

FALL 2009

Science, Technology and the World

IDST 300 History of Modern Science, Ancient Greece to 1700 – E. Davis

Some major developments in scientific thought from ancient Greece to the seventeenth century, emphasizing the relationship of science to philosophy, religion, and society. Topics include ancient Greek natural philosophy, medieval and Renaissance science, and the scientific revolution.

IDST 300 Christianity and Science: Historical and Contemporary Interactions – E. Davis

Often conceived of as a battle ground, the history of the interactions of Christianity and science has frequently been a field of fruitful engagement and mutual enrichment. This course surveys the history of Christianity and science, examining a wide range of interactions from the early church until today. Specific examples of interaction will include religion and the rise of modern science, the trial of Galileo, evolution and religious responses to it, and contemporary theology of nature. History of science is the core discipline for lectures, readings, and discussions, but some attention is given to theology and biblical interpretation, especially in the modern period. **Designed for students participating in the College Honors Program.**

IDST 300W Exploring Electrical Technologies - H. Underwood

This course explores how electrical technologies relate to other aspects of culture focusing on communications (e.g., wired and wireless), power systems and related devices. The life and times of some key electrical inventors (e.g., Franklin, Volta, Faraday, Marconi, Tesla, Edison) will provide a context for what they contributed in their day and how. Subject material includes lectures, readings, videos and/or hands-on learning upon which students will be asked to reflect critically through writing and-or discussion. Exposure to a wide range of perspectives from pro- to anti-technology will help students develop their own personal view on the place of electrical technology in today's world.

IDST 300 Scientific Revolution - M. Henninger-Voss

During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Europeans' conceptions of the structure of the universe, the nature of change, even the human body itself changed dramatically. This course will examine the ways in which early moderns drew on traditions of philosophy, technology, mathematics, alchemy, and natural history to redefine the methods and content of a new knowledge. We will explore these developments within a cultural matrix of a Europe on the edge of religious reformation, world colonization, and technological production.

IDST 200 Psychology, Science and Technology - J. Bechtold

This course investigates the relationship between the science of psychology and technological progress, beginning with the first laboratories in psychology to the current information and computer applications in psychology. Emphasis will be on how the technology of the time helped to shape the interests and the focus of psychological research and how such technology influenced various views of human behavior. Hands-on experiences will be given in psychophysics, mental testing, and computer simulations.

IDST 200 Eco-Urban Footprints of Post-Metropolis Life - T. Peterson *Philadelphia Campus Only*

This course studies urban landscapes as hybrid phenomena that emerge from an integral relationship between human and ecological processes. Urban ecosystems of the Philadelphia metropolitan area are viewed as the outcome of historical and complex interactions between socio-economic and bio-physical systems in which humans have been and continue to be the dominant agents of change. Various techniques of analysis (including the use of GIS - geographic information system) will be learned and used in application to specific community-based research projects. Attention will be given to strategizing new forms of urban living that are conducive to ecological sustainability.

Non-Western Studies

ANTH 101 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology – J. Paris

Holistic, comparative approach to the study of culture. Topics include cultural diversity and adaptive strategies, language, personality, marriage and kinship, religious beliefs and rituals, politics, economics, art, types of groups, social change, and issues of culture contact and cultural survival. Focus culture is the !Kung of southern Africa, with particular interest in hunter-gatherer adaptive strategies and globalization.

ANTH381 Topics in Non-Western Culture: Magic, Witchcraft and Religion – R. Burwell

This course is an introduction to the Anthropology of Religion. It will focus on religion in non-western cultures and will offer contrasts to the more familiar western religions. In addition to looking at classic studies of religion by anthropologists, the course will focus on topics such as concepts of the supernatural, types of religious specialists such as shamans and healers and the wide variety of religious practices found in traditional cultures.

