

Name of course	Department	Instructor	Course type	Course #	Time and Day	Semester
Life at the end of life: Palliative medicine and service	American Studies	Robert Pollack and colleagues	Undergraduate seminar	AMSTUN3930_006	Thursday, 4:10 to 6 pm	Fall 17
Science & Art in Archaeological Illustration	Anthropology	Zoe Crossland	Graduate seminar	GU 4481	Thursdays 1-5pm	Spring 17
Animal Ethos	Anthropology	Lesley Sharp	Graduate seminar	ANTH G 6301	W 10:10-noon	Spring 17
Ignorance	Biology and Columbia College	Stuart Firestein	Undergraduate seminar	SCNCUN3920	Wednesdays, 6:10 - 8 PM	Spring 17
Human Nature: DNA, Race & Identity	EEEB	Dr. Marya Pollack and Prof. Robert Pollack	Graduate seminar	GU4321	Wed 2:10-4pm	Spring 17, Fall 17, Spring 18
Data: Past, Present & Future	History/Applied Physics and Applied Math	Matt Jones and Chris Wiggins	Undergraduate lecture	History-APMA UN2901	Tuesday/Thursday 10:10-11:25	Spring 17
Social History of American Public Health	History	James Colgrove	Undergraduate lecture	HSPBUN2950	T-Th 8:40-9:55	Spring 18
Transport History by Land and Sea	History	Richard W. Bulliet	Undergraduate lecture	not yet assigned	TTh 4:10-5:25	Spring 17
Craft and Science: Making Objects in the Early Modern World	History	Pamela Smith	Graduate seminar	GR8906	Mondays 10:10am to 2pm with required lab times through the semester	Spring 17, Fall 17, Spring 18
What Is a Book in the 21st Century? Working with Historical Texts in a Digital Environment	History	Pamela Smith and Terence Catapano	Graduate seminar	GR8975	W 4:10-6, and labs Friday 2:10-4pm	Spring 17
History of Health and Healing in Africa	History	Rhiannon Stephens	Undergraduate/graduate seminar	GU4769	W 10:10-12	Spring 17
History of Environmental Thinking	History	D. Coen	Undergraduate seminar	BC 3909	F 10:10-12:00	Spring 17
Poisoned Worlds: Corporate Responsibility for Toxins	History	David Rosner	Undergraduate lecture	3437	8-9:59 am	Spring 17
Encounters with Nature: The History of Environment and Health in South Asia	History	Kavita Sivaramakrishnan	Undergraduate seminar	HIST W4811 (old) HIST GU4811 (new)	W, 2:10- 4:00 pm	Spring 17
History of American Capitalism since 1760	History	Richard R. John	Graduate seminar	History 8569	Monday 4:10-6:00	Spring 17
Darwin	Philosophy	Kathryn Tabb	Undergraduate lecture	PHILUN3258	M/W 4:10-5:25	Spring 17
Struggles for Sustainability: Food, Famine and Farming	SIPA	Sara Tjossem	Graduate seminar	INAFU8910_001_2017_1	M 2:10 - 4:00	Spring 17
History of American Ecology & Environmentalism	SIPA	Sara Tjossem	Graduate seminar	INAFU6236_001_2016_3	T 09:00A-10:50A	Fall 17
Law, Science, and Society	Sociology	Jonathan R. Cole	Undergraduate seminar	W3960	10 am on Mondays	Spring 17
Visionary Medicine: Racial Justice, Health and Speculative Fictions	Center for Study of Ethnicity and Race	Sayantani T DasGupta		GU4340	T 12:10pm-2:00pm	Spring 17

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS -- SPRING 17

Data: Past, Present & Future

History/Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics

Matthew Jones and Chris Wiggins

Undergraduate lecture

History-APMA UN2901

Thursday, 10:10-11:25am, Spring 17

Science & Art in Archaeological Illustration

Anthropology

Zoe Crossland

Graduate seminar

GU 4481

Thursday 1-5PM, Spring 17

This course explores how science and art are folded together in the practice of archaeological illustration. The first half of the course combines hands-on training in techniques of scientific illustration, with an exploration of the representational choices made in this work, and the effects of these choices on how archaeological materials are understood. How have particular representational forms and traditions informed archaeological practice, and what might alternate modes of (non)representation offer? The second half of the semester will move out from this technical illustrative foundation to think more broadly about the intersections between art, science, and archaeology as students work toward their final projects. Students are encouraged to experiment with new ways of deploying traditional illustrative techniques in these projects. The class will include sessions with artists who draw upon archaeology in their practice.

