



The John W. Draper

Interdisciplinary Master's Program in Humanities and Social Thought

The Draper Program offers a flexible yet rigorous interdisciplinary curriculum founded on the belief that many issues in the humanities and social sciences are most fruitfully explored through cross-disciplinary approaches. Structured around six areas of inquiry, the program allows students to pursue scholarship combining methods and materials from historical, cultural, political, literary, and other modes of inquiry. At the same time, core courses in each area offer a solid grounding in current theories and methodologies, and engage students in ongoing scholarly debates.

AREAS OF INQUIRY

ART WORLDS

Art Worlds draws on multiple theoretical perspectives to examine cultural practices and social meanings in the production and consumption of the arts. Questions of reception and interpretation, "high" versus "low" culture, institutional engagement, and the politics of representation are studied in the context of museums, galleries, theatres, and other spaces that constitute New York City's art worlds.

THE CITY

The City investigates urban life and organization both concretely and conceptually, focusing on New York and other metropolises. This area applies paradigms and methods from multiple disciplines to the study of urban formations in historical and contemporary contexts.

GENDER POLITICS

Gender Politics crosses disciplinary boundaries in an effort to understand how the social fictions of gender have come to be constructed as biological facts. Themes of concern include current theoretical accounts of gender, discursive and material representations of gender and sexuality, and intersections of gender and race.

GLOBAL HISTORIES

Global Histories provides a theoretical and methodological framework for investigations that transcend familiar practices of national historiography. Moving between local and transnational viewpoints, this area considers such topics as globalization, world politics, postcolonialism, nationalism, migrations, national identity, and state formation.

LITERARY CULTURES

Engaging discourses from literature, philosophy, psychoanalysis, and cultural studies, Literary Cultures establishes a theoretical foundation for the interdisciplinary study of literature, undertaking detailed examinations of major critical and theoretical concepts through close readings of works from various periods and traditions.

SCIENCE STUDIES

Science Studies is an interdisciplinary field dedicated to understanding science as a set of cultural practices. Informed by the philosophy and history of science, anthropology, sociology, and critical theory, Science Studies examines issues of constructivism, relativism, the uses of scientific knowledge, and the cultural boundaries between science and nonscience.

FAQs

Why pursue an M.A. degree in humanities and social thought at New York University's Draper Program?

The Draper Program fosters the sort of interdisciplinary study in the humanities and social sciences that has become increasingly important both inside and outside the academy. Draper can help students to improve research and writing skills, and to master a body of knowledge that will be useful in their nonacademic careers. The Draper M.A. is for others the first step toward a Ph.D. or a chance to test the graduate school waters before committing to a doctorate. Draper also assists many students in making the transition to doctoral work in fields unrelated to their undergraduate majors.

What are the strengths of the program?

The Draper Program offers a wide variety of courses taught by outstanding faculty members. The structure of Draper's interdisciplinary curriculum offers a unique combination of choice and academic rigor. Students benefit from extensive advising in constructing their individual curriculums, in thesis research and writing, and in charting long-term academic and professional goals.

Who teaches the courses?

Courses in the Draper Program are taught by the Draper Faculty Fellows, by the program's director and associate director, by faculty from across the Graduate School of Arts and Science, and by affiliated adjunct faculty.

Who are the students?

Because of the Draper Program's interdisciplinary nature, our students do not fit a single profile. They have training in many fields; some already hold advanced degrees in the sciences, arts, or professions. Students come from across the country and from many corners of

FACULTY

PROGRAM FACULTY

Robin Nagle, Director, Draper Program. Ph.D. 1994 (anthropology), M.Phil. 1991 (anthropology), M.A. 1989 (anthropology), Columbia; B.A. 1987 (anthropology), New York. Research interests: consumption, especially garbage; material culture; religion; narrative; ethnohistory.

Robert Dimit, Associate Director, Draper Program. Ph.D. 2000 (comparative literature), M.A. 1992 (comparative literature), New York; B.A. 1972 (music), Macalester College. Research interests: early modern European literature and culture; history of affect; classical rhetoric; literature and music.

Julian B. Carter, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (Gender Politics). Ph.D. 1998 (history), M.A. 1994 (history), California (Irvine); B.A. 1990 (liberal arts), Bryn Mawr College. Research interests: critical theory; gender studies; race and gender.

Paul Kelleher, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (Literary Cultures). Ph.D. 2003 (English), M.A. 1998 (English), Princeton; B.A. 1994 (English), Duke. Eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British literature; the novel; history of sexuality; critical theory; political theory; ethics.

