



Newsletter for Students in AASA and PLA

The Program in American Studies is delighted and honored to announce that, starting Fall 2018, it will be administering three certificate programs: the existing **Certificate in American Studies**, a brand new **Certificate in Asian American/Diasporic Studies**, and a revised **Certificate in Latino/a/x Studies**.

These developments are the results of decades of collaborative efforts and activism on the parts of students, faculty, and alumni. Even as we celebrate this progress, please know that we must now support these certificates and the courses that sustain them, in order to demonstrate the needs for and the vibrancy of these fields of study to the University and to ensure the health and continued growth of these certificate programs.

In Fall 2018 we will host a gathering with students and faculty working in these fields so we can all get to know one another. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to me, Anne Cheng, Director of American Studies, for questions.

Finally, below please find a brief summary of some recent, related developments.

Latino/a/x Studies

\* The LAO Certificate Program will be administered through PLAS until July 2018, after which it will move under the umbrella of American Studies. Stay tuned for a website page under AMS.

\* Assistant Professor Christina León joined the English Department in AY 2017-2018. She specializes in hemispheric American literature with a focus on Latina/o, Caribbean, and diasporic studies, in addition to critical engagements with feminist theory, queer theory, and performance studies.

\*The AMS Noon Workshop Series, where distinguished scholars share their works in progress, features a range of scholarship, including Latino/a/x Studies, so please check the calendar for a list of the workshops. Undergraduates are welcome!

\*Professor Rosina Lozano will be teaching Latino History next year; Professor Brian Herrera will be teaching courses on popular performance and theater and society. For a full listing of fall term LAO courses, please consult the Registrar.

## Asian American/Diasporic Studies

\* There is now a course designation (ASA) for courses in Asian American Studies.

\* We welcome in Fall 2018 Assistant Professor Paul Nadal who will be joining the faculty in American Studies and in the Department of English. Professor Nadal is an interdisciplinary scholar specializing in Asian American, global Anglophone, and comparative ethnic literature and culture. Keep an eye out for his amazing new ASA/AMS class on “The Asian American Family” which offers a fascinating exploration of notions of kinship and sexuality.

\* Professor Beth Lew-Williams will be on a well-deserved sabbatical leave in AY 2018-2019.

\* Asian American Postdoctoral Research Associate Laurel Mei-Singh will be leaving us to take a teaching post at the University of Hawaii. We will miss her brilliance and energy but congratulate her and wish her the best.

\* The eminent Asian American historian Nayan Shah has been named a President’s Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching for AY 2018-2019. Should he accept, Professor Shah will be with us next year so please stay tuned for additional, new courses for next year.

\*The Asian American Lecture series, curated by Laurel Mei-Singh this year, has featured some of the most innovative work being done in the field today. The Lecture Series will continue next year under Professor Anne Cheng’s stewardship. Please join us whenever you can!

\*The regular AMS Noon Workshop Series, where distinguished scholars share works in progress, features a range of scholarship, including Asian American/Diasporic Studies (like art historian Marci Kwon from Stanford this coming Monday 4/16/18!), so please check the calendar for a list of the workshops. Undergraduates are welcome!

From

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