Diversity-Rich Courses Fall 2017
4-05-2017
(In future years, we'll include CRN and pre-requisites.)

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 106 -- Ancient People and Places
T/TH 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm or 9:30 am - 10:45
This survey of world prehistory illustrates the varied perspectives and techniques of archaeology. Case studies highlight ancient places and the people who lived in them.

ANTH 130: The Native Americans
M/W 3:30-4:45, Instructor: Professor S. Stebbins
This is a general survey class which examines Native American societies of North America. The diversity of Native American societies is studied from an anthropological perspective that includes language, kinship, political economy, oral tradition and religious/spiritual beliefs both historically and currently.

ANTH 140 -- World Art and Culture
M/W/F 1:00 pm - 1:50 or 11:00 am - 11:50
This course is an introduction to the expression of culture through art and visual display. We will explore how cultures throughout the world define identity through body decoration, painting, sculpture, film, museums, pop culture and other activities. The symbolic and visual meanings will be placed in the context of other categories such as religion, gender and ethnic identity.

ANTH 150 -- Human Sexuality
M/W/F 11:00-11:50 or 9:00- 9:50
Biological, evolutionary and social aspects of human sexuality, examined from a cross-cultural perspective.

ANTH 195: Language, Magic, and the Supernatural
M/W 2:00-3:15 Location TBA, T/Th 12:30-1:45 Flagg 164, Instructor: Professor Lydia Rodriguez
How do different cultures around the world use magic, and how do they use language to communicate with the supernatural? An introduction to the anthropological study of ritual language and magic, this course examines linguistic practices and their intersections with various systems of spiritual beliefs around the world. The course focuses on various forms of ritual language which include the language of spells and incantations, the language of divination, trance and possession speech, and various forms of prayers. Examples are drawn from different cultures around the world, from the poison oracle used for divination by the Azande, to the trance speech of Mexican spiritualists or followers of possession cults in Venezuela; from the different forms and functions of Navajo prayers to the magic and spells used in the Trobriand Islands to build canoes and cultivate gardens. Our exploration of the interconnections of language, magic, and the supernatural concludes with an examination of magical languages in fictional works, in Tolkien's oeuvre and in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter.*
ANTH 202 - Cultural Anthropology  
T/Th 11:00-12:15 + Friday LAB  
A survey of the subdiscipline of anthropology that uses the concept of culture to interpret human history and behavior in all societies and at all times. Introduction to the various research methods of cultural anthropology. Emphasis is placed on the application of social and cultural concepts when analysing behavior. The lab component of the course will give students training in a number of ethnographic data collection and analysis techniques commonly used by cultural anthropologists. Labs will include informal and semi-structured interviews, ethno-semantic domains, genealogy, survey design, archival research, social networks, comparative analysis, and fieldwork ethics.

ANTH 345 -- Medical Anthropology  
M/W 2:00-3:15  
Relationship among health, culture, individual, and environment, cross-cultural look at healer-patient, relationships, western and non-western perceptions of disease paleopathology, psychiatry and applied aspects of medical anthropology.

ANTH 353 -- World & US Geography  
M/W 6:00-7:40  
Covers the nature of geography and its history, major theories and approaches used by geographers, the various types of maps and tools, major concepts in the fields of economic and political geography and how these systems interact on a global scale across political boundaries, and the various ways in which humans interact with environments around the world.

ANTH 357 -- Social Geography  
M/W 2:00-3:55  
This course introduces students to the physical environments of the world, human interaction with those environments, the world’s political units and the social issues that different countries and peoples of the world must face. We will be looking at several issues that are pertinent to our world today: ethnic struggles, racism, population trends, problems of urbanization, the effects of global market economies, environmental impacts, and others. Examples will be drawn from contemporary, recent and past cultures from around the world.

ANTH 358 -- Cross Cultural Approaches to Art  
M/W 2:00-3:15  
How can the term "art" be applied in a cross-cultural context? This course approaches the changing definitions of this category from both contemporary and historical perspectives. Our study will include material from four broad cultural areas in detail: Native American, Aboriginal Australian, African and Chinese. We will consider how contemporary artists in all four areas have had to negotiate between the continuity of tradition and social change. The course will address broad topics such as the ritual use of art, authenticity, aesthetics, tradition and modernity, art education, social memory, politics and creativity.