Pedro Machado, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (Global Histories). Ph.D. 2005 (history), London; M.A. 1997 (history), New Hampshire; B.A. 1993 (history), Cape Town. Research interests: South Asian merchant networks; comparative diasporas; comparative slave trade and slavery; genealogies of consumption and demand in the Indian Ocean; empire; migration.

Micki McGee, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (Art Worlds). Ph.D. 2002 (sociology), CUNY (Graduate Center); M.F.A. 1983 (visual art), B.A. 1979 (visual art and communications), California (San Diego). Research interests: sociology of culture; sociology of art; contemporary theories of art.

Amy Ninetto, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (Science Studies). Ph.D. 2002 (anthropology), M.A. 1997 (anthropology), Virginia; B.A. 1993 (anthropology), Franklin and Marshall College. Research interests: cultural anthropology; science studies; nationalism; migration; consumerism.

Sofia T. Shwayri, Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow (The City). Ph.D. 2002 (architecture), M.S. 1997 (architecture), California (Berkeley); M.A. 1994 (archaeology), B.A. 1991 (archaeology), A.A. 1990 (architecture), American, Beirut. Research interests: international and comparative urbanization; development; politics of space in multireligious and multiethnic societies.

the globe. The average age of entering students is about 24, with most between the ages of 20 and 35. Approximately 100 students enter the program each year.

Can I pursue this program as a part-time student?

Yes. Students may study full time or part time. Most Draper courses are offered in the evenings to accommodate student work schedules. The average time to complete the degree is three years (the maximum is five); full-time students can finish the program in three semesters.

Does the program offer financial aid?

The Draper Program awards a small number of tuition remission scholarships that provide tuition relief for one class. All students are considered for these scholarships at the beginning of each semester, but they are competitively awarded and no applicant can be certain of receiving one. Draper's Tuition Assistance Program for Schoolteachers offers a 50 percent tuition discount to full-time primary and secondary teachers in New York City, contingent on the availability of funds. NYU offers the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)—a matching grant/scholarship program, and the Graduate School maintains a database of Grants in Graduate Studies (GIGS). For information about TIP, GIGS, and other funding sources, please see www.nyu.edu/gsas/Admissions/Financial_gsas.html; for information about the program for schoolteachers, please contact the Draper office. Although we don't suggest it as the only option, many of our students rely on loans to finance their education.

AFFILIATED ADJUNCT FACULTY

Tom de Zengotita, contributing editor, *Harper's*. Ph.D. 1984 (anthropology), M.Phil. 1977 (anthropology), M.A. 1975 (anthropology), B.A. 1973 (anthropology), Columbia. Research interests: philosophical anthropology; kinship; history of modern culture; language and symbolism; education and technology.

Jocelyn Lieu, writer and editor. M.F.A. 1993 (creative writing), Warren Wilson College; B.A. 1981 (English), Yale. Research interests: creative writing; Asian American literature; American literature; world literature.

Peter Lucas. Ph.D. 1996 (international education), M.A. 1990 (educational communications and technology), New York; B.A. 1978 (economics), Slippery Rock. Research interests: international human rights; peace and human rights education; human rights and representation.

SAMPLE COURSES

Introduction to Art Worlds I and II; Art Worlds and Life Worlds; New Social Movements: Art and Politics of Everyday Life; Introduction to the City I and II; The Contemporary City in Conflict; Garbage in Gotham; Introduction to Gender Politics I and II; Feminist Theory; Sexuality in Culture and Politics; Introduction to Global Histories I and II; Race, Nation, and Multicultural Democracy; Introduction to Literary Cultures I and II; The Politics of Metaphor; The Passions of the Mind; Introduction to Science Studies I and II; Science, Colonialism, and the State; Human Nature; Modernism and the Alienation of Form; Law and Mass Communication

M.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- Satisfactory completion of 32 points of course work
- At least four courses (16 points) taken within Draper
- A master's thesis approved by two readers

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent foreign credentials
- GPA of 3.0 or better
- No specific undergraduate majors or courses are required
- GRE is recommended but not required
- For international applicants, recommended minimum TOEFL score of 650 (paper) or 280 (computer)

HOW TO APPLY

To download an application from the Internet or request an application by mail, visit www.nyu.edu/gsas. Applications should be submitted by July 1 for fall admission, by December 1 for spring admission, and by April 1 for summer admission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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