SA.501 (TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE)

SA.501.100. News Media & International Affairs. 4 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to provide deeper understanding of the interaction between the operations of the news media and the conduct of international relations. This will include an emphasis on how rapidly the major medium of exchange has passed in barely 50 years from newspapers to broadcast to the internet. The instruction will be through a combination of lectures, guest lectures, student discussion and papers. There will be an emphasis on clear and good writing. Student evaluation will be based on participation in discussion and papers. Prerequisite(s): Students may not register for this class if they have already received credit for SA.600.755[C]

SA.501.101. SAIS Women Lead Practicum. 4 Credits.
The SAIS Women Lead Practicum partners SAIS students with public, private, and non-governmental organizations and provides professional experiences through projects that advance women and contribute solutions to issues of global importance. Student teams work with clients to produce reports, policies or programs. Students will also be expected to participate in a research assignment during Winter Break (travel may be required). Upon their return, teams proceed to analyze, interpret and present results of findings to the SAIS community and clients. Students audit the course in the fall semester (in addition to their full load) and take the Practicum as a 4-credit course in the spring semester as part of their load. The application deadline is July 20. <a href="https://livejohnshopkins.sharepoint.com/sites/SAISInsider2/SitePages/DC-Capstones,-Professional-Skills-Courses.aspx" target="_blank">Click here for Capstone course application information</a>.
Prerequisite(s): Students may not register for this class if they have already received credit for SA.600.729[C]

SA.501.102. Transnational Advocacy. 4 Credits.
The class will examine theories and practices of international advocacy. Students will examine different types of advocacy: from insider lobbying to people powered campaigns, from agenda-setting to rapid response and digital campaigning. They will read academic scholarship on advocacy alongside texts produced by and/or for practitioners. The first half of the course will focus on theoretical dimensions of advocacy – who drives norm change and who resists it? When is advocacy effective? The second half of the class will focus more on advocacy for refugee and migrant rights. Students will evaluate a campaign for refugee and/or migrant rights and develop their own campaign recommendations. Learning Objectives: critically assess theories of international advocacy; identify and compare different types of advocacy organizations, strategies and tactics; develop practical skills in designing and evaluating campaigns.

SA.501.103. Multiculturalism & the Human Rights of Women. 4 Credits.
The first part of this course is designed to explore the complex inter-relationship between the quest for gender equality and multiculturalism, with an emphasis on the special dilemmas posed by religious systems which have or seek a significant measure of self-governance but do not accept liberal egalitarianism. The course, however, is not confined to an analysis of the "conflicts" generated by the anti-feminist and patriarchal nature of certain minority cultures, but seeks gender/culture connections in broader terms, taking into account liberalism's own difficulties in granting full citizenship to women. Questions to be examined include the following: Is the partnership of feminism and multiculturalism necessarily agonistic? In a culturally diverse world, what constitutes gender (in)equality? To which extent should democracies accommodate communal cultures inimical to liberal gender equality? Is there an emerging international and/or European model of accommodating cultural diversity which nevertheless adequately takes into account the gender dimension? The second part of the course analyzes the relationship between culture and the regulation of women's sexual and reproductive rights, with special emphasis on domestic and sexual violence, abortion, and pornography.

SA.501.104. Artificial Intelligence: The Science, Ethics, and Politics. 4 Credits.
Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) have emerged as increasingly significant areas of inquiry and debate in science, technology, and society. From search engines, advertising, and chatbots to autonomous weapon systems, driverless vehicles, financial risk management, law enforcement, and medical diagnosis, AI and ML are being integrated within many services and products across a range of industries. At the same time, AI-enabled technologies are facilitating discrimination, raising questions on privacy and transparency, fueling fears about labor shortages, and feeding competition on the international stage. The challenge of today and tomorrow is taking a human-centered approach to filling the gap between technology, ethics, and policymaking. We will review and discuss industry use cases to better understand the complexity and evolution of AI. Students will work on a semester-long group research policy project on a topic of their choice.