The Center for Cultural Studies hosts a weekly Wednesday colloquium featuring work by faculty and visitors. The sessions consist of a 30–40 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.

OCTOBER 6
JULIANA SCHIESARI
Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature, Chair of Comparative Literature, UCD
Rethinking Humanism: Horses, Honor and Virtue in the Italian Renaissance
Professor Schiesari is working on the relation between humanism and the post-human by rethinking the human and non-human as they are constructed in the Italian Renaissance. Her recent publications include Beasts and Beauties: Animals, Gender and Domestication in the Italian Renaissance (Toronto, 2010) and Polymorphous Domesticities: Pets, Bodies and Desire in Four Modern Writers (UC, forthcoming).

OCTOBER 12
REI TERADA
Professor of Comparative Literature, UCI
Pasolini’s Acceptance
Professor Terada considers Pasolini’s turn away from Italian politics in his late prose and Salò, and the alternative models of working-through and legibility subsequently engendered in the “absence” of hope for renewal. Professor Terada’s books include Feeling in Theory: Emotion after the “Death of the Subject” (Harvard, 2001) and Looking Away: Phenomenality and Dissatisfaction (Harvard, 2009).

*co-sponsored by the Affect Working Group

OCTOBER 19
EUGENE SWITKES
Professor of Chemistry and Psychology, UCSC
Affiliate Professor of Vision Sciences and Optometry, UCB
Studies of Visual Perception: A Window into Brain and Behavior
Scientists and humanists have found common interests in understanding correlations between neural events and complex human behavior. Over the past thirty years we have studied how aspects of human visual perception arise from neural processes that occur in the anatomical substrates of human vision. Professor Switkes discusses how understanding the brain’s recoding of spatial and chromatic information sheds light on the neural basis of visual behavioral phenomena.

OCTOBER 26
GILDAS HAMEL
S.O.E. Lecturer in History, UCSC
Monotheism and Empire II
Professor Hamel is working on a history of religious representations in Hellenistic and Roman Palestine and the notion of monotheism. He examines recent histories of monolatry and monotheism and accounts of religious mediations, asking whether monotheism is to be explained as a response to the Babylonian and Persian empires or as an episode of cultural borrowing and translation of religious stories and practices.

NOVEMBER 2
STEVEN MCKAY
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Director, Center for Labor Studies, UCSC
Masculinities Afloat: The Fragile Gender Projects of Filipino Migrant Sailors
Professor McKay examines the performance of masculinities among a group of men often considered exemplars of masculinity: merchant sailors. The talk explores their gender projects across liminal space (ocean-going ships) and in productive and reproductive spheres. Professor McKay is co-editor of the forthcoming New Routes for Diaspora Studies (Indiana) and working on Born to Sail? Racial Formation, Masculinity and the Making of Filipino Seafarers.

NOVEMBER 9
CARY HOWIE
Associate Professor of Romance Studies, Cornell University
On Transfiguration
Professor Howie thinks about how contemporary American poets reimagine early Christianity, using transfiguration to talk about the persistence in transformation of figures, and how poetic and theological concerns speak to gender and sexuality. His books include Catastrophilia: The Erotics of Enclosure in Medieval Literature (Palgrave, 2007) and the co-authored Sanctity and Pornography in Medieval Culture: On the Verge (Manchester, 2010).

NOVEMBER 16
DEANNA SEMEY
Professor of Literature, UCSC
Digital Princess: Toward an Open-Access Online Archive of Renaissance Correspondence
Professor Shemek studies intersections of elite and popular culture in early modern Italy, especially among women. Her current research focuses on early modern letter writing. She is completing an edition of Isabella d’Este’s letters and a book on the broader significance of early modern women’s letters. The talk addresses plans to digitize the manuscript sources for her edition and visualize the social network of a Renaissance princess.

NOVEMBER 30
HERMAN GRAY
Professor of Sociology, UCSC
At the Limit of Representation: Neoliberalism, Media and African American Visibility
With African Americans as the primary example, Professor Gray probes the social, intellectual, and political investment in the cultural politics of recognition and visibility in the context of neoliberalism, suggesting that with neoliberalism we have reached the limit of such investments. Looking beyond this investment in representation, recognition and visibility, he examines what other critical modes and sites of cultural analysis and politics are possible.

All CCS events are free and open to the public. Staff assistance is provided by the Institute for Humanities Research.
The Affect Working Group presents:

**Affect Across the Disciplines: A Faculty-Graduate Workshop**

Monday, October 24 / 3:30-5PM / College 8 Red Room

**Panelists:**

**Vilashini Cooppan**
Associate Professor, Literature, UCSC

*Affective History & Literary Studies*
Professor Cooppan’s recent work includes an article in *Trauma and Memory in South African Writing* (Rodopi, 2011), and a book project on affect, historical violence and world literature.

