

American Studies Program



Spring 2012 Course Brochure *(Includes American Studies and Related Programs)*

*Times and dates subject to change without notice.
Please contact Delayne Graham at 496-9629 if you have any further questions.*

**American Studies
Schedule of Classes
Spring 2012**

CLASS LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Course	CRN	Title	Instructor	Day	Time	Room
AMST 60200	10853	Contemporary Issues in American Studies	Schneider	T	6:00-8:50	BRNG B242
AMST 60300	10854	American Studies Interdisciplinary Project <i>(Meets w/AMST 63000)</i>	Curtis	Th	2:30-5:20	BRNG 1202
AMST 62000	58502	Archival Theory & Practice <i>(Meets w/ENGL 69600-58501 & HIST 65200-59951)</i>	Bross/Curtis	W	1:30-4:20	REC 309
AMST 63000	60017 60016	M.A. Research Seminar <i>(Meets w/AMST 60300)</i>	McMullen	Th	2:30-5:20	BRNG 1202
AMST 65000-007	58805	Chicago Black Renaissance <i>(Meets w/EDST 60000-58804)</i>	Knupfer	T	2:30-5:20	BRNG B260
AMST 65000-008	58933	Reception Theory: The Example of Asian American Literature <i>(Meets w/ENGL 66700-58931 & CMPL 65000-58932)</i>	Schweickart	TTh	3:00-4:15	HEAV 206
AMST 65000-009	59269	Contemporary Black Feminist Literature <i>(Meets w/ENGL 59700-59221)</i>	Freeman Marshall	TTh	10:30-11:45	GRIS 170
AMST 65000-006	53175	Fighting Words: Literature & Violence in Early America <i>(Meets w/ENGL 65700-53099)</i>	Bross	TTh	10:30-11:45	HEAV 206
AMST 69500	10864	AMST Service Learning Internship	Arrange			
AMST 69900		Research Ph.D. Thesis	Arrange			

American Studies Course Catalog

Spring 2012

American Studies

AMST 60200: Contemporary Issues in American Studies

Ryan Schneider

T, 6:00-8:50

CRN: 10853

American Studies 602 examines various methodologies and theoretical approaches that shape current developments in the field; it places special emphasis on the analytical categories of race, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, class, religion, nationality, and environment. The course is designed as a research-and-discussion seminar. The final research project which is determined in consultation with the instructor, will allow for flexibility in form and content to accommodate the interests of individual students. Prerequisites: AMST 60100.

AMST 60300: American Studies Interdisciplinary Project

Susan Curtis

Th, 2:30-5:20

CRN: 10854

Students will conduct independent research under faculty supervision towards completion of the Special Field examination for the Ph.D. degree. The project should be an extended, original research essay, based upon interdisciplinary research. The project should aim to produce original findings on a clearly defined topic or problem. In addition to the research and essay, students must produce a statement of methodology in which they explain their choice of sources and how their project contributes to the field of American Studies. To be taken in the final semester of coursework. Prerequisite: AMST 60100

AMST 62000: Archival Theory & Practice

Meets with ENGL 69600-58501 & HIST 65200-59951

Kristina Bross & Susan Curtis

W, 1:30-4:20

CRN: 58502

In an age of digitization, what is the status of the “real”? How do archival collections, brought together, arranged, and described by fallible human beings come to be seen as bottomless wells of information about what “really happened”? What happens to us when we hold the 100-year old letter in our hands, when in the course of our research we breathe in the dust of centuries? And what are our best practices as we seek to fold our experiences in the archives into our work, whatever our disciplines or genres? This course will seek answers to these and other questions as it engages innovations in theories and methods of archival research while introducing students to the practice of archivists. Using several archival collections, we will discuss both the *how to* and the *how come* of archives: their invention, organization, cultural significance and pragmatic use for humanities and social science research. We will read discussions of archival theory, creation and use by leading scholars, we will read narratives, fictions, and poems written out of archives. We will interrogate the differences between “professional” and “lay” researchers and, as part of the service-learning component of this class, we will work to make local archival collections accessible to the public.

AMST 63000: M.A. Research Seminar

Shannon McMullen

Th, 2:30-5:20

CRNS: 60017, 60016

A research seminar required of all M.A. students in their final semester. Students write substantial essays based upon original research in which they seek to crystallize, in practice, methods and concepts of American Studies.

AMST 65000-007: Chicago Black Renaissance

Meets with EDST 60000-58804

Anne Knupfer

T, 2:30-5:20

CRN: 58805

AMST 65000-008: Reception Theory: The Example of Asian American Literature

Meets with CMPL 65000-58932 & ENGL 66700-58931

Patrocino Schweickart

TTh, 3:00-4:15

CRN: 58933

This course has two parts. In the first part we will study theories about the problematics of reading and the role of reception in the production and reproduction of literary art. We will study some examples from American literature during the antebellum period with a view to understanding the crucial role of reception during the formative stages of a literary tradition. In the second part, we will apply the theoretical and empirical insights gained in the first part of the course to the emerging tradition of Asian American literature.

