

*M.A. and PhD Programs*  
*Department of Sociology and Anthropology*  
*Faculty of Social Sciences*



# Table of Contents

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Word of Welcome.....	3
Program Administrators.....	4
Relevant Websites.....	4
Available Resources.....	5
Program Descriptions – General Information.....	6
MA in Sociology.....	6
MA in Anthropology.....	9
PhD in Sociology.....	11
Seminar Descriptions – MA and PhD Programs.....	14

## **A Word of Welcome**

You will find in this document information that we hope will facilitate your transition into and success in your graduate program.

First we provide you with the contact information for the coordinators of the MA programs in Sociology and Anthropology and the PhD in Sociology. Included here is also the contact information for administrators in the Department.

Next, we suggest key web links for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Faculty, and to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. In this section you will find a list of resources available to you within the Department and on campus.

This document also gives the reader both a global and specific descriptions of each of the graduate programs, including information on trajectories through each program. You will also find here a list of the graduate seminars for the 2011-2012 academic year.

In the first few weeks of September, you will receive invitations to social and information seminars, including a chance to meet colleagues and professors in the Department.

We wish everyone a successful academic year,

*The Graduate Studies Committee*

## **I. Program Administrators: MAs in Sociology and Anthropology and PhD in Sociology**

- Graduate programs at the University of Ottawa are governed by general rules established by the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Information can be found at: <http://www.etudesup.uottawa.ca/>
- The coordinators of the MAs in Sociology and Anthropology and the PhD program in Sociology are available to answer your questions and address your concerns about your academic progress:

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- The Operations Coordinator in the Department is your point of contact for administrative assistance: registration (exceptional and non-exceptional conditions), permission for taking a leave of absence, academic trajectory, TAs and pay. Contact: Amélie Deschênes Office Demarais 8101 Tel 613-562-5800, ext 1256 Fax: 613-562-5906 E-mail: [adeschen@uottawa.ca](mailto:adeschen@uottawa.ca)
- The program coordinators work collaboratively with the Chair of the Department. Contact: Maurice Lévesque Office: Demarais 8101B, Tel. 613-562-5800, ext 2668 Fax: 613-562-5906 E-mail: [Maurice.Lévesque@uottawa.ca](mailto:Maurice.Lévesque@uottawa.ca)

## **II. Program and Departmental Web Sites**

Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

<http://www.etudesup.uottawa.ca>.

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

<http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/soc/eng/index.asp>

Professors, their coordinates and research interests

<http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/soc/eng/prof.asp>

### **III. Available Resources for Graduate Students**

#### **Work Space**

An academic assistant sends an e-mail at the beginning of each semester asking those students who would like workspace in an office to respond. The assistant will then assign workspaces based on a number of factors.

#### **Teaching Assistantships**

The Coordinator of Operations or an academic assistant will inform students when the teaching assistant postings are available on the Departmental website approximately one month before the beginning of the semester. Courses offered in French are posted on the French site and courses offered in English are posted on the English site. Postings will be up for 10 days and then assignments will begin. Both successful and unsuccessful candidates will be notified.

#### **External Scholarships**

The principal external scholarships available to graduate students include:

SSHRC (Federal Government): Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada.  
Consult: <http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/>

OGS (Ontario Provincial Government): Ontario Graduate Scholarships:  
<https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPPortal/en/A-ZListofAid/TCONT003465.html>

FQRSC (Quebec Provincial Government) : Fonds québécois de recherche sur la société et la culture (for residents of Quebec). Voir <http://www.fqrsq.gouv.qc.ca/fr/accueil.php>

Vanier Scholarships (PhD students): <http://www.vanier.gc.ca/eng/home-accueil.aspx>

The links provided here are for information purposes only. Please contact the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for further details.

**Library:** <http://www.biblio.uottawa.ca/index-e.php>

For assistance related specifically to social science material, contact the Social Science Librarian: Andrée Côté, Tel 613-562-5133, Office 65 University (107),  
[Andree.cote@uottawa.ca](mailto:Andree.cote@uottawa.ca)

#### **Graduate Student Association**

The Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Student Association represents all graduate students in the Department. At the beginning of each academic year (in the Fall), an executive is elected at a general assembly. Positions are open to anyone. During the year, the Association represents graduate students at different levels in the University (at Departmental meetings, the TA union SFCP/CUPE 2626, as well as the Graduate Student Association at the University of Ottawa).

Members of the Executive also organize social, cultural and academic activities throughout the year, including discussion workshops (to foster discussion between professors and students), film discussions, and social events at the beginning and end of each semester.

#### IV. Program Descriptions: General Information

##### MA and PhD in Sociology

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers programs leading to the Master of Arts (MA) and PhD in Sociology. The MA program is offered both full- and part-time whereas the PhD program is only offered full-time. Students in both the MA and PhD programs have access to courses offered in French and in English. All students in the MA program must, however, be able to complete the mandatory “Problématique de recherche sociologique” course offered only in French, just as students in the Doctoral program must enroll in two seminars offered only in French. Second language learning courses in French are available at the University of Ottawa and some linguistic support may be available within the Department. In accordance with University of Ottawa policy, examinations, assignments and the research paper or thesis may be written either in English or French. Two options are available for the MA: the MA with thesis and the MA with research paper. Additionally, students may choose to obtain a specialization in Women’s Studies at the Master’s level and a specialization in Canadian Studies at the PhD level.

