

# SOSC 141-142-143

## Mind

### WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM THIS SEQUENCE?

Mind considers how contemporary empirical science can inform long-standing questions about the nature and origins of human experience, such as cultural variation in mind and behavior, the relationship of mind and biology, the role of nature and nurture in development, human uniqueness and continuity across species, determinism and free will, and the role of conscious and non-conscious processes in behavior. Mind also explores the process by which social science is conducted. The sequence considers what constitutes a social scientific question, what counts as valid empirical evidence, and how data are used to test theories and support causal claims.



### WHO MIGHT BENEFIT FROM TAKING MIND?

- Students seeking to read and analyze scientific literature regarding a topic and discuss its strengths and limitations for addressing not only theoretical debates, but its relevance to current issues, policies, and real-world situations
- Students who want to learn about their own minds through scientific inquiry

*“A big thing I learned was how not only to read between the lines of these studies and take away the main idea, but also how to expand upon them and ask questions about how these studies could have implications for other phenomena.”*

- Maddie Yoo '25

### STUDENT TAKEAWAY



### WHAT MAKES MIND DIFFERENT?

- Readings consist of seminal and current journal articles published by and for professionals in the field
- Weekly lectures are given by an expert on the week's topic and provide the background for small, instructor-led discussion sections