ANTH 360: Cultures of Mexico and Central America  
T/Th 2:00-3:15, MVC HL 0129, Instructor: Professor Lydia Rodriguez  
Course Description The course focuses on Mesoamerican indigenous cultures, from pre-Columbian times to present day. Although the course covers basic information about several Mesoamerican civilizations
(Olmec, Aztec, etc.), the emphasis of the course is on Maya cultures. The current Maya are the recipients of one of the most important cultural legacies of the history of Mesoamerica. Some institutions and cultural traits that characterized the pre-Columbian Maya have survived after five hundred years of cultural contact, while others have blended with Western culture in many fascinating ways. By the end of the course, you should have developed a good understanding of the following topics:

- What are the main regions, ethnic groups, and languages spoken in Mesoamerica and the Maya area.
- Fundamental traits that define Mesoamerican cultures, and Maya identity and worldview.
- The main stages in the history of the pre-Columbian Maya, and some of their most famous cultural accomplishments, such as the calendar and literacy.
- The challenges of the current socio-political context where Maya and other indigenous Mesoamerican cultures live.

ANTH 363 -- Archaeology of Eastern North America
W 2:00-4:30
This course explores Native American lifeways of the Eastern United States from Paleoindian colonization through initial European contact. This course focuses on the archeological evidence and its interpretation.

ANTH 495: Anthropology of Race
T/TH 2:00-3:15, Instructor: Professor S. Stebbins
This course requires junior or senior standing. The focus of this class is to gain a greater understanding of the concept of “race” as a social construct that has changed historically and in contemporary societies, using the lens of anthropology. This is a seminar style class in which students are expected to be active leaners and engaged in discussions and has a substantial research component.

ENGLISH & COMMUNICATION

LITR 201: Patterns of Literature (The Coming-of-Age Story)
M/W 2:00-3:15, T/Th 2:00-3:15, Instructor: Professor D. Maus
In order to gain a working knowledge of how recognizing genre conventions and other formal/structural similarities can lead to insightful analysis of literary works, we will spend the semester focusing on one of the most prominent subgenres in global literature, the coming-of-age story (also sometimes referred to as the *bildungsroman* within the Western/European literary-historical context). We will read six exemplars of this genre as well as watching three films that adopt similar storytelling techniques in treating the broad theme of transitioning from naïveté to maturity, looking for the ways in which those works’ creators participate in and (at times) depart from the well-established expectations of this genre. This is an ideal course for non-literature majors looking for an in-depth study of issues pertaining to psychological development in adolescents and young adults, social acculturation processes and rituals, the role that factors such as gender or sexuality or race or economic status play in social belonging.

LITR 321: Historical Fiction
M/W/F 1:00-1:50, Instructor: Professor J. Donahue
In this course, cross-listed with the Women’s & Gender Studies Program, we will read 8 novels by some of the most celebrated historical novelists of our time. In particular, we will pay attention to the way these authors engage with the historical record and/or reimagine the past in order to comment on the various social, political, and personal pressures that women in the United States have faced. Through the fictionalization of real women (such as Marilyn Monroe, Pat Nixon, and Margaret Garner) and the presentation of personal histories alongside national histories (in such moments as the Massacre at Wounded Knee, the Mexican Civil War, and the Harlem Renaissance), this course will explore the continued importance of the intersectional study of history, where issues of sex, race, and class become central to our understanding of American history and literary fiction.

**LITR 352: Exiles, Migrants and Refugees**  
**T/Th 3:30-4:45, Instructor: Professor D. Maus**  
Despite the extensive economic and political globalization of the contemporary world, the presence and significance of international borders is still one of the most compelling influences on the lives of billions of human beings. A border (or sometimes the lack of one) can become the site of conflict between groups, or the crossing of a border can mean finding refuge from such conflict. Determining who can cross a border and who cannot is among the most immediate forms of power that a nation-state can exert, both on its own citizens and on “aliens,” whether they are already residing within those borders or attempting to cross them from outside. We will examine seven works of fiction and three films (all published/released within the last twenty years) that depict various ways in which borders – both literal and figurative – and the crossings thereof affect the lives of migrants, paying special attention to the distinction between voluntary and involuntary forms of migration.

