COURSE DETAIL

BIOPOLITICS
Country Denmark
Host Institution University of Copenhagen
Program(s) University of Copenhagen
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science Health Sciences
UCEAP Course Number 105
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title BIOPOLITICS
UCEAP Transcript Title BIOPOLITICS
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course returns to the formative texts of Michel Foucault on the topic of biopolitics, a concept that provides key insights into our contemporary political moment. It examines the major debates that have followed in political theory in the study of bio-power and biopolitics as terms integral to the fields of public health and virology (contagion, transmission, immunity, incubation, resilience, quarantine) now stand at the center of political discourse, framing conversations around policing, political economy, sovereignty, and democratic society. The course examines conceptual and historical questions of how life came to be understood as the object of government and how this has intensified the operations of power in the modern era. It also expands understanding of the concept by engaging with the array of topics in which biopolitics has made transformative interventions, from understanding the politics of DNA sequencing and stem cell research to analyzing the transformations of labor and global warfare. It considers how Foucault's formulation has had wide-ranging effects on political theory, changing the way we understand the body, racism, colonialism, neoliberalism, war and violence, and the category of the human.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
ASTK18340U

Host Institution Course Title
BIOPOLITICS

Host Institution Course Details
https://kurser.ku.dk/course/astk18340u/2022-2023

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Faculty of Social Sciences

Host Institution Degree
Bachelor

Host Institution Department
Department of Political Science

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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