CONSORTIUM FOR CRITICAL INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Our Mission
A joint effort by the Africana Studies, American Studies, and Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies Departments, the Consortium for Critical Interdisciplinary Studies (CCIS) is dedicated to creating a vibrant intellectual community across disciplinary boundaries and fostering the in-depth study of the complex intersections of race, ethnicity, Indigeneity, gender, sexuality, and class at Barnard College.

For Barnard undergraduates, CCIS offers four interdisciplinary minors/concentrations...

1. Interdisciplinary Concentration on Race and Ethnicity and the Minor on Race and Ethnicity (ICORE/MORE)
2. Environmental Humanities Minor and Concentration (EHMC)
3. Feminist/Intersectional Science and Technology Studies (F/ISTS)
4. Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS)

All Barnard students, regardless of their major, have an opportunity to minor in one or more of these offerings. Students majoring in one of the three CCIS disciplines (Africana Studies, American Studies, and Women’s Gender & Sexuality Studies) also have the opportunity to concentrate in one of these offerings, integrating the curriculum into their major requirements.

Interdisciplinary Concentration on Race and Ethnicity (ICORE) and Minor on Race and Ethnicity (MORE)
This program is supervised by the Steering Committee of the Consortium for Critical Interdisciplinary Studies (CCIS) at Barnard:

Professors: Severin Fowles (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology)
Associate Professors: Monica Miller (English and Coordinator of the Consortium for Critical Interdisciplinary Studies)

Environmental Humanities Minor/Concentration
The Environmental Humanities Minor/Concentration (EHMC) will serve Barnard students in two ways. As a concentration, it will permit students in the three CCIS majors (Africana Studies, American Studies, and Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies) to collectively focus their studies on the ways in which pressing issues surrounding environmentalism, global warming, land- and water-rights activism, and non-human rights intersect with race, ethnicity, gender, and class. As a minor, it will be available to all Barnard students, providing them an opportunity to explore how scholarship across the humanities and social sciences contributes to wider environmental conversations.

Core Requirements
Six courses will be required for the EHMC. All participating students will be required to take the introductory lecture and lab in the Environmental Science department (EESC BC1001 Environmental Science I and EESC BC1011 Environmental Science I Lab) as well as WMST BC2150 PRACTICING INTERSECTIONALITY. The remaining three requirements will be electives.

Capstone
An optional 1 credit mini-course, convened each spring for EHMC seniors to prepare their capstone presentations. During spring term of their senior year, EHMC students present their work in the Environmental Humanities.

Electives
Each year, new courses exploring environmental themes are developed by faculty in the humanities and social sciences.

Anthropology
ANTH BC3932 CLIM CHNG/GLOBAL MIGR/HUM RGT
ANTH UN3888 ECOCRITICISM FOR THE END TIMES
ANTH UN3861 Anthropology of the Anthropocene
ANTH V3811 Toxic
ANTH 2011

Art History
AHIS GU4150 Tourism, Nature, and the North American Landscape
AHIS GU4520 Gothic Nature

English-Theater Arts
ENTA UN3340 Environmental crisis on the Shakespearean Stage

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race
CSER UN3219 NATIVE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

History
HIST UN3019 Rivers, Politics, and Power in the United States
HIST W4568 The American Landscape to 1877
HIST UN2222 NATURE # POWER: ENV HIST NORTH AMERICA
HIST BC3177 SCARCITY: ECONOMY AND NATURE
HIST GU4218 The Black Sea in History
HIST GU4811 Encounters with Nature: The History and Politics of Environment, Health and Development in South Asia and Beyond

Institute for the Study of Human Rights
HRTS GU4600 HUMAN RIGHTS IN ANTHROPOCENE

Latin American and Iberian Cultures
SPAN UN3656 The Latin American Anthrohopocene

Political Science
POLS GU4412 ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS IN LATIN AMERICA

Public Health
PUBH GU4200 Environment, Health, and Justice: Concepts and Practice

Religion
RELI GU4807 DIVINE HUMAN ANIMAL

Urban Studies
URBS UN3350  ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND VULNERABILITY OF CITIES: OUR NEW "NORMAL"

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
WMST BC3513  CRITICAL ANIMAL STUDIES

Interdisciplinary Concentration on Race and Ethnicity (ICORE) and Minor on Race and Ethnicity (MORE)

The concentration and minor consist of five courses to be distributed as follows:

**Introductory Level (2 courses)**
- CSER UN1040  CRIT APPRO-STUDY OF ETH # RACE 3
- WMST BC2140  Critical Approaches in Social and Cultural Theory 3

