The following list of courses is based on our best available information, but are subject to change.

**FALL 2015**

**AMST 500: Introduction to American Studies and Ethnicity**
An exploration of themes, theoretical influences, and methodological approaches current in American studies and Ethnic studies. M 2-4:50pm Prof. Jack Halberstam

**AMST 519: Indigenous, Decolonial, and Transhemispheric American Studies**
Evaluate pressing social science and humanities concerns hemispherically in relation to first peoples, decolonialization, land, cultural memory, and politics within comparative ethnic studies. T 2-4:50pm

**AMST 585: Topics in Cultural Theory**
A better title for this course would be, “Global Cultural Theories.” This course focuses on the distinctions between the postcolonial and the decolonial, theories of embodiment, recent turns in radical philosophy, the Caribbean philosophical tradition, cultural critique from South America, indigenous and Black radical critique, and new ecological philosophies from the Global South. We put different versions of cultural studies from regional global spaces together and think about theory as praxis, asking how the vernacular, or minor, can be an important site of meaning. We also read selectively in performance theory and visuality to help us unpack the the meaning of culture. Throughout, we think about the transits of translation, late capitalism, and language politics as key dimensions of the circuits of cultural theory. W 2-4:50pm, Prof. Macarena Gómez-Barris

**AMST 680: Research in Cultural Studies**
The seminar is designed to expose students to a range of theoretical perspectives in cultural studies: poststructuralist theory, affect theory, critical race theory/ conjuncturalism, performance studies, and questions of the subject and power. We will read “theory” conventionally defined, as well as genre-bending writings that “perform” theory. The class provides a supportive environment for the participants’ own research. Depending on students’ individual goals, we will investigate appropriate journals, article structure, and research funding. The final project will be an article designed for publication or a draft of a dissertation chapter. Th 5-6:50pm, Prof. Dorinne Kondo

**AMST 700: Theories and Practices of Professional Development**
Offers students a structured environment in which to write their dissertation proposals and focuses on professional development. Completion of qualifying exam. M 2-4:50pm Prof. Laura Pulido

**SPRING 2016**

**AMST 530: Readings in African American Studies**
Seminar exploring crucial theoretical, methodological and historical issues in the development of African American Studies. (Prof. Shana Redmond)

**AMST 570: Readings on Los Angeles and Urban Culture**
Diversity and empirical social research; conceptualization, design and measurement; conducting, analyzing and evaluating surveys and experiments; focus on obstacles in the empirical study of diversity. (Prof. Juan DeLara)

**AMST 701: Practicum for ABD Students**
Seminar in representative theoretical works in the fields of American Studies and Ethnic Studies published in the past fifteen years. (Prof. Laura Pulido)
FALL 2015 COURSES OFFERED BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS

ART HISTORY
AHIS 500: Methods and Theory of Art History (4)
Methodologies, theories and critical traditions that have shaped the discipline. Emphasis will vary depending on faculty. Required of all first-year M.A. and Ph.D. candidates. Open to graduate or limited status in art history only. (Duplicates credit former FA 500). T 2-4:50pm Prof. Amy Ogata.

ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH 562: The Practice of Ethnography (4)
Major approaches to ethnographic fieldwork are explored in classic cases. T 2-4:50pm Prof. Nancy Lutkehaus

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
COLT 525: Studies in Literary and Cultural History
Literary and cultural currents from classical antiquity through modernity. Varying focus on specific genres, periods, movements, or problematics. W 2-4:50pm

COMMUNICATION, ANNENBERG
COMM 654: Art, Artists and Society
Although the arts are generally seen as forms of communication, what they communicate, how, and to whom, is not always easy to explain. The course will consider how different cultures and periods have defined the nature and role of the arts and of artists and audiences. Particular attention will be paid to the roots of the modern sense of alienation and incomprehension with which most people approach the fine arts. We will also explore the aesthetic dimension of experience with the arts as well as other objects and events; and the ways in which the arts have served as vehicles for the transmission of central cultural beliefs. (Prof. Larry Gross, W 2-4:50pm)

CRITICAL STUDIES, CINEMA
CTCS 500: Seminar in Film Theory
Introduction to classical and contemporary film theory; exploration of their relationship to close textual analysis and filmic experimentation. Th 10-1:50pm Prof. Kara Keeling.

