Catalog Description: (May be repeated three times.) Topics in the history, theory, and interpretation of Latino/a literature and culture; may focus on authors, groups of authors, themes, movements, genres, cultural contexts and/or theoretical framing.

Fall 2016 Topic and Description: The Borders of Latino/a Literature and Culture: For the fall 2016 semester, the course will focus on the Border as a physical, metaphorical and theoretical space for understanding contemporary Latino/a literary and cultural production. Thinking about the Borderlands goes back over 150 years, and it was brought to theoretical maturity by such writers as Américo Paredes and Gloria Anzaldúa. In more recent years, “Border Thinking” has been extended to encompass disparate and, too often, vague approaches to cultural analysis. Nevertheless, the concept of the Border continues to be a critical lens for reading Latino/a culture, and the recent growth of transnational cultural production, in addition to current debates about immigration, the opening of Cuba, and the increasingly important “Latino Vote,” make the Border more salient than ever.

Through the examination of an interdisciplinary group of theoretical and creative texts, students will gain a foundation for understanding the importance of the Border within Latino/a cultural production. While the list of readings has not been finalized, the following sampling is grouped by category.

- **Theoretical**: Américo Paredes, Gloria Anzaldúa, J.D. Saldívar, José Limón, Hector Calderón, Ana Castillo,
- **Literary**: Rolando Hinojosa, Sandra Cisneros, Junot Díaz, Ana Castillo, Oscar Casares, Cristina Henríquez
- **Cinematic**: Guillermo Gomez-Peña, Robert Rodriguez, Lourdes Portillo, Alejandro González-Iñárritu, Aurora Guerrero