

**Report of the Committee on Educational Policy and the Curriculum**

**To be presented at the February 1, 2018 meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
(Information is from the December 6, 2017 CEPC meeting)**

**Recommendations for approval to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences**

The full text of syllabi, program descriptions, Undergraduate Record, as well as other documentation for these recommendations, are available prior to the FAS meeting in the office of the College Registrar, 106 Monroe Hall. Changes approved by the FAS will appear and become effective in the Fall 2018-2019 Undergraduate Record, unless otherwise noted.

**The Committee recommends adoption of the following new courses.**

**NEW COURSE PROPOSALS**

***AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**ASL 3015 Language House Conversation in ASL**

***COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**ELA 2110 Academic Realities and Strategies for Success**

***ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**EVSC 4080 Quantitative Methods in Environmental Sciences**

***INTERDISCIPLINARY-GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAM***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**GSGS 3112 Global Perspectives on Corruption**

***HISTORY DEPARTMENT***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**HIEU 3380 The History of Antisemitism  
HIST 3300 Curating the Past: A History of Museums  
HIUS 3490 From Motown to Hip-Hop**

***PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**PSYC 3420 The Nature Nurture Debate  
PSYC 3450 The Psychology of Women and Gender**

***RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT***

**To add to the Undergraduate Record**

**RELG 3325 The Civil Rights Movement in Religious and Theological  
Perspective**

**The Committee recommends adoption of the following program changes.**

**PROGRAM CHANGE PROPOSALS**

***COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES***

**Forum Proposal for Academic Year 2018-19: Humans, Nature and Evolution**

**Forum Proposal for Academic Year 2018-19: Via Asia**

**Forum Proposal for Academic Year 2018-19: Religion, Politics, and Conflict**

**Forum Proposal for Academic Year 2018-19: Society and the Sea**

Submitted by,  
Ed Murphy  
Chair, CEPC

# New Business

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## Humans, Nature and Evolution

Forum Proposal for Academic Year 2018-2019

Rachel Most, Professor of Anthropology, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, College of Arts and Sciences

Erin Eaker, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

### Description of the *Humans, Nature and Evolution* Forum:

Since their emergence from among other hominid species in Africa, *Homo sapiens* has left its mark on planet Earth. Indeed, many scientists believe that the human impact on the planet is now so great that it marks its own era—the Anthropocene. But the story of how *Homo sapiens* came to be is largely a story of how nature shaped us, through the processes of evolution—a mixture of natural selection and chance. This forum explores the long history of *Homo sapiens* and encourages an in depth study of just who we are. With our complex brains, we humans are capable of rational, methodical thought about our environment and about ourselves. This forum addresses the questions that seem so pressing to the human brain: How did humans come to be? What were the processes that formed our bodies, minds, and societies? What were the physical conditions that shaped our development? How are we different from other hominid species and why did we persist when they did not? How did language, thought, and culture emerge and why? In addition to these questions of fact, we will look at questions of value: Our understanding of our origins shapes how we address the most fundamental moral questions of human life: How should we live? How should we treat others? How should we arrange our societies? How should we live on the Earth?

### Rationale for the *Humans, Nature and Evolution* Forum as a General Education path:

Students enter the College of Arts and Sciences on a quest to find their place in the world. Many of them are already looking forward to careers in the health professions, law, politics, science, government, business, arts, music or academia. In their first two years of university, students are sorting through their values; being exposed to different perspectives, unfamiliar ideas, and new areas of knowledge; and laying the groundwork for further study in their chosen major. Ideally, students will emerge from their two years of general education with a much expanded knowledge base and a life plan that has been refined through constant exposure to challenge. This Forum is designed to give a particular structure to that process.

Anyone who seriously questions “How should I live?” will find herself tackling the prior question “Who or what am I?” Humans have answered these questions about human origins and human nature in a variety of ways. Although many students come from a particular cultural framework in answering these questions, this forum is designed to help them understand mythological, religious, and philosophical traditions more generally and to expose them to alternative worldviews. They will be prompted to look for common threads as well as points of difference and to tackle the question of what, exactly, all humans have in common. Students will learn that this question can be explored from a variety of disciplinary perspective, such as Anthropology, Evolutionary Biology, Psychology, Sociology, History and

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Philosophy. We will also send our students in search of answers to departments such as Women and Gender Studies, Religious Studies, African and African American Studies, LatinX Studies, Drama and Art History.

