The domains of family life, kinship, and intimacy represent central sites for the construction and contestation of social and political belonging. This course introduces students to classic and contemporary theories of society, kinship, and citizenship by way of theorizing how economic production, sovereignty, and everyday life emerge, in part, through the regulation of relatedness. Anthropologists of the late nineteenth century and of the first half of the twentieth century turned kinship into a key domain for understanding social cohesion and political organization. In the past three decades – following feminist, Marxist, and queer critiques – anthropologists explored how discourses about kinship and the family anchored the ideologies and practices of modernity, colonialism, nationalism, and globalization. In this course, we ask: What can various forms of kinship teach us about the politics of social reproduction and the making of citizenship – its modes of belonging and exclusion – in the contemporary world? Why do national and transnational institutions care about how we relate to each other, how we build families, and whether we reproduce? Why do we desire that our intimate lives be recognized by the state and by the agents of the global market? And, can our ways of crafting relatedness in everyday life transform how we come to belong to larger political institutions?

Course Requirements

Grades will reflect the student’s level of engagement with the readings, lectures, and other assignments of the course as well as the extent to which the student acquired critical knowledge and analytical skills throughout the semester.

- **Attendance and participation (20%).** Attendance is mandatory. Please note that more than two absences will result in the loss of 5% from the final grade, more than four absences in the loss of 10%, etc. Students are expected to participate in class discussions by formulating questions, responses, and critiques relevant to the assigned readings. To make your time in class a productive and pleasant experience for everyone, please do not use phones, laptops, or tablets.

- **Review Questions (20%).** To help you participate actively in class discussions, I would like you to write as you read. For each class, please type a 150-word review question. Questions should be well-formulated, clear, and should add a critical component to the class discussion. A good review question should very briefly sum up a selected argument of the reading(s). Then, it should unpack the argument critically, either by treating it on its own terms or by comparing it to issues emerging in discussions, lectures, and other readings covered for this class. Print your question and bring it to class. Then, please try to find the right moment to ask your question in class. I will also collect questions at the end of each session.
Written Assignment(s) (60%). Students may choose one out of two kinds of written assignments in consultation with the professor.

Option A: Mid-term (30%) and Final (30%) Take-Home Exams. For each exam, students are required to respond to one out of a choice of two essay questions. The essay must draw on the readings, discussions, lectures, and films of the course exclusively. It must have a clear thesis statement, a well-constructed line of argumentation, and sufficient evidence to support the author’s position. Essays must be no more than 5 or 6 pages long. The mid-term take-home exam is due October 15 and the final take-home exam is due December 3.

Option B: Research Paper (60%). In exceptional circumstances, when students have well-formulated ideas and questions that they wish to research throughout the semester and explore in an extensive research paper, they may choose this option. Research papers must be based on original, in-depth ethnographic or library research. They must address current conceptual concerns and reflect a strong engagement with the readings and other materials for this course. Papers must be between 12 to 15 pages long. Students interested in writing a research paper must submit a 250-word proposal with a potential bibliography by September 24. Students who do not submit proposals or whose proposals are not sufficiently well framed, will have to use Option A for written assignments. Research papers are due December 3.

Please drop off all assignments in the professor's mailing box in Tozzer Anthropology Building, Room 205. Note that late submissions will result in the loss of 5% per day from the final grade for the course.

Required Texts

The following texts are available for purchase at the Coop Bookstore and for consultation on a three-hour reserve at the Tozzer Library.


All other readings will be available on the course website.

To familiarize yourself with kinship charts and kinship terminology in classic anthropology, please consult the following link: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/anthropology/kintitle.html
Weekly Schedule

WEEK 1
September 3
INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE
No readings

WEEK 2
September 10
WHAT IS KINSHIP? WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?


PART I
CLASSIC DEBATES IN THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF KINSHIP

WEEK 3
September 17
FORGET KINSHIP? AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL DILEMMA


WEEK 4
September 24
DESCENT, DOMESTICITY, & THE POLITICAL DOMAIN:
THE BRITISH SCHOOL

WEEK 5  
October 1  
INCEST, ALLIANCE, & AFFINAL KIN: THE FRENCH SCHOOL


PART II  
POLITICIZING KINSHIP: RELATEDNESS, IDEOLOGY, AND POWER

WEEK 6  
October 8  
GENDER, EXCHANGE, & DOMINATION: FEMINIST CRITIQUES


WEEK 7  
October 15  
CAPITAL, IDEOLOGY, & REPRODUCTION: MARXIST CRITIQUES


Mid-term take-home exam is due in class.

WEEK 8  
October 22  
SEXUALITY, DESIRE, & NORMATIVITY: QUEER CRITIQUES


### PART III

**KINSHIP AND CITIZENSHIP: BELONGING, BIOPOLITICS, AND GLOBAL CAPITALISM**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 9</th>
<th>October 29</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RACE, CITIZENSHIP, &amp; THE INTIMATE POLITICS OF COLONIALISM</td>
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<th>WEEK 10</th>
<th>November 5</th>
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<tr>
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<td>KINSHIP, LAW, &amp; THE POETICS OF STATE RECOGNITION</td>
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<th>WEEK 11</th>
<th>November 12</th>
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<tr>
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<td>MONEY, MATERIALITY, &amp; VIOLENCE IN THE POSTCOLONY</td>
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<th>WEEK 12</th>
<th>November 19</th>
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<tr>
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<td>TRANSNATIONAL KINSHIP AND GLOBAL (NON)CITIZENSHIP</td>
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| November 26 | No Class - Thanksgiving Recess |

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<tr>
<th>WEEK 13</th>
<th>December 3</th>
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<td></td>
<td>CONCLUSION: THE DIALECTICS OF KINSHIP AND CITIZENSHIP</td>
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<td>- No readings.</td>
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*Final take-home exam or research paper due.*
Recommended Readings:


