



## **Spring 2012 Honors Seminar**

**IDH 4000**

**Dr. Jennifer Gillespie & Dr. Melissa Sloan**

### **Working: Psychological and Sociological Correlates of Worker Well-Being**

Psychologists and sociologists have long been interested in the study of work and workers. Most adults spend the majority of their lives performing some type of work. As might be expected, the nature of the work we do plays a significant role in the quality of our daily lives. This course is designed to expose you to current theories and research findings in the area of work stress and worker well-being and stimulate ideas for a social science research project. We will emphasize the practice of social science through critical analysis of significant research in the field. With faculty guidance and a grounding in the current literature, you'll formulate your own research questions and hypotheses and design an appropriate data collection strategy that you will implement over the summer. Whether you are preparing to enter the workforce, advance your existing career, or attend graduate school, an understanding of the factors that influence worker well-being will provide you with an awareness of important job characteristics and their interaction with psychological traits that can enhance your own work experience.