



## Newsletter

After a busy summer of virtual lectures ([link](#) to all recorded lectures), our fall events and initiatives include:

An exciting discussion with the directors of ***Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution***

**Tuesday, October 20, 2020 / 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm (PST)**

with co-directors and producers Jim Lebrecht and Nicole Newnham

This event is sponsored by the Carsey-Wolf Center, the UCSB Library, the Disabled Students Program, Graduate Division, the Resource Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity (RCGSD), and the UCSB Disability Studies Initiative. For registration and how to watch the documentary, go to:

<https://www.carseywolf.ucsb.edu/pollock-events/cwc-virtual-crip-camp/>

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Two co-sponsored talks organized by UCSB English's Early Modern Center

Professor Travis Chi Wing Lau (Kenyon College): **“Cripistemologies of Pain”**

**Friday, October 30, 2020 / 11:00am PST, via Zoom.** To register, go to [link](#).

Professor Simone Chess (Wayne State University): **“Assistive Technologies and Erotic Adaptation: Queer Disability in the Renaissance.”**

**Friday, November 13, 2020 / 12:00pm PST, via Zoom.** To register, go to [link](#).

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A new undergraduate course: ***Disability Aesthetics and Politics in Chinese Literature and Western Music*** (INT 36KX, Tues and Thur 12:30-1:45pm), co-taught by Professors Derek Katz and Hangping Xu

This course uses the lens of disability to re-examine musical and literary histories and challenge some fundamental assumptions regarding aesthetics, ableism, care, and embodiment. We construe disability beyond the medical model as an identity and experience in order to understand its social-political origins; to that end, we adopt a comparative and cross-cultural approach and use Western music and Chinese literature as two case studies. What underlines the premise of music as sonic? Can musical engagement and expression take on visual, tactile, and kinesthetic forms? How do different body-minds perform or receive music? How did Beethoven's deafness influence his musical identity, for example? Literature as a more representational art invites similar questions: What are the stock narratives of disability? To what extent is the non-normative body-mind exploited as an aesthetic device? What are the material consequences for people with disabilities? We hope that this course will generate historical, critical, and cross-cultural insights that help us imagine disability otherwise and create a more inclusive world in which we all thrive.

For information: [disabilitystudies@english.ucsb.edu](mailto:disabilitystudies@english.ucsb.edu)

October 14, 2020