FALL 2019  
DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES & ETHNICITY  
GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

Disclaimer: The following list of courses is based on our best available information. We do not guarantee instructor, courses, location and time are accurate.

CORE COURSES

AMST 500: Introduction to American Studies and Ethnicity (4)
This seminar is intended to introduce first-year graduate students in our Ph.D. program to the key theories and methodologies in the field. For some years, we have discussed the idea of the seminar also providing first-year graduate students with introductions to the current research of faculty teaching in the graduate program. This year’s seminar will be organized around readings of research by our faculty and, whenever possible, presented by those faculty to the students. As Chair of the Department, I will be the instructor of record – responsible for organizing the readings, discussions, and faculty visits, as well as for completing the final evaluations of enrolled students. The majority of the seminars will be conducted by ASE (and other) faculty visiting the seminar and readings recommended by them, which may or may not be by those faculty. In some cases, faculty may choose to assign readings in other important scholars’ works. In all cases, however, the idea will be for first-year graduate students in our Ph.D. program to gain a substantial understanding of the faculty with whom they will be working.  
Prof. John Carlos Rowe, M 5-7:30pm

AMST 554: Readings in Chicano/Latino History (4)  
Readings, analyses, and discussion of various approaches, topics, and genres in the field of Chicano/Latino history.  
Prof. George Sanchez W 2-4:50pm

AMST 580: Readings in Cultural Studies (4)  
This year “Readings in Cultural Studies” spotlights recent work in the field, drawing upon work in performance studies, cinema studies, critical race studies, queer and feminist theory, critical ethnography, and the politics of aesthetics. After a preliminary review of historical approaches to “cultural studies,” we will engage recent work on/ in these interdisciplinary spaces from a variety of theoretical perspectives. Thematically, the works explore power, bodies, and the subject, including formations of race, gender, sexuality, vulnerability/ disability and the enduring legacies of colonialism and racial capitalism.  
Prof. Dorinne Kondo W 5-7:50pm

AMST 593: Practicum in Teaching Liberal Arts: American Studies (2)
Practical principles for the long term development of effective teaching within college disciplines, intended for teaching assistants in American Studies and Ethnicity.  
Prof. John Carlos Rowe T 5-6:20pm
AMST 622: Research Seminar on Transpacific Studies
Interdisciplinary research seminar foregrounding a multilateral approach towards understanding the political, cultural, economic, and military relations and conflicts between Asia, the Americas, and the Pacific. Prof. TBA, Th 5-7:30pm

AMST 700: Theories and Practices of Professional Development (4)
Offers students a structured environment in which to write their dissertation proposals and focuses on professional development. Completion of qualifying exam. Graded CR/NC. Prof. Nayan Shah, M 4:00-6:30pm

OTHER COURSES OF INTEREST

AHIS 525: Seminar in American Art
In-depth exploration of a specified topic in the history of American art.
Prof. Jennifer Greenhill, M 2-4:50pm

ANTH 562: The Practice of Ethnography
Ethnography is most commonly understood as anthropology’s hallmark methodology. But to its impassioned practitioners, ethnography is much more than that. Ethnography is also a theoretical approach and – trust – a dynamic way of seeing and being in the world. In this seminar, we will explore modes of inquiry and analysis that characterize the practice of ethnography. Special attention will be devoted to the various phases of ethnographic fieldwork, from ‘entering the field’, collecting data, to writing/representing one’s findings. We will also examine such analytical paradigms as discourse analysis, narrative analysis, visual analysis, among other foci. A review of specific case studies will augment this training and further illuminate the intersubjective dimensions of ethnographic fieldwork. At the end of the semester, you will gain insights with which to conduct pilot and/or ongoing fieldwork, as well as an appreciation for the politics of representation and the moral imperative of researcher accountability.
Prof. TBD, T 4-6:50PM

ARCH 553: History of American Architecture and Urbanism
Architecture 553 examines the impact of politics, culture and the environment on the evolution of American architectural and urban forms from prehistory to World War II. The class explores the interchange between European architectural theory, ethnic, indigenous and vernacular influences as they came together to create new national and regional forms of building and urban design. While generally chronological in presentation, lectures also examine a series of case studies in order to more closely explore the complexity of form and meaning in the American landscape.
Prof. Kenneth Breish, T 1-3:50pm

COLT 602: Seminar in Literary Theory
Intensive study of a theoretical tradition or critical movement, or of an individual topic or thinker, in literary criticism or theory.
Prof. Neetu Khanna, W 2:00-4:50pm

