The Center for Cultural Studies hosts a weekly Wednesday colloquium featuring work by faculty and visitors. The sessions consist of a 40-45 minute presentation followed by discussion. We gather at noon, with presentations beginning at 12:15 PM. Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunches; the Center provides coffee, tea, and cookies.

APRIL 5
Matthew Fuller
Professor of Cultural Studies; Director of the Centre for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London
In Praise of Plasticity
Plasticity, in neurology, is the ability to adapt, change, grow and find new forms at multiple scalar levels whilst retaining, rerouting or developing function. Professor Fuller examines the notion of plasticity as it is articulated by cybernetics, machine learning, and anarchism.

APRIL 12
Ewa Domanska
Professor of History, Adam Mickiewicz University; Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University
Unbecoming Human: Necrotic Metamorphosis
Necrotic metamorphosis is the biological transformation of the body after death. Humus, trees containing chemical elements drawn from human bodies, diamonds, and vestiges, all constitute figurations of the post-human. Professor Domanska describes manifestations of natural and technical metamorphosis, anticipating the future emergence of various new species.

APRIL 19
Zac Zimmer
Assistant Professor of Literature & LALS, UCSC
Conquest, Contact, & Cosmovision: SF Rewritings of the Conquest of the Americas
Zac Zimmer’s current project reads original narratives of the conquest of the Americas and the philosophical debates it engendered with and against recent aesthetic attempts to reimagine that historical moment in marginal genres, especially alternative history and first contact science fiction, creating a point of contact between the contemporary world and the hemispheric American colonial encounter.

APRIL 26
Eric Porter
Professor of History, History of Consciousness, & CRES, UCSC
This talk is drawn from Professor Porter’s current book project examining the history of San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and various social and political phenomena associated with it as a means of better understanding the core San Francisco Bay Area as a physical, social, and imagined urban space.

MAY 3
Christopher Connery
Professor of Literature, UCSC; Professor of Cultural Studies, Shanghai University
Contemporary Chinese Capitalism & Its Critical Landscape
This talk draws on a work in progress entitled Revolutionary China and its Late Capitalist Fate, an analysis of the nature of post-reform China’s political economy, with particular attention to how this has affected everyday life, intellectual and critical work, ideological formation, cultural production, social movements, political action, and social space.

MAY 17
Martin Devecka
Assistant Professor of Literature & Classics, UCSC
Socratic Economics
Martin Devecka is in the early stages of a research project on leisure and labor in fourth-century Athens. His work explores the processes through which competing claims to leisure and to the labor of others led to the privileging of politics as a way of thinking about collective action.

MAY 24
Johan Mathew
Assistant Professor of History, Rutgers University
Smoke on the Water: Hashish Smuggling & Imperial Surveillance between Asia & the Middle East
Johan Mathew’s current project, Opiates of the Masses: Labor, Narcotics, and Global Capitalism, explores the history of narcotics in order to interrogate the concepts of “consumer demand” and “rational choice” in market exchange, focusing on the consumption of narcotics by workers in Asia and Africa to alleviate the stresses of labor under capitalism.

MAY 31
Shahzad Bashir
Professor in Islamic Studies; Director of the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, Stanford University
Islamic Pastes & Futures: Conceptual Issues
This talk emerges from Professor Bashir’s current project, Islamic Pastes and Futures: Conceptual Explorations, a critique of the conceptualization of Islamic history in modern scholarship. Bashir suggests alternatives emphasizing multiple temporalities and engaging contemporary academic debates regarding language, historiography, and history on the basis of materials of Islamic provenance.
INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITIES RESEARCH PRESENTS:
Ethics & Language of Conservation Colloquium
April 14 / 2-5:30pm / Hum 1, Rm 210
Co-Sponsored by the Center for Public Philosophy

Tanya Golash-Boza UC Merced
The Fluidity of Status: Non-citizenship, Deportation, & Indentured Mobility
April 18 / 6:30-8:30pm / Museum of Art & History (MAH)
Co-Sponsored by the Chicano Latino Research Center

Humanists@Work: Graduate Career Workshop in Silicon Valley
May 1 / 9am-5pm / UCSC Silicon Valley Campus
Co-Sponsored by the UC Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI)

OpEd Project Workshop: “Write to Change the World”
June 9 / 9am-5pm / Hum 1, Rm 210

ALUMNI WEEKEND EVENTS 2017
April 28-30
Co-Sponsored by the Graduate Division

Ethics & the Language of Conservation
April 29 / 11am / Cervantes & Velasquez Room

Humanities Mix & Mingle
April 29 / 12pm / Humanities courtyard

Graduate Alumni Panel Discussions
April 29 / 1pm / Hum 2, Rm 259

Teach-in with Gina Dent: “Ex Post Facto: How to Respond to a ‘Post-Truth’ World”
April 29 / 2-4:30pm / Stevenson Fireside Lounge

Graduate Alumni Networking Mixer
April 29 / 4pm / Graduate Student Commons

Graduate Alumni Networking Mixer
April 29 / 4pm / Graduate Student Commons

An Immersion into Dickensian Cocktails
April 29 / 4-5:30pm / Stevenson Fireside Lounge

THE CENTER FOR EMERGING WORLDS PRESENTS:

Sami Hermez
Northwestern University in Qatar
War is Coming: Between Past & Future Violence in Lebanon
April 4 / 3:30-5pm / Soc Sci 1, Rm 261
Co-Sponsored by the Anthropology Department

Vijay Prashad
Trinity College
In the Ruins of the Present: Neoliberalism & Cruel Populism Suffocate the Future
May 2 / 5-7pm / Namaste Lounge, College 9/10

ROUNDTABLE
Vijay Prashad Trinity College
Lisa Rosel, Mayanthi Fernando, & Asad Haider
UC Santa Cruz
What’s Left of Progressive Politics?
May 2 / 1:30-3pm / Hum 2, Rm 259

FEMINIST STUDIES DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
FEMINIST STUDIES COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Thursdays / 2-4pm / Humanities 1, Rm 210

MAY 4
Dr. Doris Leibetseder UC Berkeley
QT Reproduction: Queer & Transgender Use of Assisted Reproductive Technologies

MAY 18
Susan O’Neal Stryker University of Arizona
What Transpires Now: Transgender History & the Future We Need

JUNE 1
Patricia de Santana Pinho UCSC
We Bring Home the Roots: African American Women Touring Brazil & Bearing their Nation

LIVING WRITERS SERIES SPRING 2017
Thursdays / 5:20-8:50pm / Humanities Lecture Hall

APRIL 13
Tongo Eisen-Martin author of someone’s dead already

MAY 4
Tsering Wangmo Dhompa author of A Home in Tibet

Eric Sneathen author of Snail Poems

MAY 11
Aisha Sasha John author of THOU

MAY 18
Rosa Alcalá author of Undocumentaries

JUNE 1
Laura Levin author of The Braid

JUNE 8
UCSC Creative Writing Program
Undergraduate Student Reading