This course introduces students to the dynamic and complex field of trans theory. Trans theories arose as a theoretical and political response to problematic conceptions of gender, identity, and the sexed body present in mainstream biology, in folk conceptions of sex and gender, and in earlier waves of some feminist theory and activism.

In WGS 498, we’ll explore various trans theories that challenge received understandings of the body, gender, sex, and sexuality, by critically analyzing trans theory, art, and film. How should we envisage the body and the self in the wake of intersectional trans political movements? What kind of resistant identities and practices have trans communities developed and how do these contribute to feminist, queer, and critical race theory? How does trans theory shed light on gender identity and what does it reveal about existing healthcare practices? How do social categories affect our bodily experience? And how should we address—and redress—the disproportionate violence to which trans people of color are historically and presently subjected?

Prerequisite: Any 100- or 200-level WGS (or W ST) course or Department consent.

WINTER 2018
T, 17:00 - 20:00
DR. ELOY LABRADA

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

Art Credit: Detail from Juliana Huxtable, Untitled (2014)