

Data and Society

GE Track

The collection and use of large-scale data systems has fundamentally changed almost every aspect of society: from the creation of new industries to the complete reform of institutions. This track pushes students to better understand the effects that big data has on society at every stage. Who chooses what data is collected? How is data collected? Who owns, buys, and sells data? What decisions does data influence? How are feedback loops created? Throughout each course, students will come away more informed on data's impacts on society, and how it affects their current field of study, and think critically about how they can use their capabilities as technologists to contribute to society.

List of Courses by GE Foundation Area

Click on a Foundation Area or scroll below to see list of courses and descriptions.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS (1 COURSES)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - PHILOSOPHICAL AND LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS (1 COURSE)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS ANALYSIS (1 COURSE)

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - HISTORICAL ANALYSIS (0 COURSES)

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - SOCIAL ANALYSIS (8 COURSES)

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY - LIFE SCIENCE (2 COURSES)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS (1 COURSE)

FILM TV M50 Introduction to Visual Culture (Same as English M50.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; laboratory, two hours. Enforced prerequisite: satisfaction of Entry-Level Writing requirement. Study of how visual media, including advertising, still and moving images, and narrative films, influence contemporary aesthetics, politics, and knowledge. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - PHILOSOPHICAL AND LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS (1 COURSE)

PHILOS 4 - Philosophical Analysis of Contemporary Moral Issues Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Critical study of principles and arguments advanced in discussion of current moral issues. Possible topics include revolutionary violence, rules of warfare, sexual morality, right of privacy, punishment, nuclear warfare and deterrence, abortion and mercy killing, experimentation with human subjects, rights of women. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS ANALYSIS (1 COURSE)

FILM TV M50 Introduction to Visual Culture (Same as English M50.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; laboratory, two hours. Enforced prerequisite: satisfaction of Entry-Level Writing

requirement. Study of how visual media, including advertising, still and moving images, and narrative films, influence contemporary aesthetics, politics, and knowledge. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - HISTORICAL ANALYSIS (0 COURSES)

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - SOCIAL ANALYSIS (8 COURSES)

INF STD 10 Information and Power Lecture, five hours. Designed for undergraduate students.

Introduction to core concepts of information and power and relation between them in range of social, economic, political, cultural, technological, and institutional contexts. Topics include information markets and economies; power of cultural and media institutions; state interests in information; information, conflict, and warfare; information organization, classification, and access; power and information technology infrastructure; and intellectual freedom. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

INF STD 20 Digital Cultures and Societies Lecture, five hours. Designed for undergraduate students.

Examination of social and cultural contexts of global spread of digital networks and systems. Exploration of ethical, infrastructural, and political questions raised at intersection of technologies and cultures. Topics include social media revolutions, indigenous and non-Western uses of technology, cross-cultural design, digital media literacies, and more. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

INF STD 30 Internet and Society Lecture, five hours. Designed for undergraduate students.

Examination of information technology in society, including Internet, World Wide Web, search engines (e.g., Google, Yahoo, Lycos), retrieval systems, electronic publishing, and distribution of media, including newspapers, books, and music. Exploration of many of these technologies, social, cultural, and political context in which they exist, and how social relationships are changing. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units

ANTHRO 3 Culture and Society Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; fieldwork. Required as preparation for both bachelor's degrees. Introduction to study of culture and society in comparative perspective. Examples from societies around world to illustrate basic principles of formation, structure, and distribution of human institutions. Of special concern is contribution and knowledge that cultural diversity makes toward understanding problems of modern world. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units

ANTHRO 4 Culture and Communication Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Required as preparation for both bachelor's degrees. Introduction to study of communication from anthropological perspective. Formal linguistic methods compared with ethnographically oriented methods focused on context-bound temporal unfolding of communicative activities. Topics include

language in everyday life and ritual events, socialization, literacy, multilingualism, miscommunication, political discourse, and art-making as cultural activity. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

COM LIT 20 Blockchain: Future of Absolutely Everything Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Interdisciplinary examination of social, cultural, and scientific workings of blockchain. Critical exploration of ethical, legal, and cultural effects of blockchain's potential to improve human behavior and impact our sense of individuality. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

DGT HUM 30 Los Angeles Tech City: Digital Technologies and Spatial Justice Lecture, two and one half hours; studio, two hours. Investigation of spatial justice and injustice in multi-ethnic city of Los Angeles through lens of three thematic technologies that built and transformed Los Angeles into global metropolis: cars and highways, networking technologies culminating in Internet and World Wide Web, and film and broadcast media. Use of innovative forms of investigation and communication, from digital mapping to video-sensing, to integrate interpretative and historical approaches of humanities with material and projective practices of design. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

CEC 50XP Engaging Los Angeles (Formerly numbered Community Engagement and Social Change 50SL.) Lecture, two hours; discussion, two hours. Community-engaged learning course with focus on diverse communities of Los Angeles. Analysis of general shared history of Los Angeles. Comparing or contrasting of experiences of several different racial/ethnic groups. Engagement in meaningful work off campus to reflect on assets, injustices, and inequities that have shaped experiences of native or immigrant communities. Analysis of Los Angeles in which residents coexist and interact while managing tensions and social justice issues inherent in minority/majority city. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY - LIFE SCIENCE (2 COURSES)

STAT 10 Introduction to Statistical Reasoning Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; computer laboratory, two hours. Preparation: three years of high school mathematics. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 11, 12, 13, 14, or former course 10H. Introduction to statistical thinking and understanding, including strengths and limitations of basic experimental designs, graphical and numerical summaries of data, inference, regression as descriptive tool. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

STAT 15 Introduction to Data Science Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; computer laboratory, one hour. Preparation: three years of high school mathematics. Not open to students with credit for course 10, 12, 13, or former course 10H, 11, or 14. Introduction to data science, including

data management, data modeling, data visualization, communication of findings, and reproducible work. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.