

# **Borders and Bodies: Places, processes and transgressions.**

SPRING 2006 ANTH 236A  
Monday 8:20-11:30  
SSPB 2296

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This course examines borders and boundaries as material and semiotic constructs. Drawing upon an array of literatures, but loosely situated in US geo/biopolitics, this course will explore transformative troubleings of places, spaces, borders and bodies of all sorts. Geographical, corporeal, and identity transgressions will be examined alongside blurrings of nature/culture, biology/society, modernity/postmodernity and other such concepts/situations. These borderings and embodiments will be assessed *vis a vis* more familiar pairings such as structures and agents or subjects and objects.

## **Course Requirements**

1. Attendance and participation are mandatory.
2. Two (2) in-class presentations on the readings. Presentations will occur all quarter except week 1. Presenters should provide a summary, suggest questions and guide the discussion.
3. Mid Term Project: One mid-quarter short essay (5-6 pages) due beginning of class week 6. Essays should be a review and critical analysis of at least three of the readings from the first 5 weeks of class. During class week 6, each student will give a mini-presentation (5-7 min.) of their essay material.
4. Final paper (approx. 12-15 pages) due 5PM Monday June 12<sup>th</sup>. Papers should be significantly different than your week 6 essays and should draw substantively from three (3) required texts, [at least one (1) from weeks 1-5 *and* one (1) from weeks 6-10]. Final paper topics will be discussed in class.

## **Grading**

Attendance, Discussion Participation & (2) Presentations – 30%  
Week 6 Project (Short Essay and Presentation) – 20%  
Final Paper – 50%

## **Course Outline**

### **Week 1. April 3 - Introduction; Embodiment**

Course overview, Introductions, Sign-ups.

Bourdieu, Pierre (1980) *The Logic of Practice*, Stanford: Stanford, pp 53-65.

Bourdieu, Pierre (1984) *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*, Richard Nice (transl.) Cambridge, MA: Harvard, pp 466-484.

Kreiger, Nancy (2005) *Embodiment: A conceptual glossary for epidemiology*. *J of Epidemiology Community Health* 59: 350-355

Halliburton, Murphy (2002) *Rethinking Anthropological Studies of the Body: Manas and Bodham in Kerala*. *American anthropologist* 104(4):1123-1134.

Hacking, Ian (1999) *The Social Construction of What?* Cambridge, MA: Harvard, pp 35-62.

**Week 2. April 10 - Active Spaces**

Lavie, Smadar and Ted Swedenburg (1996) Introduction: Displacement, Diaspora, and Geographies of Identity, *In Displacement, Diaspora, and Geographies of Identity*, Lavie, Smadar and Ted Swedenburg (eds). Durham: Duke, pp 1-25.

Giddens, Anthony (1993) Problems of Action and Structure, Remarks on the Theory of Power, *In The Giddens Reader*, Philip Cassell (ed). Stanford: Stanford, pp88-126; 226-235.

Ong, Aiwa (1999) Cultural Citizenship as Subject Making: Immigrants Negotiate Racial and Cultural Boundaries in the United States, *In Race, Identity, and Citizenship: A Reader*, Rodolfo Torres, Louis Miron, and Jonathan Xavier Inda, (eds). Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp 262-293.

**Week 3. April 17 - Emplacements**

Vélez-Ibáñez, Carlos (1996) Border Visions: Mexican Cultures of the Southwest United States. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

**Week 4. April 24 - Ontological Borders**

Latour, Bruno (2004) Politics of Nature. Cambridge, MA: Harvard

**Week 5. May 1 - Anti Ontological Borders**

Haraway, Donna (2004) Companion Species Manifesto. Chicago: Prickly Paradigm

Min-ha, Trinh T. (1989) Woman, Native, Other. Indianapolis: Indiana, pp 46-76.

Pessar, Patricia (1999) Engendering Migration Studies: The Case of New Immigrants in the United States. *In, Gender and US Immigration*, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (Ed). Berkeley: California, pp 20-42.

**Week 6. May 8 - Incorporations I**

Hayden, Cori (2003) When Nature Goes Public: The Making and Unmaking of Bioprospecting in Mexico. Princeton: Princeton.

**Week 7. May 15 - Incorporations II**

Foucault, Michel, Preface to *Anti Oedipus*, Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari 1996. Minneapolis: Minnesota Press, pp xi-xv.

Foucault, Michel (1977) *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*, New York: Vintage Press, pp 135-169.

Ticktin, Miriam (2006) Where Ethics and Politics Meet: The violence of humanitarianism in France. *American Ethnologist* 33(1) February 2006: 33-49.

Breckenridge, Carol, and Candace Vogler (2001) The Critical Limits of Embodiment: Disability's Criticism. *Public Culture* 13(3): 349-357.

**Week 8. May 22 - Border Identities**

*(DATE & TIME TO BE RESCHEDULED FOR EVENING POTLUCK)*

Fregoso, Rosa Linda (2003) *MeXicana encounters: The Making of Social Identities on the Borderlands*. Berkeley: California Press.

**Week 9. May 29 - Identifying Borders**

Soja, Edward (1993) *History: Geography: Modernity*, In *The Cultural Studies Reader*, Simon During (ed) New York: Routledge, pp 135-150.

Byrd, Bobby (2003) *Puro Border*, pp 9-17; 131-135. *And*, Castillo Udiarte, Roberto (2003) *Johnny Tecate Crosses the Border Looking Sort of Muslim*, In *Puro Border*. Crosthwaite, Byrd and Byrd (eds). El Paso: Cinco de Punto Press, pp 206-208.

Rodriguez, Juana Maria (2003) *Queer Latinidad: Identity Practices, Discursive Spaces*, New York: NYU, pp 5-36.

Lancaster, Roger (2003) *The Trouble with Nature*. Berkeley: U California Press, pp 202-239.

**Week 10. June 5 - Becoming**

Grosz, Elizabeth (2004) *The Nick of Time: Politics, Evolution, and the Untimely*. Durham: Duke.

**For Further Reading:**

Martin, Emily (1994) *Flexible Bodies: The role of immunity in American culture from the days of Polio to the age of AIDS*. Boston: Beacon, pp 115-126.

Rabinow, Paul (2005) *Midst Anthropology's Problems*, In *Global Assemblages: Technology, Politics and Ethics as Anthropological Problems*. Aiwā Ong and Stephen Collier (eds). Malden, MA: Blackwell

Turner, Victor (1969) *The Ritual Process: Structure and Anti Structure*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter, pp 94-130.

Weston, Kath (1997) *The Virtual Anthropologist*, In *Anthropological Locations: Boundaries and Grounds of a Field Science*, Akhil Gupta and James Ferguson (eds). Berkeley: California, pp 163-184.

McCallum, Cecilia (2005) *Racialized Bodies, naturalized classes: Moving through the city of Salvador da Bahia*. *American Ethnologist* 32(1) 100-117.