**Intermediate Level (2 courses)**
- Harlem:
  - Select one of the following: 3
    - AFRS BC3020  Harlem Crossroads
    - AFRS BC3550  GAY HARLEM
    - ENGL BC3196  HARLEM RENAISSANCE LITERATURE
    - RELI V2615  RELIGIONS OF HARLEM
  - Concepts in Race and Ethnic Studies:
    - Select one course from among the following three topics (see below) 3
  - Advanced Level (1 course)
    - Select one course from the following groups: 3-4
      - Relevant Seminars in the Consortium Majors:
        - AFRS BC3110  THE AFRICANA COLLOQUIUM
        - AFRS BC3570  AFRICAN ISSUES: DIASPORAS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN
        - ANTH V3988  RACE/SEXUALITY SCIENCE AND SOCIAL PRACTICE
        - CSER UN3905  ASIAN AMERICAN # PSYCH OF RACE
        - CSER W3906  RACE IN SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIAL PRACTICE
        - CSER UN3928  COLONIZATION/DECOLONIZATION
        - CSER W3935  HISTORICAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE US-MEXICO BORDER
        - CSER UN3940  COMP STUDY OF CONSTITUTNL CHAL
        - DNCE BC3980  PERFORMING THE POLITICAL: EMBODYING CHANGE IN AMERICAN PERFORMANCE
        - ENGL BC3997  SENIOR SEMINAR IN ENGLISH
        - HIST BC3546  THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT AND ITS USES
        - HIST BC3587  REMEMBERING SLAVERY: CRITIQUING MODERN REPRESENTATIONS OF THEPECULIAR INSTITUTION
        - HIST BC3669  INEQUALITIES: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON LATIN AMERICA
        - HIST BC3672  PERSPECTIVES ON POWER IN 20TH CENTURY LATIN AMERICA
        - HIST BC3791  LAGOS: FROM PEPPER FARM TO MEGACITY
        - HIST BC3830  BOMBAY/MUMBAI AND ITS URBAN IMAGINARIES

  - HIST BC3870  GENDER # MIGRATN:GLOBAL PERSPC
  - CSER UN3926  LATIN MUSIC AND IDENTITY (formerly LATS W3926x)
  - RELI W4825  Religion, Gender, and Violence
  - SPAN BC3990  SENIOR SEMINAR
  - WMST W4303  Gender, Globalization, and Empire
  - WMST W4305  FEMINIST POSTCOLONIAL THEORY
  - WMST W4308  SEXUALITY AND SCIENCE
  - WMST W4320  Queer Theories and Histories

Special Topics in Critical Studies:
- Concepts in Race and Ethnic Studies topics
  - People, Power, and Place
    - Courses that explore in geographical context the processes, including the operations of power, by which people are constituted as ethnic and racial groups
    - AFEN BC3525  ATLANTIC CROSSINGS: THE WEST INDIES AND THE ATLANTIC WORLD 4
    - AFRS BC3055  SLAVE RESISTANCE IN THE UNITED STATES FROM THE COLONIAL ERA TO THE CIVIL WAR 3
    - AFRS BC2005  CARIBBEAN CULTURE # SOCIETIES 3
    - AFRS/WMST BC3121  BLACK WOMEN IN AMERICA 4
    - AFRS BC3589  BLK SEXUAL PLTCS U.S.POP CLTR 4
    - ANTH UN3300  PRE-COLUMBIAN HISTORIES OF NATIVE AMERICA 3
    - ANTH V3810  MADAGASCAR 4
    - CSER W1012  HISTORY OF RACIALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES 3
    - CSER V3440  THE CHANGING AMERICAN CITY 4
    - CSER UN3490  POST 9/11 IMMIGRATION POLICIES 4
    - CSER W3510  NOVELS OF IMMIGRATION, RELOCATION, AND DIASPORA 4
    - HIST BC2321  COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS 3
    - HIST BC2840  TOPICS IN SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY 3
    - HIST BC2980  WORLD MIGRATION 3
    - POLS V3604  CIVIL WARS AND INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION IN AFRICA 3
    - RELI W4215  HINDUISM HERE 4
    - RELI W4620  RELIGIOUS WORLDS OF NEW YORK 4
    - SOCI V3247  THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE, OLD AND NEW 3
    - SOCI V3324  POVERTY, INEQUALITY, AND POLICY: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE 4
    - SOCI BC3907  COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL CHANGE 4
    - SOCI BC3909  ETHNIC CONFLICT AND UNREST 4
    - WMST/AFRS BC3121  BLACK WOMEN IN AMERICA 4
    - WMST UN3915  GENDER # POWER IN GLOBAL PERSPC 4

  - Representation
    - Courses that explore cultural and political representations of ethnicity and race
    - AFRS BC3120  HISTORY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC 3
    - AFRS BC3146  AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN WRITING AND THE SCREEN 4
    - AFRS BC3150  RACE #PERFORMANCE IN CARIBBEAN 4
    - AHIS BC3642  NORTH AMERICAN ART AND CULTURE 3
    - AHIS W4089  3
    - ANTH V3160  3
    - ANTH V3928  RELIGIOUS MEDIATION 4
AFRS BC2005 CARIBBEAN CULTURE # SOCIETIES. 3.00 points.
This course offers a chronological study of the Anglophone, Hispanophone, and Francophone insular Caribbean through the eyes of some of the region's most important writers and thinkers. We will focus on issues that key Caribbean intellectuals—such as letters, travel accounts, features, and films) and traditional scholarly sources that will help contextualize them.

