Faculty and Staff

**Adriana Zavala**, Interim Director of American Studies Program, Associate Professor of Art History, Latino Studies and American Studies
Latino studies; modern and contemporary Mexican, Latin American and Latino art; gender

**Thomas Abowd**, Lecturer in American Studies, Anthropology, and Arabic Studies
Colonialism and decolonization; race and racial politics; gender and sexuality; Arab and Muslim Americans; policing and urban protest

**Jennifer Allen**, Associate Professor (pnd), Public Health and Community Medicine
Health inequities; community-based interventions; "one health" – the interface of human-animal-environmental health

**Alex Blanchette**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Industrialism and ethnography of labor; food, environment, and agriculture; animal studies

**Frances Sze-Ling Chew**, Professor of Biology
Biology; history of racism in science, genetics, and medicine

**Steve Cohen**, Senior Lecturer in Education
U.S. education, history education, desegregation of schools, modern US history

**Heather Curtis**, Associate Professor of Religion
American religions; history of race, religion & American nationalism; transnational humanitarianism & reform movements; history of global Christianity

**Pawan Dhingra**, Professor of Sociology and American Studies
Sociology of race; immigration; social identities; Asian American studies

**Kendra Taira Field**, Assistant Professor of History and Africana Studies
Slavery, freedom, race, and social movements in U.S., African-American, and Native American history; family history, memory, and memorialization

**Matt Hooley**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Native American Studies
Critical Indigenous Studies, Environment, Literary and Visual Arts Modernisms, Poetics

**Ronna Johnson**, Lecturer in English
American literature, postwar movements in U.S. arts and culture, the Beat generation, feminist theory, studies of 20th century women and intersectionality
Lisa Lowe, Professor of English and American Studies
U.S.-Asia Studies; race, colonialism, and diaspora; transnational feminisms; culture and globalization

Helen B. Marrow, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Immigration; race and ethnicity; inequality and social policy; health; Latin American and Latino studies

Natalie Masuoka, Associate Professor of Political Science and director of Asian American Studies
American Politics, Political Behavior and Public Opinion, Race and Ethnic Politics

Noe Montez, Assistant Professor of Drama and Dance
Latino theatre and film, memory, trauma, and commemoration

Monica Ndounou, Assistant Professor of Drama
Theatre history and criticism; African American theatre and film

Stephan Pennington, Assistant Professor of Music
African American Music, Popular Music Studies, Transatlantic Musical Exchange, Trans/Gender and Sexuality Studies

Cora Roelofs, Assistant Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine/Community Health Program
Occupational health, U.S. immigrant populations, cleaner production, primary prevention strategies in policy and practice, community-engaged research

Sarah Sobieraj, Associate Professor of Sociology
Sociology of mass media; political sociology; social movements

Christina Sharpe, Associate Professor of English and American Studies
Black cultural studies; visual arts; African American literature; U.S. multiethnic literatures

Cathy Stanton, Senior Lecturer
Tourism, museums, myth and ritual, cultural performance, culture-led redevelopment, mobilities, farm history/heritage

Ichiro Takayoshi, Assistant Professor of English
American literary history; intellectual history; liberal political theory

Greg Thomas, Associate Professor of African American Literature
Race and empire; Global African literature; body politics; epistemology; music and film; Black Radical Traditions; neo/colonialism and anti-colonialism.

Sabina Vaught, Associate Professor of Education
Educational studies; Critical Race Theory; Critical Feminisms; Institutional ethnography

Jean Wu, Senior Lecturer in American Studies
Asian American studies, Anti-racist education and community-based action
American Studies Courses

AMER 10-01 (SOC 0001): Special Topic Foundation Course - Introduction to Sociology ~ Pawan Dhingra
MW | 1:30pm-2:45pm

AMER 0012: Foundation Course: Race in America ~ Jean Wu
TH | 4:30pm-7:15pm

AMER 0099-01: Internship in American Studies ~ Staff
ARR

AMER 0141-01: Innovative Social Enterprise ~ Staff
M | 1:20pm-4:20pm

M | 4:30pm-7:30pm

AMER 0180-02: Special Topic Integrative Seminar: Writing Against Empire: Art, Power, Resistance ~ Matt Hooley
T | 9am-11:30am

