SPECIAL COURSE OFFERINGS

The following material has been prepared to assist students in selecting from the wide array of recently approved, elective, and variable-topic course offerings that might otherwise go unnoticed because they are so new or have not been offered in several years. Some courses are grouped in selected categories of interest. For additional information on variable-topic courses, please consult individual department postings.

Earth & Environmental Science
MEDST 281 Intermediate Studies in Media: The Environment & Media Technologies  See course information under Media Studies.

PSCI 102 Current Political Controversies: The Legislative Process & the Corruption of Money  See course information under Political Science.

History
HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Asian-American History 3 hr.; 3 cr. The history of Asian-Americans. (Kandelwal)

HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Jews in Islamic Society 3 hr.; 3 cr. The history and lives of Jews in Islamic society. (Franklin)

HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Jews in the Soviet Union 3 hr.; 3 cr. The history and lives of Jews in the Soviet Union. (Bempora)

HIST 253 Jews in Early Modern Europe 3 hr.; 3 cr. The history of Jews in early modern Europe. (Bregoli)

HIST 310 Fascism, Nazism, Stalinism 3 hr.; 3 cr. Analysis of Fascist, Nazi, and Stalinist systems. (Suerringen)

Jewish Studies
HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Jews in Islamic Society

HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Jews in the Soviet Union

HIST 253 Jews in Early Modern Europe  See course information under History.

Linguistics & Communication Disorders
LCD 103 Multilingualism in the U.S. 3 hr.; 3 cr. This is a reading course for undergraduates, with an intersection of topics and concepts from linguistics, sociology, anthropology, psychology, and education. It is designed for students interested in gaining a deeper understanding of some of the linguistic and cultural groups that make up U.S. society and the issues that surround and confound them. Satisifies the Cultural & Values and United States PLAS area requirements. (Curtinga)

LCD 360 Issues in Linguistics: Endangered and Minority Languages 3 hr.; 3 cr. Prereq: LCD 101/ANTH 108. This course will explore social, political, and linguistic issues pertaining to some of the world’s less widely spoken languages, with particular emphasis on endangered and dying languages. Students will discover the sociopolitical and demographic realities that lead to language endangerment and death, as well as some approaches to language planning that have had a role in revitalization. The course will also introduce some of the phonological, morphological, and syntactic features of these less well-known languages, and demonstrate their value as unique manifestations of the human language faculty. (Fredricks)

Media Studies
MEDST 281 Intermediate Studies in Media: The Environment & the Media 3 hr.; 3 cr. Public knowledge about climate change, global warming, and industrial pollution has been shaped largely by the media, through films like An Inconvenient Truth, nature documentaries, and environmental journalism. Every day we hear more about green consumption and such policy issues as electronic waste management and recycling. Less obvious is the environmental impact of media technologies themselves—for example, taken together, information and communication technologies emit as much greenhouse gases as the aviation industry. This course introduces students to three areas where the media have an impact on the environment: environmental communication (ecologically themed film and TV, environmental journalism, etc.); pollution associated with the production and life cycle of media technologies (chemical waste, etc.); and what happens to all the waste from old and obsolete electronic and paper-based media. You’ll learn about the toxins in your cell phones and computers, how your iPod pollutes the planet, and what you can do about it. (Maxwell)

Middle Eastern Studies
HIST 200 Selected Studies in History: Jews in Islamic Society  See course information under History.

Political Science
HIST 310 Fascism, Nazism, Stalinism  See course information under History.

PSCI 102 Current Political Controversies: The Legislative Process & the Corruption of Money 3 hr.; 3 cr. This course examines the influence of money on the formation of public policy. We will explore the impact of money on agenda setting, political support for policies, and framing the public debate on policy. Satisfies the Social Sciences area requirement for both LASAR and PLAS. (Bonomo)

PSCI 209 Special Topics in Political Science: The Politics of Spying 3 hr.; 3 cr. This course deals with the development, structure, and practices of the U.S. Intelligence Community. Major topics, examined in the light of recent and current developments, include the interaction of politics and intelligence: the uses and misuses of intelligence; intelligence requirements in “the age of terror”; intelligence tasks and the challenge to civil liberties and privacy rights. (Zadoian)

PSCI 276 Feminist Political Theory 3 hr.; 3 cr. This course introduces students to feminist perspectives on politics and political thought, and to the current debates and issues in contemporary feminism, through a study of political writing by and about women. (Katz)

Urban Studies
URBST 220 Studies of Selected Urban Service Institutions: Asian-Americans in Queens Neighborhoods 3 hr.; 3 cr. An overview of Asian-American commu-
nities, focusing on local Queens neighborhoods. Topics include the history of immigration in America and Asian-American communities, usage of U.S. census data, the evolution of Asian-American communities over time, intergroup relations, and the role of community-based organizations. Students will be taken on field trips to local neighborhoods during class time for walking tours and visits to community organizations. Course readings, guest lectures, and class discussions will explore multiple aspects of the Asian-American experience, including economic entrepreneurship, political participation, health, youth and higher education, media, religion, and identity.

**URBST 220** Studies of Selected Urban Service Institutions: Downtown Flushing Neighborhood Planning 3 hr.; 3 cr.
Flushing is a diverse immigrant neighborhood undergoing much development and dynamic change. We will study a recent plan by the NYC Economic Development Corp. to revitalize and redevelop Downtown Flushing, focusing on EDC’s proposal for Municipal Parking Lot #1, the area’s largest remaining city-owned property. EDC envisions the 16-acre site to be redeveloped as an upscale retail, office, and housing complex with a town square and youth center. Through the “lens” of this proposal, we will study historic and current development policies and sociodemographic shifts that contribute to Flushing’s transformation and status as a regional economic center. We will also investigate EDC’s planning process and engage with key community stakeholders to assess public support for EDC’s Downtown Flushing development proposals. (Hum)

**URBST 220** Studies of Selected Urban Service Institutions: Social Movements in Asian-American Communities 3 hr.; 3 cr.
This course will examine social advocacy and organizing in Asian-American communities nationwide, focusing on Queens and New York City. Course materials will cover major Asian-American social movements throughout history, such as the Japanese-American Redress Movement, organizing on university campuses in the 1960s and the creation of Asian-American studies programs, and Asian-Americans’ active participation in the antiwar protests and the Civil Rights Movement. Students will also learn about contemporary issues around which Asian-American communities have organized, such as immigration reform, post-9/11 protection of civil rights, and organizing Asian-American labor in various industries. The course will involve lectures by guest speakers and visits with Asian-American advocacy organizations.

**Women’s Studies**

**PSCI 276** Feminist Political Theory
See course information under Political Science.