HDFS 383 Topics in Multicultural Families: Kenyan Families – N. Mbitio

This course is an introduction to African families and their traditions, covering a range of topics using theoretical, historical, and ethnographic sources. The course takes a closer look at traditions of African tribal groups and investigates views about the functioning of the family in different contexts. Selected tribal groups are studied with particular interest in cultural practices appertaining to marriage, family, parent-child relationships and the adaptive strategies for coping under the impact of poverty, HIV/AIDS, and globalization.

HIST 172 World Civilizations: 1500-Present – B. Michael

A comparative survey of the social, cultural, political, religious, and economic developments in civilizations outside the western tradition from 1500 to the present. Major themes include the effects of Western imperialism on these civilizations, their responses to modernization, globalization, and westernization, and the post-colonial transformations of civilizations during the twentieth century.

IDNW 200 Education in Sub-Saharan Africa – O. Mfum-Menseh

This course examines the philosophical, cultural, historical, and social foundations of education in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) from pre-colonial era to present. The course will explore non-formal, informal, and formal educational approaches in diverse cultures and societies in pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial SSA. In addition, the course will examine educational systems of non-colonized, formerly British colonized, French colonized and Belgian colonized SSA nations to understand the impacts of colonialism on postcolonial SSA educational practices.

IDNW 200 Pacific Island Cultures – L. Lake

This course surveys the indigenous cultures of the Pacific regions known as Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia, introducing students to principles of cultural anthropology by examination of environments, histories and artifacts of Pacific life. A museum field trip, videos, music, and food preparation and sampling will help bring Oceania to Grantham. Changes in cultural practices introduced by migration, invasion, and the encroachment of Western society on Pacific cultures will be studied, with special emphasis on food and housing practices. Writing projects will include book reviews, article critiques, cultural profiles, and responses to textbook readings, expedition reports, newspaper articles, journals, letters and field notes.

IDNW 200W Africa Through Literature - L. Beck

Literature from the African continent is read and discussed for insights into African culture and history. From a baseline of traditional society as depicted in folk tales and autobiography, students read novels dealing with the effects of both French and English colonization, the struggle for self-pride and political independence, and the interaction among various African people groups.

IDNW 200 Japan and the Cross – J. Lauer

Shusaku Endo (1923-1996) was a leading 20th century cultural figure in Japan. He won numerous awards and garnered the admiration of his peers, including the British novelist Graham Greene, to whom he is often compared. Endo's accessibility to Western readers is attributed in part to his Catholic upbringing. Several works considered among his best fiction concern the persecution and martyrdom of Catholics in Japan during the first 100 years after St. Francis Xavier's arrival there (1549). We will read and discuss three of Endo's novels. Concomitant with this literary-historical study, we will learn about contemporary Japanese life and discover issues and themes still influencing a non-Western culture where fewer than 3% of its inhabitants claim the Christian faith. **Designed for students participating in the College Honors Program.**

RELI 333 Religions of India – S. Baker

The history and development of the major Vedic traditions of the Indian subcontinent as well as smaller religious communities, such as Jains and Sikhs. Special attention is drawn to the impact of historical religion on modern India.

SPAN 302 Culture and Identity in Latin America – S. Rodriguez

Survey of Spanish American culture and civilization from pre-Columbian civilization to the present. Prerequisite: SPAN 206 or equivalent.

Ethics

BIOL 315 Environmental Ethics – D. Foster

A seminar course contrasting Judeo-Christian and Humanistic views of environmental ethics. Emphasis will be placed on developing an individual ethic within a Biblical framework of stewardship. Issues will include pollution, resource use, human population, and the connection of environmental stewardship with issues of justice in developing countries.

PHIL 325 Moral Problems – C. Miller

The analysis and consideration of such problems in applied ethics as abortion, war, the authority of government, affirmative action, homosexuality, and hunger. Special consideration is given to the relationship of these problems to issues of moral theory. **This course is designed for students participating in the College Honors Program.**

SOC 335 Social Conflict, Justice, and Peacemaking - J. Eby

A study of social conflict and strategies for preventing and resolving destructive conflicts. Particular attention will be given to ethical and moral perspectives on justice, conflict and conflict resolution. The course will draw on literature and perspectives from Sociology, philosophical and theological ethics, and peace and conflict studies. The course will include case studies and "hands-on" exercises to develop skills for resolving personal and group conflict.

