



Course Offerings

WINTER 2017

ETHN 2. Introduction to Ethnic Studies: Circulations of Difference

Wayne Yang

Focusing on historical and contemporary migration and the circulation of commodities, knowledge, bodies, and culture, this course looks at how racial formation in the U.S. and transnationally is shaped and contested by such movements.

ETHN 20. Introduction to Asian American Studies

Kamala Visweswaran

This course introduces students to key issues in Asian American lives, with emphasis on the global historical context of migration; changing ethnic and racial consciousness; economic, social, and political status; cultural production; and family and gender relations.

ETHN 100B. Interdisciplinary Methodologies

Kalindi Vora

An introduction to interdisciplinary research methodologies in critical ethnic studies. By developing a critical analysis of the politics of knowledge production, students will learn to identify different methodological approaches in the field and to evaluate their use in practical application. Prerequisites: ETHN 100A.

ETHN 100H. Honors Research Design

Kalindi Vora

This discussion-based course will focus on the application of advanced research methods to the design of extensive, independent research-based projects. Prerequisites: ETHN 100A and ETHN 100B. Department approval required.

ETHN 104. Race, Space, and Segregation

Justin De Leon

Through in-depth studies of Native American experiences with surveillance, security, territory and land, mascotry, reservation borders, and the location of hazards and amenities, this course examines how space becomes racialized and how race becomes spatialized in the contemporary United States.

ETHN 106. Life, Death and the Human

Ashvin Kini

Using interdisciplinary approaches, this course examines some of the contexts in which the conditions of life and death become sites of political, economic, and cultural significance, and how categories of difference impact access to the protections of 'humanity.'

ETHN 118. Contemporary Immigration Issues

Linh Nguyen

This course examines the diversity of today's immigrants—their social origins and contexts of exit and their adaptation experiences and contexts of incorporation. We will examine cases as divergent as Central Americans and the sanctuary movement, the US-Mexico border, undocumented Asians in the United States and refugees from Syria and Haiti. This course will include an opportunity for community engagement with a local organization to generate outreach and education on immigration issues facing San Diego as a community.

ETHN 120. Race and Performance: The Politics of Popular Culture

Roshanak Kheshti

This course explores how racial categories and ideologies have been constructed through performance and displays of the body in the United States and other sites. Racialized performances, whether self-displays or coerced displays, such as world's fairs, museums, minstrelsy, film, ethnography, and tourist performances are considered.

ETHN 121. Contemporary Asian - American History

Linh Nguyen

The course will study changes in Asian-American communities as a result of renewed immigration since 1965; the influx of refugees from Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Lao, the economic impact of contemporary social movements on Asian-Americans' current economic, social, and political status. We will examine cases such as deportation of Cambodian refugees, as well as the complexities of Pacific Islander movements. This course will include a community engagement project with Alliance San Diego to discuss the ways that API immigrants have been underserved as an undocumented population.

ETHN 124. Asian American Literature

Jody Blanco

(Cross-listed with LTEN 181.) Selected topics in the literature by men and women of Asian descent who live and write in the United States. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

ETHN 126. Comparative Filipino and Vietnamese American Identities and Communities

Mark Villegas

This course compares the historical and contemporary social, political, and economic experiences of Filipino and Vietnamese Americans, paying particular attention to the impact of US wars in the Philippines and in Vietnam on their respective lives.

ETHN 143. Chicana/o Film and Media Studies

Mark Villegas

This course explores the cultural politics of Chicana/o film and other Chicana/o media productions. The class will examine these major themes: regimes of transnational labor, the border as violence, politics of gender and sexuality, and performances of blackness (i.e. cumbia and hip hop). As a research method, students are invited to create their own films, digital projects, or musical productions that help illuminate class themes.

ETHN 150. Visuality, Sexuality, and Race

Daphne Taylor-Garcia

(Cross-listed with CGS 150.) Visuality is a specific term to refer to the way in which power relations construct our visual field. In other words, how we make sense of what we “see” is mediated by existing power relations. Visuality classifies through the power to name, categorize and define, thus producing what is legible. This system of classification is a means of social organization that began with the casta system and plantation slavery, but is now structural in its reproduction and expansion of colonial effects such as racial profiling and the coloniality of gender. Visuality also speaks to the naturalization of this system of classification that has serious immediate and long-term material consequences: it functions to both renew power relations and preempt colonial subjects from organizing for their collective interests. For this reason presenting a counternarrative to visuality has been central to queer of color critique.

