COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will provide students with an introduction to interpretive methods in the social sciences. Students will learn to "read" texts and images while also becoming familiar with contemporary thinking about interpretation, narrative, ethnography, and social construction. Among the methods we shall explore are: semiotics, hermeneutics, ordinary language philosophy, and discourse analysis. Requirements: Students will complete short assignments on each method and will write one seminar paper.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
(in alphabetical order)
Roland Barthes, MYTHOLOGIES
Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller (eds.) THE FOUCAULT EFFECT
Hubert Dreyfus and Paul Rabinow, MICHEL FOUCAULT: BEYOND STRUCTURALISM AND HERMENEUTICS
Michel Foucault, DISCIPLINE AND PUNISH
Michel Foucault, HISTORY OF SEXUALITY, VOL. 1
Clifford Geertz, NEGARA: THE THEATRE STATE
Gary King, Robert Keohane, Sidney Verba, DESIGNING SOCIAL INQUIRY
Lynn Hunt, THE FAMILY ROMANCE IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
Hanna Fenichel Pitkin, WITTGENSTEIN AND JUSTICE
Frederic C. Schaffer, DEMOCRACY IN TRANSLATION
Ludwig Wittgenstein, PHILOSOPHICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Books are available for purchase at the Seminary Co-operative Bookstore. All books and articles are also on reserve at Regenstein Library,

READING ASSIGNMENTS:
Week One: Semiotics and Structuralism
Roland Barthes, MYTHOLOGIES ( Entire)

ASSIGNMENT: Choose FIVE pictures from magazines. Identify the signifier, the signified, and the signification for each one.

Week Two: Semiotics, Hermeneutics, and Anthropology: Geertz
Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture" in THE INTERPRETATION OF CULTURES [On Reserve]
Clifford Geertz, "Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight" (1973) [On Reserve]
Clifford Geertz, NEGARA: THE THEATRE STATE IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY BALI, Chapter 4 and Conclusion
Clifford Geertz, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE: FURTHER ESSAYS IN INTERPRETIVE ANTHROPOLOGY, Chapters 1; 3; 6 [On Reserve]
Clifford Geertz, AFTER THE FACT: TWO COUNTRIES, FOUR DECADES, ONE ANTHROPOLOGIST, Chapter 6 [On Reserve]

ASSIGNMENT: Write a short "Geertzian" analysis of the 1996 Republican convention's biographical sketch of Bob Dole (to be shown in class).

**Week Three: Hermeneutics and Psychoanalysis**
Lynn Hunt, THE FAMILY ROMANCE IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
Michael Rogin, "Kiss Me Deadly: Communism, Motherhood, and Cold War Movies" [On Reserve]
(Selections from Freud are also recommended and are on reserve).

ASSIGNMENT: Complete one of the following: 1) Produce a psychoanalytic reading of the film, THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE (to be shown in class); 2) Summarize Hunt's book and discuss the promises and pitfalls of psychoanalytic interpretations for social science research.

**Weeks Four, Five, and Six: Ordinary Language Analysis**
Ludwig Wittgenstein, PHILOSOPHICAL INVESTIGATIONS
Hanna Fenichel Pitkin, WITTGENSTEIN AND JUSTICE
Frederic C. Schaffter, DEMOCRACY IN TRANSLATION

ASSIGNMENT: Choose a concept and investigate its ordinary language uses. (In addition to the readings and our discussions of ordinary language philosophy, you will become familiar with full-text databases.) Concepts chosen in the past include: identity, culture, preferences, legitimacy, utility, structure, democracy, and power.

**Weeks Seven and Eight: Discourse Analysis**
Week Seven: Read EITHER Michel Foucault, HISTORY OF SEXUALITY, VOL. 1 OR Michel Foucault, DISCIPLINE AND PUNISH (Choose the one you have not read before).

ASSIGNMENT: Identify what a discourse analysis is and what it entails.

Week Eight: Hubert Dreyfus and Paul Rabinow, MICHEL FOUCAULT: BEYOND STRUCTURALISM AND HERMENEUTICS

**Week Nine: Applying Discourse Analysis**
Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, DESIGNING SOCIAL INQUIRY

ASSIGNMENT: Conduct a discourse analysis of King, Keohane and Verba's book.