AMER 0180-06: Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH | 1:30pm-4:15pm

AMER 0193-01: Independent Study ~ Staff
ARR

AMER 0194-01 (SOC 0070): Immigration and American Society ~ Helen Marrow
TTR | 4:30pm-5:45pm

AMER 0194-03: Special Topic: Settler Colonialism and the Environment: Violence, Culture, Resistance ~ Matt Hooley
MW | 1:30pm-2:45pm

AMER 0194-04: American Sixties in Arts & Culture - Ronna Johnson
W | 1:20pm-4:20pm

AMER 0194-07 (ARB 0092-03): US Orientalism and the Middle East: Colonialism, Race, and Culture ~ Thomas Abowd
TTR | 3:00pm-4:15pm
AMER 0194-08 (SOC 0094-04): Latinos in the United States ~ Helen Marrow
TTR | 3:00pm-4:15pm

AMER 0194-09 (HIST 0093): Family, History and American Culture ~ Kendra Field
M | 1:30pm-4:00pm

AMER 0194-10 (DR0094-02): Black Theatre Workshop: The August Wilson Experience ~ Monica Ndounou
MW | 10:30am-11:45am

AMER 0194-11: (SOC 0188-09): Youth of Color ~ Orly Clerge
W | 9:00am-11:30am

AMER 0194-12 (ENG 0069): How to Read the World: Contemporary Multi Ethnic Literature ~ Christina Sharpe
MW | 1:30pm-2:45pm

AMER 0194-13 (English 0161): Memory FOR Forgetting ~ Christina Sharpe
M | 9:00am-11:30am

AMER 0194-14 (ED 0192-04): Critical Policy Studies ~ Sabina Vaught
W | 1:30pm-4:30pm

AMER 0194-15 (HIST 0032): Women in America Since the 1950s ~ Virginia Drachman
MW | 1:30-2:45pm

AMER 0194-18 (REL 0106): Religion, Violence and Sexuality ~ Elizabeth Lemons
TTR | 10:30am-11:45am

AMER 0198-01: Senior Special Project – Brent Fujioka
TH | 6:00pm-9:00pm

AMER 0199: Senior Thesis - Staff
ARR
Course Descriptions

AMER 10-01 (SOC 0001): Special Topic Foundation Course - Introduction to Sociology ~ Pawan Dhingra
MW | 1:30pm-2:45pm

Sociologists address questions such as why do some students succeed at school while others fail; how do groups develop certain cultures; why are there class, gender, and racial inequalities; how does socialization take place; what role does religion play in our society; etc. This course introduces students to sociological topics and to the dominant theories and methods used to make sense of such social phenomena. Students are encouraged to bring their own sociological insights to class as we challenge common assumptions of these major issues that refer to all of us.

AMER 0012: Foundation Course: Race in America ~ Jean Wu
TH | 4:30pm-7:15pm
Permission of instructor

In 1903, the famous African American scholar and activist W.E.B. DuBois said, "The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color line." Many people today believe that race will continue to be "the" issue of the 21st century. In this course, we will examine the meanings of race in modern America, analyze the root causes and consequences of racist ideologies, and discuss current and future activist approaches to the issues raised by racist theories and practices. Our study will be multicultural in focus, with attention being given to Asian American, Native American, African American, European American, and Latino/a perspectives. Questions we will ask will include: How is race defined in the USA? Who defines it? How is it experienced? Who experiences it? What is its role in our lives as individuals, members of groups and of society at large? The course will be interdisciplinary, emphasizing in particular social science and arts/humanities approaches; and active student participation will be an important component.

Note: This course is high-demand AMER majors have priority; please contact Professor Wu at Jean.Wu@tufts.edu to be added to the roster.

