



# Course Offerings

## WINTER 2014

### **ETHN 2: Introduction to Ethnic Studies: Circulations of Difference**

***Dayo Gore***

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 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.

### **ETHN 103: Environmental Racism**

***José Fusté***

This course introduces students to the study of inequalities in environmental conditions affecting communities of varying racial/ethnic identities and class backgrounds. Our readings and discussions will challenge notions of environmentalism and sustainability that fail to address the role that social identities and structural privileges and disadvantages play in determining what environments particular groups of people live in. We will examine the theories and concepts of the environmental justice movement as well as the critiques of it. We will also study various examples of environmental injustice in the United States and abroad, and the policy and legal debates surrounding these. Last but not least, we will assess the strategies that activists have pursued for challenging environmental injustice locally, nationally, and transnationally.

### **ETHN 106: Life, Death and the Human**

***Kalindi Vora***

This course provides a comparative and relational survey of some of the global and historical contexts in which life and death become sites of political significance, ranging from ways they may reveal dehumanizing circumstances to the expression of revolutionary social politics. We examine these contexts, including life under colonization, the commodification of the human body, and the legal and cultural invisibility of some lives, with an interdisciplinary approach which pairs readings in western philosophy, medical anthropology, history, postcolonial theory, and anthropology with film and fiction.

## **ETHN 110: Cultural World Views of Indigenous America**

***Ross Frank***

Places Native Americans/indigenous people's ways of living, knowing, and understanding the world in relation to settler-immigrant societies in North America. Students gain analytical tools for thinking about world views through themes of cosmology, land, kinship, and identity formation.

## **ETHN 115: Monsters, Orphans and Robots**

***Wayne Yang***

This course considers dark agencies, queer threats, and how they seep through cracks in containers meant to disable them. The foundational framework is U.S. settler colonialism: how it structures race, gender, sexuality into a triad relationship of settler-native-slave with respect to land. This triad constructs intersections of murderability, enslavability, and governability, what we are calling: monsters, orphans, robots. These terms work through raced, gendered, sexualized, dis/abled, classed, and de/human intersectionality without resorting to the usual categories of race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, and citizenship. These analyses help us consider the differences between the normative, normative difference, and monstrous difference. We will also examine the possibilities: radical Elsewheres offered by Native sovereignty, feminisms, and black dispossession.

## **ETHN 120: Race and Performance: The Politics of Popular Culture**

***Jade Power***

This course explores the ways in which racial categories and ideologies are constructed and contested through performance. The central goal is to teach students how to critically examine both everyday acts of performance and formal staged productions as important sites of knowledge production in ethnic studies. We will examine how bodies are objectified and racialized through acts of representation, while also looking at how performance has been used to rethink racial and cultural identity, resisting multiple forms of oppression. We will study the politics of representation through examinations of stereotype, notions of authenticity, performativity, and intersectional social identities (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, and nation) and individual case studies including guest performances, films, and original performance texts.

## **ETHN 121: Contemporary Asian-American History**

***Kyung Hee Ha***

The purpose of this course is to critically examine the experiences of Asian-Americans in the post-1965 period. We will explore a range of scholarly, literary, and visual texts in order to interrogate how war, (neo) colonialism, and global capitalism have shaped lives of Asian-Americans. This course pays particular attention to the ways in which Asian-Americans have co-existed, negotiated and resisted such structural forces to imagine and practice otherwise.

## **ETHN 134: Immigration and Ethnicity in Modern American Society**

**David Gutierrez**

Comparative study of immigration and ethnic-group formation in the United States from 1880 to the present. Topics include immigrant adaptation, competing theories about the experiences of different ethnic groups, and the persistence of ethnic attachments in modern American society. (Cross-listed with HIUS 180.)

## **ETHN 143: Chicana/o Film and Media Studies**

**Curtis Marez**

This course is a historical survey of Chicana and Chicano media from roughly the 1930s to the present, including films (documentaries, feature films, experimental shorts), television (news, situation comedies, telenovelas), and new media (digital and Internet-based art and activism). The schedule of readings and viewing is organized around three themes: 1) media and social movements; 2) visual representation and intersections of gender, sexuality, and power; and 3) the interrelations among different media, or Chicana/o multimedia productions. The goals of the course include learning about Chicana/o history, politics, and culture through different media and gaining the critical tools to analyze Chicana/o media more broadly.

## **ETHN 150: Visuality, Sexuality, and Race**

**Daphne Taylor-Garcia**

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 caste system and plantation slavery, but is now transhistoric 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 counterhistory to visuality has been central to decolonization. (Cross-listed with CGS 150.)

## **ETHN 154: History of Mexican America**

**David Gutierrez**

This course explores the history of the largest minority population in the United States, focusing on the legacies of the Mexican War, the history of Mexican immigration and U.S.-Mexican relations, and the struggle for citizenship and civil rights. (Cross-listed with HIUS 113).

## **ETHN 155: US Militarism**

**Lila Sharif**

This course considers rationales for and responses to American military expansion as well as its social, environmental, and cultural consequences. We will examine racialized, gendered, and sexualized aspects of militarized institutions and practices, including militarized colonialism, tourism, and sex work.

## **ETHN 162: Practicum in California Tribal Law and Journalism**

***Wayne Yang***

Students will work with California Native tribal groups, leaders, and members to identify common, pressing questions surrounding Indian law. In partnership with legal experts, they will develop and disseminate radio podcasts or other public media that is accessible to Native communities throughout California. Students will also engage in producing useful documents and briefs for partnering tribal groups on an ad-hoc basis.

## **ETHN 168: Comparative Ethnic Literature**

***L. Lampert-Weissig***

A lecture-discussion course that juxtaposes the experience of two or more U.S. ethnic groups and examines their relationship with the dominant culture. Students will analyze a variety of texts representing the history of ethnicity in this country. Topics will vary. (Cross-listed with LTEN 178).

## **ETHN 174: Themes in Afro-American Literature– Black (Anti) Prison Sound**

***Dennis Childs***

This course focuses on the influence of slavery upon African American writers. Our concern is not upon what slavery was but upon what it is within the works and what these texts reveal about themselves, their authors, and their audiences. (Cross-listed with LTEN 185).

## **ETHN 182: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Fantasy and Science Fiction**

***Shelley Streeby***

This seminar focuses on visions of race, gender, and sexuality in 20th and 21st century fantasy and science fiction. Partly in response to political and social movements and changing media politics, diverse forms of fantasy and science fiction in the last 100 years raise provocative questions about race, gender, sexuality, and empire, often on a global scale. Today, science fictions jump between and among multiple platforms, including literature, film, music, television, video games, and the internet. This class explores a variety of cultural forms in order to understand such visions of race, gender, and sexuality in comparative, transmedia contexts.

## **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.

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

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You can also visit our website at [ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu](http://ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu)