**Spring 2015 American Studies and Ethnicity Course Offerings**

*Courses with an asterisk require pre-approval to count towards your major requirements. Always refer to the course catalogue to find out how these courses count towards your major. Please see Ms. Cynthia Mata-Flores, your academic advisor, before registering for one of these courses. She can be reached at cmflores@usc.edu, at her office at KAP 450C, or by phone at (213)740-3198.*

**AMST 101gm  Race and Class in Los Angeles**
Analysis of race and the economic, political, gender, and social dimensions of contemporary Los Angeles including topics such as residential segregation, economic inequality, and city politics. **Concurrent enrollment:** WRIT 140. (TTh 11:30-12:20 PM, Prof. Manuel Pastor)

**AMST 135gm  Peoples and Cultures of the Americas**
An introduction to cultures and people in the Americas, the social, historical, economic, and cultural formations that together make up the Latino/a American imaginary (MW 2:30-3:20 Prof. Juan De Lara)

**AMST 200m  Introduction to American Studies and Ethnicity**
Introduction to American studies and ethnic studies. Provides an overview of major theories, concepts, and issues. (TTh 11:00-12:20PM Prof. Alicia Chavez)

**AMST 250m  The African Diaspora**
History, political-economy and aesthetics of the African Diaspora with emphasis on Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and Africa. (TTh 12:30-1:50 PM Prof. Anthony Sparks)

**AMST 274m  Exploring Ethnicity through Film**
This course is an examination of the constructions of American ethnicity/race in film. (TTh 11:00-12:20PM, Prof. Kara Keeling)

**AMST 301g  America, the Frontier, and the New West**
Introduction to the interdisciplinary study of American political, cultural, and social life with a particular emphasis on the Western United States as a region. **Recommended preparation:** HIST 100, ENGL 263. (MW 12-1:50PM Prof. Thomas Gustafson)

**AMST 337  Islam in Black America: From Slavery to Hip Hop**
Exploration of the rise of Islam in Black America, and the relationship of Blackamerican Muslims to more recent Muslim immigrants using historical and sociopolitical frameworks. (TTh 12:30-1:50 Prof. Sherman Jackson)

**AMST 342m  Law and Identities**
Examines the complex and contested interaction between the law and racial, gender, religious, ethnic, and sexual identities using historical and contemporary cases. (MW 10:00-11:50 Prof. Alicia Chavez)

**AMST 348m  Race and the Environment**
In this course we will examine the nature of environmental problems and the environmental movement from a racial and social justice perspective. We will explore how environmental hazards often disproportionately impact vulnerable communities and how they have mobilized to resist such problems. Topics to be covered include: the origins of the environmental movement, the environmental justice movement, air toxins, pesticides, and climate justice. Course will involve a hands-on research project. (TTh 9:30-10:50am, Prof. Laura Pulido)

**AMST 350  Junior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity**
Advanced study in interdisciplinary theories and methods for analyzing race and ethnicity in the United States, including a comparative study of topics such as inequality, gender, and class. (MW 10-11:50AM, Prof. Lanita Jacobs)

**AMST 353m  Race and Racism in the Americas**
Examination of selected topics in the historical development of racism with the goal of understanding the complex ways in which race has functioned in the modern world. (TTh 3:30-4:50PM, Prof. George Sanchez)

**AMST 357m  Latino Social Movements**
Focuses on the political experience of Latinos in the U.S. Comparative analysis of their political experiences and perspectives, their histories of identity formation, and their political organizations. (T 2:00-4:50PM, Prof. Juan De Lara)

**AMST 365  Leadership in the Community—Internship**
Eight to ten hours per week in a community-based internship plus two hour lecture. Theoretical and practical issues associated with community leadership. (W 2-4:50PM Prof. Stanley Huey)

**AMST 373m  History of the Mexican American**
Racial and cultural background of Mexico; immigration and conquest; the Mexican in California and the southwest; the rise of contemporary Mexican-American consciousness. (MW 2-3:20PM Prof. Alicia Chavez)

**AMST 378m  Introduction to Asian American History**
This course addresses major narratives, themes, questions, and sources of evidence in Asian American history from the 1840s to the present. Through an integrated and cooperative process, students will learn to ask and answer significant historical
questions; locate, weigh, and critique evidence; and create meaningful analytical narratives.  
(TTh 11-12:20 PM, Prof. Lon Kurashige)

**AMST 392 Undergraduate Research Methods**  
Examines processes of scholarly research; quantitative and qualitative research methods; faculty mentorship; experiential learning; research proposal writing; careers in research. Sophomore or junior standing in the major. Departmental approval. Graded CR/NC. (T 12:30-1:50 PM Prof. Richard Andalon)

