



SOCIAL & CULTURAL ANALYSIS

FALL 2017 GRADUATE COURSE LISTINGS

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- **ALL COURSES ARE RESTRICTED AND REQUIRE AN ACCESS CODE TO REGISTER.**
- If you are NOT an SCA graduate student, but wish to enroll in a course, you must first contact the graduate program coordinator: jt133@nyu.edu.
- For additional information please contact the program office at 212-992-9650.
- SCA graduate courses (unless otherwise noted) are located at 20 Cooper Square, 4th Floor.

PROSEMINAR IN AFRICANA STUDIES – AFRS-GA 2000.001

Michael Dash

Wednesdays 4:55-7:35

Conference Room

This course is an in-depth overview of the major areas of research in black history and culture. It is intended to introduce incoming Africana Studies M.A. students to the significant areas of research, research questions, as well as the primary methods of inquiry that have defined the study of black culture and history since the mid-nineteenth century. Topics include: Negritude, The Harlem Renaissance, Pan-Africanism, Race & Urban Poverty, Black Feminism, Black Social Movements and Literature and Decolonization. It will be a course that is led and directed by one of our faculty members, but will feature guest lectures/presentations by Africana specialists. Each faculty will present in their areas of expertise.

AMERICAN STUDIES SEMINAR - AMST-GA 3301.001

Lisa Duggan

Wednesdays 4:55-7:35

Seminar Room

This course introduces new graduate students in American Studies to the history of the field, and to the range of work currently in progress under its interdisciplinary umbrella. We'll examine the shifting intellectual parameters and political interventions of American Studies scholarship over the past half century, in the US and globally, then focus on the kind of work produced within our NYU program specifically. We'll address questions including: What theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches have shaped the field? How has the field intersected with other institutionally insurgent interdisciplinary fields, including (but not limited to) feminist and queer studies, labor studies, comparative ethnic and diaspora studies, environmental studies and dis/ability studies?

TOPICS in Critical Theory: Digital Humanities – AMST-GA 2100.001

Michael Ralph co-taught with Cecilia Marquez

Mondays 6:20-9:00

Conference Room- 471

This course explores growing field of Digital Humanities with emphasis on the theories and methods that define it. Students will explore how forms of encoding and decipherment have been mobilized by diverse social movements and aesthetic projects from the Haitian Revolution to Hip Hop. In the process, students will collaborate on a semester-long digital humanities project that addresses technology in relation to social transformation. (Open to undergraduate seniors majoring in AFRI, AMST, GSS, LAST, MET and SCA majors with relevant focus/coursework. Students must submit a 250-word paper as to why they want to take this course.)

SEMINAR: Settler Colonialism and Critical Indigenous Theory – AMST-GA 2304.001

Dean Saranillio

Thursdays 2:00-4:45

Seminar Room

This seminar examines U.S. imperialism and empire formation with particular attention to its intersections with settler colonialism. Together, we will interrogate different approaches and methods found in a variety of fields and movements including critical race theory, eco-criticism, history, queer theory, cultural studies, postcolonial theory, anarcho-indigenism, and critical ethnic studies. The seminar aims to highlight an emerging body of scholarship that places race, gender and indigeneity in conversation. Beyond denaturalizing imperial violence, much of this work further challenges the liquidation of alternatives to the settler state while sustaining memory and commitment to alternative futures, economies and arrangements of power.

TOPICS in Urban Studies: Urban Theory – AMST-GA 3212.001

Sophie Gonick

Tuesdays 2:00-4:45

Seminar Room

This seminar will introduce students to the ways in which the city has been theorized both historically and contemporarily. Looking to engaging with scholarship on property, urban land, capitalization and urbanization, informality, and the enduring housing question, students will be introduced to ways of knowing and understanding the urban across the twentieth century. We will look at classic texts in urban studies, (Baudelaire, Benjamin, Simmel, and Wirth), the urban turn within Marxist thought (LeFebvre, Castells, Smith, and Harvey), feminist geographies of difference and the city (Massey, Pratt, Katz, Young), spaces of violence, dispossession, and citizenship (Caldeira, Sassen, Balibar) and the emergence of new itineraries of theorizing and city-making (Roy, Ghertner, Bhan, Robinson, Goldman, Simone, Yiftachel). In addition to a final research paper, students will be expected to regularly present on the assigned texts.

TOPICS: Decolonizing Vision – AMST-GA 3213.001

Gayatri Gopinath co-taught with Deb Willis

Mondays 2:00-4:45

Conference Room- 471

The course Decolonizing Vision places black diasporic visual culture and its engagement with the histories of transatlantic slavery in the Americas in relation to the intertwined histories of U.S. and European projects of empire and settler colonial conquest in Asia, Africa, Australia, and the Middle East. The central concern of the course is to explore the ways in which racial, imperial, and settler colonial regimes of power instantiate regimes of vision that determine what we see, how we see, and how we are seen. We will consider how the legitimacy and authority to rule and regulate particular populations has been inextricably linked to the concomitant power to visually survey these populations and the landscapes they inhabit. We explore how colonial modernity's abiding legacy is the institution of a way of seeing, and hence knowing, that obscures the intimacies of imperial, racial, and settler colonial projects as they produce racial, gendered, and sexual subjectivities. Most importantly, we identify "decolonial visual practices" that speak to these submerged, co-mingled histories, and that point to their continuing resonance in the present. Through a sustained examination of black, queer and feminist decolonial visual practices in particular, this course seeks to explore alternative ways of both seeing and knowing capable of challenging the scopic and sensorial regimes of colonial modernity and its afterlives. The scope of this class spans multiple geographic areas, historical periods, and genres.

Prof. Gopinath's appointment is fully in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis; Prof. Willis's appointment is in Tisch, and she also serves as affiliated faculty in the Africana Studies MA Program in the Dept. of SCA. Thus the class would bring together students from Tisch with those in the graduate programs housed in SCA (the PhD program American Studies, the MA programs in SCA and Africana Studies). This is a course intended for PhD and MA students, and we imagine it will attract students from Tisch, the Africana and SCA MA programs, the PhD program in American Studies, as well as students from across the university.

TOPICS in American History: US Empires – AMST-GA 3701.001

Nikhil Singh co-taught with Greg Grandin

Fridays 9:30-12:15

Seminar Room

This seminar will offer a wide-ranging introduction to the theory and history of the formation of the US as empire-state. We will draw extensively on both classic and contemporary historiography and consider the value of empire as a heuristic for understanding the role of the US in the world, and in its internal social, economic and political development over time.

TOPICS: Crime & Governance – AMST-GA 2901.001

Kim Johnson

Wednesdays 11:00-1:45

Seminar Room

The U.S. currently has the highest rate of incarceration in the world. This class explores the political and institutional origins of the American carceral state from the early 20th century to its current status. The role of immigration, race, ethnicity, gender and class in shaping “moral panics,” and their institutional responses will be explored. The course reviews the current political, institutional and societal developments arising from the expansion of the carceral state such as felon disenfranchisement. The course concludes with a review of current debates about the future of the carceral state.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES

Topics in History: The Long Struggle of Racial Equality in the US -- HIST-GA 1527.001

Thomas Sugrue

Mondays 2:00-4:45

KJCC 701