CORE COURSES

AMST 585: Cultural Theory (4)
How does cultural theory help us understand the colonized body/subject and articulate the project of decolonization in political, social, cultural, and psychological terms? These questions will be our abiding concerns. Unlike most university courses, undergraduate and graduate, that are designed by a “leader,” this seminar will be modeled after postdoctoral/research seminars in which participants create the reading list, in part out of their own research interests. In the past, the rationalizations for the professor selecting all of the texts have been “expertise” and “textbook orders.” Neither criterion applies any longer. Expertise today should be tied to the specific research project, and each of us should have one in this seminar. Prof. John Carlos Rowe, Th 5:00-7:50 pm

AMST 599: Body, Power and Politics (4)
This seminar investigates theories, histories, knowledge and representation of the body imbricated in the nexus of power and political resistance. We will examine new scholarship in health and medicine, carceral and political struggles, performance studies, queer and transgender studies, critical race, indigenous and colonial studies. Prof. Nayan Shah, Tu 2-4:50 pm

AMST 630: Interdisciplinary Research Seminar: African American Studies (4)
Methodological and theoretical approaches to conducting research in African American Studies; design and completion of a publishable research paper. Prof. Riley Snorton, W 5:00-7:50 pm

AMST 670: Interdisciplinary Research Seminar on Los Angeles (4)
Introduces students to issues of urban-based research concerning Los Angeles and guides students through the design and completion of a journal-quality research paper. Recommended preparation: graduate reading course on Los Angeles. Prof. Juan De Lara, W 2:00-4:50 pm

AMST 701: Contemporary Theories of American Studies and Ethnicity (4)
Seminar in representative theoretical works in the fields of American Studies and Ethnic Studies published in the past fifteen years. Prof. Nayan Shah, M 2:00-4:50 pm
OTHER COURSES OF INTEREST

ANTH 502: Contemporary Theory in Anthropology (4)
This is an exciting moment in the history of anthropology – a time of flux and reinvention. The discipline continues to generate new kinds of problems to study and to rethink traditional modes of carrying out fieldwork, and of representing and analyzing that field. This course begins with a look at how anthropologists have responded to the rethinking and reframing of “culture” as a core construct. This challenge induced immense reflexivity into the discipline and continues to feed current thinking even as “culture” has gained ascendance in culture studies, ethnic studies and other disciplines. Ideas of “visual culture” and “material culture” are emerging as important new fields, are concepts of the “posthuman” and the “perspectivist” take on human-animal relations. Intense reading of core texts will be combined with seminar discussions and presentations. Prof. Janet Hoskins, Th 2-4:50pm

CTCS 510: Case Studies in National Media and/or Regional Media (The Birth of the Cool) 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. Prof. Laura Isabel Serna, W 10-1:50PM

CTCS 678: Theories of Space and Place in Cinema: Time/Place Explores the way film has been theorized in relationship to traditional media that preceded it and electronic media that followed. Prof. Priya Jaikumar, W 10-1:50PM

EDUC 688: Institutions, Organizations, and Equity in Education
The objective of this three-credit course is for students to understand the tenets, critiques, and relevance of institutional and other organizational theory for emerging challenges of equity in education. Through this learning, students will consider how education might be (re)organized to reduce institutionalized inequities and maximize the benefits of diversity. We will examine underlying sociological and political forces that shape organizational stasis and change in education, especially with respect to participation and outcomes by race, gender identity, and socioeconomic status. We will read intensively, engage in candid and structured discussions, and develop research on educational institutions as complex organizations. Prof. Julie Posselt, T 4-6:50pm

ENGL 610: Theory and Criticism
Studies in meaning and meaning making, form, comparative theory, theories of history and culture, theory in the classroom and other topics. Prof. Margaret Nelson, T 2-4:20PM

HIST 584: US Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race
This graduate seminar introduces students to a broad, interdisciplinary range of scholarship on the history of immigration, ethnicity, and race in the United States. While historians have recognized the significance of these themes since the professionalization of history in the late 19th century, the more recent emergence of two fields greatly boosted attention to this dimension of the American past. One of the new fields is U.S. Immigration and Ethnicity history, a branch of the new social history dedicated to history from below. The other is Ethnic Studies, the scholarly offshoot of racial minority political mobilizations. Readings for this course have been drawn from both of these fields. Unlike U.S. historians, American sociologists since the early 20th century have paid close
attention to dynamics of immigration, ethnicity, and race in U.S. society. Their studies, especially theoretical accounts, provide a third source of readings for this class. This course, then, sits at the fertile crossroads of history, sociology, and Ethnic Studies.

Prof. Lon Kurashige, Th 2-4:50pm

**PPD 599: Race, Arts, and Placemaking (4)**

This class explores the inter-relationships between race, arts, and urban space. It positions itself at this underexplored intersection of inquiry. For one it explores the issues and dynamics of race amidst the literature about arts and cultural placemaking in order to consider its absence in the literature and yet its pervasive presence to an understanding of urban space. Conversely, it also explores how the urban development and planning literature might benefit from seriously considering how arts and culture might be a potent realm for expressing and empowering the fuller humanity and agency of marginalized ethnic communities and a strategy for claiming urban space. Furthermore, the class investigates what a spatialized framework might elucidate about arts and race.

Prof. Annette M. Kim, Th 9am-12:20pm

**PSYC 660: Seminar in Clinical Psychology**

Selected topics in clinical psychology. Prof. Darby Saxbe, W 1-4:50PM

**SWMS 554: Women in a Global Perspective**

This course examines the production and reproduction of gender and gender inequalities in the contexts of globalization and transnationalism. The course examines the constitution of gender in labor, migration, the family, and religion. It looks at the construction of gender in key phenomena that embody cross-national ties in globalization including the migrant family, global labor flows, neoliberalism, international marriages and the global political economy. Class discussions will engage questions of feminist epistemology, the construction of a gendered global subject and national differences among women in globalization. Prof. Rhacel Salazar Parreñas, M 2-4:50pm

**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. Prof. Ange-Marie Hancock, T 2-4:50

**THTR 500: Dramaturgical Perspectives and Approaches**

Investigates art and craft of dramatic writing initiated/completed in other MFA in Dramatic Writing courses or that was submitted as a sample for program entry. Prof. Paula Cizmar, M 5-7:20pm