Animal Ethos

Anthropology

Lesley Sharp

Graduate seminar

ANTH G 6301

Wednesday 10:10-noon, Spring 17

This seminar interrogates and challenges assumptions regarding the human/nature divide, drawing on classic and contemporary writings within anthropology and, more broadly, from cross-disciplinary perspectives, including the history of science, moral philosophy, and STS studies. Of special concern are the meanings assigned to nature, species integrity, interspecies proximity, and the moral boundaries of science where animals become involved. Enrollment is limited to 15 graduate students. Audits are not allowed, although students may take this course for R credit with the intention of full-scale participation.

Ignorance

Biology

Stuart Firestein

Undergraduate seminar

SCNCUN3920

Wednesday 6:10-8PM, Spring 17

Seminar course in which we will read and write on the power of the unknown in science. Two thirds of the classes will be occupied with visiting scientists who will discuss what they don't know and what they are working to find out. Class is intended to be a discussion format. Course is open to seniors only.

Human Nature: DNA, Race & Identity

EEEB

Dr. Marya Pollack and Prof. Robert Pollack

Graduate seminar

GU4321

Wednesday 2:10-4pm, Spring 17 - Fall 17 - Spring 18

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.

Transport History by Land and Sea

History

Richard W. Bulliet

Undergraduate lecture

not yet assigned

Tues-Thurs 4:10-5:25, Spring 17

A world history of land and water transport from prehistoric times to the present. Primary focus is on wheeled vehicles, harnessing, and sail technologies

Craft and Science: Making Objects in the Early Modern World

History

Pamela Smith

Sample syllabus:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fKgMEAYfcG9S0vJW8mJTEKkFhi8T8Tr9gEKRLvYulo>

Graduate seminar

GR8906

Monday 10:10am - 2pm with required lab times through the semester, Spring 17 - Fall 17 - Spring 18

This course studies the materials, techniques, settings, and meanings of skilled craft and artistic practices in the early modern period (1350-1750), in order to reflect upon a series of issues,

including craft knowledge and artisanal epistemology; the intersections between craft and science; and questions of historical methodology and evidence in the reconstruction of historical experience. The course will be run as a “Laboratory Seminar,” with discussions of primary and secondary materials, as well as text-based research and hands-on work in a laboratory. This course is one component of the Making and Knowing Project of the Center for Science and Society. This course contributes to the collective production of a transcription, English translation, and critical edition of a late sixteenth-century manuscript in French, Ms. Fr. 640. In 2014-15, the course concentrated on mold-making and metalworking. In 2015-16, it focused on color-making, including pigments, varnishes, cold enamels, dyes, imitation gems, and other color processes, and in 2016-17 on vernacular natural history and practical optics. Students are encouraged to take this course for both semesters (or more), but will receive full credit only once. Different laboratory work and readings will be carried out each semester. This course will also be open to a small number of select undergraduates, with instructor’s permission and an add/drop form.

What Is a Book in the 21st Century? Working with Historical Texts in a Digital Environment History

Pamela Smith and Terence Catapano

Graduate seminar

GR8975

Wednesday 4:10-6pm, and labs Friday 2:10-4pm, Spring 17

This course will introduce humanities and social science graduate students, with little to no experience in digital platforms, to the Digital Humanities. In the process of equipping them with the digital skills to collectively create a minimal digital edition using content from the Making and Knowing Project, it will also give them a foundation in digital scholarly methods and approaches, and a project exhibiting their acquired competencies for their professional portfolio. The edition will consist of a full English translation of Ms. Fr. 640, an anonymous 16th-century compilation of technical recipes. The Making and Knowing Project has “disassembled” this manuscript through research seminars and workshops involving multidisciplinary teams of students and faculty, and is now creating the final critical digital edition as a “reassembly” of this manuscript for the 21st century. In the course, students will be active participants in the Project’s exploration of technologies that allow not just a reading of the text but an interaction with its content. This is in direct resonance with the ways that this 16th-century recipe collection moves from text to knowledge when the techniques contained within it are practiced, whether in the 16th century or in the Making and Knowing Laboratory reconstructions today. Through this exploration, we aim to foster reflection on the constraints of the book as a framework and vehicle for the production of knowledge, and to re-think the technology of the book and the reading of a text. To this end, in the second half of the semester, students will work with collaborators from Professor Steven Feiner’s Computer Graphics and User Interfaces Lab.

