

Contemporary Anthropological Theory Schedule of Course Readings

* = Required Course Textbook (at bookstore, or on reserve in the library)

© = Course Packet Reading (on e-reserve in the library)

Note: This schedule is subject to change. See course home page for amendments and revisions.

<http://www.deaflibrary.org/nakamura/courses/>

Books:

Barnard, Alan

2000 *History and theory in anthropology*. Cambridge, U.K. New York: Cambridge University Press.

McGee, R. Jon and Richard L. Warms

1999 *Anthropological theory: an introductory history*. 2nd ed. Mountain View, Calif.: Mayfield Pub. Co.
\$72.45

Perry, Richard John

2003 *Five key concepts in anthropological thinking*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Supplemental Reading

Clifford, James and George Marcus, ed.

1986 *Writing culture: the poetics and politics of ethnography*. A School of American Research Advanced Seminar. Berkeley: University of California Press. \$22.50

Note: Readings are due on the date noted

Overview: Classical Anthropological Theory

Week 1.5 (Thursday September 4)

Topic: Course Overview
Reading: Syllabi and web site

Week 2.0 (Tuesday September 9)

Topic: Classical Anthropological Theory & The Basics: Evolutionary Theories
Reading: * Perry: Chap 1-2 (pp 1-54)
* Barnard: Chap 1-3 (pp 1-46)
* McGee: Nineteenth century-evolutionism (pp 5-11, 24-40, 56-66)

Week 2.5 (Thursday September 11)

Topic: Classical Anthropological Theory & The Basics: Culture Area and Diffusionist Theories
Reading: * Perry: Chap 3 (pp 1-40)
* Barnard: Chap 4 (pp 14)
* McGee: Boas & Kroeber (pp 128-146)
* McGee: Benedict & Mean (pp 216-236)

Graduate School, Fellowship, or Applied Anthropology Questions Due

Week 3.0 (Tue September 16)

- Topic:** Classical Anthropological Theory & The Basics: Functionalist & Structural-Functionalist Theories
Reading: ° Perry: Chap 5
° Barnard: Chap 5
° McGee: Functionalism (pp 153-202)

Week 3.5 (September 18)

- Topic:** Classical Anthropological Theory & The Basics: Structuralist and Poststructuralist Theories
Reading: ° Perry: Chap 5
° Barnard: Chap 8-9
° McGee: Structuralism (pp 345-385)

Week 4.0 (September 25)

- Topic:** Marxist Anthropology and Socioecology
Reading: ° Barnard: Chap 6 (38pp)
° McGee: Neomaterialism (pp 284-344)
Draft Statements of Purpose Due

Week 4.5 (September 27)

- Topic:** Ethnoscience and Symbolic Anthropology
Reading: ° McGee: Ethnoscience, Cognitive Anthropology (pp 385-430)
° McGee: Symbolic Anthropology (pp 524-575)

Week 5.0 (Sept 30)

- Topic:** Sociobiology, Anthropology and Gender
Reading: ° McGee: Sociobiology (pp 431-472)
° McGee: Feminist Contributions (pp 473-524)
Final Statements of Purpose Due

Week 5.5 (October 2)

- Topic:** Postmodernism and Anthropology
Reading: ° Barnard: Chap 10 & Conclusions (27pp)
° Perry: Chap 6 & 7 (30pp)

Topic I: Questions of Structure and Agency

Week 6.0 (October 7)

- Topic:** Questions of Structure and Agency I: Structure and Power
Reading: © James Scott, *Seeing Like a State*, Chapter 1 (pp 11-52)
Topic: Questions of Structure and Agency II: Foucault and more Foucault
Reading: © Michel Foucault, "The Body of the Condemned" in *Discipline and Punish* (pp 3-31)
© Michel Foucault, "Truth and Power" in *Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews* (pp109-133)

Week 6.5 (October 9)

Topic: No class – Disabilities Studies Conference at U-Iowa

Week 7.0 (October 14)

Topic: Questions of Structure and Agency II: Hegemony

© Laclau & Mouffe, “Hegemony the Genealogy of a concept” in *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy* (pp 7-46)

© Anthony Giddens, “Agency, Structure” in *Central Problems in Social Theory* (pp 49-95)