##### MA in Anthropology

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology offers a program leading to the Master of Arts (MA) in Anthropology. The MA program is offered both full- and part-time and is offered in French and in English. All students must, however, complete at least one course given in French. Linguistic support for this partial French immersion is available. In accordance with the University of Ottawa regulation, students have a right to produce their work, their thesis, and to answer examination questions in French or in English. Two options are available for the MA, the MA with thesis and the MA with research paper.

##### MA in Sociology

<i>Year 1</i>	September - December	January - April	May - July
<b>Thesis Option</b>	3 seminars*	2 seminars*, one of which must be the mandatory course : “Problématique de recherche sociologique”. Students must also register in SOC 7139 “Thesis Proposal”.**	Completion of the Thesis Proposal (SOC 7539)
			A jury must be convened for a thesis proposal defence before the research process begins.
	Selection of a thesis or research paper supervisor.		
<b>Research Paper Option</b>	3 seminars, including a methodology and theory course.	2 seminars*, one of which must be the mandatory course : “Problématique de recherche	Completion of the Research Paper Proposal. (SOC 7139)
			A jury must be convened for a

		sociologique”. Students must also register in SOC 7139 “Research Paper Proposal”.**	research paper proposal defence before the research process begins.
<b>Year 2</b>	September - December	January - April	May - July
<b>Thesis Option</b>	Research and writing (an MA thesis is approximately 100 pages) (SOC 7999).		Thesis deposit
			Defence
<b>Research Paper Option</b>	2 seminars* and research and writing (a research paper is approximately 50 pages) (SOC 7638).		Deposit of the Research Paper

\* It is mandatory that students in the thesis *and* research paper option take one course in methodology.

\*\* Students in the joint Women’s Studies MA must take 2 mandatory FEM courses. This is included in the total number of required seminars.

### MA Program Requirements

The main areas of specialization at the Master’s level include:

- Inter-ethnic relations
- Development
- Political Sociology
- Gender relations

Students are not limited to these areas of specialization when choosing a research topic. The wide range of research interests of each professor within the Department is available by consulting the Department of Sociology and Anthropology website. Specifically, the list of professors, alphabetically by name, highlights their areas of research.

Students admitted to the program with the intention of taking most of their courses in English must successfully complete the mandatory course “Problématique de recherche sociologique” in French. Second language learning courses in French are available at the University of Ottawa and some linguistic support may be available within the Department. In accordance with University of Ottawa policy, examinations, assignments and the research paper or thesis may be written in either English or French.

### Two options are available: the MA with thesis and the MA with research paper

#### MA with Thesis

The requirements of the MA with thesis are as follows:

- Five graduate level courses, including “Problématique de recherche sociologique” and one course in methodology (15 credits);
- Thesis Proposal (SOC7139) (3cr.);
- MA Thesis (SOC7999).

It is preferable that registration for the thesis proposal take place in the student's second semester or at the latest in the third semester. Each student selects a supervisor and, in consultation with their supervisor and appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee, is assigned to a committee comprised of three members of the Department, including the supervisor.

One graduate course (3 credits) from another program may be counted as part of the coursework for a Master's with thesis, subject to the approval of the Supervisor of the Master's program in Sociology and after consultation with the department responsible for the course. Two graduate courses in Women's Studies (FEM 5103 and FEM 5300) are permitted for students enrolled in the collaborative Master's Program in Women's Studies.

### **Thesis proposal (SOC 7139)**

Students should begin the process of selecting a thesis topic and supervisor immediately upon commencing the program. The supervisor must be a member of the Department and a member of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. The topic and supervisor must be registered with the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies no later than the end of the second semester in the program. Once the topic and supervisor have been chosen, the thesis proposal is prepared under the guidance of the supervisor.

The aim of the proposal is to develop:

- the capacity to formulate a clear research protocol;
- familiarity with the scholarly literature related to the project;
- the ability to circumscribe the limits and scope of the project both conceptually and in terms of methodology;
- the ability to carry out the remaining steps leading from the proposal to the completion of the Master's thesis.

The proposal must be approved by the thesis committee.

### **MA Thesis (SOC 7999)**

Once the proposal has been approved, preparation of the thesis proceeds. For information regarding the thesis, consult the program website, Section G of the *General Regulations* of the FGPS and the guide *Preparing a Thesis or a Research Paper*, which can both be accessed through the FGPS Web site: [www.grad.uottawa.ca](http://www.grad.uottawa.ca).

### **MA with Research Paper**

The requirements of the MA with research paper are as follows:

- Seven graduate level courses, including "Problématique de recherche sociologique", one course on theory and one methodology course (21 credits);
- research paper proposal (SOC 7139) 3cr.;
- research paper (SOC 7638)

Up to two graduate courses (6 credits) from another program may be counted as coursework for the Master's Program with research paper, subject to the approval of the Supervisor of the Master's program in Sociology and after consultation with the department responsible for the course(s) concerned.