AMER 0099-01: Internship in American Studies ~ Staff
ARR

Students who wish to do internships under American Studies should enroll in AMER 0099 for their internship for course credit. Normally, these internships are for American Studies majors. Internships are available in a wide range of public and private organizations and institutions (e.g., media, museums, social service agencies). In most cases, the student will make the arrangements with the organization so that one person will be supervising the student and overseeing the internship work. It is expected that the student will be working a minimum of 12 hours per week. The supervised fieldwork will provide the student with the opportunity to better understand the work environment and issues facing the particular organization. The student should meet approximately three times with the Director of American Studies (or another Tufts faculty member) to discuss the fieldwork, goals, and effectiveness of the organization. (E-mailing the director or faculty member several times during the semester is an acceptable alternative to meeting in person.) If a student wishes to receive a letter grade instead of Pass/Fail, he/she/they must keep a journal, and write a 10-page paper which will be submitted for a grade to the Tufts faculty member overseeing the internship.
AMER 0141-01: Innovative Social Enterprise ~ Staff
M | 1:20pm-4:20pm
(Cross-listed as ELS 141.) Social entrepreneurs bring innovative, practical solutions to social problems. Entrepreneurs are opportunity oriented, resourceful, value-creating change agents. Social entrepreneurs are similar, but they focus on public problems. Students will consider the role of social enterprises in improving society, and learn to develop a business plan to create enduring social impact: Identify social impact model, plan needed activities and resources, conduct market research and create a marketing plan, build a team, prepare a financial model, and create a plan to attract the support the mission requires. Recommendations: Sophomore standing.

M | 4:30pm-7:30pm
Examines foundational writings of CRT in Legal and Educational Studies, considering their application to educational questions including, but not limited to: political economies of schooling; governance; policy; curriculum; and, pedagogy. Junior/Senior and graduate students only. Junior, Senior, Grade, or consent of instructor.

AMER 0180-02: Special Topic Integrative Seminar: Writing Against Empire: Art, Power, Resistance ~ Matt Hooley
T | 9am-11:30am
Most of us think about the political force of art on a small scale—something that changes how an individual or maybe a community acts. Can art have a bigger impact than this? Can it actually alter the structuring conditions of political life in the U.S.? Can it affect democracy? Can it change the environment? Can art challenge empire? This integrative seminar will consider works and theories of literary and visual art that take seriously the proposition that creative thought can change structures of power. We will focus on novels, poetry, activists texts, photography, and film composed by people marginalized by US empire: Indigenous writers and artists, and those who work from racialized and/or gendered positionalities. We'll also examine theories of contemporary power—both those that accept and those that discount the role of culture in challenging political oppression or violence. Finally, in dialogue with these readings, this class will ask students to pursue their own research project situated within and against the conditions of power that give shape to our lives, collaborations, and imaginations.

AMER 0180-06: Integrative Seminar: Racing Research: Family, Nation, Place ~ Jean Wu
TH | 1:30pm-4:15pm
Prerequisite: Race in America or consent of instructor
Race is pervasive in our lived experiences, yet race — of researchers and research populations — is not subjected to consistent and significant consideration and analysis in many research contexts. This course studies what it means to be race-cognizant in relation to research. Discussion includes ethical, emotional, analytical, and methodological dilemmas generated by racial subjectivities, ideologies, and disparities and power asymmetries. Students will propose and complete a research project. This can serve as a head start for students wishing to connect their work in the course to their senior capstone projects. Seniors can work on the research they must conduct for their honors theses or senior special projects.
AMER 0193-01: Independent Study ~ Staff
ARR
Students wishing to do an independent study project related to their cluster topic before initiating their SSP/HT must find an adviser and sign up for No more than one Independent Study course can count towards the cluster. Guided individual study of an approved topic. Before pursuing such study, the student expected to have taken regular courses related to the topic. Credit as arranged. No more than one Independent Study course may be applied to the American Studies major. Please see departmental website for details.

AMER 0194-01(SOC 0070): Immigration and American Society ~ Helen Marrow
TTR | 4:30pm-5:45pm
The United States as a lens for understanding the movement of people across nation-state boundaries and their settlement in various receiving societies. Why people migrate across international borders; ability of the nation-state to control migration flows; assimilation and incorporation of foreign ¿outsiders¿ into American social life; ways that migrants build and sustain lives across international borders; and challenges to two traditional types of membership: race and ethnicity, and citizenship and national belonging.