**LITR 453: Contemporary Middle Eastern Fiction**  
**T/Th 11:00 - 12:15, Instructor: Professor D. Maus**  
(Please inquire via e-mail if you do not have the course pre-requisites but would like to take it)  
“Middle East” is a term with a long and complicated history that not only hints at its geographic centrality among Europe, Africa, and Asia, but also its historical positioning as a crossroads that has been a site of both major conflict and cultural exchange. For our purposes, we will adopt a definition of the term that encompasses a region from Algeria to Pakistan; we will read works for fiction published since 2005 by authors with cultural ties by birth and/or residence to eight different Middle Eastern political entities (Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Israel, Pakistan, the Palestinian Authority, Iran, and Turkey). Our broad-ranging goal is to expand our collective conception of the complex and diverse nature of life in the region beyond the simplistic and often willfully ignorant versions that abound in North American popular culture, political rhetoric, and mass media.

**HISTORY**

**HIST 100: World History**  
**Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 and Tu/Th 10:00 -12:15, Instructor: Professor L. Freed**  
This course examines world history from roughly 1400 to 2000 c.e., focusing our attention on trade and evolving connections between peoples and lands. We will look at the causes and consequences of various
movements of people, ideas, and things around the world, including the ways societies, individual people, and geography have helped shaped our world’s history.

**HIST 100: World History**  
**M/W/F 10:00 -10:50 and M/W 10:00 -10:50, F -11:00 – 11:50, Instructor: Professor A. Fair-Schulz**  
The main aims of this course are three-fold:  
1. Investigating History “from below,” – as opposed to “from above.” Thus, we will highlight the perspective and the interests of oppressed and exploited communities through the lens of class, race/ethnicity, and gender.  
2. Understanding the interconnection of events, structures, and personalities on a global scale, emphasizing Latin America, Africa, and Asia.  
Understanding the forces of change, to quote Frederick Douglass: “Power concedes nothing without a demand.”

**HIST 202: The United States since 1877**  
**M/W: 8-8:50; F 10-10:50 and M/W: 8-8:50; F 11-11:50 and M/W: 8-8:50; F 12-12:50, Instructor: Professor M.J. Heisey**  
This modern American survey course focuses on race, migration, and cultural life as well as providing an overview of the time period from 1865 to the early 1980s. Readings represent diverse voices. A number of the assignments allow students to make choices on topics and voices that interest them.

**HIST 240: Immigrant America: A Transnational History**  
**T/Th 9:30-10:45, Instructor: Dr. Shiho Imai**  
This course takes a cross-cultural approach to American history with a focus on the movement of people, goods, and ideas across national boundaries. With special attention to America’s evolving relationship with Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, it will explore the process of racial exclusion and inclusion.

**HIST 312: Latin America in the 20th Century**  
**Tues. 3:30 -6:00, Instructor: Staff**  
This course traces the historical trajectory of the region (including South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean) from the late nineteenth century through the present. The nineteenth and twentieth centuries heralded an era of great transformation throughout Latin America. The region emerged from struggles for independence and subsequent nation-building efforts with lingering colonial legacies and the rising shadow of U.S. intervention. Internal national debates over how to shape the new republics were fought by diverse groups along lines of race, gender, class, religion, culture and ideology. This contestation over power and social justice spanned throughout the twentieth century, and continues to this day.

**HIST 314: The Vietnam War**  
**T/Th 9:30-10:45, Instructor: Professor K. Smith**  
This course explores the history of the Vietnam War, focusing on the period of major American involvement from 1954 to 1975. The class begins with an overview of Vietnamese history up to World War II, followed by a close look at the process by which Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Minh were transformed from US allies during World War II to cold war adversaries. It then turns to the Viet Minh defeat of the French, despite considerable American aid. The French loss presented the US with the choice of accepting the Geneva Accords or intervening alone among the Great Powers to preserve an independent
South Vietnam. The rest of the course examines this intervention, analyzing the US decision to intervene; the nature of the Vietnamese opposition; US and Vietnamese strategy and tactics, including both sides’ atrocities; the toll taken on the soldiers; the American anti-war movement; the process of US withdrawal, and the legacy of the war for the US and Vietnam.

