

Fall 2017 ETHN 200A Departures: A Genealogy of Critical Racial and Ethnic Studies

Tue. 1:30pm – 4:20 pm
Office: Social Science Building #231

Professor: Roshanak Kheshti
rkheshti@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays 12-1 &
by appointment

Course Overview

This course looks at the epistemic underpinnings of race through a survey of works that endeavor to understand how race and racism endure and transmogrify, across various times, spaces, bodies and systems. Power is an important object of study for us, as is desire, land, capitalism, gender and the category of the human.

Coursework

Participation

This class is intended to serve as an intellectual collaboratory, in which we work together and individually to hone our critical reading, writing, and teaching practices. This will require that you (1) engage the weekly reading thoroughly and arrive prepared to discuss the books in detail; (2) take intellectual, emotional, and political risks when developing and sharing your ideas while doing so with generosity toward the text and your colleagues; and (3) read texts with curiosity and participate in discussions omnivorously, generously, and productively.

Responses

A good response paper will address the following questions:

- 1) What are the central questions explored in this week's book?
- 2) What terms/concepts/frameworks are used to answer or address these questions?
- 3) What is/are the central argument(s) of the text?
- 4) What kind of evidence is used to support those arguments, and why?
- 5) How are the arguments related to ideas in other books?
- 6) What methods are employed in collecting evidence?
- 7) What are the primary sources consulted and why?
- 8) How might we trace the relationship among the readings across weeks?
- 9) What questions does the reading raise?

Seminar Presentations

Each student is responsible for leading discussions during two of our weekly meetings. Each week's oral presentation and accompanying handout should start by addressing the same set of questions as your weekly response papers in such a way as to facilitate a thoughtful, group exploration of the author(s)'s critical intellectual and political projects, their implications for the central questions and/or debates of the week specifically, and for the course in general. Your

presentation grade will reflect the degree of critical thought, originality, rigor, and collaborative spirit demonstrated by (1) your oral presentation (2) your preparation of a handout (or pdf circulated in advance) for your peers that reflects and complements your oral presentation, and (3) your posing of a handful of questions that provoke engaged, productive dialogue among the class. Each of these components is given equal weight in your presentation grade.

Final Portfolio

You will be required to submit a portfolio of your work in the class, plus a 4-5 page review of your cumulative work over the quarter, in which you highlight ongoing themes, key areas of interest, and topics for future exploration.

Required Texts

Books and Reading Schedule:

Week 0 September 28, 2017

-Franz Fanon *The Wretched of the Earth*

Additional Resource:

<http://ucsd.kanopystreaming.com/video/concerning-violence>

<http://ucsd.kanopystreaming.com/video/frantz-fanon-his-life-his-struggle-his-work>

Week 1 October 5, 2017

-Edward Said *Orientalism*

Week 2 October 12, 2017 Christiane

-Angela Davis *Women, Race and Class*

Week 3 October 19, 2017 Naaila

-Orlando Patterson *Slavery and Social Death*

Week 4 October 26, 2017

Michael Omi and Howard Winant. *Racial Formation in the United States*

Week 5 November 1, 2017 Group

-Gayatri Spivak *Critique of Postcolonial Reason*

Week 6 November 9, 2017

-No Seminar (ASA Meetings)

Week 7 November 16, 2017 Oscar

-Jose Munoz *Disidentifications*

Week 8 November 23, 2017

-No Seminar

Week 9 Jasbir Puar November 30, 2017 Keva

-*The Right to Maim*

Week 10 December 7, 2017 Burgundy
-Aileen Moreton-Robinson *The White Possessive*

Week 11 Finals Week Portfolio Due. Date TBD