### **Research Paper Proposal (SOC 7139) (3cr.)**

Students should begin the process of selecting a research paper topic and supervisor immediately upon commencing the program and the process must be completed by the end of the second semester. The supervisor must be a member of the Department. The proposal must be approved by a committee consisting of two professors, including the supervisor and another professor proposed by the supervisor in consultation with the student and then appointed by the Chair of the Department or the Supervisor of the Master's program.

The aim of the proposal is to develop:

- the capacity to formulate a clear research protocol;
- familiarity with the scholarly literature related to the project;
- the ability to circumscribe the limits and scope of the project both conceptually and in terms of methodology;
- the ability to proceed with the project through each subsequent step to the submission of a research paper.

The proposal must be approved by the research paper committee.

### **Research Paper (SOC 7938) (6cr.)**

Once the proposal has been approved, preparation of the research paper proceeds. For information regarding the research paper, consult the program website, Section G of the *General Regulations* of the FGPS and the guide *Preparing a Thesis or a Research Paper*, which can both be accessed through the FGPS Web site: [www.grad.uottawa.ca](http://www.grad.uottawa.ca).

#### Minimum standards

The passing grade in all courses is 65% (C+). Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 credits), or whose research progress is deemed unsatisfactory are required to withdraw from the program.

#### Residency

Students admitted full-time must register full-time for at least three semesters.

#### Duration of the Program

Students in the thesis option are expected to complete all requirements within two years of full-time study, and those in the research paper option within four semesters (16 months) of full-time study. The maximum time permitted, whether full- or part-time, is four years from the date of initial registration in the program.

### **MA in Anthropology**

<i>Year 1</i>	September - December	January - April	May - July
<b>Thesis Option</b>	ANT 5100 Comparative Theoretical Approaches in Anthropology: The French and Anglo-American Traditions	ANT 6550 "Problématique de recherche en anthropologie" ANT 7900 Research Proposal + 1 seminar from the list of	Completion of the Thesis Proposal. A jury must be convened for a thesis proposal defence before the

	ANT 5141 Research Methodology in Anthropology + 1 language course before the 4 <sup>th</sup> semester* or 1 seminar from the list of optional courses	optional courses (if not selected in the previous semester) At the beginning of the semester - the selection of a thesis or research paper supervisor.	research process begins.
<b>Research Paper Option</b>	ANT 5100 Comparative Theoretical Approaches in Anthropology: The French and Anglo-American Traditions ANT 5141 Research Methodology in Anthropology + 1 language course before the 4 <sup>th</sup> semester* or 1 seminar from the list of optional courses	ANT 6550 Problématique de recherche en anthropologie ANT 7900 Research Proposal + 1 seminar from the list of optional courses (if not selected in the previous semester) At the beginning of the semester - the selection of a thesis or research paper supervisor.	Completion of the Research Paper Proposal. A jury must be convened for a research paper proposal defence before the research process begins.
<b>Year 2</b>	September - December	January - April	May - July
<b>Thesis Option</b>	Research and writing (an MA thesis is approximately 100 pages) (ANT 7999)		Deposit of the thesis Defence
<b>Research Paper Option</b>	1 seminar and research and writing (a research paper is approximately 50 pages) (ANT7998 Research Paper)		Deposit of the research paper

\* It is essential that this be completed in the first semester in the case of those who must improve their competence in either French or English. These students may register in an optional course in another semester.

### MA with thesis

The requirements of the MA with thesis are the following:

- 9 compulsory credits (ANT5100, ANT5141 and ANT6550)
- 3 elective credits
- 3 language credits (The language credit required may be in French, English or another language depending on the student. This is decided at the time of admission.)
- Research Proposal (ANT7900)
- MA Thesis (ANT7999)

Candidates must begin the process of selecting a thesis topic and a supervisor from the beginning of their program. The supervisor must be a member of the department and the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (FGPS). The choice of thesis topic and supervisor must be registered in the FGPS no later than the end of the second semester.

One three-credit graduate course from another program may be included as an elective in the master's program with thesis, subject to the approval of the coordinator of graduate studies in anthropology and following consultation with the department responsible for the course.

**MA with research paper**

The requirements of the MA with research paper are the following:

- 9 compulsory credits (ANT5100, ANT5141 and ANT6550)
- 9 elective credits
- 3 language credits (The language credit required may be in French, English or another language depending on the student. This is decided at the time of admission.)
- Research Proposal (ANT7990)
- Research Paper (ANT7998)

Up to two graduate courses (6 credits) from another program may be counted as coursework for the master's program with research paper, subject to the approval of the coordinator of graduate studies in anthropology, and following consultation with the department responsible for the course concerned.

**Minimum Standards**

The passing grade in all courses is C+. Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 credits), or the research proposal or whose research progress is deemed unsatisfactory must withdraw from the program.

**Residence**

Students admitted full-time must register full-time for at least three semesters.