HIST 331 - Africa to 1870
M/W: 2:00 - 3:15, Instructor: Professor L. Freed
This course is designed to help you appreciate the diversity and complexity of human history in Africa and understand some of the key events and issues in African history from early human history through the mid-19th century, with emphasis on the 15th century onward. We will explore main trends including the evolution of lineage societies and centralized states, the trans-Saharan trade and other trade within Africa, the spread and influence of religions such as Islam and Christianity, the Atlantic slave trade and its impacts in Africa, and Africa’s encounters with the outside world. Along the way, we will discuss some of the challenges and opportunities inherent in studying African history, from sources to stereotypes.

HIST 371 - World War I:
M/W/F 1:00 - 1:50, Instructor: Professor A. Fair-Schulz
This class looks at World War I not only as a European phenomenon but also as truly global in scope. In addition to the political, diplomatic, and military dynamics of WWI, we will also examine how this conflict functioned as a catalyst for political as well as social revolts and revolutions in such diverse places as Russia, Germany, Hungary, the Middle East, and Asia.

HIST 395 - Practicing Public History
Tues 3:00 - 5:30, Instructor: Professor M.J. Heisey
This course introduces history’s uses outside the classroom in arenas such as museums, social movements, national parks, social media, governmental policies, and local communities. Public historians’ current attention to increasing diversity—defined in ways similar to SUNY Potsdam’s definition—in museums and other memorializing institutions, is reflected in course readings. The course requires field-based observations and individualized research, making assignments amendable to diverse approaches and voices.

HIST 466 - Espionage and Cold War:
M/W/F: 2:00 -2:50, Instructor: Professor A. Fair-Schulz
This class examines the dynamics of the Cold War and espionage activity during the second half of the 20th century from a global perspective. Thus, our focus will be not only on the major belligerent power blocs, such as NATO and the Warsaw Pact -- but also on the Non-Aligned Movement and other actors, including anti-colonial independence movements in South East Asia, the Caribbean, and Africa.

HIST 470 - African Environmental History
M/W: 3:30 -4:45, Instructor: Professor L. Freed
This course introduces students to Africa’s diverse human and natural environments, in historical context (roughly 1500 to the present). We will seek to understand historical interactions between human and natural worlds in Africa by examining issues ranging from urbanization to agricultural strategies to deforestation to the role of the supernatural in African environmental knowledges. Along the way, we will examine some of the ways outsiders such as Europeans have viewed, portrayed (and sometimes misjudged or misrepresented) and changed African environments. Students will complete a variety of
short research assignments focused on various aspects of the research process as it applies to African environmental history.

**MODERN LANGUAGES**

**FREN 326**  
T/Th 9:30-10:45, Instructor: Professor L. Lunt  
This course will include writings & film from French and Francophone countries and discuss issues of race, gender, class.

**FREN 103**  
M/W/F 10-10:50 and 11-11:50, Instructor: Professor L. Lunt  
This course will include culture of French and diverse Francophone countries and research on a famous Francophone related to students' major interests and passions.

**ARAB 101**  
M/W 2-3:15, Instructor: Professor L. Lunt  
This course will include discussion of diverse Arab cultures and questions of family, inheritance, architecture, religion, foodways.

**PHILOSOPHY**

**PHIL 102 – Philosophy of the Liberal Arts – PI, FC**  
This course examines arguments for and against the traditional humanities disciplines. Defenders of the humanities argue that studying philosophy, art, literature, culture and history can improve students’ abilities to think critically about moral issues, interact fruitfully with people from other cultures, fulfill their obligations as citizens and live meaningful and fulfilling lives. In this class we will critically examine these claims. Understanding these arguments will require careful engagement with a number of fundamental philosophical questions regarding the nature of morality, the relationship between values and culture, the possibility of objective judgments in aesthetics and ethics, and the standards by which to judge whether one’s life is or is not meaningful. We will explore these questions through careful reading of classic and contemporary philosophical work.

**PHIL-110: Introduction to Logic, PI, FC**  
TuTh 9:30-10:45, Flagg 211 & TuTh 11:00-12:15, Flagg 214 (2 sections), Instructor: Professor M. Lavine  

Philosophy is the rigorous and systematic investigation into those questions that people across all disciplines and walks of life normally take for granted. Logic, as a branch of philosophy, studies the ubiquitous process of using old beliefs to come to new beliefs (i.e. making arguments, giving reasons) that people normally just engage in without much thought. This course will be an introduction to the basic concepts, skills, problems, and classifications surrounding this process. Some representative questions we will discuss include the following: is there a tension between logic and emotion? Should we always be logical? Are there multiple types of reasoning? How often are politicians reasonable? What is the relationship between irrationality and prejudice?
PHIL 330: Environmental Ethics, PI
MW 3:30-4:45, Flagg 102, Instructor: Professor M. Lavine

Ethics, generally, is the study of the right course of action—that is, of what we should and should not do. Environmental ethics, then, is the study of

1. how humans should and should not interact with their environments, and
2. how environmental considerations impact investigation into what humans should and should not do.