ETHN 160. Global Indigenous Studies

Mattie Harper

Focusing on transregional relationships to land and decolonization in the Pacific, Caribbean, and the Americas, this course is a comparative study of cultural and political phenomena that shape indigenous communities globally. We will examine enduring legacies of colonialism, nationalism, and Western normativities, and explore indigenous activism within the decolonial movement.

ETHN 163E. Decolonial Theory

Daphne Taylor-Garcia

"Decolonial Theory" will focus on historical and contemporary intellectual work produced by activists from colonized regions of the world. This course will be international in scope, but attentive to local struggles.

ETHN 163G. Indigenous Theatre and Performance

Julie Burelle

(Cross-listed with TDHT 120.) This theoretical and embodied course examines a selection of indigenous plays and performances (dance, hip hop) and helps students develop the critical vocabulary and contextual knowledge necessary to productively engage with the political and artistic interventions performed by these works. No prior knowledge in theatre history is needed.

ETHN 165. Sex and Gender in African American Communities

Ashvin Kini

(Cross-listed with CGS 165.) This course will investigate the changing constructions of sex, gender, and sexuality in African American communities defined by historical period, region, and class. Topics will include the sexual division of labor, myths of black sexuality, the rise of black feminism, black masculinity, and queer politics.

ETHN 168. Comparative Ethnic Literature: Literary Responses To Trauma

Lisa Lampert-Weissig

(Cross-listed with LTEN 178) In this course students will read literary responses to war, genocide and slavery by individuals from several ethnic groups in the U.S.: African-Americans, Jewish-Americans, Vietnamese-Americans and Native Americans. I have chosen the U.S. works below because they are each explorations of responses to collective trauma as it impacts the individual and family across generations. These works represent experiences of those who are native to the U.S., those who immigrated here either willingly or as refugees and those who were brought here forcibly. Each work engages with the experience of the ethnic group within the larger frame of the “American experience.” We will specifically consider the ways in which the authors we examine use literary form and the fantastic to attempt to convey extreme experiences both in the past and in the present day and how these literary choices affect the reader. Some of the readings planned are: Isaac Bashevis Singer, *Enemies, a Love Story* (1972), Octavia Butler, *Kindred* (1979); Louise Erdrich, *Love Medicine* (1988); Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987); Art Spiegelman, *Maus I and II* (1991); Jonathan Safran Foer, *Everything is Illuminated* (2002); Lê thi diem thúy, *The Gangster We are All Looking For* (2003); secondary readings on magical realism, collective memory and the fantastic

ETHN 172. Afro-American Prose

Dennis Childs

(Cross-listed with LTEN 183.) Students will analyze and discuss the novel, the personal narrative, and other prose genres, with particular emphasis on the developing characters of Afro-American narrative and the cultural and social circumstances that influence their development

ETHN 179A. Jazz Roots and Early Development (1900–1943)

Anthony Davis

(Cross-listed with MUS 127A.) This course will trace the early development of jazz and the diverse traditions that helped create this uniquely American art form. We will witness the emergence of Louis Armstrong in New Orleans and examine the composer’s role in jazz with Jelly Roll Morton and Duke Ellington.

ETHN 187. Latina/o Sexualities

Justin De Leon

(Cross-listed with CGS 115.) The construction and articulation of Latina/o sexualities will be explored in this course through interdisciplinary and comparative perspectives. We will discuss how immigration, class, and norms of ethnicity, race, and gender determine the construction, expression, and reframing of Latina/o sexualities.

ETHN 188. African Americans, Religion, and the City

Xach Williams

(Cross-listed with USP 132.) This course examines the development of an urban African American religious tradition that emerges from the Great Migration of early to mid-20th century. We will begin with the history of African chattel slavery's impact on the religious practices of Black people in the United States in order to give contexts to the role of religion in the formation of urban Black communities across the US. Structured historically and thematically, this class explores the impact of migration and urbanization upon African American culture and the religious identities of Black people. Through reading both primary and secondary source materials, students will learn to analyze and interpret religious beliefs and practices in their proper historical contexts using standard scholarly methods.

For additional information, please email the Ethnic Studies Undergraduate Coordinator,

Daisy Rodríguez at ethnicstudies@ucsd.edu

You can also visit our website at ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu