Conducted as a workshop, this course introduces different approaches to our fields, as selected by the students themselves, with the aim of developing and deepening the theoretical frameworks necessary to place individual students’ research within the broader discussions that are happening in literature and cultural programs today. Students will reflect on the discipline’s frameworks and engage in self-reflective critique while addressing the practical question about how to turn a paper into an article or into a talk. Each three weeks (or longer, depending on enrollments) we will focus on one approach (e.g., ecocriticism, mobility and diaspora studies, gender studies, etc.) chosen by individual students, according to their focus of interest. In consultation with the instructor, students will select seminal texts that articulate the specific approach they wish to explore in order to revise their paper for publication in a journal or to be presented as a talk at a professional conference. In the first two weeks of class each student is required to bring one paper or project, while we will begin our discussion by reading Culler on literary theory and Berger on ways of looking. In the first week we will also plan our course calendar.