**Duration of Program**

Full-time students are expected to fulfill all requirements of the thesis option within two years and the research paper option within sixteen months. The maximum time permitted is four years from the date of initial registration in the program.

**PhD Program in Sociology**

Suggested trajectory for PhD students :

	September - December	January - April	May - July
<i>Year 1</i>	SOC 8510 <i>Séminaire avancé de doctorat</i>		
	SOC 8511 <i>Séminaire avancé de recherche sociologique</i>		
	One seminar in the field "minorities and cultures" (SOC 7150 ou SOC 7151) <b>OR</b> One seminar in the field "political sociology" (SOC 7170 ou SOC 7171)	1 seminar of choice (from the list of SOC course codes 7000)	

	The selection of a thesis supervisor.	SOC 9910 Comprehensive Exams*
		Formation of the thesis committee
<b>Year 2</b>	SOC 9910 Comprehensive Exams*	SOC 9930 PhD Thesis Proposal preparation and defence **
<b>Years 3 and 4</b>	SOC 9999 PhD thesis and defence	

\* Students must complete all of the course requirements before beginning the comprehensive exams.

\*\* Comprehensive exams must be completed before submitting the research proposal.

The doctoral program aims to prepare sociologists to conduct research, using the most up-to-date theoretical and methodological tools on social relations as they influence the conditions of existence and the transformations of contemporary societies. The program's two main fields of research are minorities and culture, and political sociology.

Professors in the Department are involved in research on a wide range of topics related to these main fields. To get a complete picture of the wide range of research being undertaken by the Department, students are encouraged to consult the list of professors and their areas of interest, which extend far beyond the fields of research mentioned above.

The PhD program is only offered full-time and in French and English. All students must, however, successfully complete at least two courses/seminars given in French. Linguistic support will be available for students who require it. In accordance with University of Ottawa Policy, examinations, assignments and the research paper or thesis may be written in either English or French.

### PhD Degree Requirements

The requirements of the PhD program are as follows:

- SOC 8510 *Séminaire de doctorat* (3cr.)
- SOC 8511 *Séminaire avancé de recherche sociologique* (3cr.)
- One seminar from the following list:
  - SOC7150 Interethnic Relations: Critical Examination of Theories and Research (3cr.)
  - SOC7151 Research Seminar in Interethnic Relations (3 CR.)
  - SOC7170 Political Sociology: Critical Examination of Theories and Research (3cr.)
  - SOC7171 Research Seminar in Political Sociology (3cr.)
- One elective course (3 credits) approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. This course is normally chosen among the Department's graduate seminars, but it could be from another discipline.
- SOC 9910 PhD Comprehensive Examinations
- SOC 9930 PhD Thesis Proposal
- SOC 9999 PhD Thesis

During the first semester, a thesis committee (consisting of three members, including the thesis supervisor) is assigned to the candidate. The composition of the committee is

confirmed at the end of the first year. This committee (including a fourth member from outside the department) is responsible for approving the thesis proposal and Comprehensive Exam.

Initial registration in SOC 9910 Comprehensive Examination occurs in the student's third semester, and successful completion of this exam is a prerequisite for proceeding to SOC 9930 Projet de thèse de doctorat / Thesis proposal. If a comprehensive exam is failed, it may be rewritten once. A second failure in either of these exams is regarded as final and the candidate must withdraw from the program.

The thesis proposal must be approved by the thesis committee. A student whose proposal is not accepted on the first submission may be allowed to submit it a second time. A student whose proposal is rejected a second time must withdraw from the program.

#### Minimum standards

The passing grade in all courses is 65% (C+). Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 credits), the thesis proposal, the comprehensive exam, or whose research progress is deemed unsatisfactory are required to withdraw.

#### Residence

The program is intended for full-time students. All students must complete a minimum of six semesters of full-time registration at the beginning of the program. In the case of transfer students, the minimum residency period is nine semesters, of which at least six must be at the doctoral level.

#### Duration of the program

The program is designed as a four-year program and students are expected to complete it within four years. All requirements other than the thesis must be fulfilled at the end of the sixth semester of registration.

The maximum time permitted is six years from the date of initial registration in the program, or seven years in the case of students transferring from the Master's to the Doctorate.

## V. Course Descriptions – MA and PhD Seminars

ANT5100 Comparative Theoretical Approaches: French and Anglo-American Traditions Prof. Scott Simon	Fall 2011
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The objectives of the course are to discuss major texts in both Anglo-American and French traditions of anthropology. The goal is for students to understand the importance of ethnographic research in the anthropological endeavour, as well as the trans-Atlantic cross-fertilization of theory that inspires such research. Students will improve their ability to read and understand ethnographic and theoretical texts. They will also improve their abilities in oral and written communication of complex theoretical ideas.

