This course stages a conversation between two fields—Black Studies and Posthumanism—often seen as mutually exclusive, or even as antagonists, rather than correlative or complementary. However, both fields have articulated incisive critiques of the legacy of liberal humanism’s idealization of what is ultimately a hollow conception of “the human.” As is often argued, “the human” misrecognizes the self and perpetually fails to come to terms with human vulnerability, interdependence, embodiment, finitude, and violence. Black Studies scholars and posthumanists commonly agree that such a condition of disavowal is a state of emergency for “life” writ large. Yet the motivations, aims, and genealogies of these fields typically diverge when it comes to the theorization of human difference generally, and race in particular. The course asks how might a specifically decolonial, feminist, and queer approach to the question of “the human,” objects and things, flesh and matter, and intersectionality and assemblage clarify the terms and stakes of (dis)agreement. In doing so, we will consider whether a generative theory of the human is possible.