Cultural Studies
&
Comparative Literature Department

Graduate Courses

in

Comparative Literature
&
Cultural Studies

Fall 2017
Michel Foucault inspired generations of critical thinkers when he forged the notion of “heterotopia.” Like utopias, heterotopias are at a remove – but only spatially, not temporally. Unlike utopias, heterotopias “claw and gnaw at us,” for they are of our world. Concentration camps, cemeteries, and slums are names for some of these “spaces otherwise” as Foucault was prone to put it. Unable to ignore them, what are we to make of these rebarbative spaces?

While some of the metaphysical and epistemological implications of heterotopias are now evident, their ethical repercussions have been largely neglected. Our readings for the seminar address these consequences and suggest new paths across an important field still very much alive in the humanities. Historical, photographic, and literary examples of “spaces otherwise” should work to reveal that when two or more people imagine them, their endeavor to do so in common can foster ethical relationships of an especially insightful and impactful sort.

Our reading list will include Michel Foucault, Marguerite Duras, Giorgio Agamben, Georges Didi-Huberman, René Char, Gerald Manley Hopkins, Blaise Pascal, Étienne Balibar, Immanuel Kant, and Martin Heidegger. Films by Georges Lacombe and Alain Resnais. Photographs by Eugène Atget.

Tuesdays
4:00-6:50pm
Humanities 1051

In this course, graduate students will encounter magical bars, falling noses, men with wings, and places that exist outside of time. This course is designed to examine the genre of magical realism in depth. Students will look at It's origins, it uses, and it's different meanings. Works may include novels, short stories, paintings and films analyzed through the lens of well-known critical theorists in the field of magical realism.

Tuesdays
1:00-3:50pm
Humanities 1051
CLT 680
Comparative Literature Research Seminar
Simone Brioni

This course aims to explore from both a practical and theoretical point of view the articulation of research in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature. Approaches to the writing of dissertation prospectuses, paper abstracts, journal articles, grants and fellowship proposals, and presentations for professional conferences are presented, analyzed, and put into practice.

In addition to readings on issues, debates, and problems within the profession and field of Cultural Studies students will develop research for publication while engaging with practices of professionalization.

Monday 4:00-6:50 PM Humanities 1051

CUTURAL STUDIES COURSES

CST 502.01
Theories of Cultural Studies
“Theories [and practices] in Cultural Studies”
Patrice Nganang

Cultural Studies is a combination of multiple practices in scholarship from continental Europe and from the US, and yet in its main orientations it maintains a close relation to politics understood as practice. Identity, sexuality, class, race, mediality and even textuality, these are the main axis through which we will interrogate some of the classical texts and read some of the major authors in the field. Each time we will maintain an ear on how their suggestions inform our current political constellation, and how they can be productively used to interrogate specific fields of our inquiry. We will do our best to refrain from what we may call ‘dry theory’, and as such will have some practical sessions in institutions in and around NYC, like archives, and hopefully in a penitentiary. The reading material will be available on Blackboard during the summer.

Wednesdays 4:00-6:50pm Humanities 1051
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Tuesdays 1:00-3:50pm Humanities 1051
CLT/CST 680 Research Seminar

This course aims to explore from both a practical and theoretical point of view the articulation of research in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature. Approaches to the writing of dissertation prospectuses, paper abstracts, journal articles, grants and fellowship proposals, and presentations for professional conferences are presented, analyzed, and put into practice.
In addition to readings on issues, debates, and problems within the profession and field of Cultural Studies students will develop research for publication while engaging with practices of professionalization. Offered Fall/Spring, 3

Monday 4:00-6:50 PM Humanities 1051

Also of Interest

Courses in Philosophy, Hispanic Languages and Literature, Music, and English often qualify as M.A. and Ph.D electives. Check with the Director of Graduate Studies once you have a description of a particular course. Please also refer to our Cultural Studies Elective brochure.

Independent Study Courses

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