AMER 0194-03: Special Topic: Settler Colonialism and the Environment: Violence, Culture, Resistance ~ Matt Hooley
MW | 1:30-2:45pm
Where does climate change come from? Our explanations for environmental crisis are often economic (industrialization, globalization) or cultural (consumerism, apathy). This course suggests that one of the basic structures of US political life—settler colonialism—produces both extreme and ubiquitous conditions of environmental violence whose effects are felt globally. We will consider cases of extraordinary ecological crisis (nuclear bombing of Indian Country, uranium mining), but also “slow violences” (histories of drought; land seizure; biopolitical, racialized, and gendered harm). We will also study Indigenous art and activism that challenges these histories, including novels, poetry, and visual art. Throughout the course, we will persistently center Native theorists, communities, and organizers who critique the coloniality of environmental crisis and who argue for/invent alternative models of ecological thinking and living.

AMER 0194-04: American Sixties in Arts & Culture ~ Ronna Johnson
W | 1:30pm-4:20pm
This multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary course studies the American Sixties through film, literature, music, and nonfiction writing, including memoir, manifesto, letters and journalism. Although called the Sixties, this time of civil dissent, social unrest, domestic violence, international war and change properly encompasses a wider era, from 1954 and Brown v. Board of Education, to 1975 and the end of the Vietnam War, and this broader interval will form the period of our study.

AMER 0194-07 (ARB 0092-03): US Orientalism and the Middle East: Colonialism, Race, and Culture ~ Thomas Abowd
TTR | 3:00pm-4:15pm
This course explores the intersections of culture, race, and imperialism and will examine US representations of and engagements with the Middle East over the last 150 years. Participants will study American power at home and abroad and some of the racial and gendered assumptions crucial to it in the diverse realms of culture. We will explore the production of various "truths" about Middle Eastern peoples, places, religions, and societies manufactured in governing circles, literary spheres, Hollywood and television, and institutions of US higher education. As Native American populations continued to be dispossessed in the early 20th Century and as American power abroad began to intensify after WWI, the US began to establish its authority in the Middle East. This course will trace some of the lineages of racism and empire through an examination of a range of writers, including Mark Twain, Herman Melville, Edward Said, Melanie McAlister, Ella Habiba Shohat, Timothy Mitchell, Lila Abu Lughod, and others. All majors and levels are welcome!
**AMER 0194-08 (SOC 0094-04): Latinos in the United States ~ Helen Marrow**

TR | 3:00-4:15pm

The Hispanic/Latino population in the United States currently numbers 53 million people, or roughly 17% of all Americans. By the year 2060, it is estimated to grow to 129 million people, or roughly 31%. This course examines the diverse social, economic, political, and cultural histories of individuals who are now commonly identified as Hispanics/Latinos in the United States, paying special attention to the three largest ethnic subgroups among them (Mexicans, Cubans, and Puerto Ricans) but also to other Caribbean, Central, and South Americans, too.

A central goal of the course is to introduce students to the great diversity that exists within this growing U.S. minority group – diversity that is evident by social class, language and accent, gender and sexuality, geographic location, religion, race/ethnicity and skin color, citizenship and legal status, national origin, immigrant generation and immigrant cohort, among other variables. A second goal is to understand how the Hispanic/Latino panethnic category developed in the late 20th century in the first place, so that students can wrestle with the central question of how and why Latinos are often thought of and treated as one single racial/ethnic group, despite having so much internal diversity and a range of lived experiences. Finally, the course will examine Latinos’ experiences across several key social institutions – particularly schools, neighborhoods, the labor market, media, the immigration and criminal justice systems, and the American racial hierarchy. Students will exit this course with a fuller understanding of who Latinos are in the 21st century and how they constitute, have contributed to, and have been shaped by U.S. society.

