Academics - Winter 2008 Course Descriptions

PLEASE NOTE: This document is subject to amendment. It is intended for descriptive and informational use only. DO NOT USE IT TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES. To register, please consult the University Time Schedules.

The Following "Special Courses" are for M. Div. students only:
629-60000-01/02 Special Course — Chgo Theol Sem
629-63000-01/02 Special Course — Meadville Theol School
629-65000-01/02 Special Course — Catholic Theol Union
629-66000-01/02 Special Course — Lutheran Sch Theol
629-68000-01/02 Special Course — McCormick Theol Sem

DVSC 30200 Introduction to Historical Studies Mendes-Flohr M/W 10:00-11:20 S106 PQ: Open only to M.A./AMRS students.
DVSC 42000 Divinity School German Reading Exam Staff ARR ARR ARR ARR PQ: Open only to Divinity School students.
DVSC 45100 Reading Course: Special Topic Staff ARR ARR ARR ARR PQ: Petition with bibliography signed by instructor; enter section from faculty list.
DVSC 49000 Exam Preparation Staff ARR ARR ARR ARR PQ: Open only to Ph.D. students in quarter of qualifying exams. Department consent.
Registration will be handled by the Dean of Students office. Petition signed by Advisor.
DVSC 50200 Research Divinity Staff ARR ARR ARR ARR PQ: Petition signed by instructor; enter section from faculty list.
DVSC 59000 Thesis Work: Divinity Staff ARR ARR ARR ARR PQ: Petition signed by instructor; enter section from faculty list.
BIBL 30901 Jewish Thought and Literature: Philosophy, Sufism, Kabbalah Robinson M/W 1:30-2:50 CL 113 An introduction to the major trends of medieval Jewish thought from the ninth through the fifteenth century. The focus will be on central themes and problems—such as divine attributes, cosmology, prophecy, the existence of evil, providence, the nature of human existence, the soul and fate of the soul—but literary form, cultural context, and ritual praxis will also be considered. Thinkers will be studied in relation to their sources and parallel developments in Christianity and Islam.
Ident. HIJD 30901/JWSG 30005/JWSC 20005/NEHC 20405/RLST 20602 BIBL 32500 Introduction to the New Testament:
Texts and Contexts Mitchell T/Th 10:30-11:50 S106 PQ: Discussions groups will meet on Fridays, 12:00-1:00 in S106, S208, S201.
Ident. NTEC 21000/32500/RLST 12000/FNDL 28200 BIBL 34100 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Knafl M/W/F 8:00-8:50 S200 BIBL 35400 Intermediate Koine Greek III Thompson M/W/F 8:00-8:50 S208 PQ: BIBL 35300 BIBL 47400 Clement of Alexandria Martinez T/TH 10:30-11:50 CL 026 A careful reading of the Greek text of parts of Clement’s Protrepticus (Exhortation to the Greeks) with some forays into his fragmentary Stromateis. We will focus on Clement as a Greek stylist, his debt to the Greek Literary and Middle Platonic
traditions, and his place within the development of Alexandrian Christian thought (especially with regard to what is called the “Catechetical School”). We will also give close consideration to his doctrine of the logos, his apologetic method, and his theory and usage of allegory.

PQ: At least 3 years of Greek.

Ident. NTEC 47400/GREK 23700/33700BIBL 53500Early Christian Biblical InterpretationMitchellM1:30-4:20S403This year the early Christian Biblical Interpretation seminar will focus on the topic: “In Search of the Literal Sense.” Recent theoretical treatments of patristic exegesis problematizing the dichotomy between Alexandrine allegory and Antiochene literalism have done so mostly from the side of the allegorical. In this seminar we shall turn the tables and study how appeals to the “literal” sense of biblical statements are rhetorically constructed and defended, and to what functions they are put, in writings of Tertullian, Origen, Eustathius, John Chrysostom, and others. We may also make some comparative forays into the sensus litteralis in contemporary Christianity in America.

PQ: Greek, Intro to New Testament or equivalent

Ident. HCHR 53500/NTEC 53500THEO 30200History of Christian Thought

IIOttenT/Th9:00-10:20S106This second class in the HCT sequence deals with the period from Late Antiquity until the end of the Early Middle Ages; it stretches roughly from 450 through 1250. The following authors and themes will be analyzed and discussed: (1) the transition from Roman antiquity to the medieval period: Boethius and Cassiodorus; (2) the rise of asceticism in th West: Benedictur (Rule) and Gregory the Great; (3) intellectual solitaries: Dionysius the Areopagite and John Scottus Eriugena; (4) monastic and scholastic paragons: Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard; (5) 12th century monastic diversity: Cistercians (Bernard of Clairvaux) and Victorines (Hugh and Richard of St. Victor); (6) the scholastic synthesis and the odd woman out: Thomas Aquinas and Julian of Norwich.