COMM 620: Studies in Communication Theory (Critical Theories of Race and Culture)
This graduate-level course introduces students to critical perspectives on race, media and culture. Through a series of close readings of key texts, “Critical Theories of
Race and Culture” examines the historical relationship between the emergence of ideas about race, western colonialism, capitalism, and the role of culture in shaping how we see and understand the modern world. We also interrogate the interrelationships between race, gender, sexuality, class and nation in both colonial and metropole settings. An important aspect of this course is its focus on the global and transnational dimensions and manifestations of race (and related social phenomenon such as ethnicity and nation). Although debates concerning the articulation of race within the U.S. remain central to many of the readings and class discussions, the course aims to provide a broader mapping of the changing nature of race and culture across both time and geography in order to better understand the inter-connections of race and culture beyond nation states. The course will be relevant to students with an interest in critical theories of race and ethnicity, the sociology of culture, American Studies, media and communication studies, and contemporary social theory.  Prof. Ben Carrington, T 12:30-3:20pm

CRIT 510: History and Theory of Art and Exhibitions
The History and Theory of Art and Exhibitions seminar gives a broad but deep overview of the concept of “art” as a conceptual and practical category from Early Modern Europe to the present in relation to its exhibition in the public sphere. Drawing on readings from artists’ statements and writings, philosophy, critical theory, art history, and art criticism, we will critically examine the relationships among the rise of capitalism, colonialism, and industrialism; the concept of “global art”; shifts in the concept of art and its modes of display that have occurred since 1960 with the burgeoning of late capitalism, including social media. Knowledge of modern Euro-American history, art, and contemporary theory helpful but not necessary. Prof. Amelia Jones, M 12-3:20pm

CRIT 512 Art and Curatorial Visits// faculty Dr. Karen Moss
This class affords students the opportunity to visit artists in their studios, alternative spaces, and behind-the-scenes departments at Los Angeles and Southern California arts organizations. M 12-3:20pm

CRIT 515: Visiting Artist and Scholar Seminar// faculty Dr. Andy Campbell
This seminar requires attendance at a series of 9-10 Tuesday evening lectures by visiting artists, curators, theorists, and public intellectuals, followed by a Wednesday afternoon seminar with the visiting speaker, giving students the opportunity to discuss the visitor’s work in more depth. T 6-7:50pm & W 3:30-5:20pm

CRIT 599: Performing Identity in Art, Culture, Theory since 1950// faculty TBA
This graduate seminar will explore the history and theory and practice of performance and performative modes of art since 1950 through the lens of the history and theory of identity movements. We will also look closely at modes of researching and writing about performance that do justice to the performativity of live and time-based arts. Prof. Amelia Jones, T 10am-1:20pm

CTCS 500: Seminar in Theory and Textual Analysis
Introduction to classical and contemporary film theory; exploration of their relationship to close textual analysis and filmic experimentation. Prof. Ellen Seiter, Th 10-1:50PM
CTCS 510: Case Studies in National Media and/or Regional Media (Stateless, Refugee, Migrant Cinemas)
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. Priya Jaikumar, F 10am-1:50pm

CTCS 564: Seminar in Film and Television Genres (Blaxploitation Era)
Advanced study of a selected genre of film and/or television its relationship to history, society, and culture, as well as to genre theory.
Prof. Todd Boyd, W 1:00- 3:50 & W 4:00-6:50

CTCS 678: Seminar in Film Theory and Medium Specificity (Theories of the Digital)
This course will engage both foundational and more recent theorizations of the digital. It will investigate the specificity of digital forms while also paying attention to how digital networks shift our understanding of self, place and other.
Prof. Tara McPherson, Th 2-5:50pm

CTCS 688: Moving Image Histories: Methods and Approaches
Everything has a history including moving image, audio, and photographic technologies. This doctoral level seminar will focus on classic and contemporary readings in media history as we work together to familiarize ourselves with major schools of thought and historiographic traditions. Particular attention will be paid to the intertwined histories of race and media. Participants will write a substantial literature review/historiographic essay in addition to making presentations and actively participating in seminar discussions.
Prof. Laura Serna, Th 10-1:50pm

ENGL 501: History of Literary and Cultural Theory
The assumptions and practices of major theorist and theoretical schools from Plato to literary modernism.
Professors Margaret Russett, David St. John, T 2-4:20pm

HIST 500: Introduction to Graduate Historical Studies
Techniques, theories, and sub-disciplines of history.
Prof. Paul Lerner, Th 2-4:50pm

HIST 673: Seminar in Early North American History
Primary research on issues related to the history of the colonial and early national periods with an emphasis on areas that became the United States.
Prof. Nathan Perl-Rosenthal, M 10-12:50pm

PSYC 660: Seminar in Clinical Psychology
Selected topics in clinical psychology.
Prof. Steven Lopez, T 9-1pm
Prof. Beth Meyerowitz, W 2-5:50pm
**SOCI 521: Quantitative Methods and Statistics I**
Introduction to the logic and methods of quantitative analysis in sociology; covers the basic elements of designing and research, summarizing and exploring patterns in data, and making generalizations about populations based on characteristics of samples.
Prof. Dan Schrage, TTh 1:301-2:50pm

**SOCI 655: Seminar in Race Relations**
The course examines racial theory in the social sciences through time in the United States, and the range of factors used to explain the construction of race, the significance of race in society, and perceived racial differences.
Prof. Leland Saito, TBA