AMST 65000-009: Contemporary Black Feminist Literature

Meets with ENGL 59700-59221

Jennifer Freeman Marshall

TTh, 10:30-11:45

CRN: 59269

AMST 65000-006: Fighting Words: Literature & Violence in Early America

Meets with ENGL 65700-53099

Kristina Bross

TTh, 10:30-11:45

CRN: 53175

Ethnic others vilified as preaching a religion of violence; debates over the use of torture to obtain crucial intelligence; declarations of war predicated on God's favor; national identity linked to military action: despite the contemporary ring of this litany, this class turns not to recent concerns, but to colonial American events and writings. In this course students will examine and critique themes of violence and identity in early American literature. Texts will be drawn primarily from seventeenth-century New England, but despite the seeming narrow boundaries, we will be considering the intersection of numerous Native peoples, the Dutch, Spanish, and French as well as the English as reflected in colonial writings. We may also consider nineteenth-century memories of earlier times. Events and topics include the Pequot War, Quaker persecution, King Philip's War, Salem witchcraft trials, and slavery. Of particular concern will be the surprising ways that gender intersects representations of violence, whether in descriptions of war or accounts of domestic violence. Short exercises and a seminar paper.

Anthropology

For ANTH courses, please see the Anthropology website for further information on instructors and course descriptions (<http://cla.purdue.edu/anthropology/courses/>).

Communication

For COM courses, please see the Communication website for further information on course descriptions (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/communication/index.html>).

Educational Studies

For EDCI & EDST courses, please see the Educational Studies website for further information on course descriptions (<http://www.education.purdue.edu/>).

EDST 60000: Chicago Black Renaissance

Meets with AMST 65000-007-58805

Anne Knupfer

T, 2:30-5:20

CRN: 58805

English

For ENGL courses, please see the English website for further information on course descriptions and additional offerings (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/english/>).

ENGL 59600-001: Young Adult Literature

Meets w/EDCI 55100

Janet Alsup

W, 4:30-7:20

CRN: 58296

This course is a survey of young adult literature and a study of relevant literary criticism and theories of reading. Attention will also be paid to the effective teaching of young adult literature to adolescents.

ENGL 59700: Contemporary Black Feminist Literature

Meets with AMST 65000-009-59269

Jennifer Freeman Marshall

TTh, 10:30-11:45

CRN: 59221

ENGL 65700-001: Fighting Words: Literature & Violence in Early America

Meets with AMST 65000-006-53175

Kristina Bross

TTh, 10:30-11:45

CRN: 53099

Ethnic others vilified as preaching a religion of violence; debates over the use of torture to obtain crucial intelligence; declarations of war predicated on God's favor; national identity linked to military action: despite the contemporary ring of this litany, this class turns not to recent concerns, but to colonial American events and writings. In this course students will examine and critique themes of violence and identity in early American literature. Texts will be

drawn primarily from seventeenth-century New England, but despite the seeming narrow boundaries, we will be considering the intersection of numerous Native peoples, the Dutch, Spanish, and French as well as the English as reflected in colonial writings. We may also consider nineteenth-century memories of earlier times. Events and topics include the Pequot War, Quaker persecution, King Philip's War, Salem witchcraft trials, and slavery. Of particular concern will be the surprising ways that gender intersects representations of violence, whether in descriptions of war or accounts of domestic violence. Short exercises and a seminar paper.