**Sharon Daniel**
Professor, Film & Digital Media and DANM, UCSC

*Affect in/through New Media Documentary*
Professor Daniel’s essays have been published in books and professional journals, including *Database Aesthetics*, the *Sarai Reader* and *Leonardo*.

**Danilyn Rutherford**
Professor and Chair, Anthropology, UCSC

*Affect, Ethics, & the Empirical in Anthropology*
Professor Rutherford is the author of *Raiding the Land of the Foreigners: The Limits of the Nation on an Indonesian Frontier* (Princeton, 2002) and the forthcoming *Laughing at Leviathan: Sovereignty and Audience in West Papua* (Chicago, 2012).

**Noah Wardrip-Fruin**
Associate Professor, Computer Science, UCSC

*Affective Computational Media*
Professor Wardrip-Fruin has authored or co-edited books on games and digital media, including *The New Media Reader* (MIT, 2003) and *Expressive Processing: Digital Fictions, Computer Games, and Software Studies* (MIT, 2009).

**Moderator:**
**Kimberly Lau**
Professor, Literature and American Studies, UCSC

Professor Lau is the author of *Body Language: Sisters in Shape, Black Women’s Fitness, and Feminist Identity Politics* (Temple, 2011). Contact: Deborah Gould, dbgould@ucsc.edu. Co-sponsored by the Center for Cultural Studies.

The History of Consciousness Department presents:

**Steven Miller**
English, SUNY Buffalo

**Lecture**

*Violence Against the Nonliving: the Death Drive & Destruction in Contemporary Philosophy*
Monday, October 24 / 4PM / Humanities I, 210

Professor Miller is a faculty mentor for the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture and for *Umbr(a)*. His work in progress is *War After Death: Hyperbolic Thinking in Contemporary Philosophy and Psychoanalysis*.

Contact: Michael Holohan, mholohan@ucsc.edu. Co-sponsored by the Center for Cultural Studies.

The Visual and Media Cultures Colloquia present

**Caren Kaplan**
Professor, American Studies, UCD

*Affiliated Faculty in Film Studies, Cultural Studies, and Science & Technology Studies*

**Seminar**

*The Visual Culture of Stealth: Interpretation & Deception in Militarized Aeromobility*
Monday, November 14 / 7-9PM / Communications 139

Professor Kaplan authored *Questions of Travel: Postmodern Discourses of Displacement* (Duke, 1996) and co-authored and co-edited *Introduction to Women’s Studies: Gender in a Transnational World* (McGraw-Hill, 2001/2005); *Between Woman and Nation: Transnational Feminisms and the State* (Duke, 1999); *Scattered Heuristics: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices* (Minnesota, 1994); and two digital multi-media scholarly works, *Dead Reckoning and Precision Targets*. Contact visualmedia@ucsc.edu for more information and to receive readings. Co-sponsored by the History of Art and Visual Culture, Film & Digital Media, and the Arts Division.

Center for Cultural Studies
c/o Institute for Humanities Research
515 Humanities I / University of California Santa Cruz
1156 High Street / Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**Staff**
Carla Freccero, Director
freccero@ucsc.edu; 459-3432; Humanities I, 637

Jasmine Syedullah, GSR
cult@ucsc.edu; 459-3872; Humanities I, 428

**Director’s Fall Office Hours**
Wednesdays 1:45-3:30pm

**2011-2012 Advisory Board**

Hunter Bivens Literature
Nathaniel Deutsch History
Deborah Gould Sociology
Gail Hershatter History
Kimberly Lau Literature, American Studies
Vanita Seth Politics

The Literature Department and LTM0 145B present:

**Mars A Film Series**
All screenings are on Tuesdays at 6PM in Earth and Marine Sciences B214.

- Sept. 27 *The Man Who Fell to Earth*
- Oct. 4 *Red Planet Mars*
- Oct. 11 *Robinson Crusoe on Mars*
- Oct. 18 *Aelita*
- Oct. 25 *Rocketship X-M*
- Nov. 1 *Total Recall*
- Nov. 8 *Red Planet*
- Nov. 15 *Mission to Mars*
- Nov. 29 *Ghosts of Mars*

Contact: Erik Bachman, ebachman@slugmail.ucsc.edu

Creative Writing and Literature present:

**The Living Writers Reading Series**
Thursdays / 6–7:45PM / Humanities Lecture Hall

- Sept. 29 *Jaimey Gordon*
- Oct. 6 *Nina Revoyr*
- Oct. 13 *Martha Mendoza*
- Oct. 27 *Peter Orner*
- Nov. 3 *Maggie Nelson & Cecil Giscombe*
- Nov. 10 *Susie Bright*
- Nov. 17 *David Vann*
- Dec. 1 *Student Reading*

Contact: Micah Perks, meperks@ucsc.edu, or visit http://creativewriting.ucsc.edu. Co-sponsored by the Porter Hitchcock Poetry Fund and the Siegfried B. and Elisabeth Mignon Puknat Fund.