Ident. HCHR 30200THEO 30300History of Christian Thought

IIISchreinerW3:00-5:50S106This course covers the early modern era from the 14th through the 16th century. The emphasis is on intellectual history, particularly that of the Reformation and the Council of Trent. The course includes readings from 14th century mystics, late-medieval dissidents such as John Hus, Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin, as well as Ignatius of Loyola and the Council of Trent.

Requirement of the course is a take-home examination based on the readings of these original sources.

Ident. HCHR 30300THEO 31100History of Theological Ethics

ISchweikerT/TH1:30-2:50S106This is the first part of a two-part history. It is conducted through the study of basic, classical texts. The course moves from the philosophical ethics of the Greek and Roman worlds through strands of Hebrew scripture, the origins of the Christian movement, the end of the Roman age to the emergence of Islam, and, finally, Christian and Jewish scholastic and mystical thought in the Western middle ages. While the golden thread of the history is the origin and differentiation of Christian moral thinking, this is set within and compared with the complexity of traditions (Hellenistic philosophical, Jewish, Islamic) that intersect and often collide throughout these formative centuries in Western thought. In this way, the exploration of one tradition opens onto rich comparative thinking. The course proceeds by lectures and discussion. Most readings are in translation. There will be a final
examination. This is a basic course and thus no previous work in theology, philosophy or ethics is required.

Ident. RETH 31100 THEO 31800 Before and After Augustine: Echoes of a Church Father
Otten T1:00-3:50S201 In his recent biography of Augustine (Augustine. A New Biography, New York, 2005) James J. O’Donnell has called Augustine the ‘inventor of Christianity’, since Christianity as we know it has supposedly derived more from Augustine than from Jesus Christ. This makes the question how to pinpoint Augustine’s influence a pressing one. This course will try to do so by comparing Augustine’s ideas on the church in history and society with the tradition before him as well as with the way in which they were subsequently received. The course will be divided into three parts. It will begin by sketching Christianity before Augustine, focusing especially on Ambrose and Gregory of Nyssa’s view of church and society as representing the pre-Augustinian generation. The second part will profile central Augustinian themes such as infant baptism and predestination (anti-Pelagian), and sacramental genealogy and ecclesiology (anti-Donatist) through a reading of Augustinian texts. In the third part the impact of the Augustinian makeover of Christianity will be discussed, with special attention paid to infant baptism and the sacraments as well as to medieval / reformed theories of grace and free will.

Ident. HCHR 31800 THEO 40500 Black Theology: 1st Generation
Hopkins W1:30-4:20S201 Using primary texts, a critical look at the major theological and methodological paradigms among the founding generation of black theologians. What are their sources and norms, social contexts, and sharp points of theoretical differences?

THEO 41100 James H. Cone: Self, Identity and Freedom
Hopkins W9:00-11:20S201 This course will pursue a close and in depth read of several of James H. Cone’s seminal works in order to discern both his theological method and this theological system.

THEO 41300 Calvin’s Institutes
Schreiner M/W10:00-11:20S400 This course examines the key concepts of Calvin’s theology through his major work; namely, the definitive 1559 edition of the Institutes of the Christian Religion. Requirements include an exegetical paper and either a take-home examination or a research paper.

IDENT. HCHR 41700 THEO 43700 Theology and Philosophy
Gamwell T/Th3:00-4:20S200 What is the role of philosophy in the task of Christian theology? Attention will be given to some alternative answers (for instance, Anselm, Aquinas, Tillich, Ogden. Frei). Students will be asked to develop a critical reading of a recent or contemporary theologian or philosopher, with the intention to move thereby toward a constructive statement.

IDENT. DVPR 43700 THEO 49300 Christianity and Social Power
Tanner Th1:00-3:50S200 An examination of the intersections between Christian theology and issues of social equality through the study of historical cases. Cases include Christian justifications of hierarchical rule in the early church, medieval arguments over the status of women in church and society, controversies over “New World” colonization, leveling movements in the English civil war, arguments for and against slavery in the U.S., and 19th century reactions to democratic reform movements on the continent. General questions to be raised: What is the relation between Christian belief and action? When is Christian belief being used ideologically, to serve independent interests in gaining and maintaining power? On what basis can one judge between conflicting uses of the same beliefs?