**AMER 0194-09 (HIST 0093): Family, History and American Culture ~ Kendra Field**

M | 1:30-4PM

Explores diverse experiences of family and kinship in the long nineteenth century, especially in the context of Indian removal, racial slavery, continental expansion, and transnational migration. Studies will be founded upon the premise that family forms have varied widely over time and space. Contextualizes the recent groundswell in scholarly approaches to family history, as well as the popularization of DNA testing and genealogical research in American culture. Allows students to develop skills and perspective necessary for the production of scholarly research based on family histories. Readings will include family history, biography, monographs, and memoir.

**AMER 0194-10 (DR0094-02): Black Theatre Workshop: The August Wilson Experience ~ Monica Ndounou**

MW | 10:30am-11:45am

Using legendary playwright, August Wilson's ten-play cycle of African Americans' experiences throughout American history as our inspiration, this course provides **hands-on, experiential learning** of acting, script analysis and theatrical production. With no previous performance, design or production experience required, students will read Wilson’s plays and related commentary with opportunities to perform selected scenes from the Wilson cycle while exploring possibilities for design and technical elements.

**AMER 0194-11: (SOC 0188-09): Youth of Color ~ Orly Clerge**

W | 9:00-11:30am

This seminar takes a sociological approach to understanding the lives of youth of color. Through an exploration of the experiences of non-white youth and the ways in which they negotiate and redefine the identities imposed upon them at birth, this course outlines their social development across the life course, as they progress from children to young adults. Through a comparative examination of the social implications of race, ethnicity and gender, we will also consider the impact of social institutions such as the family, school, and the law on the life chances of youth of color. Significant class time will be dedicated to analyzing real world data on black youth and the opportunities and challenges they negotiate as they come of age in the 21st century.

Prerequisites: 2 Sociology, Africana, Asian American, and/or American Studies Classes
AMER 0194-12 (ENG0069): “How to Read the World”: Contemporary Multi Ethnic Literature ~ Christina Sharpe
MW | 1:30-2:45pm
In this course we will read a selection of late twentieth to current twenty-first century novels coming from the U.S. and Canada. What are the concerns of these authors? These texts? What are they writing into and out of? The seminar will consider how these texts map and navigate the social world, how that social world is constituted and represented, and how the bodies in and the body of the texts are located in this historical moment. The texts are: How to Read the Air - Dinaw Mengestu, The Secret History of Las Vegas – Chris Abani, What We All Long For – Dionne Brand, Never Let Me Go - Kazuo Ishiguro, The Round House – Louise Erdrich, The Gangster We Are All Looking For - lè thi diem thúy, These Dreams of You – Steve Erickson, Their Dogs Came With Them – Helena Maria Viramontes. This course fulfills the post-1860 requirement.

AMER 0194-13 (English 0161-01): Memory FOR Forgetting ~ Christina Sharpe
M | 9:00am-11:30am
What does it mean to remember an event? Why are some events remembered and others forgotten? Through reading memoirs, graphic novels, novels/shorat stories, and viewing films and documentaries, visual arts, and critical/theoretical works about North American slavery and the Holocaust we will think about the processes of remembering. Class will be run on a discussion basis. We will read: Maus I & II, Auschwitz and After, The Kiss, My Bondage and My Freedom, "Man of All Work," Beloved, Property, etc. We will view: The Nasty Girl, Paragraph 175, Night & Fog, Africans in America (excerpts), Daughters of the Dust, and other film & visual arts. This course fulfills the post-1860 requirement.

AMER 0194-14 (ED 0192-04): Critical Policy Studies ~ Sabina Vaught
W | 1:30-4:30pm
Educational problems of interest and value to the individual student investigated under the supervision of a member of the department. Credit as arranged. Please see departmental website for specific details. Recommendations: Open only to advanced students with permission of instructor.

AMER 0194-15 (HIST 0032): Women in America Since the 1950s ~ Virginia Drachman
MW | 1:30-2:45pm
Examination of the progress and challenges in women’s lives since the 1950s. An examination of the rise and decline of second-wave feminism, the enduring challenge of juggling women’s public lives with domesticity, and the tension between equality and difference in advancing women’s lives. Attention to diversity, including race, class, and sexual preference, in women’s experiences.