Some representative questions we will discuss—from a variety of cultural, historical and disciplinary perspectives—will include: Is it okay to test products on animals that we wouldn’t first test on humans? Under what circumstances, if any, is it permissible to intentionally kill animals? Who is responsible for reversing the effects of global climate change? Do humans have an obligation to preserve biodiversity? Do humans have an obligation to preserve something of a natural state of wilderness? How should environmentalist concerns impact our ordinary, everyday decisions about consumption, employment, recreation, technology, etc.? How do social justice concerns impact environmental questions? In particular, how can feminist, anti-racist, and anti-hetero-normative considerations help us decide what we should do about the environment?

PHIL 331 – Moral Issues in Mental Health - PI
The diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders raises a number of significant moral and philosophical issues: the meaning or nature of psychiatric diagnoses, the obligations of the mental health professional toward her patients, whether or not mental illness should be considered an extenuating factor when evaluating the moral culpability of an individual who commits a crime, and if the state is ever justified in curtailing the freedoms of mentally ill citizens based solely on their illness. These and other philosophical issues will be explored through careful reading of original work in the philosophy of mind, ethics and philosophy of psychiatry.

POLITICS

POLLS 140: Introduction to International Relations
T/W/Th/F 10:00-10:50, Instructor: Professor M. Popovic
Pols 140 introduces students to fundamental concepts, questions, and approaches in the study of international relations. The course investigates international political and economic interactions by surveying diverse topics such as war and peace, international organizations, international migration, and international trade and finance.

POLLS 200 Political Ideas
W/F 8:00-9:40, Instructor: Professor M. Popovic
Pols 200 introduces political ideologies and ideas about perennial political problems. The course allows students to engage in informed dialogue about political issues such as globalization, women’s rights, racial justice, LGBTQ rights, environmental sustainability, nationalism, and Islamophobia.

POLLS 327: Law and Society (CRN 98031)
T/Th 2:00 - 3:40, Instructor: Professor D. Lempert
Informal description: This course examines the interaction between American courts and society. In general, we consider how legal decisions change society, and how society impacts courts' outputs. Some substantive topics covered in previous semesters have included school desegregation, police interrogations, the lawyer-client relationship, poor peoples' decision to sue for personal injuries in a rural community, and shaming penalties as alternative sanctions.

SOCIOLOGY

ENVR 110: Introduction to Environmental Studies
M/W/F 10:00-10:50, T/Th 12:30-1:45, Instructor: Professor A. Reis
While some of our course textbooks include writings by a white, male majority, this course will position students to question the environmental 'canon' as we progress through the semester. As students become familiar with the history of environmentalism in the U.S., they will be asked to consider and critique the 'whiteness' that dominates U.S. environmental history, and to question why the canonization of this history does not include more writing by indigenous environmentalists, black agro-environmentalists, and other non-white, male environmentalists. Moreover, students will complete units on environmental justice, wherein they will learn about the disproportionate environmental burdens experienced by indigenous peoples, people of color, and women; and agrarianism, wherein they will learn about rural environmentalism.

SOCI 220: Qualitative Research Methods
T/Th 2:00-3:15, M/W 2:00-3:15, Instructor: Professor H. Sullivan-Catlin

ENVR 395: Environmental Justice Narratives
T/Th 9:30-10:45, Instructor: Professor A. Reis
This course will revise students’ understanding of “environment,” showing that nature exists in National Parks and nuclear waste sites, wild rivers and mega-dams, industrialized food production and the human body. Herein, students will learn to understand environmental injustice as the disproportionate burdens of environmental contamination on underrepresented communities. Environmental justice literature, nonfiction, and documentary films will provide narratives of traditionally-marginalized individuals and communities organizing and responding to environmental problems on local, national, and international levels, and show that environmental issues are deeply connected with issues of globalization, gender, race, and class. These narratives will position students to analyze how literature, nonfiction, documentary films, criticism, and case studies illuminate the struggles of various racial, gendered, and socio-economic groups