DVPR 42800 Madhyamaka
Arnold F1:00-3:50S200 This seminar, which presupposes a basic knowledge of Indian and/or Tibetan Buddhist
philosophy, will consider some of the foundational texts of the Madhyamaka tradition of thought, with particular reference to the works of Nagarjuna and Candrakirti. In addition to close readings of assorted primary sources, we will consider contemporary scholarly debates regarding the interpretation of Madhyamaka (e.g., concerning the significance of the “Svatantrika- Prasangika” distinction, or the appropriateness of modern philosophical categories such as “skepticism” and “metaphysics” for characterizing Madhyamaka thought).

PQ: Some knowledge of Sanskrit or Tibetan is preferred.

Ident. SALC 42800DVPR 43700Theology and PhilosophyGamwellT/Th3:00-4:20S200What is the role of philosophy in the task of Christian theology? Attention will be given to some alternative answers (for instance, Anselm, Aquinas, Tillich, Ogden, Frei). Students will be asked to develop a critical reading of a recent or contemporary theologian or philosopher, with the intention to move thereby toward a constructive statement.

Ident. THEO 43700CHRM 30300The Public Church and Its Ministry: PracticalCulpT/Th3:00-4:20S400Theology as an art and practice for the public church and its ministry. Using U.S American theologians and texts from the mid-twentieth century forward, this course explores theological symbols and their interrelation, various approaches to thinking theologically, and theology’s inter- dependence with other methods and disciplines. It considers theology’s work of depicting and diagnosing human life in relation to God. It also examines theology’s constructive work in directing shared life toward hope and flourishing in God.

Open to first year M.Div. students CHRM 30600Introduction to the Study of Ministry:

ColloquiumMusselmanF1:00-2:20S400Open to first year M.DIV. students. No credit. DO NOT REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE

CHRM 35500Arts of Ministry: WorshipTannerF9:00-11:50S400This course has four main aims. The first is to equip students with a nuanced and critical vocabulary with which to think and talk about ritual, worship and liturgy. The second aim is to enable students to see the connections among liturgical practice, theology and the Christian life. The third is to encourage students to develop an understanding of the historical traditions that inform their respective community’s liturgical practices and of how these practices reflect and form this community’s pursuit of a Christian way of life. The fourth aim is to help students think through what is involved in leading worship services.

Open to Second year M.DIV. students.

CHRM 42500Senior Ministry Thesis SeminarStaffARRARRARR HIJD 30901Jewish Thought and Literature: Philosophy, Sufism, KabbalahRobinsonM/W1:30-2:50CL 113An introduction to the major trends of medieval Jewish thought from the ninth through the fifteenth century. The focus will be on central themes and problems—such as divine attributes, cosmology, prophecy, the existence of evil, providence, the nature of human existence, the soul and fate of the soul—but literary form, cultural context, and ritual praxis will also be considered. Thinkers will be studied in relation to their sources and parallel developments in Christianity and Islam.

Ident. BIBL 30901/JWSG 30005/JWSC 20005/NEHC 20405/RLST 20602HIJD 39600The Arab-Israeli Conflict and Regional RealitiesZelnickerM9:00-11:50S208The course will offer a critical survey of the Arab-Israeli conflict, religious-cultural, historical as well as geo-political dimensions. The course will focus on the Israeli and Palestinian national structures, their internal dynamics and political realities (such as, the
tension between competing secular and religious ideological visions) and will examine the impact of the changing international order on the evolution of the conflict.

Ident. JWSG 39600/HIST 35600/NEHC 20400/304/HIJD 39800 Israeli Politics and Society Zelnicker T9:00-11:50S201 The course is an introduction to Israeli politics and civil society since the formation of the State to date. The course will focus on the cultural background and history of the founding of the State of Israel and its political culture. It will pay special attention to the structure of Israeli civil society as a complex dialectical configuration of secular and religious communities; attention will also be paid to the challenge of integrating the Muslim and Christian minorities into Israeli civil society. The course will also examine the political institutions ranging from political parties, elections and the structure of government. It will also explore the changes in the political culture of the country and the rise of post-Zionism as a potent force in recent years.

Ident. JWSG 39800/HIST 35805/NEHC 20900/30900 HIJD 44200 Messianism and Modernity Mendes-Flohr/Santner W1:30-4:20 Wieboldt 206 S201 The emphasis will be on his biblical commentaries, but the commentaries will be read together with his philosophical, linguistic and astrological writings. There is no language requirement. However, there will be an extra session for students with knowledge of Hebrew.