World Views/Pluralism

HIST 392 Women and Gender in History – A. Stoner-Eby

This course puts women and gender at the center of historical inquiry using a comparative perspective. Thus, the construction of masculinity and femininity and the relations between men and women will be examined across the globe from earliest times to the present. In the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, the significance of women and gender will be explored in such central institutions as the state, family, religion, and economy. Particular attention will be paid to the ways that women have negotiated their position throughout history, including the modern feminist movement that we know today.

HPED 329 Sport in Society - J. Cole

Study of race, sexism, social stratification, social mobility, and religious orientations pertaining to sports. Contemporary realities, myths, and issues concerning social differentiation will be examined by utilizing a variety of disciplinary approaches, including the following theories: functionalism, conflict, critical, and feminist. Analysis of the social influences and structure that have affected and exist within, between, and among societies, nations, and cultures will also be explored as they pertain to sport.

IDPL 300 The Holocaust - J. Fischel

A study of the Holocaust, with special attention given to the origins of both Christian and secular anti-Semitism and the genocidal consequences of such religious and racial prejudice. The course will conclude with reflections on implications for post-Holocaust Jewish-Christian relations in contemporary America.

IDWV 300 World View Perspectives on City Life – T. Peterson *Philadelphia Campus Only*

An examination of various world-view perspectives that shape people's lives and the settlement patterns they design and inhabit. Ontological, epistemological, axiological, and teleological questions are examined within an urban context in assessing each of the following world-view perspectives: deism, naturalism, modernism, eastern pantheism, and post-modernism.

PHIL 345 Philosophy of Religion – C. Miller

Major issues in philosophy of religion, with special attention to the evidence for God's existence and the Christian faith, the problem of evil, faith and reason, alternatives to Christian belief, and philosophical analyses of key Christian doctrines such as the doctrine of Atonement, Incarnation, and hell.

PHIL 345 Philosophy of Religion – R. Collins

This course will consist of two parts. The first part will focus on the nature and existence of God, and the second part on topics in philosophical theology. In the first part we will examine major views on the relation between faith and reason, the nature of God and God's relation to the world, the question of human free will and divine foreknowledge, religious language, the problem of evil, the nature of miracles, arguments for and against the existence of God, and the major alternatives to belief in God. In the second part, we will look at discussions in the philosophical literature concerning such issues as the nature of the Atonement, the nature and existence of hell as it relates to the loving nature of God, the doctrine of the Trinity and Incarnation, and the nature of petitionary prayer. The course is designed not only to expose students to the rich discussion of some of these issues, but to help them reflect more deeply on both the Christian faith and religion in general.

Designed for students participating in the College Honors Program.

SOCI 384 Families in America – R. Burwell

A socio-cultural study of family/household variations in the Americas; special emphasis on cultural and ethnic diversity and the adaptability of family/household forms to changing environmental contexts; historical and cross-cultural perspectives.

SOWK 365 Human Diversity and Social Interaction – M. George

This course is designed to introduce and sensitize students to the forms, practices and effects of racism, discrimination and other forms of oppression and economic deprivation. It will examine the historical and theoretical foundations of discrimination as an ideology. Specifically, the role and complex interplay of systems and oppression in education, human services, housing, law, business, prisons and other institutions will be discussed. Focus will also be placed on the central themes and role of Social Work in addressing these issues and will integrate social and economic justice content grounded in an understanding of distributive justice, and human and civil rights. The course will develop the concept of the need to promote an understanding, affirmation and respect for people of diverse backgrounds.

THEO 340 New Religious Movements – S. Stanley

Investigates the rise, development, and teachings of sects and new religious movements from a sociological, theological, and historical perspective.

URBS 301 World-View Perspectives of City Life - T. Peterson - *Philadelphia campus only*

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