Health and Healing in Africa

History

Rhiannon Stephens
Graduate Seminar
GU4769
Wednesday 10:10am-12pm, Spring 17

Africa has long been construed in the Western mind as a place of disease – from the ‘White Man’s Grave’ of West Africa in the Atlantic Era through the colonial epidemics of sleeping sickness and syphilis and into the present with the AIDS pandemic of recent decades and the unfolding cancer crisis. Colonial medical officials were keen to present themselves as introducing healing practices to the continent as part of the civilizing mission and the post-colonial flourishing on non-governmental organizations has in large part continued this self-projection. As such, ‘traditional’ or non-biomedical healers have found themselves alternatively the target of campaigns to prevent them from working and of efforts to bring them into the medical system by rationalizing their work through the scientific evaluation of herbal medicines, for example.

This course charts the history of health and healing from, as far as is possible, a perspective interior to Africa. The emphasis is less on the colonial introduction of biomedicine as a rupture and revolution and more on shifts in balance between multiple modes of healing. We will therefore explore changing practices and understandings of disease, etiology, healing and well-being from pre-colonial times through into the post-colonial. A major theme running throughout the course is the relationship between medicine, the body, power and social groups. This is balanced by an examination of the creative ways in which Africans have struggled to compose healthy communities, albeit with varied success, whether in the fifteenth century or the twenty-first.

This seminar is not a comprehensive survey of the history of medicine in Africa. Rather we will explore changing understanding of disease and practices of healing through specific themes.

History of Environmental Thinking

History
Deborah Coen
Undergraduate seminar
BC 3909
Friday 10:10am-12:00pm, Spring 17

How can historical research inform responses to the present environmental crisis? This course will study the history of biodiversity as concept and practice. Behind the term biodiversity stands a wide variety of values—from the utilitarian to the ethical, religious, and aesthetic. These disparate values have generated competing measures of biodiversity and conflicting prescriptions for its preservation. Our aim is to better understand how these diverse values have been shaped historically, and how they in turn shape current debates and developments in scientific research and policy. Students will have the opportunity to take part in a series of

scholarly and public events on this topic, hosted jointly by Columbia and the New York Botanical Garden. Students will also take part in a series of tutorials, taught in conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History, on curating a public exhibit. The final assignment will be to contribute to an exhibit on “Biodiversity and its Histories” which will open to the public at the end of the semester.

Poisoned Worlds: Corporate Responsibility for Toxins

History

David Rosner

Undergraduate seminar

UN3437

Tuesday 8:00am-10:00am, Spring 17

Using toxicdocs.com we will research corporate behavior when a product is shown to be dangerous. It will use approximately 4-6 million memos, letters, reports from inside industries.

Encounters with Nature: The History of Environment and Health in South Asia

History

Kavita Sivaramakrishnan

Undergraduate seminar

HIST W4811 (old) HIST GU4811 (new)

Wednesday 2:10pm- 4:00 pm, Spring 17

This course offers an understanding of the interdisciplinary field of environmental and health history and will discuss historical and scientific debates such as the making of colonized peoples and natural and disease landscapes under British colonial rule; modernizing states, development projects and the public, the movement and migration of populations, and changing place of public health and healing in south Asia. The key aim of the course will be to introduce students to reading and analyzing a range of historical scholarship, and interdisciplinary research on environment, health, medicine and populations in South Asia and introduce them to an exploration of sources for research and also probe the challenges posed by archives and sources in these fields. Some of the overarching questions that shape this course are as follows: How have historians written about and interpreted environmental pasts and medical histories? What have been the encounters (political, intellectual, social and cultural) between the environment, its changing landscapes and state? How have citizens, indigenous communities, and vernacular healers mediated and shaped these encounters and inserted their claims for sustainability, subsistence or survival?

The course focuses on South Asia but also urges students to think and make linkages beyond regional geographies in examining interconnected ideas and practices in histories of the environment, medicine and health. Topics will therefore include (and students are invited to add to these perspectives and suggest additional discussion themes): colonial and globalized circuits of medical knowledge, with comparative case studies from Africa and East Asia; and the

travel and translation of environmental ideas and of medical practices through growing global networks.

History of American Capitalism since 1760

History

Richard R. John

Graduate seminar

HIST 8569

Monday 4:10pm-6:00pm, Spring 17

This course surveys recent historical writing on the history of capitalism in the United States and the world -- a burgeoning field. The focus is on the relationship of business, technology, and the state. Students will have the opportunity to write a paper (historiographical or primary research-based) on a topic of their choice.