Ident. JWSG 48700 HCHR 30200 History of Christian Thought II Otten T/Th 9:00-10:20 S106 This second class in the HCT sequence deals with the period from Late Antiquity until the end of the Early Middle Ages; it stretches roughly from 450 through 1250. The following authors and themes will be analyzed and discussed: (1) the transition from Roman antiquity to the medieval period: Boethius and Cassiodorus; (2) the rise of asceticism in the West: Benedict (Rule) and Gregory the Great; (3) intellectual solitaries: Dionysius the Areopagite and John Scottus Eriugena; (4) monastic and scholastic paragons: Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard; (5) 12th century monastic diversity: Cistercians (Bernard of Clairvaux) and Victorines (Hugh and Richard of St. Victor); (6) the scholastic synthesis and the odd woman out: Thomas Aquinas and Julian of Norwich.

Ident. THEO 30200 HCHR 30300 History of Christian Thought III Schreiner W3:00-5:00 S106 This course covers the early modern era from the 14th through the 16th century. The emphasis is on intellectual history, particularly that of the Reformation and the Council of Trent. The course includes readings from 14th century mystics, late-medieval dissidents such as John Hus, Luther, Zwingli, and Calvin, as well as Ignatius of Loyola and the Council of Trent. Requirement of the course is a take-home examination based on the readings of these original sources.

Ident. THEO 30300 HCHR 31800 Before and After Augustine: Echoes of a Church Father Otten T1:00-3:50 S201 In his recent biography of Augustine (Augustine. A New Biography, New York, 2005) James J. O’Donnell has called Augustine the ‘inventor of Christianity’, since Christianity as we know it has supposedly derived more from Augustine than from Jesus Christ. This makes the question how to pinpoint Augustine’s influence a pressing one. This course will try to do so by comparing Augustine’s ideas on the church in history and society with the tradition before him.
as well as with the way in which they were subsequently received. The course will be divided into three parts. It will begin by sketching Christianity before Augustine, focusing especially on Ambrose and Gregory of Nyssa’s view of church and society as representing the pre-Augustinian generation. The second part will profile central Augustinian themes such as infant baptism and predestination (anti-Pelagian), and sacramental genealogy and ecclesiology (anti-Donatist) through a reading of Augustinian texts. In the third part the impact of the Augustinian makeover of Christianity will be discussed, with special attention paid to infant baptism and the sacraments as well as to medieval / reformed theories of grace and free will.

Ident. THEO 31800 HCHR 41700 Calvin’s Institutes Schreiner M/W10:00-11:20S400 This course examines the key concepts of Calvin’s theology through his major work; namely, the definitive 1559 edition of the Institutes of the Christian Religion. Requirements include an exegetical paper and either a take-home examination or a research paper.

IDENT. THEO 41300 HCHR 44300 Religion and Emotion in American Culture Gilpin W1:30-4:20S200 An historical analysis of the relation between religion and the passions, affections and emotions from the Puritans to William James.

HCHR 51800 Seminar: US Social History 2 Conzen W3:00-5:50A The Winter quarter seminar is open only to students who have taken “US Social History I” in the Autumn quarter. Students write the seminar paper in the Winter quarter.

Ident. HIST 83102 HCHR 53500 Early Christian Biblical Interpretation Mitchell M1:30-4:20S403 This year the early Christian Biblical Interpretation seminar will focus on the topic: “In Search of the Literal Sense.” Recent theoretical treatments of patristic exegesis problematizing the dichotomy between Alexandrine allegory and Antiochene literalism have done so mostly from the side of the allegorical. In this seminar we shall turn the tables and study how appeals to the “literal” sense of biblical statements are rhetorically constructed and defended, and to what functions they are put, in writings of Tertullian, Origen, Eustathius, John Chrysostom, and others. We may also make some comparative forays into the sensus litteralis in contemporary Christianity in America.

PQ: Greek, Intro to New Testament or equivalent

Ident. BIBL 53500/ NTEC 53500 ISLM 30624 Muslim-Christian Polemic and Apologetic

in the Classical Era Reynolds ARR ARR ARR Our seminar is focused on the classical Arabic literature of Muslim-Christian interaction. We will begin with the Qur'an itself, examining its conversation with Christianity and Christians. Thereafter, we will turn to the tradition of Muslim anti-Christian polemic, including those authors who argue on a theological level and those who focus on particular historical and scriptural controversies. We will also consider the Christian Arabic responses to this literature, which present themselves as records of historical Muslim/Christian debates. Ultimately, we will seek to develop a profound knowledge of the themes and techniques of Muslim Christian controversial literature. At the same time, we will seek to understand both the motivation for this literature and its influence on Muslim-Christian relations.

