Overview of class
Navigating the world as epistemic agents comes with great responsibility. Our beliefs guide every aspect of our lives—from choices about our friends and lifelong partners to our votes for political leaders and our decisions about life-and-death matters. How should our belief-forming practices respond to worries about bias that are likely to impact the credibility we afford to members of marginalized groups? Should our beliefs be responsive to only truth-related features, such as evidence and reliability, or do our relationships with others also bear on the appropriateness of our beliefs? How do we discriminate between sources of information that lead us to the truth, and those that are grounded in lies, bullshit, deception, and propaganda? When are we obligated to speak out against what is false or unjustified? These are some of the questions we will take up in this class, with particular attention paid to the ways in which our places in the social world impact our status as knowers.

Learning Objectives
By the end of the class, students will be expected to have: Familiarity with central concepts in epistemology. The ability to apply these concepts to discussions of current events. The ability to construct arguments employing these concepts.