Darwin

Philosophy

Kathryn Tabb

Undergraduate lecture

PHILUN3258

Mon-Wed 4:10pm-5:25pm, Spring 17

Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection has been revolutionary, not just for scientists but for everyone who reflects on human nature and human destiny. The first aim of this course is to separate Darwin's own theory from its scientific, religious, and cultural aftershocks, and to consider how its influence developed and changed over the century and a half since *On the Origin of Species* was published in 1859. After careful consideration of Darwin's own life and historical context, we will read our way through the *Origin*, and then consider reactions to it starting Darwin's own day, proceeding through the "Modern Synthesis," and ending in our present moment. The final sessions of the course will explore Darwin's impact on contemporary philosophical debates over faith, ethics, and scientific knowledge.

Struggles for Sustainability: Food, Famine and Farming

SIPA

Sara Tjossem

Graduate seminar

INAFU8910_001_2017_1

Monday 2:10pm - 4:00pm, Spring 17

U.S. agricultural practice has been presented as a paradigm for the rest of the world to emulate, yet is a result of over a century of unique development. Contemporary agriculture has its historical roots in the widely varied farming practices, social and political organizations, and attitudes toward the land of generations of farmers and visionaries. We will explore major forces shaping the practice of U.S. agriculture, particularly geographical and social perspectives

and the development and adoption of agricultural science and technology. We will consider how technological changes and political developments (government policies, rationing, subsidies) shape visions of and transmission of agriculture and the agrarian ideal. In the latter half of the semester we will turn our attention to how these seemingly national patterns have been adopted or applied internationally.

Law, Science, and Society

Sociology

Jonathan R. Cole

Undergraduate seminar

W3960

Monday 10am, Spring 17

This course will examine basic contemporary social, political and cultural issues from the perspectives of scientists, social scientists, legal scholars, and judges. Through the use of case studies, we will examine the nature of theories, evidence, facts, proof, and argument as found in the work of those who have engaged the substantive issues in the seminar. A few of the specific topics include balancing national security and civil liberties in difficult times; issues of free expression and its limits; science and the law related to health risks; among several other topics.

Visionary Medicine: Racial Justice, Health, and Speculative Fiction

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

Sayantani T Dasgupta

Graduate seminar

Tuesday 12:10pm-2:00pm, Spring 17

In Fall 2014, medical students across the U.S. staged die-ins as part of the nationwide #blacklivesmatter protests. The intention was to create a shocking visual spectacle, laying on the line “white coats for black lives.” The images were all over social media: students of all colors, dressed in lab coats, lying prone against eerily clean tile floors, stethoscopes in pockets, hands and around necks. One prone student held a sign reading, “Racism is Real.” These medical students’ collective protests not only created visual spectacle, but produced a dynamic speculative fiction. What would it mean if instead of Michael Brown or Eric Garner or Freddie Gray, these other, more seemingly elite bodies were subjected to police violence? In another viral image, a group of African American male medical students from Harvard posed wearing hoodies beneath their white coats, making clear that the bodies of some future doctors could perhaps be more easily targeted for state-sanctioned brutality. “They tried to bury us,” read a sign held by one of the students, “they didn’t realize we were seeds.” Both medicine and racial justice are acts of speculation; their practices are inextricable from the practice of imagining. By imagining new cures, new discoveries and new futures for human beings in the face of illness, medicine is necessarily always committing acts of speculation. By imagining ourselves into a more racially just future, by simply imagining ourselves any sort of future in the face of racist erasure, social justice activists are similarly involved in creating speculative fictions. This course

begins with the premise that racial justice is the bioethical imperative of our time. It will explore the space of science fiction as a methodology of imagining such just futures, embracing the work of Asian- and Afroturism, Cosmos Latinos and Indigenous Imaginaries. We will explore issues including Biocolonialism, Alien/nation, Transnational Labor and Reproduction, the Borderlands and Other Diasporic Spaces. This course will be seminar-style and will make central learner participation and presentation. The seminar will be inter-disciplinary, drawing from science and speculative fictions, cultural studies, gender studies, narrative medicine, disability studies, and bioethics. Ultimately, the course aims to connect the work of science and speculative fiction with on the ground action and organizing.

The Field of Emotions

English

Maire Jaanus

Graduate seminar

GU4996

Wednesday 2:10pm-4:00pm, Spring 17

An interdisciplinary examination of human feelings, emotions, and passions - with a focus on the literature, music, and art of the romantic era (Wordsworth, Shelley, Beethoven, Caspar-David Friedrich and Turner) - in coordination with the affective neuroscience of Jack Panskepp, psychoanalysis (Freud and Lacan), and philosophy (Aristotle, Hume, Hegel, and Schiller). Affects come into existence or happen or "show" themselves (Greek Phainein=to show) without our knowing exactly what they are, what their origin or cause is or what it is they are "showing" or "saying." How have their power, function, and value been represented in the past and what does neuroscience and psychoanalysis add to our understanding and experience of this dimension of our lives? I am interested in the instauration of a new, joyous, more scientifically-based romantic revolution.