ENGL 65700-002: Mark Twain Seminar

Robert Lamb

M, 6:30-9:20

CRN: 59605

This major author seminar is designed to take graduate students through the process of immersing themselves in a field of critical study and mastering it well enough so that they can produce both a scholarly presentation and an article suitable for submission to a refereed journal. It is specifically focused on professionalizing graduate students who intend to pursue a career in literary scholarship, and is not intended for those who merely enjoy reading Mark Twain. For our primary texts, we will be reading selected longer narratives: *Roughing It* (1872), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876), *Life on the Mississippi* (1883), *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884), *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889), *Pudd'nhead Wilson* and *Those Extraordinary Twins* (1894), and *No. 44: The Mysterious Stranger* (posthumously published 1969). We will be using the University of California/Mark Twain Library editions of these texts, except for *Life on the Mississippi* (Penguin) and *Pudd'nhead Wilson/Those Extraordinary Twins* (Norton Critical). There will also be several shorter, associated texts (e.g., "Huck and Tom among the Indians," "Schoolhouse Hill"). In addition to the main text for our weekly meetings, the syllabus will list 30 to 60 pieces of criticism on that text—articles and book chapters. The articles can be found in the HSSE stacks; the roughly 140 books will be on reserve in the undergraduate library. After our class meetings, each student will sign up to read roughly four to five of these articles/chapters for the next meeting (the number of critical articles each student will have to read depends on the length of the main text). Students will be expected to bring the knowledge of the articles they have read to class and to participate in our discussions. Each student will also sign up to give a half-hour talk during the term focused on a major issue regarding one of the main texts (e.g., ecological perspectives on *Life on the Mississippi*, the controversy over the ending of *Huck Finn*, the critique of nineteenth century institutions and ideologies in *Connecticut Yankee*, the deconstruction of race in *Pudd'nhead Wilson*). I will provide a list of topics at the beginning of the semester and meet with students individually after they have signed up for one of them. For the talk, each presenter will draw upon the relevant articles/book chapters for that week, and will offer a historiographical overview of the criticism on the topic. In addition to giving a talk, at the end of the term, each student will turn in a 20-25 page seminar paper in either MLA or Chicago format and give a conference style presentation based on that paper. Conference presentations will be fifteen minutes with an additional ten minutes allotted for questions and answers. With regard to both the seminar paper and the presentation, I am open to all critical approaches (e.g., genetic, generic, biographical, formalist, historicist, structuralist, poststructuralist, New Historicist, feminist, ecocritical, postcolonial, linguistic, Marxist, rhetorical, psychoanalytic, reader response, etc.).

ENGL 66700: Reception Theory: The Example of Asian American Literature

Meets with AMST 65000-008-58933 & CMPL 65000-58932

Patrocinio Schweickart

TTh, 3:00-4:15

CRN: 58931

This course has two parts. In the first part we will study theories about the problematics of reading and the role of reception in the production and reproduction of literary art. We will study some examples from American literature during the antebellum period with a view to understanding the crucial role of reception during the formative stages of a literary tradition. In the second part, we will apply the theoretical and empirical insights gained in the first part of the course to the emerging tradition of Asian American literature.

ENGL 67800: New Crisis of the Black Intellectual

James Saunders

W, 4:30-7:20

CRN: 59608

We will trace, through various genres (the novel, autobiography, and essay), the development of ideas (with regard to the black intellectual) from the time of Douglass (who said that if you educate a black, you unfit him to be a slave) to the point where we are now, that is as a country with a black male president. In reading works by Morrison, Du Bois, Reed, Hurston, Baker, Gates and others, we will lay the foundation for a discussion of issues such as the industrial/academic dilemma, consequences of sexual orientation, racial integration, the Martin Luther King, Jr.-replacement complex, poverty, and affirmative action, among other things. The idea, for the first part of the course, is for as much as possible to be laid out, for our review, so that a significant portion of the course can then be devoted to each student extending herself beyond the course materials and devising her own unique concept for a 25-30 page essay, for submission to a scholarly journal. Students will arrive at a topic early enough in the semester so that they can give a presentation on what their particular essay will entail. Before the presentations can begin, all students must have arrived at and informed me of their topic, one that is not similar to any other student's topic. (I will inform a student if there is such a conflict, as topics are submitted to me.)

ENGL 69600-002: Archival Theory & Practice

Meets with AMST 62000-58502 & HIST 65200-59951

Kristina Bross & Susan Curtis

W, 1:30-4:20

CRN: 58501

In an age of digitization, what is the status of the “real”? How do archival collections, brought together, arranged, and described by fallible human beings come to be seen as bottomless wells of information about what “really happened”? What happens to us when we hold the 100-year old letter in our hands, when in the course of our research we breathe in the dust of centuries? And what are our best practices as we seek to fold our experiences in the archives into our work, whatever our disciplines or genres? This course will seek answers to these and other questions as it engages innovations in theories and methods of archival research while introducing students to the practice of archivists. Using several archival collections, we will discuss both the *how to* and the *how come* of archives: their invention, organization, cultural significance and pragmatic use for humanities and social science research. We will read discussions of archival theory, creation and use by leading scholars, we will read narratives, fictions, and poems written out of archives. We will interrogate the differences between “professional” and “lay” researchers and, as part of the service-learning component of this class, we will work to make local archival collections accessible to the public.