Humans, Nature and Evolution Course Requirements

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**COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS**

- First Writing (3 credits)
- Second Writing (3 credits)
- World Languages (0-14 credits)

Credit count is variable

**FORUM REQUIREMENTS (~30 credits total)**

**Forum Core Requirements (8 credits)**

- FORU 1500 (3 credits)
- FORU 1510 (1 credit in spring and fall; 2 credits total)
- FORU 2500 (3 credits)

**Category 1 (pick 1 from each category) (6 credits)**

**Category 1A - Pick 1**

- ANTH 1010 Introduction to Anthropology
- ANTH 1050 Anthropology of Globalization
- ANTH 2280 Medical Anthropology
- ANTH 2325 Anthropology of God
- ANTH 2410 Sociolinguistics
- ANTH 2430 Languages of the World
- ANTH 2625 Imagining Africa
- ANTH 2810 Human Evolution
- ANTH 2820 Rise of Civilization
- ANTH 3340 Ecology and Society

**Category 1B - Pick 1**

- AAS 3500 Being Human
- PSYC 1010 Introduction to Psychology
- PSYC 3500 Evolutionary Psychology
- SOC 2220 Social Problems
- SOC 2230 Criminology
- SOC 2320 Gender & Society
- SOC 2052 Sociology of the Family
- SOC 3056 Culture and Power
- SOC 3820 Social Movements

**Category 2 (pick 1 from each category) (6 credits)****Category 2A – Pick 1**

ARTH 1505 Topics in Art History  
 ARTH 2052 Ancient Egypt  
 ARTH 2054 Roman Art and Archaeology  
 ARTH 2055 Introduction to Classical Archaeology  
 ARTH 2251 Italian Renaissance Art  
 ARTH 2451 Modern Art, 1900-1945  
 ARTH 2862 Arts of the Buddhist World: India to Japan  
 CLAS 2020 Roman Civilization  
 CLAS 2040 Greek Mythology  
 CHTR 3010 Survey of Traditional Chinese Literature  
 CPLT 2010 History of European Literature I  
 CPLT 2020 History of European Literature II  
 ENAM 31 African-American Literature I  
 ENAM 3140 African-American Literature II  
 ENGL 3030 Global Cultural Studies  
 ENGL 38 History of Literatures in English I  
 ENGL 3820 History of Literatures in English II  
 MUEN 2690 African Music and Dance Ensemble Level 1  
 MUSI 1010 Introduction to Music  
 MUSI 2010 Music, Meaning, and the Arts  
 MUSI 2700 Music and Politics  
 RELA 2750 African Religions  
 RELA 2850 Afro Creole Relig in Americas  
 RELC 1210 Hebrew Bible/Old Testament  
 RELG 1010 Intro Western Religious Trad  
 RELG 3360 Conquests and Religions

**Category 2B – Pick 1**

PHIL 1410 Forms of Reasoning  
 PHIL 1710 Human Nature  
 PHIL 1740 Issues of Life and Death  
 PHIL 2070 Knowledge and Reality  
 PHIL 2450 Philosophy of Science  
 PHIL 2660 Philosophy of Religion

**Category 3 (Pick one) (3-4 credits)**

HIEU 3021 Greek and Roman Warfare  
 HIEU 3041 The Fall of the Roman Republic  
 HIEU 3221 The Culture of the Renaissance  
 HIEU 3231 Reformation Europe  
 HIEU 3111 Later Medieval Civilization  
 HIEU 3321 Scientific Revolution 1450-1700

HILA 2110 Latin American Civilization  
HIME 2001 Mid East & N Africa 570-1500  
HIUS 3641 American Indian History

**Category 4 (9 credits)**

**Category 4A – Pick 2**

ASTR 1250 Alien Worlds  
ASTR 1280 The Origins of Almost Everything  
ASTR 3420 Life Beyond the Earth  
BIOL 1040 The DNA Revolution  
BIOL2100 Introduction to Biology w/Laboratory:  
BIOL 2200 Introduction to Biology w/Laboratory: Organismal & Evolutionary Biology  
BIOL 3000 Cell Biology  
BIOL 3010 Genetics and Molecular Biology  
BIOL 3020 Evolution and Ecology  
BIOL 3180 Introduction to Plant Biology  
BIOL 3250 Introduction to Animal Behavior  
EVSC 1010 Introduction to Environmental Sciences  
EVSC 1020 Practical Concepts in Environmental Sciences  
EVSC 1300 Earth's Weather and Climate  
EVSC 2010 Materials That Shape Civilizations  
EVSC 2050 Introduction to Oceanography  
EVSC 2800 Fundamentals of Geology

**Category 4B – Pick 1**

One class from the Department of Math or Statistics

## Forum Proposal: Via Asia

### Co-Leaders:

Natasha Heller, Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
Samhita Sunya, Assistant Professor of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages & Cultures

### Forum Description:

This Forum takes Asia both as its topic and as its method. As we move toward the third decade of the twenty-first century, the world is increasingly oriented toward and intertwined with Asia: India and China are political powerhouses, world economies revolve around products made in the factories in Southeast Asia, global culture is influenced by Bollywood and Korean pop, and coastal cities in Asia will be among the first to deal with rising sea levels.

Yet most Americans do not have sufficient knowledge about Asia at this contemporary moment that has been projected as the dawn of the “Asian Century.” A recent survey, for example, showed that two-thirds of Americans cannot identify North Korea on a map, and that this lack of knowledge influences policy choices: (<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/05/14/upshot/if-americans-can-find-north-korea-on-a-map-theyre-more-likely-to-prefer-diplomacy.html>). Only 200,000 American students are studying Chinese, while 300 to 400 million Chinese are studying English (<http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/09/25/china-us-obamas-one-million-students-chinese-language-mandarin/>). There is a similar disparity in the numbers of U.S. and Chinese students studying abroad. This Forum attempts to address this gap, between the significance and presence of Asia in the world on the one hand, and a dearth of basic knowledge about Asia in much of the world beyond, and among Americans in particular.

Via Asia will take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Asia, with a focus on how people, ideas, and goods have moved across—and through—Asia. This study of Asia will also ask how Asia has been defined in different ways. As important as it is to know about Asia and its various regions (West, Central, South, Southeast, and East), this Forum also takes Asia as method, recognizing that there are distinctly Asian genealogies of thinking about statehood, community, the environment, and so forth. The Forum’s introductory course will expose students to these ideas, so that they can connect them to the content of many other courses that fill out the Forum’s general education experience. Through the project-driven introductory course and capstone, as well as four course clusters of electives (including a language requirement) and a recommended study abroad component, students will gain the tools to analyze the geophysical environment of Asia (geology, water, plants), its built environment (architecture, cities), biological forces

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(disease, fertility), political systems of the past and present (politics, history), and culture (literature, media, arts, religion).

Students will emerge from this Forum not only with broad knowledge of Asian civilizations, but also with a deep understanding of Asian genealogies of thought. Students may or may not pursue majors that will directly engage their knowledge of Asia. Yet, in any future course of study, the ability to think beyond dominant Western paradigms of knowledge and geographies will be a vital critical advantage in a globalized world.



**Requirements: 33 credits Total + Language study**

**CORE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Intro & Capstone + Study Abroad/Exchange: 9 credits (minimum)**

Fall 2018

3 credits - Introductory Course

Summer 2019, Fall 2019, or January 2020

Study or Exchange Abroad in Asia (\*Highly Recommended; 3 credits minimum)

Spring 2020

3 credits - Capstone

\*May be waived in extenuating circumstances, with an option of working with the International Rescue Committee or other relevant local organization

**ELECTIVES:**

**I. Language Via Asia: 4 credits (minimum)**

Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, Hindi, Urdu, Persian, Sanskrit, Arabic, Hebrew

**II. Arts & Cultures Via Asia (Humanities): 6 credits, at least 2 classes from 2 different departments**

ART

ARTH 2561 / MESA 2559 Arts of the Islamic World (3.00)

ARTH 2559 / MESA 2559 The Art and Architecture of the Ottoman Empire (3.00)

ARTH 2559 Art of Tibet and the Himalayas (3.00)

ARTH 2861 East Asian Art (3.00)

ARTH 2862 Arts of the Buddhist World: India to Japan (3.00)

ARTH 2871 The Arts of India (3.00)

ARTH 2961 Arts of the Islamic World (3.00)

ARTH 3861 Chinese Art (3.00)

MESALC

ARTR 3245 Arabic Literary Delights (3.00)

MESA 3110 Sustainable Environments Middle East and South Asia (3.00)

SAST 1600 India in Global Perspective (3.00)

SATR 3000 Women Writing in India & Pakistan: 1947-Present (3.00)

MESA 1000 From Genghis Khan to Stalin: Invasions and Empires of Central Asia (3.00)  
MESA 2110 Intro Middle East South Asia Film History (3.00)  
MESA 2300 Crossing Borders: Middle East and South Asia (3.00)  
MESA 3559 Thousand and One Nights at the Cinema (3.00)

#### DEALLC

EAST 1010 East Asian Canons and Cultures (3.00)  
CHTR 3010 Survey of Traditional Chinese Literature (3.00)  
CHTR 3020 Survey of Modern Chinese Literature (3.00)  
CHTR 3840 Writing Women in Modern China (3.00)  
CHTR 3850 Chinese Documentary Writing and Film. (3.00)  
JPTR 3010 Survey of Traditional Japanese Literature (3.00)  
JPTR 3020 Survey of Modern Japanese Literature (3.00)  
JPTR 3210 The Tale of Genji (3.00)

#### RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RELG 1040 Intro to Eastern Religions (3.00)  
RELB 2054 Tibetan Buddhism (3.00)  
RELB 2100 Buddhism (3.00)  
RELB 2715 Introduction to Chinese Religions (3.00)  
RELB 3422 Anthropology of Global Buddhism (3.00)  
RELH 2090 Hinduism (3.00)  
RELH 3105 Hinduism and Ecology (3.00)  
RELI 2080 Global Islam (3.00)

### **III. Sciences Via Asia (Natural Sciences & Mathematics): 9 credits, at least 3 classes from 2 different departments**

#### MATH

MATH 1150 The Shape of Space (3.00)  
MATH 1140 Financial Mathematics (3.00)  
MATH 3120 Introduction to Mathematical Statistics (3.00)

#### PHYSICS

PHYS 1210 The Science of Sound and Music (3.00)

