

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
Spring 2026 TOPIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

<u>Course</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
ANT 402	Seminar in Anthropology: Skeptical Anthropology	Dr. John Shea

An exploration of skeptical perspectives on archaeological myths, frauds, hoaxes, and pseudo-history. The seminar's first part examines controversial claims about the past that and their reception among archaeologists. These claims include ancient aliens, lost civilizations (Atlantis), lost races (the American Moundbuilders) and other topics. In the seminar's second part, students develop oral in-class presentations summarizing and criticizing other pseudo-archaeological claims. The course emphasizes developing the skills needed to recognize and distinguish pseudo-history and pseudo-archaeology from the real things.

ANT 403	Seminar in Anthropology: Food Politics	Dr. Joeva Rock
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Global food production is at an all-time high, and yet many people around the world still don't have reliable access to affordable and nutritious food. What's more, global food systems are marked by many inequities: environmental degradation, exploitation of farmworkers, and unequal access to land, to name a few. This class draw on texts from anthropology, history, and critical food studies to understand the historical and political roots of these issues, consider struggles over food, land, and agriculture, and to chart ways forward that seek structural change.