**AMST 449m Asian American Literature**  
What is Asian American literature? Who is an Asian American? If white people write about Asian Americans, is that Asian American literature? If Asian Americans write about people who are not Asians, is that Asian American literature? What happened to turn “Orientals” into Asian Americans? Are Muslims and Arabs “Orientals,” and if so, are they also Asian Americans, and if so, do our current wars in the Middle East affect Asian America? Why were Asians forbidden to immigrate into the United States from 1882 to 1945? Why were Japanese Americans incarcerated in concentration camps during World War II, and could it happen again? Why did the Vietnam War happen, and why do Americans still keep bringing up the Vietnam War in our discussions of our wars today? What is the difference between an immigrant, a refugee, and an exile? Are Asian/American women fetishized, and if so, why? Are Asian/American men emasculated, and if so, why? (TTh 12:30-1:50 PM Prof. Viet Nguyen)

**AMST 490x Directed Research**  
Individual research and readings. Not available for graduate credit. (TBA)

**AMST 493 Senior Honors Thesis in American Studies and Ethnicity**  
Writing the honors thesis; for students in one of the four PASE majors and PASE Honors Program. (F 1-3:50PM Prof. Sarah Gualtieri)

**AMST 498 Senior Seminar in American Studies and Ethnicity**  
Capstone course for majors, highlighting interdisciplinary study of race and ethnicity in a comparative context. (M 2-4:50PM Prof. Laura Pulido)

**Other Courses of Interest**

*ARLT 100: Modern South Asian Literature*  
This course provides an introduction to the literature of a diverse range of authors from the South Asian diaspora. Throughout this course we will examine how this body of literature interrogates sensibilities of belonging, alienation, and displacement. Of particular interest will be the ways in which notions of identity are conceived of, produced, experienced, disrupted and reconceived by those who inhabit them. We will chart the shifting configurations of identity and community against the histories of colonialism, anti-colonial struggle, partition, immigration, transnational labor, and global warfare that have shaped them. We will explore a diverse sample of South Asian literature both in English and translated from various linguistic and cultural regions, in addition to scholarly essays drawing from postcolonial frameworks. A recurrent focus of our discussions will remain on how gender, religion, sexuality, class, and caste become entangled in the dynamics of decolonization.  
(TTh 3:30-4:50pm Prof. Neetu Khanna)

**ANTH 240gm Collective Identity and Political Violence: Representing 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina**  
ANTH 240 applies methods of anthropology and cultural studies to examine human behavior and experience, in and beyond the U.S., following the events of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina. It also helps students understand the nature of empirical evidence and assess the usefulness of qualitative evidence in explaining questions of individual and collective identity, citizenship, and moral agency in this global era. Moreover, this course provides students opportunities to demonstrate an understanding of the interplay between key historical events (i.e., 9/11, Hurricane Katrina), human action (e.g., moral and political agency), and organizations and institutions (e.g., the “nation”) in social/cultural settings within and beyond the U.S.  
(MW 12:00-1:50PM Prof. Lanita Jacobs)

**ANTH 445 African American Anthropology**  
An examination of anthropological research on race and African American culture, from the 18th century to the present. Recommended preparation: AMST 385, ANTH 263 (M 3:00-4:50 PM Prof. Lanita Jacobs)

*COLT 303: Globalization: Culture, Change, Resistance*  
This course takes a critical approach to our contemporary understanding of “globalization” through a study of literature from a wide range of transnational locations. How has literature intervened in contemporary political discourses of globalization and geo-political formations? How has literature and art provided sites of resistance and alternative imaginings of “the global” and global relations? A particular focus of the class will be on
literary texts that attempt to provide counter-narratives to dominant political and economic discourses of globalization through its representation of histories of colonization, militarization, exile, and migration. (TTh 11-12:20pm, Prof. Neetu Khanna)

*COMM 384 Interpreting Popular Culture
Popular culture as an indicator of cultural values, a producer and reflection of cultural meaning, and a means of communication; theory and case studies. (TTh 12:30-1:50 p.m)

COMM 458m Race and Ethnicity in Entertainment
Examines how race and ethnicity as social categories are shaped by communication media; focuses on how race and ethnicity sustain entertainment and media industries. Prerequisite: COMM 206. (TBA Prof. Taj Frazier)

*CTCS 192m Race, Class and Gender in American Film --
which also addresses issues of sexual orientation, age, ethnicity and their function within Hollywood cinema—is one of the most enlightening, controversial and well-known courses at the School of Cinematic Arts. The course is taught by Dr. Todd Boyd, a highly regarded professor of Critical Studies who was recently named one of LA’s fifteen most noteworthy arts professors. Dr. Boyd’s many books include The Notorious Ph.D’s Guide to the Super Fly 70s and Young Black Rich and Famous. He is the producer/co-writer of the film The Wood. He holds the Katherine and Frank Price Endowed Chair for the Study of Race and Popular Culture. (Prof. Todd Boyd, Th 2-5:50pm)