#### BIOLOGY

BIOL 1040 The DNA Revolution in Science and Society (3.00)  
BIOL 1050 Genetics for an Informed Citizen (3.00)  
BIOL 1060 Principles of Nutrition (3.00)  
BIOL 1080 Nerve Cells, Networks and Animal Behavior (3.00)  
BIOL 1210 Human Biology and Disease (3.00)  
BIOL 3020 Evolution & Ecology (3.00)  
BIOL 3450 Biodiversity and Conservation (3.00)

BIOL 4130 Population Biology and Conservation Biology (3.00)  
 BIOL 4135 Biology of Aging (3.00)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

EVSC 1600 Water on Earth (3.00)  
 EVSC 2010 Materials that Shape Civilizations (3.00)  
 EVSC 2200 Plants People Culture (3.00)  
 EVSC 2220 Conservation Ecology: Biodiversity and Beyond (3.00)  
 EVSC 3020 GIS Methods (3.00)

#### STATISTICS

STAT 2120 Introduction to Statistical Analysis (4.00)

#### **IV. Systems Via Asia (Social Sciences): 6 credits, at least 2 classes from 2 different departments**

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTH 1050 Anthropology of Globalization (3.00)  
 ANTH 1401 Your Heritage Language (3.00)  
 ANTH 2190 Desire and World Economics (3.00)  
 ANTH 2280 Medical Anthropology (3.00)  
 ANTH 2291 Global Culture and Public Health (3.00)  
 ANTH 2375 Disaster (3.00)  
 ANTH 2430 Languages of the World (3.00)  
 ANTH 3129 Marriage, Mortality, Fertility (3.00)  
 ANTH 3340 Ecology and Society (3.00)  
 ANTH 3630 Chinese Family and Religion (3.00)

#### HISTORY

HIEA 1501 Introductory Seminar in East Asian History (3.00)  
 HIEA 2011 History of Chinese Civilization (3.00)  
 HIEA 2072 Modern Japanese Culture and Politics (3.00)  
 HIEA 2031 Modern China (3.00)  
 HIEA 3112 Late Imperial China (3.00)  
 HIEA 3141 Political and Social Thought in Modern China (3.00)  
 HIEA 3162 Historical China and the World (3.00)  
 HIEA 3171 Meiji Japan (3.00)  
 HIEA 3172 The Japanese Empire (3.00)  
 HIME 1501 Introductory Seminar in Middle East History (3.00)  
 HIME 2001 History of the Middle East and North Africa, C 500-1500 (3.00)  
 HISA 1501 Introductory Seminar in South Asia (3.00)  
 HISA 2001 History and Civilization of Classical India (3.00)

#### MEDIA STUDIES

MDST 3110 Hollywood Goes to Asia (3.00)  
MDST 4210 Global Environmental Media (3.00)

### POLITICS

PLCP 1010 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3.00)  
PLCP 2010 The Politics of Advanced Industrialized Countries (3.00)  
PLCP 3012 The Politics of Developing Areas (3.00)  
PLCP 3610 Chinese Politics (3.00)  
PLCP 3630 Politics in India and Pakistan (3.00)  
PLIR 1010 International Relations (3.00)

### ECONOMICS

ECON 2010 Principles of Economics: Microeconomics (3.00)  
ECON 2020 Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics (3.00)  
ECON 3070 Economics and Gender (3.00)  
ECON 3720 Introduction to Econometrics (4.00)

### SOCIOLOGY

SOC 2052 Sociology of the Family (3.00)  
SOC 2056 The Sociology of Culture (3.00)  
SOC 2442 Systems of Inequality (3.00)  
SOC 2595 Immigration & Society (3.00)  
SOC 2630 Environment and Society (3.00)  
SOC 2900 Economy & Society (3.00)  
SOC 3130 Introduction to Social Statistics (3.00)  
SOC 3440 Chinese Society (3.00)

**Introductory Course & Capstone Description:**

The project-driven introductory course, designed for up to 45 students, will look at cities (sites of exchange) within various networks of interconnection (pathways of exchange). The course will begin by thinking through different chronologies, and different ways of mapping Asia in order to ask, exactly where and what is Asia? We will then spend two weeks reading about Asian cities more generally, followed by in-class laboratories that uncover how nodes in Asia were connected at different points in time. Small student groups will focus on a city, rotating into different clusters focused on a specific point in time. This will work as follows: cities A, B, C would start by exploring how they were connected in 1000; cities D, E, F would look at connections in 1500, and cities G, H, I, focus on the year 2000. Each constellation of cities and dates would last for three weeks, before being reshuffled, so that each city-group would explore connections at each point in time. These connections might be through people, trade, cultural exchanges, and might be direct or mediated through other sites. This portion of the course will feature intermittent guest lectures on Asian cities and pathways of exchange, to expose students to a range of disciplinary approaches.