Data Visualization for Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities

GSAPP

Juan Francisco Saldarriaga

Lecture

A4892

Friday 9:00am-11:00am, Spring 17

This course is an introduction to data visualization theory and methods for students entirely new to the fields of computation and information design. Through a series of in-class exercises and take-home assignments, students will learn how to critically engage and produce interactive data visualization pieces that can serve as exploratory and analytical tools. The course will be centered around a semester long data visualization group project, through which the students will learn the basics of data visualization, data analysis, data collection, programming and version control. However, even though the course will teach specific visualization tools, the main conceptual thread will be centered around how to work with data,

both in the humanities and in architecture and urbanism. Students will define their final projects around their own interests, and will bring their own datasets into their final projects.

More information about the course is available here:

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb/subj/HIST/GU4531-20171-001/>

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb/subj/HSAM/UN2901-20171-001/>

FALL 2017 AND BEYOND

Life at the end of life: Palliative medicine and service

American Studies

Robert Pollack and colleagues

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/rcss/>

Undergraduate seminar

AMSTUN3930_006

Thursday, 4:10 to 6pm, Fall 17

This seminar is designed to provide opportunities for readings and reflections on the experience of volunteer service work. At least one prior semester of volunteer work in a clinical setting relevant to the syllabus is recommended. The fieldwork component of the course is met by the student's continued direct service work in that context, during the course itself.

History of American Ecology & Environmentalism

SIPA

Sara Tjossem

Graduate seminar

INAFU6236_001_2016_3

Tuesday 9:00am-10:50am, Fall 17

Ecology is a common but ambiguous term that has been used to address social, political and environmental problems. This lecture/discussion explores the history of ecology as a developing academic discipline and as a tool for social reform. We will explore various conceptions of nature and ecology in changing ideas of conservation, preservation, the Dust Bowl, the atomic age, growing environmentalism, and the current focus on biodiversity as one route to a sustainable society. We will look at how scientific information has been constructed and used in environmental debates over pollution and overpopulation and will question the utility of distinguishing between "first nature" (untouched by humans) and "second nature" (nature modified by humans). Along the way, we will address connections between environmentalism and nationalism, the relationship between environmental change and social inequality, the rise of modern environmental politics, and different visions for the future of nature.

Human Nature: DNA, Race & Identity

EEEEB

Dr. Marya Pollack and Prof. Robert Pollack

Graduate seminar

GU4321

Wednesday 2:10-4pm, Spring 17 - Fall 17 - Spring 18

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.

Social History of American Public Health

History

James Colgrove

Undergraduate lecture

HSPBUN2950

Tues-Thurs 8:40-9:55AM, Spring 18

This course introduces students to the historical development of public health in the United States. The course traces the evolution of public health—as both a conceptual framework and a set of institutions and practices—from its beginnings in the sanitary reform movement of the nineteenth century to its status as a broad and expansive field at the end of the twentieth century.

Craft and Science: Making Objects in the Early Modern World

History

Pamela Smith

Sample syllabus:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fKgMEAYfcG9S0vJW8mJTEKkFhi8T8Tr9gEKRLvYulo>

Graduate seminar

GR8906

Monday 10:10am - 2pm with required lab times through the semester, Spring 17 - Fall 17 -

Spring 18

This course studies the materials, techniques, settings, and meanings of skilled craft and artistic practices in the early modern period (1350-1750), in order to reflect upon a series of issues, including craft knowledge and artisanal epistemology; the intersections between craft and science; and questions of historical methodology and evidence in the reconstruction of historical experience. The course will be run as a “Laboratory Seminar,” with discussions of primary and secondary materials, as well as text-based research and hands-on work in a laboratory. This course is one component of the Making and Knowing Project of the Center for Science and Society. This course contributes to the collective production of a transcription, English translation, and critical edition of a late sixteenth-century manuscript in French, Ms. Fr. 640. In 2014-15, the course concentrated on mold-making and metalworking. In 2015-16, it

focused on color-making, including pigments, varnishes, cold enamels, dyes, imitation gems, and other color processes, and in 2016-17 on vernacular natural history and practical optics. Students are encouraged to take this course for both semesters (or more), but will receive full credit only once. Different laboratory work and readings will be carried out each semester. This course will also be open to a small number of select undergraduates, with instructor's permission and an add/drop form.