*CTCS 392 History of the American Film, 1925-1950
This course examines the Hollywood feature film during the “Golden Age” of the studio system. Attention will be paid to socio-historical context, notably the Great Depression, World War II and the early stages of the Cold War, as well as to the significant changes in industrial practice and technological advances as they were impinged upon genre, narrative style, the star system and auteurs during this period. (Prof. Ella Taylor M 2-5:50p.m)

*CTCS 394 History of the American Film, 1977-Present (Postmodern Hollywood)
Cinematic and extra-cinematic determinants of Postmodernist Hollywood studio and independent genres, styles, and the star-phenomenon and their relationship to American history and culture. (Prof. Drew Casper T 6-10p.m)

CTCS 412 Gender, Sexuality and Media (Stars and Celebrity)
This course will focus on the role of the star within the ‘machinery’ of cinema and other media. It will examine the ways in which stars function in the entertainment industry, within cinematic and extra-cinematic texts, and at the level of individual fantasy and desire. This course revolves around a critical investigation of the role of the star in historical and contemporary U.S. culture. (Prof. Tara McPherson T 10:00-1:50 PM)

ENGL 263 American Literature
Intensive reading of representative writers. (William Handley (T TH 9:30-10:50am), John Rowe (MW 12:00-1:50pm), Elda Roman (TTH 11:00-12:20pm), Thomas Gustafson (MW 10:00-11:50am)

ENGL 442 American Literature, 1920 to the Present
American poetry, fiction, and drama since World War I with special attention to Eliot, Frost, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, O’Neill, Stevens, Faulkner, and Nabokov. (MW 10:00-11:50 Prof. Molly Pulda)

ENGL 447m African-American Narrative
Development of the novel in African-American literature beginning with the anti-slavery fiction of William W. Brown and his pre-Emancipation contemporaries and concluding with the emerging novelists of the late Sixties. (Prof. Michelle Gordon TTH 12:30-1:50p.m)

HIST 100gm The American Experience
Patterns of American development from Colonial times to the present. Duplicates credit in former HIST 200. (MW 10-11:50 AM Prof. Perl-Rosenthal; TTH 9:30-10:50AM Phil Ethington)

*HIST 265g Race, Sex, & the Law (formerly Understanding Race and Sex Historically) Analyzes how race and sex--historically constructed categories that have had a powerful impact in shaping the meaning of citizenship--have structured and been structured by laws concerning marriage, inheritance, slavery, immigration, and the allocation of public space. (TTh 9:30-10:50AM Diana Williams)

HIST 455 Advanced Topics in African American History: the Civil War and Reconstruction. The purpose of this course is to recover the ways by which black Americans—men and women, slave and free—influenced the reconfiguration of a nation without slavery. Particular attention will be paid to how wartime and postwar experiences shaped what African Americans aspired to, what they achieved, and ultimately, the limits of their revolution. (Th 2-4:50 P.M Prof. Diana Williams)

JOUR 465 Latino News media in the United States
Latino digital, broadcast and print media in English, Spanish and bilingual are growing across the United States. Students will explore the past, present and future of media targeting Latinos, the largest ethnic group in the country. (M 3:00-6:20 PM Prof. Julian Moran)
*MUSC 400m  The Broadway Musical: Reflection of American Diversity, Issues and Experiences
Selected Broadway musicals serve as a catalyst for inquiry into human diversity, cross-culturalism, and significant social and political issues. (TTH 4-5:50PM Prof. Parmer Fuller)

*MUSC 422  The Beatles: Their Music and Their Times
Music, lyrics, recordings, production techniques, career strategy, social ramifications, and especially the technological impact of the musical group known as The Beatles. (MW 4-5:50PM Prof. Bill Biersach)

*MUSC 450m  The Music of Black Americans
The musical contribution of Africans and African Americans to American society. Musical genres and the relationship between music and society will be topics for examination. (MW 10-11:50 A.M Prof. Ronald McCurdy)

*POSC 248g  International Human Rights
Overview of human rights controversies across the globe. Introduction to techniques of analysis for social issues, interdisciplinary research methods, and interpretation of complex political problems. (TTh 9:30-10:50AM plus 1 discussion, Prof. Alison Renteln)

POSC 328  Asian American Politics
Examines political attitudes, behavior and participation of Asian Americans in diverse U.S. society. (MWF 9:30-9:50 Prof. Jane Junn)

POSC 421  Ethnic Politics
Analysis of the political behavior and roles of ethnic and racial groups in the American political system; policy issues and patterns of political action are examined. (MWF 12:00-12:50PM Prof. Jane Junn)