ANTHROPOLOGY 203 C

ANTHROPOLOGY THEORY & PRACTICE: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

SPRING 2008                                           M 9:00-11:50
# 511-027-200                                           Haines 314 (classroom)
Instructor: Kyeyoung Park                                 Office hrs: W 4:00-5:00
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Course Description
This seminar addresses some key theoretical foundations that have developed among cultural anthropologists since the 1980s as these relate to our everyday lives. The class explores the interplay of theory and ethnography in the development of anthropology as a modern discipline. We also explore how anthropological forms of knowledge shaped by relations of power and interest challenge the epistemological validity of the traditional ethnographic object and require new ethnographic strategies.

The course has multiple objectives:
- It introduces theories in anthropology since the 1980s.
- It examines the reciprocal impact between anthropological theories and other socio-cultural theories.
- It discusses theoretical, methodological, and ethical issues in writing and reading new ethnographies.
- It promotes critical analysis of various socio-cultural processes.
- It explores contemporary issues for anthropologists.

Requirements:
(1) Students should come to class well prepared for the class discussion. In order to facilitate quality discussion, students must prepare a set of questions and email them to all at least one day before our meeting.
(2) Each week, at least one student will be responsible for organizing and leading discussion. In addition, discussion leader will circulate reading notes. The notes will have two parts: 1. summarize the reading’s arguments(s), and the ways in which the author makes her/his point; and 2. your reactions to the argument (for example, insight, confusion, rejection).
(3) Each Student will write two short analytical essays (6-8 pages; double spaced) on issues relevant to their research (due, May 5; June 2)

Grades will be based on class discussion and two analytical papers (plus questions).
The following books are required and available at ASUCLA. They are also on reserve at YRL:


In addition to the above textbooks, the rest of readings will be posted on the class website.

*Article available on JSTOR or YRL online journals*

**Class Schedule**

**Part I**

**Week One**

**Introductory Discussion:**
Overview of the aims and organization of the seminar, in relation to participants’ backgrounds and interests

**Week Two**

**An Overview of Anthropology since the 1980s and the End of Anthropological “Innocence”**

- Gilliam, Angela and Lenora Foerstel, 5 Margaret Mead’s Contradictory Legacy. In *Confronting the Margaret Mead Legacy: Scholarship, Empire,*
Video: Margaret Mead and Samoa

- Clifford, James, On Ethnographic Authority. In The Predicament of Culture: Twentieth-Century Ethnography, Literature, and Art, 21-54. Harvard Univ P., 1988

Optional:

Week Three
Foucault, Derrida, and Poststructuralism

- Foucault, Michel, Paul Rabinow & Nikolas Rose, eds., The Essential Foucault


Video, Derrida


Optional:
- Hartsock, Nancy, Foucault on Power: A Theory for Women?
- Butler, Judith, Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity.

Week Four
Encountering the Postmodern Turn


• Baudrillard, Jean, Simulacra and Simulations: Disneyland. Social Theory, 524-529

• Habermas, Jurgen, Modernity versus Postmodernity. In ?


• Fischer, Michael M. J., Emergent Forms of Life: Anthropologies of Late or Postmodernities. Annual Review of Anthropology 28: 455-78, 1999

Optional:
-Giddens, Anthony, Modernism and Post-modernism.

-Clifford and Marcus, Writing Culture (1-26 & 141-193)

Week Five
Gramsci, Williams, Bourdieu...
- Williams, R., Selections from Marxism and Literature.
- Bourdieu, Pierre, Pascalian Meditations.

Video, Sociology is a martial art (la sociologie est un sport de combat)

Optional:
-Hall, S., Cultural Studies: Two Paradigms. In Culture/Power/History, 520-538
Part II

Week Six
Global Capitalisms I

- Gregory, Steven, The Devil Behind the Mirror: Globalization and Politics in the Dominican Republic.

Video, No logo: brands, globalization, resistance

Optional

Week Seven
Global Capitalisms II: Technological, Political, and Ethical Reflection


Video, Modern Heroes and Modern Slaves (?)

Week Eight
Multicultural Postcolonial Identity Production
• Hall, Stuart, Cultural Studies and the New Left. Cultural Identity and Diaspora. 392-403 (Colonial Discourse)

Optional
-Shohat, Ella & Robert Stam, Unthinking Eurocentrism: Multiculturalism and the Media.
-Visweswaran, Kamala, Defining Feminist Ethnography. In Fictions of Feminist Ethnography Video, Stuart Hall: representation and the media

Week Nine
Transnationality
• de Genova, Nicholas, Working the Boundaries: Race, Space, and “Illegality” in Mexican Chicago.
• Silverstein, Paul A., Immigrant Racialization and the New Savage slot: Race, Migration, and Immigration in the New Europe. Annual Review of Anthropology 34: 363-84, 2005
• Siu, Lok, Diasporic Cultural Citizenship: Chinese and Belonging in Central America and Panama. Social Text 19 (4): 7-28, 2001

Optional
-Ong, Aihwa, Flexible Citizenship: The Cultural Logics of Transnationality

**Week Ten**  
**Culture, Power, and Resistance**

- Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt, *Friction: An Ethnography of Global Connection*.

Optional
- Bourgois, Philippe, *In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in el Barrio*.
- Fortun, Kim, *Advocacy after Bhopal: Environmentalism, Disaster, New Global Orders*