AFRS BC3020 Harlem Crossroads. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Studies Harlem in the context of African-American and African diaspora culture and society as well as American urbanization. Primarily focusing on Harlem of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the course offers students opportunities to discuss political economy, immigration, migration and the role of the city in social life.

AFRS BC3055 Slave Resistance in the United States from the Colonial Era to the Civil War. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Analyzes the multifaceted nature of slave resistance, its portrayal and theorization by scholars. Critically examines the various pathways of resistance of enslaved Africans and African-Americans, both individually and collectively (e.g., running away, non-cooperation, theft, arson, as well as verbal and physical confrontation, revolts and insurrections). Considers how gender shaped acts of resistance.

AFRS BC3110 THE AFRICANA COLLOQUIUM. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: Students must attend first day of class and admission will be decided then. Enrollment limited to 18 students. Priority will be given to Africana majors and CCIS students (Africana Studies, American Studies and Women's Studies majors; minors in Race and Ethnic Studies).

This course is concerned with two interrelated topics: 1) the long, complicated history of voyages to Latin America; and 2) the myriad and evolving ways voyagers to the region have portrayed its landscapes, people, food, festivals, and more. The course will move chronologically from the 15th century to the present, with each week devoted to grappling with a type of voyage characteristic of a given era, including: conquest voyages undertaken by Iberians seeking new lands, Russian/Soviet Empire, settler-colonial voyages undertaken by Iberians seeking new lives in the New World, captive voyages undertaken by Africans destined for enslavement in households, cities, and rural environs, sex-tourism voyages undertaken by African Americans escaping from slavery, and voyages undertaken by North Americans and Europeans. We will view these topics through a combination of different forms of media (such as letters, travel accounts, features, and films) and traditional scholarly sources.
AFRS BC3146 African American and African Writing and the Screen. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Focuses on the context and history of representations of African Americans and Africans in early American and other cinematographies; the simultaneous development of early film and the New Negro, Negritude and Pan African movements; and pioneer African American and African cinema.

AFRS BC3148 Literature of the Great Migration. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

(Also ENGL BC 3148) Examination of fiction, poetry, essays and films about the Great Migration (1910-1950) of African-Americans from the rural South to the urban North, focusing on literary production in New York and Chicago. (This course satisfies the Harlem Requirement for the Africana Studies major).

AFRS BC3150 RACE #PERFORMANCE IN CARIBBEAN. 4.00 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Sophomore Standing. Enrollment limited to 18 students.

Analysis of the shifting place and perception of Afro-Caribbean performance in Caribbean societies. This course takes a cross-cultural approach that examines performance through the lens of ethnography, anthropology, music and literary criticism.

AFRS BC3550 GAY HARLEM. 4.00 points.

This course explores representations of queer Harlem in African American literature, sonic culture, and performance. We will consider the history and making of Harlem, key figures of the Harlem Renaissance, and the aesthetic innovations of writers and artists who defined the racial, sexual, and gendered conventions of their time. We will be guided by an intersectional approach to the study of race, gender, and sexuality and the methods of Black queer studies, African American and African diaspora literary studies, as well as sound and performance scholarship. We will ask when, where, and what was/is gay Harlem; how we might excavate its histories; map its borders; and speculate on its material and imagined futures.

AFRS BC3570 Africana Issues: Diasporas of the Indian Ocean. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

The Indian Ocean has been called the cradle of globalization, a claim bolstered by seasonal monsoon winds and the trade that these enabled. We will consider the aesthetic histories of such trade by engaging literary and other cultural exchanges (including film, visual arts, music, and dance). What did the Zulu prophet Isaiah Shembe learn from Gujarati poets? Other than a major slaving center and source of spices, what role did Zanzibar play in the development of music and literary forms that look to Oman as well as the East Coast of Africa? We focus on four sites: Durban (South Africa), Bombay (India), Zanzibar (Tanzania) and Port Louis (Mauritius). This course will be taught simultaneously between Barnard in New York and the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. Students from both campuses will be encouraged to interact electronically and to establish a blog and website. The course will also have live-streamed guest speakers from chosen sites around the Indian Ocean.

ANTH UN3300 Pre-Columbian Histories of Native America. 3 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Enrollment limited to 40.

