Culture and Theory (CLT&THY)

Courses

CLT&THY 200A. Political Economy: Methods and Critique. 4 Units.
Introduction to canonical texts in Marxism coupled with an examination of the questions of race, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality that distend the calculus of the canon’s assumptive logic. May be taken after CLT&THY 200B.

Same as CRITISM 200A.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 200B. Libidinal Economy: Methods and Critique. 4 Units.
Introduction to canonical texts in psychoanalysis coupled with an examination of the questions of race, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality that distend the calculus of the canon’s assumptive logic. May be taken before CLT&THY 200A.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 200C. Theory from Below. 4 Units.
Introduction to systems of thought understudied or undervalued in academic canons--for instance, systems constituted in communities' practices or theories that do not seek permanence or generality.

Prerequisite: CLT&THY 200A and CLT&THY 200B

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 215. A Critical Theory of Subalternity. 4 Units.
Examines the importance of subaltern studies for the study of modern history, postcolonial studies, social theory, and cultural studies. Also considers subaltern studies within a larger set of debates in structuralism, post-structuralism, Marxism, and post-Marxism.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 216. Crossing Borders: Empire and Immigration. 4 Units.
Utilizes historically-based intersectional analysis to explore the connections between U.S. empire and migration; border formation and incarceration; as well as identity and structural forms of hierarchy.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 217. Freedom Dreams: Subaltern Forms of Resistance. 4 Units.
Explores how subjugated peoples have creatively and collectively resisted oppression. Explores how individuals and communities envision a more just society, experiment with political strategies, and create meaningful legacies.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 240. Resistance Spaces. 4 Units.
Examines the relationship between the production of space and the operation of power in cultural studies and critical social theory.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 241. Ethics, Erotics, and Will: Gendered Black Politics, Sexualized Racisms, and the Humanities. 4 Units.
Introduces doctoral students to an interdisciplinary conversation about black queer sexuality and black heteropatriarchy. Uses disciplinary formations as a tool for understanding knowledge formations about the shifting relations that constitute sexuality, gender, and racial blackness.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 242. Afro-Pessimism and the Status of the Subject. 4 Units.
Afro-Pessimism theorizes the Black as a being against which all other beings become legible as human subjects. Focuses on either the subject of psychoanalysis or the subject of capital accumulation in their explorations of the antagonism between Blackness.

Restriction: Graduate students only.

CLT&THY 243. Introduction to Performance Studies. 4 Units.
Introduces students to key issues and critical methods within the field of performance studies. These include performance/performativity, liveness, everyday life, auto-ethnography, archive/repertoire, affect and performance, and disidentificatory practices.

Restriction: Graduate students only.
CLT&THY 280. Independent Study. 4 Units.
Limited to students who have not yet received the M.A. degree.
Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.

CLT&THY 289. Topics in Culture and Theory. 4 Units.
Seminars on various topics in Culture and Theory.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

CLT&THY 290. Research and Prospectus Seminar. 2 Units.
Bi-weekly seminar required for third- and/or fourth-year students. Students make presentations of dissertation prospectus for discussion. All graduate students welcome to attend and participate. Meant especially for students preparing for formal presentation of prospectus.
Grading Option: Satisfactory/unsatisfactory only.
Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.

CLT&THY 298. Directed Reading. 4-12 Units.
Directed readings on a specific topic agreed upon by students and their instructors. Limited to students who have completed their M.A. degree and are preparing for their qualifying exam.
Prerequisite: Completion of the M.A. degree.
Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.

CLT&THY 299. Dissertation Research. 4-12 Units.
Dissertation research in Culture and Theory.
Grading Option: Satisfactory/unsatisfactory only.
Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.