ANT 5141A Research Methodology and Debates in Anthropology Prof. Deborah Sick	Fall 2011
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This course is designed to provide students with a solid understanding of anthropological research methods and to stimulate critical thinking regarding the use of various methods and research design in existing anthropological studies and in students' future research projects. In addition to examining a variety of standard qualitative and quantitative data collection methods and debates surrounding their use in anthropological research in societies throughout the world (including our own), ethnographic case studies will be used to examine the relationship between theory, research objectives, methodology, and analysis. Topics will include: variable selection, indicators, and operationalizing; triangulation; data limitations, problems of validity and reliability; research designs; interviews, questionnaires, focus groups; observational techniques; text analysis and non-intrusive techniques; and ethical issues and responsibilities of researchers. Through the use of case studies and hands-on exercises, students will gain experience in the *process* of anthropological research and in doing so learn the implications of various types of research design and methodologies in terms of meeting research objectives.

ANT 5500 Approches théoriques comparées en anthropologie : les traditions françaises et anglo-américaines Prof. Natacha Gagné	Automne 2011
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Le séminaire sera abordé dans une perspective historique et sera structuré autour de problèmes-clés ayant marqué l'histoire du développement de la pensée anthropologique. Nous avons retenu quatre de ces problèmes qui nous sont apparus centraux dans le développement de la discipline et de ses différentes traditions : 1) la race et l'évolutionnisme ; 2) le colonialisme ; 3) la structure, le changement social et l'histoire et 4) la décolonisation.

Nous étudierons les convergences, les divergences ainsi que les emprunts et échanges entre anthropologues des deux côtés de la Manche et des deux côtés de l'Atlantique. Nous serons aussi attentifs à ce qui caractérisait les débats aux moments où

les problèmes se sont posés de façon plus aiguë. Une attention particulière sera de plus portée aux effets des postures théoriques sur l'ethnographie, mais aussi aux effets des terrains et contextes sociohistoriques de production sur la théorisation en anthropologie.

ANT 6502 Anthropologie sociale et culturelle : enjeux fondamentaux - Approches anthropologiques de la subjectivité et de l'expérience personnelle. Karine Vanthuyne Hiver 2012
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ANT6503 Questions autour de la notion de « culture » en anthropologie Prof. Julie Laplante Automne 2011
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La notion de culture sera en premier lieu abordée autour de l'ouvrage de Philippe Descola 'Par-delà nature et culture' afin de saisir la particularité ontologique occidentale de poser la diversité culturelle sur un fond d'universalité naturelle. Les notions classiques de culture de Tylor (1871), Boas et celle connexe d'habitus de Mauss (1934) dans les techniques du corps y seront explorées. Il sera ensuite de mise d'en comprendre les parcours historiques et critiques au sein de l'anthropologie, puis de ses glissements au sein des sociétés. Nous verrons une période de déclin de l'usage de la notion de la culture en anthropologie correspondant à son instrumentalisation essentialiste au sein des mouvements populaires, jouant sur les identités, devenant instrumentale dans les processus de (dé)colonisation ainsi qu'au sein de formes actuelles de gouvernementalités. La reprise de nouvelles notions de culture en anthropologie interprétative dans les années 1980 avec Geertz sera ensuite discutée telle qu'elle apparaît dans une anthropologie littéraire, du corps et des sens. Des illustrations concrètes seront puisées ici et ailleurs afin de saisir la notion de pluralisme culturel, celle de multiculturalisme et d'interculturalisme autour d'ouvrages en anthropologie médicale et de l'humanitaire. Enfin nous verrons le 'destin' de la notion de culture telle qu'annoncé par certains auteurs contemporains, en particulier la proposition d'appliquer la notion de culture à tous les arrangements sociaux pour qu'elle redevienne utile en anthropologie.

SOC 7xxx Citizenship, Identity and Rights Prof. Elke Winter Winter 2012
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This course explores the relationship between citizenship, identity, and rights, focusing on structural and discursive conditions of citizenship, the formation of group identities, and processes of struggle for recognition and redistribution.

Citizenship is an intriguing concept. From a disciplinary perspective, it invites us to cross paths with historians, philosophers, urban geographers, legal scholars, political scientists and other disciplines. From analytical perspective, it can be used & explored as both a tool for oppression and exclusion on the one hand, and as a strategy of resistance, identification and empowerment on the other. In this course, we are going to concentrate

on the revival of citizenship in the 1990s, and study some of the concept's most important meanders and expressions until the present day. Obviously, we are going to use citizenship as a "thick", sociological concept: a concept that is informed by the idea of citizenship as a legal status at the national level, but goes far beyond it.

SOC7xxx Ethnic Relations

Prof. Abdoulaye Gueye

The objective of this seminar is two-fold. First, this seminar will be concerned with sketching an archeological map of the concept of ethnicity in the sociological literature. Second, A critical review of the diverse literature on ethnicity (or race used in many contexts as a synonymous of ethnicity) will be undertaken, with a focus on the theories of ethnicity.

The seminar will pay heed to the social use of ethnicity as a means to draw boundaries within social organizations, as political or economic resources, etc.

Western countries such as the US, France, the United Kingdom and Canada will serve as case studies. However, the seminar will strive to draw parallel between this category of countries and others.