This course explores 10,000 years of the North American archaeological record, bringing to light the unwritten histories of Native Americans prior to European contact. Detailed consideration of major pre-Columbian sites is interwoven with the insight of contemporary native peoples to provide both a scientific and humanist reconstruction of the past.

ANTH V3810 Madagascar. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Enrollment limit is 15.

Prerequisites: Non-Anthropology majors require the instructor’s permission. 

Critiques the many ways the great Red Island has been described and imagined by explorers, colonists, social scientists, and historians—as an Asian-African amalgamation, an ecological paradise, and a microcosm of the Indian Ocean. Religious diasporas, mercantilism, colonization, enslavement, and race and nation define key categories of comparative analysis.
ANTH V3928 Religious Mediation. 4 points.
Enrollment limited to 16. Instructor’s permission is required. Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Reading theories of media and of religion, we will examine how transformations in media technology shift the ways in which religion is encoded into semiotic forms, how these forms are realized in performative contexts, and how these affect the constitution of religious subjects and religious authority. Topics include word, print, image, and sound in relation to Islam, Pentecostalism, Buddhism and animist religions.

ANTH V3988 Race/Sexuality Science and Social Practice. 4 points.
Enrollment limited to 26. Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission. Scientific inquiry has configured race and sex in distinctive ways. This class will engage critical theories of race and feminist considerations of sex, gender, and sexuality through the lens of the shifting ways in which each has been conceptualized, substantiated, classified, and managed in (social) science and medicine.

Art History (Barnard)

AHIS GU4089 NATIVE AMERICAN ART. 3.00 points.
This course looks closely at objects and images produced by Native North Americans across history. Grounding our study in essays and guest lectures from Native scholars, we will investigate the significance of the works and how and to whom meaning is communicated. Beginning with an introduction that links aesthetics and worldview using the conventional organizing principle of the culture area, we quickly move on to case studies that take up key issues that persist for Native people living under settler colonialism today, including questions of sovereignty, self-expression, transformation and representation. Along the way, we will also tackle historiographic questions about how knowledge about Native art has been produced in universities and museums and how Indigenous people have worked to counter those discourses.

Comparative Literature (Barnard)

CLRS W4190 Race, Ethnicity, and Narrative, in the Russian/Soviet Empire. 3 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

This course examines the literary construction of ethnic and cultural identity in texts drawn from the literatures of ethnic minorities and non-Slavic nationalities that coexist within the Russian and Soviet imperial space, with attention to the historical and political context in which literary discourses suround racila, ethnic, and cultural particularity develop. Organized around three major regions – the Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Russian Far East – readings include canonical “classics” by Aitmatov, Iskander, and Rytkheu as well as less-known texts, both “official” and censored.

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

CSER W1012 History of Racialization in the United States. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Cultures in Comparison (CUL).
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

The History of Racialization in the United States examines the development of race and racism through the study of significant historical circumstances that define the institutional structure of American Empire and of the resulting interactions among its peoples. Race is not static. Consequently, it is not an ahistorical object, nor a predetermined identity, nor a uniform category of analysis. Traditionally, the history of American race relations is the contact between racially defined groups over time and space of the effort required to maintain social and economic differences among them. Racialization, then, refers to the process by which one population group or many are “placed” in distinct racial categories.

CSER V3440 The Changing American City. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

After decades of economic disinvestment, physical decline and social out-migration, the 1990s ushered in an era of urban revitalization in many U.S. cities, the effects of which resonate today. How can we situate these recent changes within a longer trajectory of urban change in the United States? What do we make of the contested claims on space, belonging and identity made by, or on behalf of, people living in changing urban places? How should we evaluate development interventions whose end results seem so often to diverge from their intentions? This course will develop practical inroads into the problem of the changing American city that will both complement and complicate commonplace intuitions about the urban change we witness unfolding around us. Readings stay close to anthropological and ethnographic perspectives. We will consider how focusing on the meanings and experiences of everyday life in urban spaces can problematize ideals often associated with urban living, including various forms of diversity. Additional readings will introduce students to analytical perspectives on urbanism, race, ethnicity, space and citizenship. Taken together, readings, primary materials, discussions and a field trip will equip students with the tools to approach contemporary urban change with an anthropological lens.

CSER W3510 Novels of Immigration, Relocation, and Diaspora. 4 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
Course listed as ENGL W3510.

