

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 Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences

Host Institution Degree

Bachelor

Host Institution Department

Department of Political Science

[Print](#)