

Colloquium Series

THE CENTER FOR CULTURAL STUDIES hosts a weekly Wednesday colloquium featuring work by faculty & visitors. The sessions consist of a 40-45 minute presentation followed by discussion. We gather at noon, with presentations beginning at 12:15 PM. The Center will provide coffee, tea, and cookies. Please bring your own mug.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA CRUZ

(831) 459-3872 / cult@ucsc.edu
<https://culturalstudies.ucsc.edu>

JANUARY 15

SAVANNAH SHANGE

Anthropology, UC Santa Cruz

Abolition as Method: Anti-blackness, Anthropology, and Ethics

Shange argues that San Francisco is a progressive dystopia, the site of social apocalypse for Black communities. Given the momentum of 'abolition' as a political critique of prisons and policing, what does it offer scholars in apprehending the broad set of violences that compose the current moment? Put another way, what does abolition demand of us?

JANUARY 22

CARLOS MOTTA

Artist

We The Enemy

Motta documents the social conditions and political struggles of sexual, gender, and ethnic minority communities in order to challenge dominant discourses through visibility and self-representation. As a historian of untold stories and an archivist of repressed histories, Motta uses a variety of mediums to narrate the struggles of post-colonial subjects and societies.

JANUARY 29

ROBERT NICHOLS

Political Science, University of Minnesota

Theft is Property! Dispossession and Critical Theory

Nichols reconstructs the concept of dispossession to examine how shifting configurations of law, property, race, and rights have functioned as modes of governance. Through close analysis of arguments by Indigenous scholars and activists from the nineteenth century to the present, Nichols argues that dispossession names a unique recursive process whereby

systematic theft is the mechanism by which property relations are generated.

FEBRUARY 5

LUKAS RIEPPEL

History, Brown University

Locating the Central Asiatic Expedition

During the 1920s, researchers from the New York Natural History Museum spent a decade exploring the Gobi Desert until they were expelled from northern China by the Guomindang party. Chinese intellectuals accused American paleontologists of plundering their national heritage; the Americans argued that because dinosaur fossils predated the creation of China, they belonged equally to all mankind. Rieppel uses the ensuing controversy to discuss knowledge production in a global context.

FEBRUARY 12

MICHAEL ALLAN

Comparative Literature, University of Oregon

World Pictures/Global Visions

Alongside discussions of worldliness, globalization, and planetarity, Allan's talk will focus on a global network of camera operators working on behalf of the Lumière Brothers film company from 1896-1903. This microhistory of the transnational origins of early cinema will lead to questions about what it means to apprehend the world through the eyes of a camera.

FEBRUARY 19

ELIZABETH A. POVINELLI

Anthropology, Columbia University

The Axioms of Catastrophe: Coming and Ancestral Tactics

This talk examines four axioms of existence correlated to the current climate catastrophe that have emerged in critical theory; the stakes of understanding the historical conditions

of these axioms; and their power to remold political concepts in the wake of geotopower. Povinelli ask what sorts of catastrophes are foregrounded or occluded depending on if one understands these axioms as a coming catastrophe or as an ancestral one.

FEBRUARY 26

DEE HIBBERT-JONES

Art, UC Santa Cruz

Run With It

Hibbert-Jones will discuss the challenges, politics and aesthetics in making her upcoming film Run With It, a feature documentary that is entirely animated. Made in collaboration with Nomi Talisman, the film tells the story of De'Jaun Correia, a young man on the Dean's list at Morehouse college, who grew up mentored by his uncle Troy Davis, on death row.

MARCH 4

JOSEPH BLANKHOLM

Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara

The Rituals of Secular Purification: Four Ways to Purify Religious Pollution

Being secular means not being religious, but it also means participating in a religion-like tradition, a paradox that shapes secular institutions and the everyday lives of secular people. Describing four ways of producing the secular by purifying it of religious pollution, Blankholm shows how secular people become less religious and how religion and spirituality are transformed and enabled to circulate in spaces that would otherwise prohibit them.

The Center for Cultural Studies is supported by the Humanities and Social Sciences Divisions; staff support is provided by The Humanities Institute.

