Course Description

This course will introduce majors to faculty research in Anthropology and Sociology and to the connections between the two disciplines. Students will come to learn what anthropologists, archaeologists, and sociologists do and how they do it. Students will be able to make connections between the disciplines of anthropology and sociology. This course is intended as an introduction to both disciplines in the major – their historical and theoretical connections and contributions to contemporary research and teaching. Active participation, discussion with guest presenters and attendance at all class periods is required.

Course Goals

a) The course will foster an opportunity for students to become part of an academic cohort and establish closer ties with other majors and departmental faculty.

b) The course will present information regarding varied types of research and methodologies and theoretical perspectives in Anthropology and Sociology via faculty presentations.

c) The course will encourage students: a) to engage in critical thinking through questioning presenters; b) to work on the skill of summary and synthesis through writing; c) to gain a nuanced understanding of the similarities and differences between anthropology and sociology.

d) Make connections across/between the disciplines and the research presented.
Course Requirements

Since the goal of this course is to introduce you to the disciplines of anthropology and sociology through faculty research rather than assessing what you know, everyone has the opportunity to receive an A by attending every presentation, attending two presentations by term hire candidates to the department and writing a 5-7 page synthesis of the presentations.

1) Must attend all sessions of the course and participate in discussion. (50%)

2) Must attend talks by outside speakers as announced (10%) ~ TBA.

3) Must write a 5-7 synthesis of the presentations by anthropology and sociology faculty (40%)

Dates of Classes (All classes are in Asbury Hall 222 unless otherwise announced)

Wednesday, August 26: Introduction to the course 11:40-12:20
Wednesday, September 2: Presentation by Dr. Oscar Gil-Garcia 11:40-12:20
Wednesday, October 7: Presentation by Dr. David Newman 11:40 – 12:20
Wednesday, November 4: Presentation by Dr. Clark Sage 11:40-12:20
Wednesday, December 2: Presentation by Dr. Rebecca Upton 11:40-12:20
Wednesday, December 9: Wrap Up 11:40 – 12:20

Lunch will be provided on the days that there are departmental speakers

Required Paper for Course (5-7 double-spaced, 1 inch margins, APA style references)

You have heard and asked questions of each presenter (and perhaps outside speakers), now write a paper making connections between the presentations. In what ways did the presentations overlap? Was there a central theme they all seemed to address? Does this speak to the similarities between the disciplines? Conversely, how did the presentations differ from one another? What different methodologies or techniques were used to address their central questions? Did they ask very different questions from one another? In what ways do anthropology, archaeology, and sociology differ from one another? What did you learn about these various disciplines through faculty presentations? What stuck out to you the most?

Paper due electronically (via email: rupton@depauw.edu) by 4pm: December 16th