



## Wake Forest Humanities Institute Faculty Seminars

The Faculty Seminars harness the intellectual energies of the Wake Forest humanities and arts faculty to promote and support cross- and interdisciplinary collaboration and research that represents the leading edge of humanities scholarship and creates exciting bridges between different disciplines and units with the University. These groups meet regularly over the course of a semester or academic year.

### Faculty Seminars AY 2011-2012

*Film Genres as Cultural and Industrial Constructions* examines a broad base of film genre history and theory as a foundation for one of the most persistent discourses of film studies. The group, representing a wide variety of disciplines, encounters film from several perspectives—including criticism of film forms, sociology of industry, and film as mass media—and seeks to understand how genre intersects with these approaches.

Anne Hardcastle (Spanish & Film Studies, convener), Saylor Breckenridge (Sociology), Judy Kem (French), Scott Klein (English), Candyce Leonard (Communication), Kate McClancy (English), Ananda Mitra (Communication), Tom Phillips (Humanities), Dick Schneider (Law), Marc Yamada (Japanese).

*Politics of Location, Transnational Feminisms and Diaspora Studies* draws on collaborative readings of shared texts to further the scholarship and pedagogical interests of each participant through scholarly critique and discussion. The participants are organizing a panel for the Spring 2012 Conference on Diaspora Studies to be held at Wake Forest University.

Alessandra Beasley Von Burg (Communication, convener), Sally Barbour (French), Mary DeShazer (English & Women's and Gender Studies), Catherine Harnois (Sociology), Sandya Hewamanne (Anthropology).

*Cultural Encounters in the Medieval and Early Modern Mediterranean* examines specific points of contact between the Latin Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Byzantine civilizations. The participants are especially interested in the deliberate and creative assimilation of diverse traditions that led to the cultural



dynamism of the late medieval and early modern Mediterranean, as well as the relationship between culture and economics and the modes of influence.

Monique O'Connell (History, co-convener), Bernadine Barnes (Art, co-convener), Andrew Vogel Etti (English), Katherine Gill (guest scholar), Charles Wilkins (History), Susan Harlan (English).

***Science and the Arts in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century*** is a study of key primary sources related to the relationship between the science and the arts in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This semester the group is also looking forward to a number of interdisciplinary events related to their theme, including the presentation of a play and lectures by visiting scholars.

Jessica Richard (English, convener), Margaret Ewalt (Spanish), Grant McAllister (German), Morna O'Neill (Art), Elizabeth Way (English), Byron Wells (Romance Languages), Heather Welland (History).

***Historical and Cultural Approaches to the Modern Atlantic World*** expands and deepens its participants' understanding of the Atlantic world by engaging emerging theories developed in a variety of disciplinary fields, ranging from history to political science to literary criticism. Its members also advance their research agendas and ongoing scholarly projects through group discussion and peer-review.

Jose Luis Venegas (Spanish, convener), Margaret Ewalt (Spanish), Anthony Parent (History), Brian Price (Spanish).

***Peace and Conflict Resolution*** considers the work of theorist, Gene Sharp, who advocates non-violent means of resistance to tyrannical regimes because such resistance works. The seminar engages study of Sharp's writings, several interviews he's given, and the critiques Sharp has received both from the right and the left.

Ken Hoglund (Religion, convener), Brook Davis (Theater), Michaelle Browsers (Political Science), Neil DeVotta (Political Science), Hank Kennedy (Political Science), Omaar Hena (English), Neal Walls (Divinity).