What are emotions? In what respects are they innate and universal, and in what respects are they culturally constructed and particular? What does the nature of emotions imply about how we should identify and study them? This seminar will explore both questions, with a focus on social and moral emotions. As a template, we will examine the theory and research that my colleagues and I have done and are doing on kama muta, an emotion that in English is sometimes labelled being *moved, touched, or having a heart-warming experience*. In religion, it may be called a *mystical or rapturous experience*, or being *touched by the Spirit*. In politics, it may be labelled *patriotism*; in sports, *team spirit*. Our research has included participant observation, interviews, diary studies, experiments with over 11,000 participants in 19 nations, physiological studies, and ethnological comparisons of the emotion across cultures and history. The first half of the seminar will examine and critique the ontology and epistemology of our kama muta research. In the second half, each student will select a social or moral emotion and write a research proposal for studying some specific aspect of it.

2 October: A metatheoretical framework for understanding social and moral emotions.
Kama muta, a prototype social emotion.

9 October: Kama muta.
Readings: “The Lexical Fallacy” manuscript.
https://www.dropbox.com/s/q34hofzv5yho707/Lexical%20fallacy%202.0.docx?dl=0
Book manuscript, chapters 1-3.

16 October: discuss where and when you’ve experienced or encountered kama muta. What can you inductively learn about kama muta from your experience and observations?
Readings: Book manuscript, Mesologue and chapters 4-6.
https://www.dropbox.com/s/i8jdlhfdc44xld/When%20Love%20Ignites%20current%20draft%2011.0.docx?dl=0

23 October: Kinds of data/evidence, and methods for getting them. Why one kind of evidence based on just one method is never adequate.
Readings: Book manuscript, “A Pivotal Idea” and chapters 7-10.

30 October: What is a theory? How do we juxtapose theory with the real world? What makes a good research question?
Readings: Book manuscript, any three chapters of your choice.

This week and next, meet individually with me to discuss your research questions.

6 November: Experimental methods.
Schubert et al, Moment to moment changes:
13 November: How could the concept of kama muta illuminate phenomena in your field? Discuss your research question. Everyone will make a brief presentation.

This week and next, meet individually with me to discuss your research designs.

20 November: Discuss research designs. Everyone will make a brief presentation.

27 November: Longer presentations of your proposal (half of the students).

4 December: Longer presentations of your proposal (half of the students).

Papers due 14 December.