CTCS 510: 1970s America
Seminar on media’s impact in defining nation and/or region in specific cultural contexts. Also addresses issues of exile, diaspora, transnationalism and globalism. Departmental approval required. W 10-11:50am & 1-3:50pm Prof. Rick Jewell. AND W 1-3:50 & 4-6:50pm Prof. Todd Boyd.

CTCS 518: Seminar: Avant-garde Cinema
Aesthetic, historical and ideological issues in avant-grade film and video. Cinema Lab fee $50. M 1-5:50pm Prof. David James.
ENGLISH
ENGL 501: Introduction to Literary and Cultural Criticism and Theory
As the title indicates, this course is an introduction. It requires no advance knowledge of literary and cultural criticism and theory. We will read excerpts from the Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism on the major theorists and philosophers who have shaped contemporary criticism (in no particular order: Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Judith Butler, Edward Said, Gayatri Spivak, Sigmund Freud, Jacques Lacan, Stuart Hall, Fredric Jameson, and others). In addition, given that half of the seminar will be composed of creative writers and the other half of literary critics (although perhaps some may cross the line and do both), we will also look at some figures who do both creative and critical work, such as Roland Barthes, Susan Sontag, Claudia Rankine, Gloria Anzaldúa, and Trinh T. Minh-ha, in an effort to see how criticism can inform creative work, and vice versa. Figuring out what terms like structuralism, poststructuralism, postcolonialism, psychoanalysis, feminism, Marxism, and others, do in literary and cultural theory will also be on the agenda. Be prepared to lead the seminar in discussion, to participate in the conversation both in seminar and online, and to write a research paper or an essay.
M 4:30-6:50pm Prof. Viet Nguyen.

ENGL 580: Theories of the Americas
The seminar will investigate the possibility of and problems with the comparative and/or interdisciplinary study of the Western Hemisphere. The title for the seminar already poses a problem, because it leaves out Canada. The seminar will focus on recent influential theories of the Americas, the Western Hemisphere, and the pertinent “rims” (including the Pacific, Black Atlantic, North Atlantic, Caribbean, African diaspora, et al).
W 5-7:20pm, Prof. John Carlos Rowe

ENGL 620: Literature and Interdisciplinary Studies
Issues and theory of studying literature in relation to history, science, politics, psychology, religion, sociology, media, the visual arts, and other disciplines. M 2-4:20pm Prof. Bruce Smith.

ENGL 660: Studies in Genre
History, transformation, and theory of genre.; studies in epic, lyric, drama, comedy, tragedy, the novel, biography, essay, and other forms. Th 2-4:20pm Prof. Rebecca Lemon.

HISTORY
HIST 500: Introduction to Graduate Historical Studies
Techniques, theories, and sub-disciplines of history. T 2-4:50 Prof. Peter Mancall.

HIST 586: Studies in American Intellectual and Cultural History
Readings, analyses, and discussion of selected topics relation to the history of American thought and the arts. M 4-6:50pm Prof. Richard Fox.

PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 660: Seminar in Clinical Psychology
Selected topics in clinical psychology. W 2-5:50pm Prof. Darby Saxbe.
SOCIOLOGY

SOCI 524: Advanced Methods- Qualitative Research
Seminar emphasizing observation and interviewing techniques; writing and critical reading of ethnographies; assumptions underlying phenomenology, symbolic, interactions, ethno methodology, Essential and dramaturgical sociologies. T 10-12:50pm
Prof. Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo.

GENDER STUDIES

SWMS 560: Feminist Theory
History of feminist theory and major perspectives of current feminist theory: liberal feminism, socialist/Marxist feminism, radical feminism, psychological feminism, spiritual feminism, and ecological feminism. M 2-4:50pm Prof. Jack Halberstam.

SWMS 588: Seminar in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies
Interdisciplinary cross-cultural, historical, psychological, sociological, and contemporary political perspectives on female and male homosexual eroticism, and the emergence of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender identities. W 2-4:50pm