SOC XXXX Sociologie des religions

Prof. Martin Meunier

Ce séminaire proposera d'abord une introduction aux préceptes fondamentaux de la sociologie des religions ainsi qu'une réflexion générale sur les rapports entre le fait religieux et les transformations de la société. À l'instar de l'économie, de la politique ou de la culture, la religion est l'un des thèmes classiques de la sociologie. Des pères fondateurs aux sociologues contemporains, nombreux sont ceux qui ont tenté de comprendre l'apport de la religion comme facteur de cohésion et de changement des sociétés. Depuis la Révolution française, penseurs et philosophes n'ont de cesse de proclamer la mort prochaine de la religion. Pourtant celle-ci, que ce soit sous sa forme instituée, sectaire, gnostique ou bien «nouvel-âgiste», survit, prospère même en certaines régions de la planète. Ses capacités d'adaptation et d'acculturation surprennent, ses *revivals* intriguent, son intransigeance parfois interroge. Certains analystes vont même jusqu'à prétendre à un certain «retour de la religion»; ils pointent entre autres l'essor de l'intégrisme ainsi que l'influence encore notable que continue d'exercer la religion dans plusieurs secteurs, particulièrement la politique. D'autres chercheurs s'attardent davantage à prendre en compte les effets de la sécularisation sur la restructuration du champ religieux. En effet, depuis les années 1960, plusieurs sociologues se questionnent sur la dissolution de l'objet religieux. Moins organisée et encadrée par des rituels précis, la religion en Occident deviendrait de plus en plus diffuse et plurielle. Faut-il désormais parler de «sacré», de «religieux», de «spiritualité», de «croyances» plutôt que de religion? Les étudiants et étudiantes seront invité(e)s à penser les transformations des rapports entre religion et société en modernité et à analyser leurs conséquences multiples sur la constitution de la société.

In this seminar, we will seek to examine the articulation between theories and the development paradigm and through which processes they have led to research or intervention programs.

The relations between research and action will be at the core of our discussions and we will also address the ethical issues related to research in the field of international development: data collection and analysis, knowledge production based on these data in contexts where different actors are involved with often contradictory goals (scholars, consultants, funding agencies, populations...) and faced with unexpected "field realities" such as humanitarian challenges, local socio-cultural norms, etc. This seminar will thus have a theoretical and empirical dimension.

We will focus on the following dimensions:

- Poverty as a key issue justifying most research and intervention programs: definitions and measurement tools.
- The theoretical and political orientations in the field of international development, new approaches and debates in a context of important socioeconomic transformations mainly related to the globalisation process.
- Power relationships between the different actors involved in the field of international development and the impact of these relations on development programs.
- Methodology : the importance of research fieldworks and the need to take into account local knowledge. The theoretical and ethical orientations which influence the way research/intervention fieldworks are designed.

Surprisingly, notwithstanding the contemporary high profile of human rights, the sociology of human rights is not highly developed as a field of study. In part this is due to the fact that human rights practice are primarily structured by legal instruments and the normative discourses of human rights activists and advocates.

While there can be no doubt about the politically engaging and normatively compelling nature of discourses that draw on human rights, sociology is an empirical and not a normative discipline. How then can it contribute to an understanding of human rights? The wager, to be explored in this research seminar, is that sociology can contribute to an understanding and even to the efficacy of human rights by making them ordinary. By this, I mean developing human rights as an empirical object of analysis in a manner that evades the necessity of either naturalising human rights as some sort of quasi-natural law phenomenon, or reducing them to an imperialist or colonialist ruse, the two most frequent contemporary framing of human rights.

Making human rights ordinary requires that we treat them, as Anthony Woodiwiss argues, in *Human Rights*, "[as] simply a subset of a larger set of social relations that produce and enforce behavioural expectations, a subset distinguished by their legal form and their focus on the prevention of the abuse of power" (p.4). In other words, human rights like all social rights refer to certain kinds of social arrangements. Thus, conceptual and empirical work must focus on identifying and explaining the configuration of social, political, economic and cultural forces that enable human rights to emerge in its different registers, that is to say as "normative moral aspiration", "codification and doctrine", and "mechanisms and institutions of enforcement."

Drawing on the surprisingly small but vibrant sociology of human rights literature, socio-legal studies, and interdisciplinary approaches to human rights, this seminar will focus on conceptualising the social processes and social relations that contribute to the codification of human rights and the development of mechanisms and institutions of enforcement.

SOC7510 Théories sociologiques contemporaines
Prof. André Tremblay <span style="float: right;">Automne 2011</span>

L'école pragmatique française s'est développée au cours des vingt dernières années à partir d'une relecture (parfois même une première lecture) des pragmatistes américains du début du XXe siècle : Josiah Royce, William James et John Dewey notamment. Parmi ceux-ci, George Herbert Mead est un des rares auteurs américains à être considéré comme un classique aux côtés des Marx, Durkheim, Weber et Simmel. Son principal ouvrage, *L'esprit, le soi et la société*, vient de faire l'objet d'une nouvelle traduction par deux membres du mouvement pragmatiste français, Louis Quéré et Daniel Cefaï, il nous servira de point d'entrée. Formé comme psychologue et philosophe, une combinaison habituelle à la fin du XIXe siècle, Mead ancrera sa psychologie dans le social. Il sera une des sources de la formation du premier département de sociologie, celui de l'Université de Chicago, sans jamais lui appartenir. Il inspirera notamment l'école dite de l'interactionnisme symbolique.

