g., abortion, euthanasia, experimentation on humans; justice and access to health care; human genetics.

PHIL UN3800 PHILOSOPHY, JUSTICE AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM. 4.00 points.

In his Theses on Feuerbach, Karl Marx writes, "Philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is to change it." The questions to ask in response to Marx's exhortation include: how do we recognize the need for change and appropriately effect it? What are the relations between our goals and the means to them? How can we better understand our goals to make the means more suitable? When we organize to produce results, what are we doing? Do we know exactly who and what we want to change? What are the "ethics of process"? What exactly do we do when we organize? A tentative definition: to organize is to bring together individuals who have common interests in a way that will enhance their power. What kind of power is this? What other forms of power are there? What is the best form of coordinating among individuals? If we better understand the dynamics of organizing, should we reconceive our goals accordingly? How do we better tap into shared values and concerns? What temptations and distractions get in the way of our goals? What problems prevent us from achieving them? Do we have goals that can be achieved? If not, how can we revise them?

PUBH UN3100 FUNDAMENTALS OF GLOBAL HEALTH. 3.00 points.

Many of the greatest challenges in public health are global. This course uses a multidisciplinary approach to discuss the major underlying determinants of poor health and the relationship between health and political, social and economic development. Drawing upon the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, students will be introduced to the evolution of modern approaches to the setting of global health priorities, the functions and roles of health systems, an overview of current global health practices, and the major institutional players in global health. The first unit of the class will focus on establishing the foundations for a public health approach to understanding the challenges of global health. This will involve exploration of the factors shaping the global distribution of disease and their connection with issues of social, economic, and political development, as reflected in the Millennium Development Goals. The second unit will explore in further detail a number of major health priorities. A significant goal of the class will be to identify common sources of vulnerability and challenge across health risks, and the consequent need for a systemic approach to their being addressed. The third and final unit builds upon this analysis to demonstrate the multi-disciplinary, multi-level approach required to effectively address global health priorities, and the political and organizational cooperation required to achieve this. The class concludes with an analysis of the major challenges and threats to global coordination regarding such threats as pandemic influenza and emerging health threats related to climate change. Offered in the spring

Spring 2024: PUBH UN3100

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PUBH 3100	001/14148	M W 4:10pm - 5:25pm 142 Uris Hall	Rachel Moresky	3.00	110/120

PUBH UN3200 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH. 3.00 points.

An introduction to and overview of public health. Through a series of sessions with leading public health experts, this course views the multifaceted nature of public health through a prismic lens addressing key concepts, approaches, and issues of historical and contemporary import: What is public health and how has public health evolved over time? What are the core methods of public health? What are the approaches to understanding and addressing both infectious and chronic, non-communicable diseases? What role do micro- and macro-level determinants (i.e. biology and social context) play in public health? What are the global trends in population health? How does the individual life course bear on population health? How do systems, policy, and population health mutually shape each other? How are public health programs designed and evaluated? What are the limits of public health?

Fall 2024: PUBH UN3200

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PUBH 3200	001/14521	M W 4:10pm - 5:25pm Room TBA	Dana March	3.00	0/180

SDEV UN2000 INTRO TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW. 3.00 Points.

The course provides an overview of environmental law for students without a legal background. It examines U.S. statutes and regulations regarding air, water, hazardous and toxic materials, land use, climate change, endangered species, and the like, as well as international environmental issues. After completing the course students should be equipped to understand how the environmental laws operate, the role of the courts, international treaties and government agencies in implementing environmental protection, and techniques used in addressing these issues

Term	Section	Call Number	Instructor	Times/Location
Spring 2024	001	12602	Philip Weinberg	M W 11:40am - 12:55pm 703 Hamilton Hall

SDEV UN2050 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE. 3.00 Points.

Sustainability is a powerful framework for thinking about business, economics, politics and environmental impacts. An overview course, Environmental Policy # Governance will focus specifically on the policy elements of sustainability. With an emphasis on the American political system, the course will begin by exploring the way the American bureaucracy addresses environmental challenges. We will then use the foundations established through our understanding of the US system to study sustainable governance at the international level. With both US and international perspectives in place, we will then address a range of specific sustainability issues including land use, climate change, food and agriculture, air quality, water quality, and energy. Over the course of the semester, we will study current events through the lens of sustainability policy to help illustrate course concepts and theories

SDEV UN3355 CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAW. 3.00 Points.

Enrollment limited to 15.

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad introduction to the field of climate law in the United States and at the international level. The course begins with an overview of the causes and effects of global climate change and the methods available to control and adapt to it. We then examine the negotiation, implementation and current status of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Copenhagen Accord. The focus then turns to the past and proposed actions of the U.S. Congress, the executive branch and the courts, as well as regional, state and municipal efforts. The Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act will receive special attention. We evaluate the various legal tools that are available to address climate change, including cap-and-trade schemes; carbon taxation; command-and-control regulation; litigation; securities disclosures; and voluntary action. The roles of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, carbon capture and sequestration, and forestry and agriculture each receive close attention. Implications for international human rights, international trade, environmental justice, and international and intergenerational equity are discussed. The course concludes with examination of the special challenges posed by China; proposals for adaptation and geoengineering; and business opportunities and the role of lawyers. Offered in the Spring

Term	Section	Call Number	Instructor	Times/Location
Spring 2024	001	12610	Michael Gerrard	T Th 1:20pm - 2:40pm 104 Jerome L Greene Hall

SOCI UN3246 MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: None

Examines the ways sociologists have studied the field of medicine and experiences of health and illness. We cannot understand topics of health and illness by only looking at biological phenomena; we must consider a variety of social, political, economic, and cultural forces. Uses sociological perspectives and methods to understand topics such as: unequal patterns in health and illness; how people make sense of and manage illness; the ways doctors and patients interact with each other; changes in the medical profession, health policies and institutions; social movements around health; and how some behaviors but not others become understood as medical problems. Course is geared towards pre-med students as well as those with general interests in medicine, health and society

Spring 2024: SOCI UN3246

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
SOCI 3246	001/00205	T Th 4:10pm - 5:25pm LI104 Diana Center	Amy Zhou	3.00	41/45

SOCI BC3750 HOW RACE GETS UNDER OUR SKIN: THE SOCIOLOGY OF RACE, HEALTH, AND BIOMEDICINE. 4.00 points.

One of the glaring forms of inequalities that persists today is the race-based gap in access to health care, quality of care, and health outcomes. This course examines how institutionalized racism and the structure of health care contributes to the neglect and sometimes abuse of racial and ethnic minorities. Quite literally, how does race affect one's life chances? This course covers a wide range of topics related to race and health, including: racial inequalities in health outcomes, biases in medical institutions, immigration status and health, racial profiling in medicine, and race in the genomic era

WMST BC3131 WOMEN AND SCIENCE. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 18 students.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 18 students. History and politics of womens involvement with science. Womens contributions to scientific discovery in various fields, accounts by women scientists, engineers, and physicians, issues of science education. Feminist critiques of biological research and of the institution of science