The master narrative of the United States has always vacillated between valorizations of movement and settlement. While ours is a nation of immigrants, one which privileges its history of westward expansion and pioneering, trailblazing adventurers, we also seem to long for what Wallace Stegner called a “sense of place,” a true belonging within a single locale. Each of these constructions has tended to focus on individuals with a tremendous degree of agency in terms of where and whether they go. However, it is equally important to understand the tension between movement and stasis within communities most frequently subjected to spatial upheavals. To that end, this course is designed to examine narratives of immigration, migration, relocation, and diaspora by authors of color in the United States.
CSER UN3904 Rumor and Racial Conflict. 4 points.
This course will take a transnational look at the strange ways that race and mass rumors have interacted. From the judicial and popular riots in the U.S. justified by recurrent rumors of African-American insurrection, to accusations that French Jews were players in the 'white slave trade,' to tales of white fat-stealing monsters among indigenous people of Bolivia and Peru, rumors play a key role in constructing, enforcing, and contesting regimes of racial identity and domination. In order to grasp rumor's importance for race, we will need to understand how it works, so our readings will cover both instances of racialized rumor-telling, conspiracy theories and mass panics, and some key approaches to how rumors work as a social phenomenon. The instructor will expect you to post a response to the reading on Courseworks each week and to engage actively in class discussion. There will be an in-class midterm exam, and you will be able to choose between writing an independent research project or doing a take-home exam.

CSER W3906 Race in Scientific and Social Practice. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

This class presents a genealogy of the development of the race concept since the 19th century. Most centrally, we will examine the ways in which race has been conceptualized, substantiated, classified, managed and "observed" in (social) science and medicine. We will read that history of science in tandem with philosophical, anthropological, and historical literatures on race and the effects of racial practices in the social and political world writ large. This class will address a series of questions, historical and contemporary. For example, how has the relationship between "race" and "culture" been articulated in the history of anthropology in particular, and in racial theory more broadly? How and why were particular phenotypes understood to signify meaningful biological and social differences? Can there be a concept of race without phenotype—a solely genotypic racial grouping? More broadly, we will examine how particular scientific projects have intersected with, authorized, or enabled specific social and political imaginations.

CSER UN3928 COLONIZATION/DECOLONIZATION. 4.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial fulfillment of Global Core Requirement. Enrollment limited to 22.

Prerequisites: Open to CSER majors/concentrators only. Others may be allowed to register with the instructor's permission.
Prerequisites: Open to CSER majors/concentrators only. Others may be allowed to register with the instructor's permission.
This course explores the centrality of colonialism in the making of the modern world, emphasizing cross-cultural and social contact, exchange, and relations of power; dynamics of conquest and resistance; and discourses of civilization, empire, freedom, nationalism, and human rights, from 1500 to 2000. Topics include pre-modern empires; European exploration, contact, and conquest in the new world; Atlantic-world slavery and emancipation; and European and Japanese colonialism in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. The course ends with a section on decolonization and post-colonialism in the period after World War II. Intensive reading and discussion of primary documents.

CSER UN3940 COMP STUDY OF CONSTITUTNL CHAL. 4.00 points.
This course will examine how the American legal system decided constitutional challenges affecting the empowerment of African, Latino, and Asian American communities from the 19th century to the present. Focus will be on the role that race, citizenship, capitalism/labor, property, and ownership played in the court decision in the context of the historical, social, and political conditions existing at the time. Topics include the denial of citizenship and naturalization to slaves and immigrants, government sanctioned segregation, the struggle for reparations for descendants of slavery, and Japanese Americans during World War II

Dance (Barnard)

DNCE BC3570 Latin American and Caribbean Dance: Identities in Motion. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Examines the history and choreographic features of Latin American and Caribbean dance forms. Dances are analyzed in order to uncover the ways in which dancing shapes national, racial, and gender identities. Focuses on the globalization of these dances in New York City.
DNCE BC3578 Traditions of African-American Dance. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Traces the development of African-American dance, emphasizing the contribution of black artists and the influence of black traditions on American theatrical dance. Major themes include the emergence of African-American concert dance, the transfer of vernacular forms to the concert stage, and issues of appropriation, cultural self-identification, and artistic hybridity.

DNCE BC3980 Performing the Political: Embodying Change in American Performance. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: An introductory course in dance or theatre history or permission of instructor. Enrollment limited to 12 students. Exploration into the politics of performance and the performance of politics through the lens of 20th-century American dance.

English (Barnard)
ENGL BC3129 Explorations of Black Literature: Early African-American Lit. 1760-1890. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 18 students. Poetry, prose, fiction, and nonfiction, with special attention to the slave narrative. Includes Wheatley, Douglass, and Jacobs, but emphasis will be on less familiar writers such as Brown, Harper, Walker, Wilson, and Forten. Works by some 18th-century precursors will also be considered.