Une autre source de la mouvance pragmatiste contemporaine est Harold Garfinkel, le fondateur de l'ethnométhodologie. Son principal ouvrage, *Études en ethnométhodologie*, vient également de faire l'objet d'une traduction récente par une équipe dirigée, notamment, par Louis Quéré. Daniel Cefaï lui a consacré maints travaux. Comme Mead, mais en suivant une filière différente, il s'intéresse à la communication et à la vie ordinaire. Il s'inspire particulièrement d'Alfred Schutz, un phénoménologue allemand, qui puise tant dans les travaux du philosophe allemand Husserl que chez William James, John Dewey et George H. Mead. Garfinkel sera notre deuxième auteur de base et le dernier américain que nous verrons dans le cadre de ce cours.

Parmi les sociologues français qui se sont référés au mouvement pragmatiste, nous verrons plus particulièrement les ouvrages de Boltanski et Thévenot, *De la justification : les économies de la grandeur*, Boltanski et Chiapello, *Le nouvel esprit du capitalisme*, et Thévenot, *L'action au pluriel : sociologie des régimes d'engagement*.

The purpose of this seminar is to facilitate a critical understanding of ‘development’ policies and practices from a gender-sensitive perspective. The course aims to provide students with a solid understanding of the key theoretical debates and issues related to gender relations in international development policies and practices. Students will develop analytical skills through a close, critical examination of case studies, government documents and organizational literature related to: 1) historical trends and the ways in which culturally-constructed gendered division of labour, masculinities, and femininities influence perceptions, formulation, and implementation of development policies and practices in various regions around the world, 2) the influence of women in the global south on development definitions, theory, and practices; 3) the differential impact of development policies and initiatives on women, men, and gender relations in the developing world and efforts to target women through more gender-sensitive development initiatives, and 4) female vs male survival strategies and coping mechanisms. Topics covered in the course will include; critical overview of the concepts of gender and development and development policies; gendered aspects of poverty (access to resources, micro-finance, employment opportunities, etc.); health; empowerment; NGOs and civil society; social capital; class, ethnicity, and urban-rural dimensions of gender and development; gendered dimensions of natural resource use and management; men and masculinities.

Ce séminaire se veut exploratoire, car la littérature scientifique sur la masculinité et la virilité est relativement pauvre. Nous aborderons la question sous différents angles :

- La lutte masculiniste qui jouit d’un appui journalistique et d’une couverture médiatique sans commune mesure avec sa force militante ;
- la violence sexuelle et conjugale ; l’occultation des violences masculines.
- les meurtres en série et de masse et leur caractère masculin ;
- les hommes et les industries mondialisées de « divertissement » masculin (pornographie, prostitution, bar de danse nue, etc.) ;
- sport, homophobie, hétérosexisme et masculinité ;
- la masculinité hégémonique et ses théoriciens (Connell et Messerschmidt, entre autres) ;
- Pierre Bourdieu, la domination masculine et ses critiques féministes.
- Masculinité, masculinismes et rapports sociaux de sexe.

Le but principal du cours est de faire un survol critique de plusieurs théories et concepts utilisés dans l'étude des relations interethniques, particulièrement en sociologie et anthropologie. Nous y tracerons également les grandes lignes d'évolution des problématiques principales avec incidence sur la société canadienne. Dans un deuxième temps, les participant-e-s engageront une réflexion autour d'un certain nombre de sociétés multiethniques et ceci dans une perspective comparative. Des thèmes possibles pourraient être: transnationalisme et mondialisation, les liens entre l'ethnicité et les classes sociales, immigration et citoyenneté transnationale, identités ethniques et génocide, des droits culturels des Autochtones du Canada. Le choix définitif de ces thèmes sera fait après consultation avec les participants et participantes au séminaire.

Le principal objectif de ce cours est de permettre à l'étudiant d'acquérir une compréhension des enjeux sociaux, politiques et philosophiques, des diverses ruptures opérées par la modernité lors de trois moments clés de l'institution d'un imaginaire collectif moderne.

#### Objectifs spécifiques

- Procéder à une réflexion poussée sur le lien entre transformation des régimes politiques et transformations sociales et culturelles.
- Acquérir une compréhension approfondie de la manière dont ont été mobilisés les concepts clés de la pensée politique moderne lors d'évènements fondateurs: droit naturel, état de nature, liberté, égalité, fraternité, individu, etc.
- Explorer de manière exhaustive le rapport entre idéologies et transformation de l'imaginaire collectif.
- Comprendre l'arrière-plan social et philosophique des sociétés occidentales de manière à mieux en saisir le fonctionnement actuel.

