

**Winter 2019**

**Hum 15. Special Topics in Humanities (sec 1) - Housing America.** (Will count as a Visual Culture humanities course)

What do we mean when we call a place “home”? Housing America focuses on the imagination of home in 20th–21st century literature, art, and architecture of the United States. It considers topics such as segregation, homelessness, migration, and immigration; gender and sexuality; the nature of family; ideas of comfort and security; dynamics between public and private spaces; the meaning of place; the history of domestic architecture; and how American domesticity is characterized and represented. Among the questions this course tries to answer are: What is the difference between house and home? Who has access to home, and why? How do people inhabit their homes? In what ways might books become houses, and how might houses, in turn, tell stories?

**Hum 15. Special Topics in Humanities (sec 2) - Racing the Future: Multi-Ethnic Science and Speculative Fiction**  
(Will count as a Visual Culture humanities course)

How might science and speculative fiction address the very real complexities and challenges of the contemporary world? In Racing the Future, students will study science and speculative fiction by Black, ethnic, and Indigenous artists working in literature, comic book arts, film, music, performance, and visual culture. Beginning by highlighting the historical roots of science fiction dating back to the nineteenth century, this course then focuses on the different ways that artists and writers of color have used science fiction to critique contemporary forms of racial difference and imagine alternate futures. Of particular focus will be the intersections of race with gender and sexuality. Additional topics will include Afrofuturism, Afro-pessimism, utopia, futurity, history, feminism, indigeneity, subjectivity, and blackness.