PQ: A reading knowledge of Arabic is necessary; a reading knowledge of French and/or German is an asset.
Ident. NEHC 30624 ISLM 40400 Arabic Poetry of Shustari and Ibn al-'Arabi
Sells M 1:30-4:20 MEM Library PQ: Arabic
Ident. RLIT 40700/NEHC 40603 ISLM 40444 The Classical Sources II
Kadi M 1:30-4:20 Or 210 A continuation of the Autumn course.
PQ: At least three years of Arabic.
Ident. ARAB 40444 ISLM 40500 Readings in the Text of the Qur'an
Sells M 1:30-4:20 MEM Library PQ: Arabic
Ident. NEHC 40601 ISLM 40700 Monarchies in the Modern Arab World:
Family, Religion and Power Zeghal W 1:30-4:20 S 403
This class examines the history and the sociology of Arab monarchies in the 19th and 20th century
Arab world. Why did some Arab monarchies disappear in the 20th century to be replaced by republics? How do monarchies function in the Arab Middle East? On what types of ideas is their legitimacy founded and contested? What is the role played by economic resources shared, distributed and confiscated? How are these political systems evolving today, and are they so different from models established by the Arab republics? Four current cases will be examined: Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.
PQ: Undergraduates 3rd/4th year standing
Ident. AASR 40500/RLST 28001 HREL 35401 Hinduism: An Alternative
Narrative Doniger W/F 1:30-2:50 S 208 A survey of the history of Hinduism,
setting texts in historical contexts. Hinduism is usually taught as a cluster of timeless concepts: karma, dharma, reincarnation, renunciation, and so forth, contained within Sanskrit texts produced by dead Brahmin males. But like all religions, Hinduism is grounded in history, and in a broader social imagination. This course will take the relatively novel approach of situating each major idea in the context of the historical events to which it responded: the Rig Veda in the Indo-European migrations, the Upanishads in the social crisis of the first great cities on the Ganges, and so forth, up to the present day BJP revisionist tactics. And it will emphasize the alternative traditions of women and the lower classes. The reading will begin with two good survey texts and then focus closely on a few texts, some Sanskrit and some from vernacular literatures, from several different historical periods.
Ident. RLST 27402/SALC 42501 Many Ramayanas Doniger W/F 10:00-11:20 S 200 A close reading of the great Hindu Epic, the story of Rama's recovery of his wife, Sita, from the demon Ravana on the island of Lanka, with special attention to changes in the telling of the story throughout Indian history, up to its present use as a political weapon against Muslims and a rallying point for Hindu fundamentalists. Readings in in English translations of several Ramayanas, including Valmiki (from the Sanskrit); Tulsi (from the Hindi); Kampan (Tamil); and Aubrey Menen (British Raj); in Paula Richman, Many Ramayanas and Questioning Ramayanas; as well as the Ramajataka, the Yogavasistha-Maharamayana, and contemporary comic books and films. Undergraduates welcome.
Ident. SALC 42501/SCTH 40701 HREL 46300 The Ethnography of Lived Religion:
Animism, Polytheism, Humanity Collins M/Th 1:30-2:50 Swift 201
Ident. SALC 46100 HREL 48400 Liminal Beings: Vampires and Others Lincoln T/Th 10:30-
Readings in Tibetan Religious Literature
Wedemeyer/M/W 10:00-11:20 S403
Guided readings in Tibetan religious literature of various periods and genres.
PQ: 2nd year Tibetan (TBTN 20300)

Arabic Poetry of Shustari and Ibn al-`Arabi
Sells
Guided readings in the Arabic poetry of Shustari and Ibn al-`Arabi.
PQ: Arabic

Proseminar in Religion and Literature
Rosenkranz/T 9:00-11:50 S101
A seminar for Ph.D. students only in religion and literature.

