Course Outline:

After having been ignored for quite some time, space/place seems to have come back in the Western scholarships. “History takes place not only in time but also in space/place.” “Anthropology of Japan is not really anthropology of the nation-state of Japan: a space of nation-state does not necessarily overlap the space of what is called the Japanese culture.” “Globalization, late capitalism, or trans-nationalism de-territorializes people, and re-territorializes them in the hearts of the First World.” These statements, or simply the words such as “pathways” or “borderlands,” seem to point to the new direction of scholarships- to re-integrate space and place into our way of thinking. Our renewed interests in space/place have also produced several new questions. How to theorize a place as a site of power struggle? How to theorize displacement as histories of annexation, absorption, and resistance? How to theorize social identities of the rooted and uprooted populations? Can we use space/place as a means to criticize imperialism and colonialism? And what are, after all, space and place? I offer this course as a PLACE to think about all these questions, problems, and issues.

Requirements:

Read the assignments thoroughly and come to class well prepared for a 3-hour discussion. Every week, a student (or a pair of student) will lead a class discussion. S/he must prepare a set of questions for each article, chapter, or book. If possible, s/he must SEND questions a day before via e-mail to all the participants. At the end of the course, you will submit a research paper on the topic of your choice BASED ON OUR COMMON READINGS.

Textbooks:

David Harvey. *Justice, Nature, and the Geography of Difference* (required). Henri Lefebvre. *The Production of Space* (recommended). If you have not read this important book, find time and read at least its first chapter, “Plan of the Present Book.”

Discussion Schedule:

Week 1: Business.

Week 2: **Introduction to Space/Place (some foundational literature)**


(Recommended.) Michael Keith & Steve Pile. “Introduction” to Place and the Politics of Identity.

Week 3: **Anthropology and the Space/Place (Compare the 1980s and the Present)**
(1980s)
Arjun Appadurai. “Putting Hierarchy in Its Place.”
Renato Rosaldo. “Ideology, Place, and People Without Culture.”

(The Present)

Gupta and Ferguson. “Discipline and Practice: The ‘Field’ as Site, Method, and Location in Anthropology.”

Week 4: **Heidegger and the Phenomenology of Place**

David Farrell Krell. “General Introduction: The Question of Being.”
Martin Heidegger. “Building Dwelling Thinking.”

Steven Feld and Keith H. Basso. “Introduction” to Senses of Place.
(Recommended) Edward S. Casey. “How to Get From Space to Place in a Fairly Short Stretch of Time.”
Keith Basso. “Wisdom Sits in Places: Notes on a Western Apache Landscape.”

Week 5: **Environmental Justice I**

David Hervey. Introduction, Parts I and II.

Week 6: **Gender and Space/Place**

Doreen Massey. General Introduction to Space, Place, and Gender.

Doreen Massey. “Politics and Space/Time.”

Alison Blunt & Gillian Rose. Introduction to Writing Women and Space.

Week 7: **Globalization and Space/Place**  
Jonathan Xavier Inda & Renato Rosaldo. “A World in Motion.”

Arif Dirlik. “Place-based Imagination: Globalism and the Politics of Place.”

*Neal Smith. “Geography, Difference and the Politics of Scale.”

*(Recommended.) Neal Smith and Cindi Katz. “Grounding Metaphor: Towards a Spatialized Politics.”

** We can read them in Week 9.

Week 8: **Environmental Justice II**  
David Hervey. Part III and IV, Epilogue.

Book Review Forum.

Week 9: **Postmodernism and Space/Place and Conclusion**  
David Ley. “Modernism, Post-modernism and the Struggle for Place.”  
Michel Foucault. “Of Other Spaces.”

*(Concluding essay) John A. Agnew & James S. Duncan, eds. Excerpts from *The Power of Place.*

Week 10: **Party and/or the Student Presentations of their Works**