** Spring 2021 Course Descriptions for Interdisciplinary, Gender, and Ethnic Studies and affiliated faculty **

** This is a partial listing of Spring 2021 courses. Please consult MyUNLV for a full schedule. **

African American and African Diaspora Studies

DAN 166/AAS Survey of African American Dance
Prof. Vikki Baltimore-Dale
Web-based (asynchronous)
This lecture series is a survey of the role of the African American in the development of dance in America. Special focus is placed on the artists, their philosophies and contributions in the areas of ballet, hip hop, jazz, modern, and tap.

AAS 101 African American Survey
Prof. Tyler D. Parry
Face-to-face Mon/Wed 11:30-12:45
This course introduces students to key events, individuals, institutions, and experiences that shaped the history and culture of Africans and their descendants from their arrival in North America to the present. It is expected that beyond attaining a general knowledge of the multidimensional experiences of African American history, students will also critically analyze important issues and questions that comprise African American Studies in general. Issues of race, gender, class, and freedom all intersect within the readings and lectures throughout the course, and students will gain a deeper understanding of the development of “blackness” in American cultural and political discourse. In contrast to an introductory survey course that simply teaches students a Who, What, and When historical narrative, this course delves into questions concerning How and Why enslaved from the continent of Africa became African Americans, and how this population has in turn impacted American cult.

AAS 375 Black Popular Culture
Prof. Valerie Taylor
Web-based (asynchronous)
Students will analyze Blackness in media and culture and become versed in Black cultural criticism. Special attention will be paid to the cultural products and processes performed by, for, or about Black Americans from the post-civil rights generation in order to discuss commodified blackness under late capitalism and new racism.

AAS 440 Anti-Blackness in the World
Prof. Tyler D. Parry
Face-to-face Mon/Wed 1:00-2:15
This course examines anti-blackness as a global phenomenon and as a concept that holds ancient roots that are not only confined to "the West." Starting in the ancient world, the course explores sources that engage ideas surrounding ethnocentrism, colorism, and xenophobia, discerning how ancient notions of cultural and ethnic "difference" provide prototypes for the development of anti-Black racism in different eras of world history. This course expands beyond the traditional Black/white binary often confined to the United States and explores how anti-blackness is expressed in various regions, including South Asia, the Middle East, South and Central America, East Asia, and the Pacific Islands, among others. Additionally, it examines how kingdoms throughout the African continent engaged with other societies throughout world history.

American Indian and Indigenous Studies
AIIS/HIST 260 Introduction to Native American History
Prof. Neil Dodge
Web-based (asynchronous)
HIST 260/AIIS 260 introduces students to the history of a variety of multicultural groups and interactions in American history. Since the topic of the course is the professor's discretion, we will survey the history of North America's Indigenous people. Our class will emphasize the themes of sovereignty, colonialism, and Indigenous ways of knowing.

AIIS/ENG 494A Native American Literature
Prof. Steven Sexton
Remote synchronous Tues/Thurs 11:30-12:45
Louis Owens says that stories make the world knowable and inhabitable. While they help us understand the world, they also help us understand the people who tell them. An important way in which we understand the world and imagine who we are as individuals, as communities, and as a people is through the stories we tell. Through their novels, poetry, short fiction, and nonfiction we will examine how Indigenous people express self-imagination, the act of imagining oneself, through their literatures. We will also look at how Indigenous people confront issues brought by settler colonialism that include identity, history, and politics.

HIST/AIIS 438B American Indian History since 1851
Prof. William Bauer
Remote synchronous Mon/Wed 10:00-11:15
The primary aim of this course is to expose you to a broad spectrum of recent important Native American history and foster a broader and more sensitive understanding of the history and life ways of the Native Americans of the United States. The class will trace the history of North American Indians from the California Gold Rush to twenty-first century self-determination and tribal sovereignty. Our approach will combine ethnohistory, a blend of the cultural perspectives of anthropology and the tools and methodology of history, with the intellectual traditions that come from American Indian communities and nations. These methods will enable us to explore the history of Native land, political change and cultural renewal in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Asian and Asian American Studies