ENGL BC3134 CREATIVE NON-FICTION. 3.00 points.
Writing sample required to apply. Instructions and the application form can be found here: https://english.barnard.edu/english/creative-writing-courses. In this generative workshop, we will write into life using all our critical and creative muscles including our funny bones. Alongside our creative nonfiction, we will study a variety of comedic forms including satire, sketch and joke writing. As we do, we will explore laughter as a subversive act and how the tools of comedy can be used to make mischief, to transgress the bounds of genre and form and to contest popular ideas about identity and power. Rather than being funny, we’ll focus on having fun – exploring these comedic forms as a means to invite playfulness into our writing process, to find “the fun of the story,” no matter what we are working on. We take our fun seriously? How can humor be illuminating? How can humor be feminist? How can humor be intersectional? How can humor help us tell the hard truths? Can we laugh at oppression without laughing it off? The fun of the story is sometimes a good joke, sometimes it’s simply that we’ve lived to tell. Using weekly readings as models, each class we will brainstorm and write to see how we can all use the same comedic frameworks differently. We will identify processes that are repeatable to help us revise and hone an enduring comedic point of view

Spring 2023: ENGL BC3134
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ENTH BC3144 Black Theatre. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 16 students. Exploration of Black Theater, specifically African-American performance traditions, as an intervening agent in racial, cultural, and national identity. African-American theatre artists to be examined include Amiri Baraka, Kia Corthron, W.E.B. Du Bois, Angelina Grimke, Langston Hughes, Georgia Douglas Johnson, Adrienne Kennedy, Suzan-Lori Parks, Adrian Piper, and August Wilson. Fulfills one (of two) required courses in dramatic literature for Theatre/Drama and Theatre Arts major.

ENWS BC3144 Minority Women Writers in the United States. 3 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Literature (LIT).
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Literature of the 20th-century minority women writers in the United States, with emphasis on works by Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American women. The historical and cultural as well as the literary framework.
ENGL BC3190 Global Literature in English. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Selective survey of fiction from the ex-colonies, focusing on the colonial encounter, cultural and political decolonization, and belonging and migration in the age of postcolonial imperialism. Areas covered include Africa (Achebe, Aidoo, Armah, Ngugi); the Arab World (Mahfouz, Munif, Salih, Soueif); South Asia (Mistry, Rushdie, Suleri); the Caribbean (Kinchaid); and New Zealand (Hulme).

ENGL BC3196 HARLEM RENAISSANCE LITERATURE. 4.00 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

In the summer of 2021, Home to Harlem will focus on the writing and collaboration of Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes in the 1920s. We will explore the cultural history and aesthetic debates that animated Harlem in the 1920s by reading them through the work (poetry, fiction, essays, plays) of Barnard and Columbia's own, who, for a time juggled student life in Morningside Heights and the joys and challenges of being major players in the Harlem or New Negro Renaissance. Hurston and Hughes navigated the demands of being an artist and representative of "the race" in both similar and different ways. They worked together to shape the Renaissance according to their radical visions and were friends and collaborators until they famously fell out. The goal of this class is to plot the individual and collective artistic and experimental experimentation of Hurston and Hughes, as well as create a digital timeline and rendering of their individual and collaborative development. To that end, this class will use either or both of the digital tools Scalar and Timeline.js in creative and collaborative ways. The class will partner with the Digital Humanities Center at Barnard for workshops on these digital tools that will be linked to all of the course assignments and final projects. No prior experience with these tools is necessary.

History (Barnard)

HIST BC2321 COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS. 3.00 points.
Examines the shaping of European cultural identity through encounters with non-European cultures from 1500 to the post-colonial era. Novels, paintings, and films will be among the sources used to examine such topics as exoticism in the Enlightenment, slavery and European capitalism, Orientalism in art, ethnographic writings on the primitive, and tourism.

HIST BC2840 Topics in South Asian History. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Some background in non-Western history is recommended. Examines caste and gender as an important lens for understanding the transformations of intimate life and political culture in colonial and post-colonial India. Topics include: conjugality; popular culture violence, sex and the state; and the politics of untouchability.

HIST BC2980 WORLD MIGRATION. 3.00 points.
Overview of human migration from pre-history to the present. Sessions on classical Rome; Jewish diaspora; Viking, Mongol, and Arab conquests; peopling of New World, European colonization, and African slavery; 19th-century European mass migration; Chinese and Indian diasporas; resurgence of global migration in last three decades, and current debates.

HIST BC3546 The Fourteenth Amendment and Its Uses. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Pre-registration required.
The role of the 14th Amendment in shaping the modern American Constitution; theories of judicial review; the rise and fall of economic due process; the creation of civil liberties; the civil rights revolution; and the end of states' rights.

HIST BC3587 Remembering Slavery: Critiquing Modern Representations of the Peculiar Institution. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Pre-registration required.
The enslavement of people of African descent signifies a crucial historical and cultural marker not only for African-Americans but also for Americans in general. We will interrogate how and why images of slavery continue to be invoked within the American sociocultural landscape (e.g., in films, documentaries, historical novels, and science fiction).

