Borders and Borderlands
SPAN 594 / LC 593 / CMPL 650

This course will offer an introduction to influential theoretical and critical approximations to borders and border studies, as well as an introduction to how border studies intersects with postcolonial critical approaches, gender studies, and critical race theory. Students will work to apply theories of borders, hybridity, *mestizaje*, and in-betweenness to literature, film, and art, primarily in the context of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States, although we will also engage with cultural production in other areas of the world. The course explores not only physical borders and geopolitical borderlands, but also the ways in which ideas of mixture, hybridity, and fluidity can be used to understand communal and individual identity, race and ethnicity, and gender and sexuality. Specific topics addressed will include undocumented status of immigrants in the U.S., criminalization of border subjects and (im)migrants, settler colonialism and the U.S./Canada/Mexico frontier, experiences of diaspora and diasporic communities, and queer Latinx identities.

**This class will meet Tues/Thurs 1:30-2:45 PM.**
Contact Dr. Cara Kinnally at ckinall@purdue.edu for more info.