ANTY 520: Ethnology

Course Information
G.G. Weix
SS 252
Monday 11:10-2:00 p.m.

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This is an ethnology seminar for anthropology graduate students; consent of instructor is required for non-degree graduate and undergraduate students to participate. Readings are on reserve at the Mansfield Library, and required selections from each book have been scanned electronically to a Moodle supplement. After the first meeting, students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings with a set of questions, or brief commentary prepared in advance. Discussion leaders for each topic will read the entire ethnography, as well as supplemental readings to establish context.

Grading Policy:
Students will be evaluated on consistent attendance, participation in discussion, and an oral presentation of a research paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. Presentations will be 10-15 minutes each, (10-12 double spaced pages) in the format of AAA meetings, with a title, abstract, and 10 minutes for questions and discussion. The research papers must draw on at least 10-15 sources, and be at least 20 pages in length.

Syllabus

Week 1 (August 31)
Introductions, syllabi, and overview of the readings by the instructor.

Week 2 (September 7) Labor Day Holiday no class

Week 3 (September 14) Ethnology and Ethnography: the role of theory

Week 4 (September 21) Documentary/film
View “The Act of Killing” and attend one viewing of “The Look of Silence” at the Roxy Theatre (showings begin Sept. 18th and are free with a Griz Card).
Readings: Taussig, Michael. I swear I saw this: draing in fieldwork notebooks, namely my own

Week 5 (September 28) no class (personal leave)
Week 6 (October 5)  Sovereignty (Power and History)
Readings: Petryna, Adriana.
When experiments travel: clinical trials and the global search for human subjects

Week 7 (October 12)  Biopolitics (Fertility and Health)
Readings: Pinto, Sarah.
Where there is no midwife

Week 8 (October 19)  Gender (Sexuality and Kinship)
Readings: Goodfellow, Aaron.
Gay Fathers, Their Children and the Making of Kinship

Week 9 (October 26)  Labor (Body and Material Life)
Readings: Jefferey, Craig.
Degrees without Freedom: Education, masculinities and unemployment in North India

Week 10 (November 2) Humanitarianism (Ethics of Care)
Readings: Norris, Lucy.
Recycling Indian Clothing: global contexts of reuse and value.

Week 11 (November 9)  Youth (Political Anthropology)
Readings: Lukoae, Ritty
Liberalization's Children: Gender, youth, and consumer citizenship in globalizing India.

Week 12 (November 16)  Catastrophe (Development and Aid)
Reading: Hindman, Heather.
Mediating the Global: expatria's forms and consequences in Kathmandu

Week 13 (November 23)  Architecture (Urban Anthropology)
Reading: Kusno, Abini.
The Appearances of Memory: mnemonic practices of architecture and urban form in Indonesia

Week 14 (November 30)  Student Presentations
Week 15 (December 7)  Student Presentations
Finals Week (December 14)  Course Evaluation
Research papers are due by Friday, 5:00 p.m. December 18th.
Supplemental Bibliography

Week Three: Theory


Week Four: Documentary Film (Post-colonialism)


Cole, Jennifer. 2001. Forget Colonialism? Sacrifice and the Art of Memory in Madagascar (Berkeley: University of California Press) Required: Chapter 7, Reversing Figure and Ground, pp. 223-273

Week Five: (Indigenous Studies)


Week Six: Sovereignty


Week Seven: Biopolitics


Week Eight: Gender


Week Nine: Labor

Jeffery, Craig. Timepass: youth, class, and the politics of waiting in India.

Rolston, Jessica. “Interweaving love and labor,” In Mining Coal and Undermining Gender: rhythms of work and family in the American West.

Martinez, Samuel. “Commodity Consumption in a Globalizing Age,” In Decency and Excess.


Week Ten: Humanitarianism


Week Eleven: Youth


Week Twelve: Catastrophe

Crins, Reiki. “Conclusions,” Meeting the “Other”: Living in the Present: Gender and Sustainability in Bhutan.