HIST BC3669 Inequalities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Latin America. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Pre-registration required.
The enslavement of people of African descent signifies a crucial historical and cultural marker not only for African-Americans but also for Americans in general. We will interrogate how and why images of slavery continue to be invoked within the American sociocultural landscape (e.g., in films, documentaries, historical novels, and science fiction).
HIST BC3672 Perspectives on Power in 20th Century Latin America. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Preregistration required.
Examination of recent Latin American historiography concerns with power in the context of 20th-Century Latin America. Focus on such diverse topics as the Mexican Revolution and migrant culture in Costa Rica, labor mobilization in Chile and the dirty war in Argentina. Themes include the relationship between popular culture and the state; the power of words and the power of symbols; structure and agency, the role of the law; the relationship between leaders and followers; and the intersections of gender, race, and power.

HIST BC3791 Lagos: From Pepper Farm to Megacity. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Preregistration required.
Examines the many Lagoses that have existed over time, in space, and in the imagination from its origins to the 21st century. This is a reading, writing, viewing, and listening intensive course. We read scholarly, policy-oriented, and popular sources on Lagos as well as screening films and audio recordings that feature Lagos in order to learn about the social, cultural, and intellectual history of this West African mega-city.

HIST BC3870 GENDER# MIGRATN:GLOBAL PERSPC. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15.
Preregistration required. Sophomore Standing. Explores migration as a gendered process and what factors account for migratory differences by gender across place and time; including labor markets, education demographic and family structure, gender ideologies, religion, government regulations and legal status, and intrinsic aspects of the migratory flow itself

Political Science (Barnard)

POLS V3604 Civil Wars and International Intervention in Africa. 3 points.
Enrollment limited to 110. Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: at least sophomore standing, except in consultation with the instructor.
This course analyzes the causes of violence in civil wars. It examines the debates around emergency aid, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. In addition, it focuses on recent conflict situations in Africa – especially Congo, Sudan, and Rwanda – as a background against which to understand the distinct dynamics of violence, peace, and international interventions in civil conflicts. (Cross-listed by the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race.)

Religion (Barnard)

RELI V2615 Religions of Harlem. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Through a range of field exercises and classroom guests, this course will introduce students to the rich religious history of Harlem, while also challenging them to document and analyze the diversity of Harlem’s contemporary religious scene.

RELI W4215 Hinduism Here. 4 points.
Historical, theological, social and ritual dimensions of “lived Hinduism” in the greater New York area. Sites selected for in-depth study include worshipping communities, retreat centers, and national organizations with significant local influence. Significant fieldwork component

RELI W4620 Religious Worlds of New York. 4 points.
This seminar teaches ethnographic approaches to studying religious life with a special focus on urban religion and religions of New York. Students develop in-depth analyses of religious communities using these methods. Course readings address both ethnographic methods and related ethical and epistemological issues, as well as substantive topical issues of central importance to the study of urban religion, including transnationalism and immigration, religious group life and its relation to local community life, and issues of ethnicity, race and cosmopolitanism in pluralistic communities.

Sociology (Barnard)

SOCI V3247 The Immigrant Experience, Old and New. 3 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
The immigrant experience in the United States. Topics include ideologies of the melting pot; social, cultural, and economic life of earlier immigrants; the distinctiveness of the African-American experience; recent surge of “new” immigrants (Asians, Latinos, West Indians); and changing American views of immigration.

SOCI V3324 Poverty, Inequality, and Policy: A Sociological Perspective. 4 points.
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.
Prerequisites: Introductory course in Sociology is suggested.
Examination of poverty, the "underclass," and inequality in the United States. Part 1: The moral premises, social theories, and political interests shaping current debates about the poor. Part 2: A more concrete analysis of the lives of the poor and the causes of family breakdown, the drug economy, welfare, employment, and homelessness.

SOCI BC3907 Communities and Social Change. 4 points.
Examines how changes in the economy, racial composition, and class relations affect community life-how it is created, changed and sometimes lost-with a specific focus on the local urban context. Student research projects will address how contemporary forces such as neoliberalization, gentrification and tourism impact a community’s social fabric.
***SOCI BC3909 Ethnic Conflict and Unrest. 4 points.***
Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing. SOCI BC1003 or permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Post-1965 immigration in the U.S. has prompted conflicts between new immigrant groups and established racial and ethnic groups. This seminar explores ethnic conflict and unrest that takes place in the streets, workplace, and everyday social life. Focus is on sociological theories that explain the tensions associated with the arrival of new immigrants.

***SOCI BC3913 Inequalities: Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality in U.S. Law and Society. 4 points.***

This class will examine the historical roots and ongoing persistence of social, economic, and political inequality and the continuing role that it plays in U.S. society by examining how such issues have been addressed both in social science and in law.

### Spanish and Latin American Cultures (Barnard)

**SPAN BC3470 Latin(o) American Art in New York City: Critical Interventions, Institutions, and Creative Lives. 3 points.**

Prerequisites: Third-year bridge course (W3300), and introductory surveys (W3349, W3350).