AIS 402 Asian American Sporting Cultures
Prof. Constancio Arnaldo
Remote synchronous Tues/Thurs 11:30-12:45
This course is an interdisciplinary study of sports to understand the historical, social, and cultural aspects of Asian American life. Participation in sport is never an isolated incident but one that involves engagement with mainstream U.S. popular cultural forms, an understanding of the contours of “Asian America” and how Asian Americans perform their own social location as racialized subjects. Students will investigate the politics and poetics of Asian American sporting cultures by examining everyday sporting cultures, spectacles, fandom, and rituals. Their relationship to sports can provide important understandings of their identities beyond the Black/white racial (and male) paradigm, experiences of U.S. society, and identity formation (as it intersects with gender, sexuality, class, and nation).

AIS/CHI 322 Modern Chinese Literature in Translation
Prof. Ying Bao
Remote synchronous Mon/Wed 2:30-3:45
Study of the poems, short stories, and essays by modern Chinese writers. Literary texts woven together with critical texts and occasional films. Explores how works of literature illuminate some of the most significant aspects of modern Chinese society.

AIS/HIST 455B History of China Since 1800
Prof. Austin Dean
Web-based (asynchronous)
This class is an introduction to the political, economic, cultural and social history of China since 1800. No familiarity with Chinese history or Chinese language is necessary. Several thematic questions will guide the course: How did the Qing dynasty (1644-1912) respond to internal and external pressures in the 19th century? How have different Chinese thinkers addressed the cultural and social legacies of Confucianism? Why was the Chinese Communist Party successfully able to establish the People’s Republic of China in 1949? How and why has the People’s Republic of China changed since 1949? Finally, how many revolutions have there been in modern Chinese history and how have they changed China? In order to answer these questions, we will examine a collection of primary and secondary sources that focus on how people at a particular time viewed the pressing issues of the day. Beyond building content knowledge in Chinese history, this class will emphasize critical thinking and analysis based on discussion and close readings of texts.

PSC 405M - The Pacific Rim and World Politics
Prof. Jonathan Strand
Web-based (asynchronous)
Examines the Pacific Rim and analyzes the cultural, economic, political, and social issues in the region. Special emphasis on how cultural, ethnic, and religious diversities affect independence and interdependence of the region.

Gender and Sexuality Studies

WMST 101 Introduction to Women’s Studies
Prof. Danielle Roth-Johnson
Remote synchronous Monday 10:00-11:15
Introduction to the history of and issues in Women’s Studies/Gender & Sexuality Studies, with a focus on the following: (1) sociohistorical constructions of gender and sexuality; (2) how cultures, medias and markets influence perceptions of the human body; (3) how globalization and displacement are shaping contemporary ideas about gender; and (4) transnational feminist activism in the 21st century.

WMST 301 Feminist Theory
Prof. Danielle Roth-Johnson
Remote synchronous Wednesday 10:00-11:15
A critical examination of feminist thought in its diversity (liberal, radical, Marxist, socialist, psychoanalytic, care-focused, multicultural, global, postcolonial, ecofeminist, postmodern, queer and Third-Wave feminisms), with an applied focus to the following contemporary themes: feminist and queer activism; the arts; disability studies; the environment; globalization and immigration; health and reproductive justice; and sex work.

ENG 775 Queer Literature and Theory
Prof. Anne Stevens
Remote synchronous Tuesday 1:00-3:45

Interdisciplinary Studies
IDS 240 Interdisciplinary Research Methods  
Prof. Mark Padoongpatt  
Web-based (asynchronous)  
This course provides students with the tools they need to consume and conduct research from an interdisciplinary perspective. Together, we will craft generative research questions, explore ways to collect primary evidence/data to answer those questions, and become familiar with the practical and ethical issues involved in a variety of primary research methodologies. Students will learn useful strategies for searching for and evaluating relevant secondary source materials in the library and online. At its core, this course guides students through a critical exploration of the values and challenges of engaging in a research process that purposefully crosses disciplinary boundaries as a way to produce knowledge.

