Gender & Women’s Studies PhD Program

Concentration in Visual Culture, Art, and Performance Studies

Description

This concentration trains Ph.D. students at the intersections of feminist, gender and sexuality studies and visual culture, art and performance studies. It will comprise training in theory, method, and practice (including curation) that draws on disciplinary and interdisciplinary courses in the Visual Culture Ph.D. minor (through the Center for Visual Cultures and the Department of Art History), the Program in Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies (administered by the Department of English), the Department of Art History, and the Department of Communication Arts. With advisor permission and depending on the student’s area emphasis, students take courses in visual culture, film, media and performance offered by such key partner units as African Cultural Studies; Afro-American Studies; Asian American Studies; Asian Languages and Cultures; Chicana/o Studies; Design Studies; English; French and Italian; German, Nordic, and Slavic; Landscape Architecture; Material Culture Studies Program; and Spanish and Portuguese. The five required courses balance the need for training in theory and method with both training in practice and pre-dissertation work in the cultivated area of specialization. The student might elect to attain a Ph.D. minor as part of this concentration, which would involve taking the two required seminars for the Visual Culture Minor (Afro Amer/Art Hist 801 and Afro Amer/Art Hist 802) and an elective or practicum as the required third and, thereby, have this clearly legible job market credential on their transcript.

Core GWS Faculty:

The following faculty have agreed to advise and serve on committees (asterisk next to the names of those willing to serve as a primary advisor).

Anna Campbell (GWS and Art History)
Jill Casid* (Art History and GWS)
Finn Enke* (GWS and History)
Chris Garlough* (GWS)
LiLi Johnson* (GWS and Asian American Studies)
James McMaster* (GWS and Asian American Studies)
Benjamin Mier-Cruz (GWS and Asian American Studies)
Sami Schalk* (GWS)

Five Required Courses (three must be at 700-level or above)

1. Theory and/or Methods Course (e.g., Com Arts 669: Film Theory or Afro Amer 801/Art Hist 801: Theory, Method and Historiography of Visual Culture)
2. Practicum or Praxis Course (e.g., Art Hist 797: Curatorial Studies Internships or Art Hist 603: Curatorial Studies Colloquium or)
3. Elective Course in Area of Emphasis in Visual Culture, Art, and or Performance Studies (e.g., Afro Amer/Art Hist 802: Visual Cultures: Topics in the Study of Visual Cultures)
4. Elective Course in Area of Emphasis in Visual Culture, Art, and or Performance Studies
5. Elective related to planned dissertation research

Requirements may be fulfilled by taking courses (three must be at the 700-level or above) from any of the following departments and programs:
Art History
Communication Arts
Program in Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies (administered by the Department of English)
Program in Visual Cultures (administered by the Center for Visual Cultures and Department of Art History)

To fulfill requirements and especially elective courses in the student’s area of emphasis, students may take upper-level and graduate courses in visual culture, art & performance offered by other departments and programs. Key partners include African Cultural Studies; Afro American Studies; Asian American Studies; Asian Languages and Cultures; Chican@ & Latin@ Studies; Design Studies; English; French and Italian; German, Nordic, and Slavic; Landscape Architecture; Material Culture Studies Program; and Spanish and Portuguese.

Such courses might include, for example:
African Cultural Studies 905: Cinematic Bodies
African Cultural Studies 813/ Afro American Studies 813: Contemporary African and Caribbean Drama
Afro American Studies 679: Visual Culture, Gender and Critical Race Theory
Art 908: Public Art: Theory and Practice
Asian 630: Women Make Movies
English 851: Performance Studies
French 653: Cinema Francais/Francophone (French and Francophone Cinema)
Spanish 861: Visual Technologies