AMER 0194-18 (REL 0106): Religion, Violence and Sexuality ~ Elizabeth Lemons
TTR | 10:30-11:45AM
Analysis of representative theological and ethical positions on current issues related to violence/nonviolence and sexuality in the U.S. Attention will be paid to the treatment of these issues in a variety of religious and secular traditions. Topics include responses to war, terrorism, structural oppressions (such as racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism) and sexual violence, as well as controversies around reproductive rights and same-sex marriage.
AMER 0198-01: Senior Special Project – Brent Fujioka

TH | 6:00-9:00pm

The Senior Special Project (SSP) will include the preparation of an analytic essay, a research paper, or a project such as an oral history, a life story, a film, or a play. The SSP may also be based, in part, on a documented internship, or on leading an Exploration. The SSP should utilize more than one disciplinary approach and should seek to develop connections and integration among the disciplines employed. Detailed information is available in the American Studies office. The completed project should be given to your readers no later than Thursday, April 28, 2016. Your final manuscript should be free of misspellings and/or typographical errors. The oral defense of your SSP should be completed no later than Thursday, May 5, 2016. You must submit an electronic copy of your SSP to the American Studies Office no later than Thursday May 12, 2016, one day before the end of final exams. It is your responsibility to meet these deadlines, which will allow for relatively minor revisions, if necessary.

Note to Seniors: please remember to fill out the American Studies Grade Sheet.

Pre-reqs: Seniors only

AMER 0199-01: Senior Thesis - Staff

This Senior Seminar, which provides support and guidance for seniors in the process of completing their Honors Thesis, is open only to American Studies majors with permission to continue their Senior Honors Thesis research into the spring. Participation in the seminar is required for all American Studies seniors undertaking the Senior Honors Thesis. For seniors expecting to graduate in May 2016, the completed thesis manuscript should be submitted to readers by April 27, 2016. The oral defense should be arranged by the student and his or her committee to be completed no later than May 4, 2016, at which time it will most likely be graded. The final Honors Thesis manuscript should be free of errors. Remember, it is the student’s responsibility to meet these deadlines and to file a copy with Digital Collections & Archives in Tisch Library and email a final hard-copy to the American Studies office no later than May 11, 2015.

Note to Seniors: please remember to fill out the American Studies Grade Sheet.
Major Requirements

Requirements for the BA in American Studies include the completion of ten courses, as follows:

- One Foundation course AMER 10-20
- One Integrative Seminar AMER 180
- One History course with at least two-thirds of course content focused on some aspect of the U.S.
- Five credits that form a coherent interdisciplinary cluster, including at least two courses at the 100+ level
- American Studies 198 (Senior Special Project), taken in either the fall or spring semester of the senior year, plus one elective course (content to coordinate with coursework of interdisciplinary cluster-in consultation with your advisor); OR American Studies 199 (Senior Honors Thesis), taken in both semesters of the senior year. The Senior Special Project or Honors Thesis must integrate or expand some aspect of the interdisciplinary cluster’s theme.

Interdisciplinary Clusters
There are six interdisciplinary clusters, which provide the opportunity for students to design their own course of study:

1. Comparative Race and Ethnicity
2. Health, Environment and Society
3. Institutions and Power in the U.S.
4. Issues in U.S. Education
5. Representation and Performance in the Arts and Humanities
6. Community Based Studies
7. Individually designed cluster (please consult advisor)***

***With a faculty advisor’s help, students select five courses from departments and programs throughout the university which will relate to a cluster's theme. Students have flexibility on course selection in completing their clusters, but the cluster as a whole should be intellectually coherent.

Senior Special Project or Honors Thesis
In the senior year, all majors will complete either a capstone Senior Special Project (SSP) or an Honors Thesis (HT) which integrates or expands upon their course of study in the interdisciplinary cluster.

Additional Information on Major Requirements
A major in American Studies, who is also a major in another Department or Program, may count up to five courses from those major(s) toward the requirements in American Studies.