Latinx and Latin American Studies

LAS/HIST 444 Latinos in the American West  
Prof. Maria Raquel Casas  
Web-based (asynchronous)  
This course is designed to introduce students to the history and culture of Latinos in the U.S. West, focusing primarily on the experiences of Mexican Americans beginning from the first Spanish explorations to the present. It includes an examination of Latinos in relation to Native Americans and later Euroamerican settlers and documents how all groups impacted the development of a distinctly Southwestern Latino culture but also how Latinos have always been present within American history and society. As the course progresses, we will also study the immigrant groups that arrive in the late twentieth century from Central and South America. What emerges is a diverse group of Latinos in the United States but in the West specifically, comprised of different cultures that develop in separate historical moments; understanding this complex “group” is the primary objective of this course. To accomplish this, we will consider the social, political, economic, and cultural developments that impacted Latino culture in the West and how these variables intersect with the racial, gender, and class ideologies that developed in the West. Ultimately, this course challenges the preconceived notions of an “Anglo” conquest and demonstrates how Latinos preserved some traditions, adapted others, and ultimately influenced the development of the West. By doing so, this course documents a distinct Latino “folkway” that continues to impact and define the West we live in today.

CME 755 Teaching about Latina/Latino Experiences in Education  
Prof. Norma Marrun  
Remote synchronous Tuesday 4:00-6:45  
Examine the various sociopolitical, sociocultural, sociohistorical, and other factors that have shaped, and continue to shape, the PK-16 schooling experiences of Latina/Latino youth. Learn to use a community cultural wealth lens to develop critical understanding of the educational challenges that Latina/Latino students encounter in schools.

HIST 471/671 Revolution and Reaction in Contemporary Latin America  
Prof. Carlos Dimas  
Web-based (asynchronous)  
This class will look at the history of revolutions and society in Central America in the period of 1870 to the 1990s. Students will learn the historical factors that have created contemporary issues in Central America. This class will be a mixture of readings from secondary literature (academic articles), poetry, and government reports.

SPAN 410 Topics in Hispanic Linguistics (Spanish in the United States)  
Prof. Ileana M. Jara Yuponqui  
Remote synchronous Mon/Wed 11:30-12:45
This course provides an overview of the sociohistorical and sociolinguistic context of Spanish-speaking communities in the United States. We study linguistic patterns, dialectal characteristic of US Spanish and Spanish in contact with English, as well as extralinguistic factors such as demographics, race, gender, language policies, education and identity. This course is taught in Spanish.

Other Courses of Interest

ANTH 330 Anthropology of Exploitation, Slavery, and Terrorism
Prof. Liam Frink
Face-to-face Tues/Thurs 1:00-2:15
Anthropology is in an ideal position to examine contemporary practices and historical context of global human exploitation, slavery, and terrorism. We explore human control (nations, communities, individuals) through the lens of political economy, and examine how these practices, though detrimental to individuals, can be integral to institutional systems.

CME 710 Introduction to Cultural Studies in Education
Prof. Alejandro Carrion
Remote synchronous Thursday 4:00-6:45
Examines the political, theoretical, and historical roots of Cultural Studies as it applies to issues of power, culture and knowledge in the field of education. Popular culture, media studies, youth/child culture figure prominently.

CME 745 Theory and Research in Multicultural Education
Prof. Christine Clark
Remote synchronous Wednesday 7:00-9:45
How theory is used in research/multicultural education research; conceptual/theoretical frameworks in multicultural education research; themes/gaps in multicultural education research; use of critical theory to inform critical qualitative/quantitative inquiry to build bodies of critical multicultural educational research that inform/are informed by deschooled/radically re-imagined educational spaces.

CME 735 Multicultural Curriculum Transformation
Prof. Christine Clark
Remote synchronous Wednesday 4:00-6:45
Learn how to transform "mainstream," "traditional," or "Eurocentric" PK-12 and higher education curricula into critical multicultural educational curricula in discipline- and academic level specific manners, to improve teaching effectiveness, student learning outcomes, and the overall quality of teaching and learning.