Of Interest

HUMANITIES DIVISION PRESENTS:

Writing for Life: A Conference in Honor of Helene Moglen

March 13 / 6 – 9 PM / Humanities Lecture Hall
March 14 / 10 AM – 5:30 PM / Humanities 1, Rm 210

CENTER FOR CULTURAL STUDIES & THE INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES PRESENT:

Carlos Motta: We The Enemy

OPENING RECEPTION January 23 / 5 – 7 PM
EXHIBITION January 23 – March 14
Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery

Symposium: Bodies at the Borders

January 24 / 9 AM – 6 PM / DARC 108
January 25 / 9:30 AM – 5 PM
SFMOMA, Phyllis Wattis Theater

THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE PRESENTS:

HANNAH ALLAM & **LEILA FADEL** NPR

Questions that Matter: Reporting the Middle East and the Future of Investigative Journalism

February 4 / 7 – 9 PM / Kuumbwa Jazz Center (downtown)
Co-sponsored by the Center for Middle East and North Africa

RACHEL B. GROSS San Francisco State University & **BENJAMIN WURGAFT** Author, *Meat Planet*

The Future of Jewish Food

March 19 / 6:30 – 8 PM
Contemporary Jewish Museum (San Francisco)

THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE & THE CENTER FOR CREATIVE ECOLOGIES PRESENT:

Beyond the End of the World Public Lectures

KEEANGA-YAMAHTTA TAYLOR Princeton University
January 23 / 6 – 8 PM / Music Recital Hall

AMITAV GHOSH Author *Gun Island*
February 27 / 7 – 9 PM / Music Recital Hall

CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN COASTAL INTERACTIONS PRESENTS:

Slow Seminar on *Floating Coast*

by **BATHSHEBA DEMUTH**
January 9 / 3:30 – 5:30 PM / Social Sciences 1, Rm 261

Slow Seminar on Harmful Algal Blooms

with **MARILOU SISON-MANGUS** UC Santa Cruz
February 13 / 3:30 – 5:30 PM / Social Sciences 1, Rm 261

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

ALIYA SAPERSTEIN Stanford University

The Opioid Epidemic & Racial Classification on Death Certificates

February 27 / 12 – 1:15 PM / Rachel Carson College, Rm 301

HISTORY DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

JEFFREY WASSERSTROM UC Irvine

Hong Kong on the Brink

February 7 / 12:30 – 2 PM / Humanities 1, Rm 520
Co-sponsored by East Asian Studies

Second Annual Feminist Book Celebration

March 6 / 2 – 4 PM / Humanities 2, Rm 259
Co-sponsored by the UC Consortium on Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Histories in the Americas

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION PRESENTS:

ALONDRA NELSON Social Sciences Research Council

HERMAN GRAY UC Santa Cruz,

& **JENNY REARDON** UC Santa Cruz

Racial Reconciliation and the Future of Race in America

January 22 / 7 – 9 PM / Kuumbwa Jazz Center (downtown)
Co-sponsored by the Science & Justice Research Center

ANANYA ROY UCLA

Sanctuary Spaces: Reworlding the West in the Age of White Nationalism

February 11 / 12 – 1:15 PM / Rachel Carson College, Red Room
Co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology

INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS & SCIENCES PRESENTS:

TRACTION: Art Talks

7 – 9 PM / DARC 108

JANUARY 9

SLAVS & TATARS COLLECTIVE *Made in Dschermany*

JANUARY 16

PABLO HELGUERA Museum of Modern Art

MARCH 4

WALID RAAD Cooper Union

RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE AMERICAS PRESENTS:

MARISA DUARTE Arizona State University

Connective Engagement: Indigenous Consciousness-Raising through Digital Infrastructures

January 30 / 3:30 – 5 PM / Humanities 1, Room 210

SCIENCE & JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER PRESENTS:

Works-in-Progress

with **IRIS YELLUM** Harvard University
January 15 / 4 – 5:30 PM / Oakes College, Rm 231

Works-in-Progress

with **ANJULI VERMA** UC Santa Cruz
January 29 / 4 – 5:30 PM / Oakes College, Rm 231

LUKAS RIEPPEL Brown University

Book Discussion: Locating the Central Asiatic Expedition

February 5 / 4 – 5:30 PM / Oakes College, Rm 231

VISUAL & MEDIA CULTURES COLLOQUIA PRESENTS:

JACK HALBERSTAM Columbia University

Destitution, Dereliction, and Dispossession

February 26 / 4 – 6 PM / Porter College, Rm D-245

ANJALI NATH UC Davis

Surveil, Disclose, Reveal, Redact: the Visual Life of Bureaucracy

March 11 / 4 – 6 PM / Porter College, Rm D-245

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

For more information on Cultural Studies events, visit <http://culturalstudies.ucsc.edu>

For additional Humanities events & information, visit <https://thi.ucsc.edu/events/>

Center for Cultural Studies

c/o The Humanities Institute
515 Humanities 1
University of California Santa Cruz
1156 High Street

(831) 459-3872

cult@ucsc.edu

<http://culturalstudies.ucsc.edu>

STAFF

Mayanthi Fernando & Marc Matera
Co-Directors

Suraiya Jetha GSR
cult@ucsc.edu / Humanities 1, 428

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