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

COMMUNITY HEALTH

HLTH 200 – 001, Therapeutic Recreation (CRN 96762)
WILD 200 – 001, Therapeutic Recreation (CRN 96763)
T/TH 2:00-3:15, Merrit Hall 0133A, Instructor: Professor A. Wheeler
This course examines recreation as an integral part of the treatment process for youth-at-risk, people with disabilities, and other special populations such as those with drug/alcohol dependencies. The use of adventure experiences as modalities for participant change is a primary focus of this course. Fall. Cross-listed as WILD 200. 3.00 Credit hours

**HLTH 310 Health Disparities**
**M/W/F 9:00-9:50, M/W/F 10:00-10:50, Instructor: Professor P. Anafi**
In this course, students will examine disparities in the health status of a variety of population groups defined on the basis of race/ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, ability, etc. Students will examine and discuss epidemiological data illustrating disparities, factors that contribute to those disparities and strategies to address disparities.

**HLTH 342 - 001: Women's Health (CRN 96520)**
**T/TH 8:00 - 9:15, Dunn Hall 0208, Instructor: Professor H. Cowen-Wilson**
This course examines health concerns specific to women. Behavioral, psychological and socio-cultural aspects of women’s experience in health systems will be explored, as well as general influences such as age, race, ethnicity and social class on women’s roles as recipients and providers of health care. Course topics include historical perspectives on women’s health, gender differences in morbidity and mortality, patient and health care provider relationships, health care consumerism, the impact of employment, motherhood, divorce and aging, and other health concerns unique to women. Fall. Gen Ed: SI credit.

**Crane**

**MUAP 320: West African Drum and Dance Ensemble**
**Thursdays 6:00-7:20, Bishop C123, Instructor: Professor Julie Hunter**
The West African Drum and Dance Ensemble performs music from Ghana, Togo and neighboring countries of West Africa with a final performance for the Crane and Potsdam community at the end of the semester. The group is open to all SUNY Potsdam students regardless of musical background or ability, and there is no audition. Students will be introduced to the features of West African performance, develop an understanding of the processes and contexts of West African music, and learn to perform several genres. Through weekly practices students will learn the instrumental techniques, timeline patterns, drum rhythms, songs, dance movements, and foreign language texts of the selected repertoire, and be given opportunities to improve their skills in improvisation, multiple-part playing, learning by ear, and musical memory. It fulfills the AE requirement and counts toward the Africana Studies minor. It can be taken additional times for repeated credit.

**MULH 261: Music of Africa**
**Section 1 - M/W 4:00-5:15, Schuette A311**
**Section 2 - T/R 2:00-3:15, Bishop C309, Instructor: Professor Julie Hunter**
This course will introduce students to a variety of musics in Africa and their cultural contexts. We’ll explore how people make music through an interdisciplinary perspective. Lecture and discussion topics will include the integration of the arts in Africa, stereotypes about African music, music and community, the politics of music during the colonial and post-colonial periods, music and HIV/AIDS, music as a reflection of ethnic, national and gendered identities, and the negotiation between tradition and modernity. A range of popular and traditional styles will be explored such as Shona mbira music,
Highlife, Rumba, Ewe dance-drumming, BaAka music, and afrobeat. There will be many opportunities for in-class music making. This course is oriented toward liberal arts majors, and there are no pre-requisites. It fulfills the XC requirement (for liberal arts students) and counts toward the Africana Studies minor.

**MUCH 395: Music, Culture, and Politics in West Africa**

**M/W/F 10:00-10:50, Schuette A147 Instructor: Professor Julie Hunter**

This course will explore a range of musical genres such as mbalax, highlife, hiplife, and afrobeat, and traditional Yoruba, Mande, Dagbamba, Akan, and Wolof music. We will address topics including concepts of rhythm, talking drums, colonial and postcolonial politics, gender, identity, performance practice, music and nationalism, music and religion, music of conflict, and the role of national and international festival in West Africa. Students will learn to perform several dance-drumming genres, and complete a West African song project. The course fulfills the upper level music history requirement for music majors, an honors requirement (register for MUCH 395 HNR), and counts toward the Africana studies minor. Liberal Arts students who are not part of the honors program should contact the instructor to discuss an override.