ART 261 Art History Survey II, Renaissance-Present
Prof. Susanna Newbury
Web-based (asynchronous)
What was Art? Beginning in the Global Early Modern period around 1500, this course investigates the ways in which visual, tangible, ritual, and craft-based production evolved into what we now know as images—visual mediators between the self and the world. Covering forms of art making under colonization and global exchange, we will examine the rise of the concept of the artist, medium, and genre in Euro/American art as it is critiqued and enlarged by transnational contact in the last 500 years. We will also examine the translation of key principles and forms of design from cultures in Africa, South America, Asia, and Indigenous/First Nations peoples that influence our understanding of the visual and material world today. Lecture-discussion format. We pay close attention to artworks and art objects as our main source. Students will learn fundamental skills of Art History, such as the visual
analysis, close looking, and the study of primary documents as they lead to the construction of short writing assignments throughout the semester.

**ART 476/676 Topics in Performance & Media: Video Art**  
**Prof. Susanna Newbury**  
**Remote synchronous**  
With the invention of Sony's portable videorecorder in 1965, a new world of identity, and expression was born. With it came an era of exploration: how to mediate personal experience in the world through the projected image. This course surveys the global history of video art over the past 60 years as a response to technological invention, social revolution, and blurred lines between truth, fiction, acting, and confession that define how we live our lives between screens.

**HIST 740H Historiography**  
**Prof. Michele Tusan**  
**Remote synchronous Monday 4:00-6:45**  
The course examines race, class and gender methodologies and some of the big ideas that inform contemporary historical approaches. Students will encounter examples of history writing about people and institutions that rely on these methods and assumptions. The final unit explores the relevance of writing cultural history in today's world.

**COLA100LA-1002 Gender and Environment**  
**Prof. Danielle Roth-Johnson**  
**Remote synchronous Wednesday 1:00-2:15**  
Introduces students to college life, the skills necessary to succeed as an undergraduate, and the University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes through exploration of a specific topic area. The theme of this section is Gender and Environment, with an emphasis on the relationships between gender and environmental problems. Class discussions will include conversations about ecofeminism, ecosexuality, green sex, greenwashing, analyses of contemporary forms of environmental activism, and other related topics.

**History 489: Comparative History/The Impact of Climate Change on Pre-Modern Civilizations**  
**Prof. John Curry**  
**Web-based (asynchronous)**  
This course aims to study the ecological, political and social crises that occurred over the course of the seventeenth century in global perspective. In contemporary times, people throughout the world have become increasingly aware of the impact of climate change upon human societies. It is much less well-known, however, that we already have multiple historical examples of such events in the form of the collapse of the Late Bronze Age and the eleventh-century collapse of the Eastern Mediterranean world. The most prominent example is the General Seventeenth-Century Crisis, which manifested across multiple geographical regions and societies, and is comparatively well-documented in the historical record. At this time in history, a period of global cooling in many parts of the world led to food insecurity, political instability, and general misery in many parts of the world. By the time warmer climate returned, the process of adaptation had dramatically changed both the overall trajectory of world history and the global balance of power. Over the course of the semester, this course will introduce students to the ways in which they can undertake comparative global and environmental history. After tackling the issue of climate change in antiquity and the medieval world, we will specifically examine the copious evidence for the Seventeenth-Century Crisis for the history of China, Japan, the Ottoman Empire, and early modern Europe. However, participants may choose to examine events or themes that link people and places across additional regions of the world.

**EDH 706 Current Issues in Higher Education**  
**Prof. Doris Watson**  
**Remote synchronous/asynchronous**
The course will navigate current issues in higher education including, but not limited to policing on campus, student activism, testing and admissions, free speech, the gig academy - neoliberal university, and post-pandemic higher ed.

HIST 304 Global Medical History
Prof. Carlos Dimas
Web-based (asynchronous)
This class will look at this history of the world from the 1500s to Today from the perspective of breakthroughs in the medical sciences, epidemics, infectious diseases, and non-communicable disease, and the emergence of public health. The class will especially explore how sociocultural concepts of "sick" and "healthy" have changed over time and across societies.