Students will complete three writing assignments along the way — focusing each of three short papers on a person, an object, and a specific site associated with their city at a given point in time. These would be assigned so that each city would have a collection of associated objects, persons, and sites at various points in history. Towards the end of the introductory course, the students will collaborate on presenting their insights altogether, working as group on an interactive website, curated exhibition (e.g., an online exhibit through the open-source Omeka platform), or game. Readings assigned over the semester would focus on pathways across Asia, through texts that range from historical accounts of travel—such as those by Ibn Battuta and Marco Polo—to works of fiction such as Amitav Ghosh’s Ibis Trilogy, to films such as Bollywood remakes of Bruce Lee films.

As a course outcome, students will gain a sense of how connections between cities in the past has shaped what those cities are today, as well as the different kinds of routes that have inscribed Asian landscapes. Over the next two semesters, students will take courses from clusters that will both deepen their knowledge of Asian cultures as well as the ways in which the sciences have been used to explore environment, trade, economics, and medical issues across Asia. Students will be encouraged to take an Asian language, and to study abroad either for a semester, January term, or summer.

At the end of their two years, the capstone class will ask students to identify a challenge that Asian cities will face in the future, and to imagine a possible solution informed by long histories of connectivity across Asia.

**Proposal for a FORUM on RELIGION, POLITICS, AND CONFLICT**  
**Ahmed al-Rahim (Religious Studies), Maya Boutaghoul (French), Peter Ochs (Religious Studies),**  
**Jonathan Teubner (Religious Studies), Mark Schwartz (Politics)**

The Forum on Religion, Politics, and Conflict will enable first and second year students to participate in UVA's unique examination of one of the greatest crises of our world today: religion-related violent conflict. Students will be invited to learn and work alongside faculty who help lead UVA's current research initiative in Religion, Politics, and Conflict (RPC). Members of this faculty will teach the introductory and capstone courses of the Forum: beginning with historical studies of politico-religious conflict in Medieval Europe and ending with literary-philosophic studies of the rhetoric of politico-religious conflict today. In between these first and last courses, Forum students will explore four different categories of UVA courses (*see below*). During the "between" semesters Forum students will participate in a broad range of programs and events co-sponsored by the Forum and the RPC Initiative (*see below*).

**The goal of the Forum is to nurture the following four dimensions of student learning:**

- *Training in disciplinary inquiry.* Within the introductory and capstone courses, the primary disciplines of study will be history, text-historical study, literary studies, philosophy, and religious studies. The areas of complementary course study should offer training, as well, in politics, sociology, data science, business/economics, and/or medicine/nursing/biological sciences.
- *Training in transdisciplinary inquiry and teamwork.* Within the introductory and capstone courses, students will observe and be invited to imitate team-based transdisciplinary research, such as historical/textual studies and literary/philosophic study of political religious conflicts. Classwork will also emphasize transdisciplinary teamwork. Forum students will also be invited to observe and, if they choose, intern in RPC's transdisciplinary projects. In the "in between" semesters, co-curricular events will integrate Forum students with RPC graduate and undergraduate student researchers.
- *Exposure to engaged learning.* Within the introductory and capstone courses and during the "in between" semesters, Forum students will join RPC interns in engaged learning activities in DC and in the Charlottesville/Virginia area. Students will engage with NGO's and government agencies devoted to issues central to RPC (violent conflict/peacebuilding, refugee/services, human/civil-rights advocacy, foreign affairs policy, and interreligious and interethnic engagement).
- *Engagement in the dynamic process of UVA's academic yet real time response to a global political and social crisis.* Forum students will be invited to co-fashion their own levels of co-curricular learning. Individual students may be drawn, for example, to strategic studies, or cultural value construction, or regional studies, or IR and conflict resolution, or inter-religious relations, or literature and performance, or many subfields of RPC research and study.

**A Note on the RPC Research Initiative**, which will serve as a major resource for the Forum. RPC engages approximately 30 UVA faculty members from across the College and the Schools of the University, accompanied by PhD Research Associates, 13+ participants in the new RPC MA, and a sizable contingent of BA Research Interns. RPC examines the religious dimension of ongoing violent conflicts in ways that are not yet pursued by any other university or peace-building program internationally. RPC's first premise is that this religion-dimension has of yet received little attention by foreign affairs analysts and diplomats in the U.S and internationally. RPC's second premise is that the analysts and diplomats are

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further discouraged by the prevailing reports from out of each discipline of the academy: that discipline-specific studies fail to uncover significant evidence of religion-specific features of ongoing conflicts. RPC's third premise is that there is, indeed, an academically disciplined way to examine this religious dimension. It is to examine violent conflict by analyzing and comparing the results of a broad set of discipline-specific inquiries. The unique approach of RPC is, therefore, transdisciplinary: integrating contributions from UVA scholars of the various literatures, politics, religion, sociology, history, nursing, data science, business, and more. The results are new approaches to diagnosing religion group contributions to both conflict and peace, constructing computational approaches to analysis of religious texts, to reexamining the political and cultural histories underlying ongoing conflicts, to tracing the performative effects of spoken and written words on human affect and action, to tracing the political-economic consequence of religion-specific banking and charitable work.

