

**The HSS Council of Interdisciplinary Programs (CIP)  
Spring 2025 Updates and Activities**

The Division of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) houses thirteen interdisciplinary majors, minors, and certificate programs. The Council of Interdisciplinary Programs (CIP) is pleased to share some of this semester's interdisciplinary accomplishments, activities, and events at the College. We hope you will join us in celebrating their excellence and in supporting interdisciplinarity at CSI.

*CSI's Interdisciplinary Programs are gateways to understanding the complexities of human experience through diverse perspectives. Students majoring or minoring in these programs examine the intersections of history, society, culture, economic issues, identity, politics, and representation, while also acquiring the skills necessary to analyze, navigate, and shape a rapidly evolving world. Each program is designed to expand perspectives, challenge boundaries, and foster a deeper understanding of the diverse tapestry of human experience. These programs encourage students to bridge academic disciplines, think critically, and engage thoughtfully with some of the most pressing issues of our time.*

The HSS CIP will co-sponsor a public lecture on May 15, "The Willowbrook State School: A Story of State Austerity and Violence," presented by Professor Rosanne Carlo, 2024-2025 John J. Marchi Fellow.

**African and African Diaspora Studies (AAD)** celebrated Black History Month by co-sponsoring the Third International Symposium of "Estevanico: Tracing the Footsteps of a Remarkable African Explorer: The Atlantic Connection."

**Autism Spectrum Disorders Advanced Certificate** Director Kristen Gillespie-Lynch is a co-organizer of the CUNY-wide Neurodiversity Conference, "Cultivating Resilience by Strengthening Neurodiverse Communities in Colleges, Universities, and Beyond," held in April.

**Disability Studies** will host an event entitled, "Deconstructing Normalcy: Autistic Writing as a Challenge to Neuro-normativity," a talk to be given by Dr. Sinchan Chatterjee, a Fulbright scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, on Thursday, May 8 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm in the Lecture Hall in 1P.

**Humanities Honors (Macaulay and Verrazzano)** is offering a one-credit, interdisciplinary course taught by diverse faculty members. A recent class, taught by English Professor Steve Monte, dealt with the topic of "How a Person Changes Their Mind." Director Gerry Milligan has spearheaded an initiative to create a minor in Health Sciences for HSS (and other) students to prepare for careers and further education in health.

**International Studies (INT)** Director, Dr. Roshen Hendrickson, recently gave a paper titled, "The Role of the United States in the Return of Stolen Assets to Nigeria," at the International Studies Association conference in Chicago. On April 29, International Studies alumni and students will gather for an annual networking event, held in conjunction with the Political Science and Global Affairs Department. And on May 5, the program will sponsor a talk by Ana Peyró Llopis, who recently served as Acting Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIS in Iraq.

**Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies (LACLS):** On March 6, Dr. Tasha Kimball co-organized an online event, "Queer Rebellions in Bolivian Folkloric Festivals." Professor Miguel Aragón curated two exhibitions at the CSI Art Gallery, one of which addressed immigration: *Y tus papeles / Verified by Proof*. LACLS also held a well-attended Open House (with the Spanish program) on March 18.

**Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS)** is presenting "Stitches That Hold the World Together," which includes the production of a quilt in a 300-level seminar and a World on Wednesday lecture on International Women's Day. WGS also co-sponsored an event discussing the "Black Angels" for Women's History Month. In addition, WGS is proposing the creation of three interdisciplinary minors in the areas of Women's, Gender, and Queer Studies.

**Upcoming:** CIP will host a symposium in the fall semester on "Interdisciplinarity as a Cornerstone of Democracy," as part of Dean Takács's Project Democracy Series. More information to follow.

For more information: <https://www.csi.cuny.edu/academics-and-research/departments-programs/interdisciplinary-programs>