ENG 795 Literary Editing and Publishing
Prof. Claudia Keelan
Prepares students for professional work in magazine, journal, website, and book publishing via study of field-specific publications as well as through practical application of skills.

Art 498/698 Seminar in Visual Arts
Prof. Wendy Kveck
Wednesdays 2:30-5:15
Las Vegas and its surrounding landscape has long served as inspiration for artists, writers and theorists. From Jean Tinguely and Niki de Saint Phalle's 1962 "Study for the End of the World, No. 2" a series of exploding sculptures in the Jean Dry Lake Bed in the desert outside of the city and Jenny Holzer's foreboding message "Protect Me From What I Want," illuminated on a sign on the Las Vegas Strip (1980's), to Dave Hickey, Jean Baudrillard, Chris Kraus, and Denise Scott Brown et al., artists and scholars have explored theories of beauty and the decorated shed, the simulacrum and the spectacle. This studio seminar will explore Las Vegas as context for contemporary artists, a microcosm of American culture. Group excursions around the valley, visits to UNLV Special Collections and Archives, and readings about the history, art and visual culture of Las Vegas will inform discussions and creative research assignments around a variety of themes including: memory, chance, reinvention, kitsch, excess, consumer capitalism, the atomic desert and the body. From casino scavenger hunts and visits to museums to conversations with contemporary artists making work informed by Vegas, the class will examine the Las Vegas produced for and presented to tourists and the real Las Vegas, off the Strip. Open to all disciplines. Assignments may be interpreted through any medium or discipline as 2D and 3D artworks, installation, performance, creative and scholarly writing, video/film, dance, etc. Contact wendy.kveck@unlv.edu with questions or for permission to enroll.

ART 309 Gallery Practices
Prof. Wendy Kveck
Thursdays 11:30-1:15
Collaborate with classmates on group curatorial projects for gallery and virtual spaces for Spring 2021! Students will learn how artists create opportunities and community through artist-run spaces and projects. The course format will consist of visits to galleries and museums, readings and research, artist presentations, group discussion and hands-on learning experiences exploring the creative practice and ethics of contemporary curation and exhibition design including writing a curatorial statement, art installation, social justice art, nomadic and alternative art spaces and projects. Questions? Contact wendy.kveck@unlv.edu

ENG 705 Graduate Literary Nonfiction Workshop - The Essayist in the World
Prof. José Roach Orduña
Remote synchronous Thursday 1:00-3:45
Aldous Huxley describes the essay as thought and feeling moving freely between a three-poled frame of reference. “There is the pole of the personal and the autobiographical; there is the pole of the objective,
the factual, the concrete-particular; and there is the pole of the abstract-universal.” About the essay, Virginia Woolf tells us that “The principle which controls it is simply that it should give pleasure.” James Baldwin uses it as a vehicle for critiquing a machinery of death and destruction. The literary essay is a hybrid and heretical literary form. Make with it what you will. In this workshop-based class we will produce essays. We will read essays. We will discuss essays. We will also ask ourselves and each other what it means to be a writer of essays today—in this wretched and exuberant historical moment.

ENG 402A/602A – Advanced Creative Writing – Up Close and Personal: Literary Nonfiction
Prof. José Roach Orduña
Remote synchronous Tues/Thurs 10:00-11:15
Does life imitate art or does art imitate life? What does “Based on a true story,” mean? In this workshop course we will increase our skills as writers, editors, and literary community members by exploring what it takes to transform the stuff of life into literary nonfiction. The course will center on the production and workshopping of three pieces of literary nonfiction. Students will participate in workshops that will help generate new and inventive writing, and participate in the sharing of work with an intelligent group of critically engaged peers. The goal of this class is to develop the skills to tell our own truths in ways that engage and move readers. Class time will be divided into workshops, reading discussions, short lectures, and the occasional in-class writing exercise. In workshop, expect to explore and discuss writing technique, form, style, content, perspective, imagination, emotion, and more. By the end of the course you will have read a wide range of nonfiction; reviewed and critiqued one another’s work; employed various techniques, structures, and mechanics of literary nonfiction; and produced a body of creative work.