History of Theological Ethics
Schweiker/T/TH 1:30-2:50 S106
This is the first part of a two-part history. It is conducted through the study of basic, classical texts. The course moves from the philosophical ethics of the Greek and Roman worlds through strands of Hebrew scripture, the origins of the Christian movement, the end of the Roman age to the emergence of Islam, and, finally, Christian and Jewish scholastic and mystical thought in the Western middle ages. While the golden thread of the history is the origin and differentiation of Christian moral thinking, this is set within and compared with the complexity of traditions (Hellenistic philosophical, Jewish, Islamic) that intersect and often collide throughout these formative centuries in Western thought. In this way, the exploration of one tradition opens onto rich comparative thinking. The course proceeds by lectures and discussion. Most readings are in translation. There will be a final examination. This is a basic course and thus no previous work in theology, philosophy or ethics is required.

Cicero’s De Finibus and Hellenistic Ethics
Nussbaum/Lear T 3:00-5:45 LBQ
Cicero’s dialogue De Finibus (On Ends) is his attempt to sort out the major arguments for and against the ethical theories characteristic of Epicureanism, Stoicism and the “New Academy.” It thus provides us with some or our best information about the views of these schools, as well as with critical arguments of great interest. We will read extracts from the dialogue in Latin, focusing on Epicureanism (Books I and II) and Stoicism (Books III and IV), and we will study the entire work in translation, along with relevant primary sources for the views of the schools (the surviving letters of Epicurus, central texts of Greek and Roman Stoicism). The course will thus aim to provide a solid introduction to the major ethical theories of the Hellenistic period. This course is open to all who have had 5 quarters of Latin, or equivalent preparation. Translation will always take place during the first hour, and students without Latin are invited to take the course for an R or audit, arriving after that time and doing all the readings in translation.

Methods and Theories in Comparative Religious Ethics
Schweiker/TH 10:30-11:50 S200
This course engages important works in the developing field of comparative religious ethics. The main concern will be with texts that tackle the difficult problem of the “method” of comparison and also develop theories for comparative ethics. Attention will also be given to the actual comparison of the moral thought of various traditions. The main purpose of the course is familiarity with the main options and lines of debate in comparative religious ethics. Previous doctoral level work in religious ethics or approval of instructor required.
PQ: Previous graduate work in ethics.

Politics, Ethics and Terror
Elshtain
An examination of three responses to 20th century totalitarianism: Arendt, Bonhoeffer and Camus. What ethical
wellsprings were drawn upon to confront Nazism and Stalinism? What sorts of arguments about the function of ideology, the loss of limits, the transgression of “orders of being,” metaphors of plague or other ravages got deployed and to what ends? What is the connection between explanation, understanding and action in the “dark times” through which our thinkers lived or in which they died?


Ident. PLSC 50200 RETH 51302 Law-Philosophy Seminar Nussbaum/Anderson M4:00-6:00 ARR This is the second part of the seminar-workshop which began in the Autumn quarter.

PQ: Students who were admitted to the Autumn seminar may register

Ident. LAW/PHIL/GNDS/PLSC 51200 AASR 36000 Fieldwork Methodology in the Social Sciences Zeghal Th10:30-1:20S403 This course introduces fieldwork methodology and analysis: from the choice of a “site” to the preparation of a questionnaire, to the ethics and method of getting into contact, and to interviewing and interacting with human subjects. How do we relate the preparation of a fieldwork to researching theoretical questions? How do we exploit the data collected? What are the politics and the aesthetics of an ethnographic enterprise?

We will examine parts of the vast literature on the ethnographic enterprise and its history. We will also develop our own ethnographic enquiry around the following theme: “Political life on campus.” Starting from this large and temporary definition of our “object” of research, we will collectively prepare the fieldwork, choose the sites of ethnography and assign to each of us one (or more) particular method(s), from observation to open or more structured interviews. The last phase of this work will be to collect our field notes and interviews, the building of a --limited-- corpus, the possible redefining of our theoretical questions, and the interpretation of our findings. AASR 40500 Monarchies in the Modern Arab World:

Family, Religion and Power Zeghal W1:30-4:20S403 This class examines the history and the sociology of Arab monarchies in the 19th and 20th century Arab world. Why did some Arab monarchies disappear in the 20th century to be replaced by republics? How do monarchies function in the Arab Middle East? On what types of ideas is their legitimacy founded and contested? What is the role played by economic resources shared, distributed and confiscated? How are these political systems evolving today, and are they so different from models established by the Arab republics? Four current cases will be examined: Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

PQ: Undergraduates 3rd/4th year standing

Ident. ISLM 40700/RLST 28001 Related Links

The University of Chicago
* Divinity School | The University of Chicago
* 1025 E. 58th St. | Chicago, IL 60637
* tel: 773-702-8200 fax: 773-702-6048
* Home