Camping Masculinity
Kimberly Lau’s work explores some of the ways that World of Warcraft engages masculinity in play through the convergence of player practices, game designers, and the ongoing interaction between the two. Reading invocations of hypermasculinity, Lau investigates how everyday “camp” practices might open up alternative spaces and forms of masculine sociality.

‘War is the Force that Gives Us Meaning’: Militarized Queerness, Lieutenant Dan Choi, & Korean War Mascotry
Offering a historically layered examination of the rights-based battle waged by former Lt. Dan Choi, son of a war orphan, against the now-defunct policy of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” this talk inquires into the homology between queer masking in the U.S. military and the Korean War practice of child mascotry.

Timely & Untimely Politics: Art & Protest in Early 1960s Japan
William Marotti explores politics and timeliness by examining the advent of a critical art of the everyday in Japan in the 1960s and its links to political action. Out of sync with eventful mass activism, artists sought to create eventfulness against a state-promoted, depoliticized daily life in the high growth economy.

The Rubble & the Ruin: Spec Ops: The Line as Anti-War Game
Soraya Murray is an interdisciplinary scholar of contemporary visual culture, with particular interest in new media and globalization in the arts. In her analysis of photography, film and digital media, Murray seeks to illuminate these technological expressions in their cultural contexts.

“Goldfinger” & the Decline of the Classical Hollywood Narrative
The 1964 film Goldfinger, released right after the break-up of the Hollywood studio system, presented a new kind of narrative that did not conform to the classical Hollywood three-act model. In this talk, I will examine how Goldfinger differed dramaturgically from the classical Hollywood style and why, fifty years later, the film’s artistic and financial success remains such a strong influence on almost all Hollywood production.

Bhakti Demands Biography: Crafting the Life of a Tamil Saint
Blake Wentworth’s current work revolves around a central feature of south Indian political life in premodernity, the mapping of sexuality onto the political domain such that lordly power is beautiful. By tracing the genealogy of this trope, he explores the interplay between ancient Tamil poetics and the wider Sanskrit world.
How do Muslims and Christians meet the challenge of majority-minority identity politics in the 21st century? This talk assesses the status of minority citizenship in Egypt and Indonesia and links them to communities in Africa and Asia with similar Muslim-Christian proportionality. More than minority identity, the litmus test for good will, comity, and collective benefit in each case is citizenship rights and access to public space.

Critical Race & Ethnic Studies presents:

LISA LOWE
Professor of English & American Studies, Tufts University
Sugar, Tea, Opium, & Coolies: The Intimacies of Four Continents
Monday, May 20 / 4-5:30 PM / Humanities 1, Room 210
This lecture examines the fetishism of colonial commodities as a mediation of often obscured connections between the transatlantic African slave trade to the Americas, settler colonialism, the import of Asian indentured labor, the East Indies and China trades, and the emergence of European liberal ideas of citizenship, wage labor, and free trade in the late-18th and early-19th centuries.

Creative Writing Program presents:

Living Writers Reading Series
Thursdays / 6 PM / Humanities Lecture Hall (Room 206)
Contact: Chris Chen, cche75@ucsc.edu

Latin American & Latino Studies Department presents:

LALS Spring Colloquia Series

ROBIN DELUGAN
Anthropology Program, UC Merced
Reimagining National Belonging in Post-Civil War El Salvador
Tuesday, April 16 / 3-4:30 PM
Charles E. Merrill Lounge, Merrill College
Highlighting material from her book Reimagining National Belonging: Post-civil War El Salvador in a Global Context (2012), Dr. DeLugan will present her ongoing anthropological research on post-civil war nation building. The research emphasizes how indigenous populations and emigrating/faraway citizens are newly included in national representations.

SHANNON GLEESON
LALS, UC Santa Cruz
Conflicting Commitments: The Politics of Enforcing Immigrant Worker Rights in San Jose & Houston
Wednesday, May 1 / 3-4:30 PM
Charles E. Merrill Lounge, Merrill College
Shannon Gleeson goes beyond the debate over federal immigration policy to examine immigrant worker rights. Dr. Gleeson argues that local political contexts matter for protecting undocumented workers.

For more information, contact: lals@ucsc.edu