Considers the trajectory and intervention of Latin(o) American art in New York City’s artistic landscape. We will map the relation between Latin(o) American art and key art institutions, study critical receptions, and look at some of the lives and works of Latin(o) American artists in NYC.

**SPAN BC3990 SENIOR SEMINAR. 4.00 points.**

Prerequisites: SPAN UN3300SPAN UN3349SPAN UN3350 Prerequisites: Course intended to be taken by all Spanish majors during the fall of their senior year. Third-year bridge course (UN3300), and introductory surveys (UN3349, UN3350).

This course is a requirement for all majors and is taken in the Fall semester of the Senior year; students may register for the Barnard or Columbia (3991) section. In this academic writing workshop students develop individual research projects under the guidance of the course’s instructor and in dialogue with the other participants’ projects. The final assignment of the senior seminar (6000 words) is the senior essay. It is written in Spanish

### Women's Studies (Barnard)

**WMST BC2140 Critical Approaches in Social and Cultural Theory. 3.00 points.**

This course examines the conceptual foundations that support feminist and queer analyses of racial capitalism, security and incarceration, the politics of life and health, and colonial and postcolonial studies, among others. Open to all students; required for the major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) and the Interdisciplinary Concentration or Minor in Race and Ethnicity (ICORE/MORE)

#### Spring 2023: WMST BC2140

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**WMST BC3121 Black Women in America. 4 points.**


Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Students must attend first day of class and admission will be decided then. Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Examines roles of black women in the U.S. as thinkers, activists and creators during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Focusing on the intellectual work, social activism and cultural expression of African American women, we examine how they understood their lives, resisted oppression and struggled to change society. We will also discuss theoretical frameworks (such as “double jeopardy,” or “intersectionality”) developed for the study of black women. The seminar will encourage students to pay particular attention to the diversity of black women and critical issues facing Black women today. This course is the same as

**AFRS BC3121 Black Women in America.**

**WMST BC3132 GENDERED CONTROVERSIES. 4.00 points.**

Investigates the significance of contemporary and historical issues of social, political, and cultural conflicts centered on women’s bodies. How do such conflicts constitute women, and what do they tell us about societies, cultures, and politics? - D. Ko

**WMST BC3134 Unheard Voices: African Women’s Literature. 4 points.**


Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 14 students.

How does one talk of women in Africa without thinking of Africa as a ‘mythic unity’? We will consider the political, racial, social and other contexts in which African women write and are written about in the context of their located lives in Africa and in the African Diaspora. This course is the same as **AFRS BC3134 Unheard Voices: African Women’s Literature.**
WMST BC3510 Interpreting Bodies: Engendering the Black Body. 4 points. Not offered during 2023-2024 academic year.

Prerequisites: Students must attend first day of class and admission will be decided then. Enrollment limited to 20 students.

This course examines how the body functions as an analytic model and a process of embodiment by focusing on the black female body in particular. Looking at feminist theorizing of the black body, it explores how the black female body has been marked in particular ways and with profound effects.

WMST BC3518 STUDIES IN U.S. IMPERIALISM. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Historical, comparative study of the cultural effects and social experiences of U.S. imperialism, with attention to race, gender and sexuality in practices of domination and struggle

WMST UN3915 GENDER # POWER IN GLOBAL PERSP. 4.00 points.
Enrollment limited to 15.

Prerequisites: Instructor approval required

This seminar considers formations of gender, sexuality, and power as they circulate transnationally, as well as transnational feminist movements that have emerged to address contemporary gendered inequalities. Topics include political economy, colonialism/postcoloniality, war, refugees, global care chains, sexuality, sex and care work. Required for the major in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), but open to non-majors, space permitting. Prerequisite: Either one introductory WGSS course or Critical Approaches to Social and Cultural Theory or Permission of the Instructor

WMST W4303 Gender, Globalization, and Empire. 4 points.

BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Social Analysis (SOC 1).

Prerequisites: Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Study of the role of gender in economic structures and social processes comprising globalization and in political practices of contemporary U.S. empire. This seminar focuses on the ways in which transformations in global political and economic structures over the last few decades including recent political developments in the U.S. have been shaped by gender, race, sexuality, religion and social movements.

WMST W4305 Feminist Postcolonial Theory. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Critical Approaches and/or permission of instructor.

Enrollment limited to 20 students.

Examines important concerns, concepts and methodological approaches of postcolonial theory, with a focus on feminist perspectives on and strategies for the decolonization of Eurocentric knowledge-formations and practices of Western colonialism. Topics for discussion and study include orientalism, colonialism, nationalism and gender, the politics of cultural representations, subjectivity and subalternity, history, religion, and contemporary global relations of domination.