**Program focus:** The Forum will train students to analyze and assess violent conflict worldwide, with particular attention to the diverse roles played by religious actors, traditions and institutions. The program will treat religion as a specific focus of inquiry within the theory and practice of peacebuilding, conflict analysis, conflict resolution, violence and nonviolence, ethnicity and nationalism, politics and political theory, diplomacy, literary studies, and human development. The Forum will also address the history of religion and conflict, recent peacebuilding theories, predictive models, and the roles religions may play in transforming conflict and building peace. Students will examine religion, politics, and global society through disciplinary practices culled from across the University. By drawing on a diverse range of disciplines in the sciences and humanities, from systems engineering and quantum logic to literature and religion, RPC will train students in quantitative and qualitative methods applied to real-world crises.

**Courses:**

*The introductory Fall 2018 course* will train students in methods of historical research, applied to studies of political conflicts. Focusing on the thickly interwoven spheres of religion and politics in the pre-modern Mediterranean world, this course will assess and evaluate the different ways that religion, politics and conflict have been constellated. The course will train students in methods of text historical study of the foundational literatures of the three abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam). Special attention will be paid to discourse that emerges at the intersection of religion, politics and conflict in the Islamic and Christian traditions in their respective 'medieval' periods, and the ways in which their encounters, sometimes violent in nature, shaped their practices of interpreting sacred and authoritative writings. This course also will examine how medieval conceptions of holy war, Christian and Islamic, are refracted through the lens of ideology and what these religio-political conceptions of violence against the Other hold for conflict and peace in the modern age.

*The concluding Spring 2020 course* will enable students to apply their three semesters of learning to the contemporary setting of research in Religion, Politics, and Conflict: the crisis of ethno-religious conflict in the contemporary world, examined through the lenses of literary, historical, and philosophic study. Students will examine documents, words, rhetorical strategies, and literatures particular to illustrative crises of interreligious conflict: the Algerian War of Independence, Religion and Conflict in Contemporary Israel/Palestine and the Middle East, and Religion and Conflict in Southeast Asia, and comparative studies of postcolonial independence movements. The course theory would be applied to one extended case study: the construction of negative or positive values of Islam in France during the modern and contemporary period. Students will explore the character and consequences of French colonialism from the period of the

conquest in 1830 to the Algerian war of independence: studying, for example, how colonialist propaganda deployed images and texts to nurture a public understanding of Islam that remains influential through the present time. Through historical and cultural studies of literature, photographs and films, students will examine how religious conflicts are sustained by the power of narratives and images.

**The Forum will consist of 32 credit hours as follows:**

- **3 credits – introductory seminar**
- **3 credits – capstone**
- **2 credits – 2 1-credit forum 1510 classes**
- **6 credits (2 classes) in *Natural Science: Environmental and Statistical Sciences***

*Choose 2 of these classes (sample drawn from Spring Fall 2017 course listings):*

ASTR 1250- Alien Worlds

BIOL 1210 Human Biology and Disease

BIOL 2100 Intro with labs

BIOL 2200 Intro with labs

EVSC 1010 Introduction to Environmental Sciences

EVSC 1080 Resources and the Environment

EVSC 2030 Politics, Science, and Values: An Introduction to Environmental Policy

EVSC 2220 Conservation Ecology: Biodiversity and Beyond

EVSC 1010- Intro to Environmental Sciences

EVSC 1200- Earth's Weather and Climate

EVSC 2010- Materials That Shape Civilization

MATH 1210 or 1310 - Calculus

PHYS 1010 - The Physical Universe

PHYS 1050 or 1060- How Things Work

PHYS 1425 or 1710: Mechanics and Thermodynamics

STAT 1100- Chance: Intro to Stats.

STAT 1559- Intro Data Science with R or Intro Data Science with Python

STAT 2120- Intro to Statistical Analysis

- **18 credits (6 classes): for two of the following 4 categories pick 6 credits (2 courses) each; for two of the following 4 categories pick 3 credits (1 course) each:**

[Sample Course Offerings drawn from the Spring Fall 2017 course listings]

***I. The Modern State: issues of poverty, aid, conflict, security in politics and history***

PHIL 2770 Political Philosophy

PLCP 1010 Introduction to Comparative Politics

PLIR 1010 International Relations

PLAP 2030 Politics, Science and Values: An Introduction to Environmental Policy

PLCP 3410 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa

PLIR 3400 Foreign Policy of the United States

GSGS 2559 Global Resistance and Student Activism

WGS 2897 Gender Violence and Social Justice

ANTH 2250 Nationalism, Racism, Multiculturalism

HISA 1501 AFPAK: Civl Soc & Insurgency

***II. Ethnicities and Cultures in Conflict***

HILA 1501 Migrations in Latin America



- HIAF 1501 Africa and Virginia
- HIEA 1501 Thought & Relig Imperial China
- HIME 1501 Water/Energy in Middle East
- ANTH 2230 Fantasy and Social Values
- SOC 2220 Social Problems
- SOC 2442 Systems of Inequality
- SOC 2595 Immigration and Society
- PSYC 2600 Introduction to Social Psychology
- PSYC 1010- Intro to Psych
- ANTH 2590 Social and Cultural Anthropology: Gender in the Middle East
- ANTH 2590 Social and Cultural Anthropology: Everyday Resistance

**III. Literary Studies in Affect and Performance (including peace, conflict, inter-group politics)**

- ENLIT 2530 Globalization & World Literature
- FRTR 2580 Blackness in French
- MDST 2000 Introduction to Media Studies
- MDST 3402 War and the Media
- MESA 2300 Crossing Borders: Middle East and South Asia (also for I)
- MEST 3559 A Changing Middle East (also for I)
- MESA 3559 Environment Middle East & South Asia
- MEST 3470/ANTH 3470 Language and Culture in the Middle East (also II)
- MEST 3559/JWST 3559 Arab-Jewish Conflict 1881-1949 (also I, II)
- ARTR 3559 Introduction to Arab Women's Literature
- ANTH 2430- Languages of the World
- ANTH 2410- Sociolinguistics
- ANTH 2400 Language and Culture
- ANTH 2420 Language and Gender
- ANTH 2541 Language, Culture and Healing

**IV. Traditions of Scripture and of Religion and the Transformation of Cultural Values**

- RELG 3559 Peace & Justice in America
- RELG 3800 African American Religious History
- RELH 3559 Hinduism and Ecology
- RELC 1210 Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
- MEST 2470 Reflections of Exile: Jewish Languages and their Communities (also for I)
- HIEU 2101 Jewish History I: The Ancient and Medieval Experience
- RELI 2085 Modern Islam: From the Age of Empires to the Present
- RELG 2820 Jerusalem
- RELG 2210 Religion, Ethics, & Global Environment
- RELG 3605 Religion, Violence and Strategy: How to Stop Killing in the Name of God (also for I)
- JWST 3559 Memory in Israel/ Palestine

## Forum Proposal: Society and the Sea

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### Introduction

This forum explores relationships that humans have with the Ocean, and that Oceans have with humans. It sets students up to explore how humans have and do perceive the ocean, utilize its resources and powers, manage it and be managed by it, protect it and protect themselves from it. How have people interacted with it in the past? What was the ocean like before humans became the dominant force they now on the globe? How do humans interact with it now and how do they plan for a future? How has their understanding of its dynamics been achieved? We think we know how it "works"? Do we? How does that knowledge fit into the practices of our social system?

The variety, scope and effects of human impact on the Earth require that we remain vigilant for protecting the ever ongoing threats to diverse and fragile ecosystems. One could argue that life on Earth not only started in the Ocean, but depends on a healthy Ocean for survival. Not only do we need to be aware of the past and present activities, but also insightful of new techniques and technologies which could introduce materials which could have devastating impacts at a minimum, locally, but potentially globally. We depend on the ocean as a primary source of nutrition with 16% of our protein derived from its fisheries. We know that life in the Ocean helps make life on land. What are the implications of this for our often unknowing exploitation and denigration of the Ocean? The Ocean is crucial with maintaining the heat budget of the planet. Changes to the pH of the Ocean suggest that the very base of the food chain, the calcium carbonate containing phytoplankton will be seriously impacted and thus affecting organisms higher on the food chain. As we search for future energy on, or transport materials across the continental shelves, especially in high Arctic we need to minimize the chance of accidents and must be prepared for the near certainty of an accidental release of petroleum. Such an event would be devastating to the ecosystems, potentially forever, or be the cause for destruction of the last refuges of stressed organisms on the brink of extinction. And for some current perturbations we must address and find solutions while we still can: removing the ocean as a receptacle for our one use plastics; reducing the excess nutrients from coastal areas which cause the eutrophication and nearshore anoxia. With a large and growing portion of the World's population living only a short distance from coasts, the potential for human impact is easily seen. Rivers and terrestrial run off

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are thought to transport perhaps 80 percent of the materials that are typically introduced into the coastal environment and which can be characterized as pollutants. Commonly included in this category are materials like plastics, toxins such as DDT, PCBs, PAHs, heavy metals and petroleum. These materials, some of which have limited water solubility, are able to be incorporated in lower trophic levels and will be magnified up the food chain. More recently, with an increasing awareness of more subtle, nonpoint source introduction, inorganic nitrogen from waste water or fertilizers, or endocrine disrupting materials has been documented. Release of excess nitrogen into coastal environments is associated with terrestrial practices utilizing the inorganic fertilizers used in agriculture and clearly causes nearshore eutrophication. These excesses are capable of establishing water columns that are categorized as "dead zones" owing to the near absence of oxygen in the water. The impacts of future coastal seabed mining are only beginning to be understood. While introduction of significant amounts of petroleum hydrocarbons through accidents still occurs, it has been declining; the greatest amount of petroleum contaminants released into marine environments is associated with nonpoint sources from rivers and the land, especially urban locations. Macroscale plastics are increasingly disposed of into the coastal environment and affect all trophic levels of the ecosystem. It is anticipated that within the next 25 years the amount of discarded plastic may exceed the amount of fish in the ocean. Only recently has the sheer volume of microplastic debris been given the increased awareness of its potential impact. The possibility also exists of even greater influence on coastal areas in locations like the High Arctic, a result of oil exploration and transport in locations with diminished ice cover. Together, heightened levels of pollutants will reduce coastal biodiversity and productivity and result in a reduction of food resources. Information and public awareness of the sources and detrimental effects of these materials has to be understood if this problem can be coherently addressed.

Our forum will have as a nexus our past perceptions of the Ocean, while developing innovative capstone projects and thinking broadly about the present and the dependence we have on the Ocean. All the while we hope to create a vision for the future through the continued production of

new knowledge and in that a better understanding of the Earth and its Ocean. This is not the challenge of this forum to accomplish these tasks. It is a requirement. We have no other option.

**Curriculum**

The introductory course will provide begin the study of the sea blending the natural and social sciences intermixed with the humanities. It will provide a base, on the one hand, for producing future citizens capable of knowing about and learning from the moving understanding of human beings and their relationships to the Ocean; and, on the other hand, define an orientation toward future research at the undergraduate and graduate level on the many issues that require further study, whether these concern the natural, social or policy-driven questions.

Outside of the introductory course and the capstone required for any forum, "Society and The Sea" requires students to complete eight courses for a total of 31-32 credits in five categories:

**Summary**

Category	Courses	Credits
Forum Introductory Seminar/Capstone/1510	4	8
Introduction to Oceanography (Spring, Year 1)	1	3
Category 1	2	6
Category 2	2	6
Category 3	1	4
Category 4	1	3-4
Category 5	1	

**Required Courses (9 Credits)**

FORU	1500	Introduction to The Sea	3
EVSC	2050	Introduction to Oceanography	3
FORU	1510	Continuing with the Forum (1 credit each in two terms)	2
FORU	2500	Capstone: The Sea	3

**Category One: Two Classes**

ARTH	2056	Aegean Art and Archaeology	3
CLAS	2010	Greek Civilization	3
HIEU	2031	Ancient Greece	3
HILA	2001	Colonial Latin America	3
HISA	2001	History and Civilization of Classical India	
HIST	2002	The Modern World: Global History since 1760	3

HIST	2050	World history	3
HIST	2150	Global Environmental History	3
HIST	3112	Ecology and Globalization in the Age of European Expansion	3
HIME	3195	Arabian Seas: Islam, Trade, and Empire in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean	3
PHIL	2450	Philosophy of Science	3
PHIL	2510	Environmental Ethics	3
PHIL	2270	Political Philosophy	3
RELG	2210	Religion, Ethics, and the Environment	3

### Category Two: Two Courses

ANTH	1010	Introduction to Anthropology	3
ANTH	1050	Anthropology of Globalization	3
ANTH	2210	Marriage and the Family	3
ANTH	2800	Introduction to Archaeology	3
ANTH	2365	Art and Anthropology	3
ANTH	2250	Nationalism, Racism, Multiculturalism	3
ANTH	2310	Symbol and Ritual	3
ANTH	2400	Language and Culture	3
ANTH	2820	The Emergence of States and Cities	3
ANTH	3340	Ecology and Society: An Introduction to the New Ecological Anthropology	3
EVSC/PLAP	2030	Politics, Science, and Values: An Introduction to Environmental Policy	3
PLCP	3012	The Politics of Developing Areas	3
PLIR	1010	International Relations	3
SOC	2559	Sociology of Culture	3
SOC	2595	Immigration and Society	3
ANTH	2210	Marriage and the Family	3
ANTH	2800	Introduction to Archaeology	3
ANTH	2365	Art and Anthropology	3

### Category Three: One Course

EVSC	2800	Fundamentals of Geology w/Lab	4
EVSC	3200	Fundamentals of Ecology w/ Lab	4
EVSC	3300	Atmosphere and Weather w/ Lab	4
EVSC	3600	Physical Hydrology w/ Lab	4

**Category Four: One Course**

ASTR	1210	Introduction to Sky and Solar System	3
ASTR	1230	Introduction to Astronomical Observation	3
ASTR	3410	Archaeo-Astronomy	3
CHEM	1410	Introduction to College Chemistry I	3
EVSC	1010	Introduction to Environmental Sciences	3
EVSC	1020	Practical Concepts in environmental Sciences	3
EVSC	1080	Resources and the Environment	3
EVSC	1300	Earth's Weather and Climate	3
EVSC	2200	Conservation Ecology: Biodiversity and Beyond	3
EVSC	3020	GIS Methods	3
PHYS	1425	General Physics I	3

**Category Five: One Course**

MATH	1150	The Shape of Space	
MATH	1210	A survey of Calculus I	3
MATH	1220	A survey of Calculus II	3
MATH	1310	Calculus I	4
MATH	1320	Calculus II	4
MATH	2310	Calculus III	3
STAT	2020	Introduction to Biostatistics	3
STAT	2120	Introduction to Statistical Analysis	3
STAT	2720	Introduction to Mathematical Probability and Statistics	3
STAT	3080	From Data to Knowledge	3