Ce séminaire explore la question de la différence des sexes en sociologie politique. L'objectif principal du cours est de permettre aux étudiant-e-s de prendre conscience des différentes façons dont la différence des sexes est inscrite dans 'le politique' : dans sa

conceptualisation même; dans ses processus, acteurs, organisations et institutions; ainsi que dans les représentations et discours qui les sous-tendent. Un second objectif est de permettre aux étudiant-e-s de se familiariser avec les implications des différents concepts et approches féministes disponibles pour penser la différence des sexes en sociologie politique, évaluer leur utilité et se situer dans un certain nombre de débats qui marquent ce champ d'études. Les questions reliées à l'état et à la citoyenneté, aux politiques, ainsi qu'aux mobilisations de femmes dans les mouvements sociaux (entre autres sujets) seront abordées sous l'angle analytique du genre et des rapports sociaux de sexe.

SOC 8510 Séminaire de doctorat
Prof. Willow Scobie et Stéphanie Gaudet <span style="float: right;">Automne/Hiver2011-2012</span>

Thème proposé : Le rapport des individus au collectif dans le contexte de la modernité et du néolibéralisme

Dans le contexte de la modernité avancée, deux types d'analyses prennent de l'importance : 1) celles centrées sur la singularisation des modes de vie et des parcours individuels et du discours sur l'individualisme 2) celles sur la montée du néolibéralisme et des contraintes imposées par des pouvoirs économiques et politique supranationaux comme facteurs influençant le processus de singularisation. Comment concilier ces analyses qui décrivent des réalités à des échelles différentes (micro et macrosociale), mais interdépendantes? Comment intégrer l'étude des phénomènes à l'échelle mésosociale (organisations, institutions et processus sociaux)? Voilà le questionnement qui sous-tendra l'ensemble du séminaire.

Ce questionnement permettra de nourrir une réflexion épistémologique, théorique et méthodologique sur l'analyse du rapport des individus au collectif dans le contexte de la modernité et du néolibéralisme. Cette problématique permet d'aborder plusieurs objets de recherches tels que : la participation sociale et politique, le militantisme, la construction des identités individuelles et collectives, l'utilisation des nouvelles technologies dans la création des réseaux sociaux, la constitution de communautés, etc. Différents objets de recherche que les étudiants seront libres d'approfondir au cours du séminaire. Les étudiants pourront intégrer leurs intérêts de recherches autour de deux axes: 1) les individus, les groupes et les sociétés dans le contexte de la modernité et/ou du néolibéralisme; 2) la modernité et/ou le néolibéralisme comme objet de recherche.

Le séminaire sera divisé en fonction des trois échelles d'analyse : la microsociologie, la macrosociologie et ce que nous nommerons la méso-sociologie.

SOC 8511 Séminaire avancé de recherche sociologique
Prof. Maurice Lévesque <span style="float: right;">Automne-Hiver 2011-2012</span>

L'objet du séminaire de doctorat est d'aborder *certaines préoccupations fondamentales de la discipline, dont le raisonnement sociologique et les méthodes de travail essentielles pour mener à bien des recherches doctorales. Il comporte également un travail collectif sur les projets de thèse.*

D'emblée, il convient de souligner qu'il ne s'agit pas à proprement parler d'un séminaire de méthodologie au sens courant de l'expression. Il vise plutôt à développer une réflexion structurée quant aux enjeux relatifs à la production d'une connaissance scientifique et sociologique sur le social et les phénomènes sociaux. Il vise également la mise en pratique de cette réflexion dans le cadre d'un parcours de doctorant-e. La démarche de ce séminaire annuel (rencontre aux deux semaines) est donc orientée vers une expérience à la fois pratique et réflexive.

Sur le plan réflexif, il s'agit de mettre en perspective ce qu'on nommera le *raisonnement sociologique*. La sociologie s'est établie à partir d'un foisonnement de théories et de regards sur le social et la société. Mais est-ce que ces regards multiples conduisent à des pratiques identiques? Quels sont le sens et la nature de ces pratiques? Si la sociologie se donne pour objectif de fournir un regard scientifique sur le social, à quelles conditions peut-elle atteindre cet objectif? En quoi ces connaissances sociologiques sont-elles spécifiques par rapport à d'autres types de connaissances? Finalement, en quoi et à quelles conditions les connaissances sociologiques peuvent-elles participer à l'ensemble de la dynamique sociale de production des connaissances. Dans cette perspective, le séminaire cible l'étude de différents paradigmes propres au raisonnement sociologique et à la production de connaissances dans cette discipline en s'appuyant sur les travaux de différents chercheurs, dont Abbott, Becker, Berthelot, Bourdieu, Bouvier, Grossetti, Javeau, Lahire, Livet, Passeron, Revel, Schnapper, etc.

Parallèlement à ce travail de réflexivité, la dimension pratique sera assurée par un processus itératif de production d'une ébauche de projet de recherche. L'accent est placé sur le défi, présent dans toute entreprise de recherche, que représente l'articulation des concepts, théories et méthodes et des modalités de validation de cette intégration. Chaque participant-e au séminaire devra rédiger, en deux ou trois étapes, un projet de recherche qui fera l'objet de discussions collectives à chacune de ces étapes.