CC 204 - The Individual and Modernity
Spring, 2007

Faculty

James Johnson  (History)  - T Th 9:30-11 (B4, CAS 114A); T Th 3:30-5 (HS, CAS 220)
Stefan Kalt  (Core)   - T Th 3:30-5 (B6, CAS 114B)
Edward Murphy (Core)   - MWF 11-12 (B1, CAS 318); MWF 1-2 (B2, CAS 318); MWF 2-3 (B3, CAS 212)
David Swartz  (Sociology)  - T Th 12:30-2 (B5 CAS 114B)

The Individual and Modernity focuses on the problems of modernity, both in America and abroad, as addressed by contemporary social scientists. Beginning with recent work in developmental and social psychology and moving through the fields of sociology, history, and economics, the course considers some of today’s most pressing issues: racial and ethnic identity, religion in America, the changing fabric of American cities, and current strains in our political and economic institutions. The course concludes with a consideration of rival views in the field of international relations, with special attention to questions of just and unjust wars, the responsibilities of a world power, and the place of ethics in foreign policy.

Grades will be determined by your seminar professor. They will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and class participation, based on the following proportions:

- Seminar papers - 40%
- Research paper - 45%
- Seminar participation - 15%

Assignments - The principal assignment of the semester will be a research paper of approximately 12-15 pages in length on a topic related to one or more of the themes of the course. You will develop your topic in consultation with your professor. In addition, you will write essays over the course of the semester related to the readings.

The Core Writing Center is available for help throughout the semester. Writing Tutors are graduate and undergraduate students who have been trained in grammar and compositional skills and are familiar with the works read in the Core. To make an appointment with a tutor, stop by the Core Office (CAS 119) or call 353-5404. Tutors’ offices are in the Core Office.

Academic Conduct: We expect the work you perform in this course to be your own. Presenting the work of someone else as your own is plagiarism, and it will be punished by an F for the assignment and possibly for the course as well, with possible further sanctions by the University Academic Conduct Committee.

The Boston University Academic Conduct Code describes plagiarism as including each of the following: “copying the answers of another student on an examination, copying or substantially restating the work of another person or persons in any oral or written work without citing the appropriate source, and collaboration with someone else in an academic endeavor without acknowledging his or her contribution” (p. 2). A more detailed discussion with examples appears on pp. 9-14 of the Code. It is your responsibility to read these pages carefully and know exactly what constitutes plagiarism.

All websites consulted for use in written work must be acknowledged in your papers. Unacknowledged use of material from the internet will be considered plagiarism and punished as such.

Required Texts

Carol Gilligan, In a Different Voice (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1982, 1993)
Nancy Foner, From Ellis Island to JFK (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000)
John Rawls, “The Idea of Public Reason Revisited” (on Core CC 204 website)

**Schedule of Lectures**

Thursday, Jan. 18 - Pinker, *The Blank Slate* (Preface, Chapters 1, 3, 8, 12, 18, pp. 435-39)
Lecturer: Richard Ely, Department of Psychology

Thursday, Jan. 25 - Goffman, *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* (Introduction, Chapters I, IV, VII) Lecturer: David Swartz, Department of Sociology

Thursday, Feb. 1 - Gilligan, *In a Different Voice* (Letter to Readers [1993], Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3)
Lecturer: Deborah Belle, Department of Psychology

Lecturer: Sarah Blaffer Hrdy, University of California, Davis

Thursday, Feb. 15 - Anderson, *Code of the Streets* (Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 4)
Lecturer: David Swartz

Thursday, Feb. 22 - Loury, *The Anatomy of Racial Inequality* (Chapters 1-5)
Lecturer: James Johnson, Department of History, Core

Thursday, March 1 - Foner, (Introduction, Chapters 1, 3, 4, 8, pp. 165-68, 217-23)
Lecturer: Marilyn Halter, Department of History

Thursday, March 8 - Putnam, *Bowling Alone* (Chapters 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16)
Lecturer: Edward Murphy, Core

Thursday, March 22 - Wolfe, *The Transformation of American Religion* (Introduction, Chapters 1, 5, 8, Conclusion)
Lecturer: Alan Wolfe, Boston College

Thursday, March 29 - Rawls, “The Idea of Public Reason Revisited” (on Core CC 204 website)
Lecturer: Nir Eisikovits, Suffolk University

Thursday, April 5 - Kotlikoff and Burns, *The Coming Generational Storm* (Preface to Paperback Edition, Prologue, Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6)
Lecturer: Laurence Kotlikoff, Department of Economics

Thursday, April 12 - Sen, (Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6, 7)
Lecturer: Strom Thacker, Department of International Relations

Thursday, April 19 - Fromkin, *The Independence of Nations* (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6, pp. 120, 139-45, 159-61) Lecturer: Andrew Bacevich, Department of International Relations

Thursday, April 26 - Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars* (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13)
Lecturer: Michael Corgan, Department of International Relations

Thursday, May 3 - Conclusion to the Course