ENGL 69600-004: José Martí's America

Alfred Lopez
TTh, 12:00-1:15
CRN: 59619

ENGL 69600-005: Theory & Popular Culture

Dino Felluga
T, 6:00-8:50
CRN: 59622

This class will seek to explain and exemplify various theoretical approaches to literature and culture by way of popular entertainment. Following the lead of Slavoj Žižek, who published the essay collection, *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Lacan but Were Afraid to Ask Hitchcock*, the class will function as a thorough and rigorous analysis of some of the most perplexing and pervasive issues in and ideological contradictions of our contemporary postmodern world, examined through the lens of pop culture. The course will also clarify some of the major theories currently influencing cultural criticism today, even as we implement the tools of cultural critique throughout the semester. Each theoretical approach will be paired with an example in pop culture: Narratology through the X-Files; Psychoanalysis through Buffy, the Vampire Slayer; Postmodernism through *Bladerunner*, the *Matrix*, and *Brazil*; and a final wrap-up of all the theories through *Fight Club* (along with some Marxism).

History

For HIST courses, please see the History website for further information on course descriptions (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/history/>).

HIST 51500: A History of Western Thought II

Vernard Foley
MWF, 1:30-2:20
CRN: 20314

History 515 begins with a brief recapitulation of the Medieval inheritance, showing how this tradition was affected by the humanistic studies of the Renaissance and by the religious ferment of the Reformation. The course next deals with the major political and scientific thinkers of the seventeenth century, and with their disciples and popularizers in the Age of Enlightenment. The remainder of the course centers around attempts made in the nineteenth century to codify and perpetuate Enlightenment thought, and on the growing onslaughts against that same thought which have increasingly marked the nineteenth century and our own. Whenever possible the course attempts to relate intellectual developments to underlying social forces.

HIST 58700: U.S. Foreign Affairs WWI to Present

Atkinson
MWF, 2:30-3:20
CRN: 57246

An examination of the economic, ideological, and strategic factors that have helped shape American foreign policy during the twentieth century. By focusing on the relationship between domestic concerns and foreign affairs, the course will grapple with the question of how and why the United States became involved in wars and revolutions around the world.

HIST 64100: Gender in Global History

Sally Hastings

M, 6:30-9:20

CRN: 49479

In this course we will consider the gendered effects of capitalism and imperialism outside American and Europe. Each of the common readings will explore a different aspect of modernity, for instance work outside the home, international migration, legal rights, prostitution, constructions of motherhood, medical practices, and education. Students will have an opportunity to choose additional readings in the world area or conceptual framework of their choice. The requirements for the course will be a bibliographic essay and class participation.\

HIST 65200: 20th Century U.S. Politics, Culture & Society

Darren Dochuk

Th, 4:30-7:20

CRN: 20341

The course is a research seminar with a broad focus on politics, culture, and society in the 20th Century U.S. (though some flexibility will be allowed for students working on dissertation projects dealing with earlier periods). Its first priority will be to help students hone their skills in research and writing, so subject matter will ultimately mean less in this context than the development of method and style. Along this line, students will engage in original research in primary sources and produce a major paper (a journal article or thesis chapter) by the end of the semester. In the first weeks of the semester, we will explore the theoretical underpinnings of the historians' craft, research methods and strategies, sources available for research in the history of the United States, and consider the process of scholarly writing. After they have defined a topic, students will devote the middle part of the semester to intensive research. In the last weeks of the semester class will meet for peer reviews and presentations, then complete revisions in time for final submission at the beginning of May.

HIST 65200: Archival Theory & Practice

Meets with AMST 62000-58502 & ENGL 69600-58501

Kristina Bross & Susan Curtis

W, 1:30-4:20

CRN: 59951

In an age of digitization, what is the status of the "real"? How do archival collections, brought together, arranged, and described by fallible human beings come to be seen as bottomless wells of information about what "really happened"? What happens to us when we hold the 100-year old letter in our hands, when in the course of our research we breathe in the dust of centuries? And what are our best practices as we seek to fold our experiences in the archives into our work, whatever our disciplines or genres? This course will seek answers to these and other questions as it engages innovations in theories and methods of archival research while introducing students to the practice of archivists. Using several archival collections, we will discuss both the *how to* and the *how come* of archives: their invention, organization, cultural significance and pragmatic use for humanities and social science research. We will read discussions of archival theory, creation and use by leading scholars, we will read narratives, fictions, and poems written out of archives. We will interrogate the differences between "professional" and "lay" researchers and, as part of the service-learning component of this class, we will work to make local archival collections accessible to the public.

Philosophy

For PHIL courses, please see the Philosophy website for further information on course descriptions (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/philosophy/courses/index.html>)

Political Science

For POL courses, please see the Political Science website for further information on course descriptions (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/polsci/gradprog/schedule.html>)

Sociology

For SOC courses, please see the Sociology website for information on their course offerings (<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/sociology/>)

Women's Studies

WOST 68200: Issues in Feminist Research & Methodology

Cheryl Cooky
W, 6:00-8:50
CRN: 57753