© Pierre Bourdieu, “Structures and the Habitus” in *Outline of a Theory of Practice* (72-95)

© Bourgois: “Confronting anthropology”

Week 7.5 (October 16)

Topic: Questions of Structure and Agency III: Applications in Contemporary Anthropology

Reading: © James Scott, Ch.8 “Hegemony and Consciousness” in *Weapons of the Weak* (304-350)

© Aihwa Ong, Chapter 9 of *Spirits of Resistance and Capitalist Discipline: Factory Women in Malaysia* (pp 195-215)

© Jean and John Comaroff, Introduction to *Modernity and its Malcontents* (pp xi-xxxvii)

Week 8.0 (October 21)

Topic: Questions of Structure and Agency IV: Applications in Contemporary Anthropology

Reading: © Ortner: “Anthropology since the sixties”

© Tsuda: “Acting Brazillian in Japan”

© Brown: “On resisting resistance”

Week 8.5 (October 23)

Fall Break

Topic II: Questions of Globalization and Post-Colonialism

Week 9 (October 28)

Topic: Questions of Globalization and Post-Colonialism I: A Primer on our Sordid History

Reading: © Talal Asad, *Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter* (pp 9-20, 103-121)

© Benedict Anderson, Intro & Ch. 1 to *Imagined Communities* (pp 1-36)

© Edward Said, Intro to *Orientalism* (pp 1-28)

Paper: Paper I due: Commentary on Structure and Agency (Tuesday 4pm)

Week 9.5 (October 30)

Topic: Globalization and Post-Colonialism II: World Systems and Development Models

Reading: © Alvin So: Ch 2 & 8 of *Social Change and Development*

Week 10.0 (November 4)

- Topic:** Globalization and Post-Colonialism II: Core Periphery
Reading: © Eric Wolf, Selection from *Europe and the people without History*
© Talal Asad, *Are there Histories of People without Europe?* (pp 594-607)

Week 10.5 (November 6)

- Topic:** Globalization and Post-Colonialism III: The “Other” Arjun
Reading: © Arjun Appadurai, “Global Ethnoscapes” in *Modernity at Large* (pp48-65)
© Arjun Appadurai, “Playing with modernity: the decolonization of Indian Cricket” in *Modernity at Large* (pp 89-113)
© Theodore Bestor, “Wholesale Sushi” in *Theorizing the City: The New Urban Anthropology Reader* by Setha Low (pp 201-243)

Week 11.0 (November 11)

- Topic:** Questions of Globalization and Post-Colonialism V: Applications in Contemp. Anthro
Reading: © Arturo Escobar, *Encountering Development*, Preface & Chapter 1-2 (pp vii-54)
Draft Poster Presentations Due

Week 11.5 (November 13)

- Topic:** Questions of Globalization and Post-Colonialism VI: Applications in Contemp. Anthro
Reading: TBA

Week 12 (November 18)

- Comment:** American Anthropological Association Meeting (no class November 20)
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Topic III: Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods

Week 13 (November 25)

- Topic:** Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods I
Reading: ° James Clifford, “Introduction: Partial Truths” in *Writing Culture* (pp 1-26)
° Vincent Crapanzano, “Hermes’ Dilemma” in *Writing Culture* (pp 51-76)
° Renato Rosaldo, “From the Door of His Tent” in *Writing Culture* (pp 51-76)
° Renato Rosaldo, “Grief and a Headhunter’s Rage” in McGee (pp 575-592)
Comment: Thanksgiving Break (November 28-December 1)
Paper: Paper II due: Commentary on Globalization and Post-Colonialism (Tuesday 4pm)

Week 14.0 (December 2)

- Topic:** Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods II
Reading: ° Talal Asad, “The Problem of Translation” in *Writing Culture* (pp 141-164)
© Kevin Dwyer: Preface and Ch. 1 of *Moroccan Dialogues* (pp xv-xxiii, 21-35)√©
© Rigoberta Menchú (Elisabeth Burgos-Debray), Introduction from *I, Rigoberta Menchú* (pp xiii-6)

Week 14.5 (December 4)

- Topic:** Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods IV
Reading: © Lila Abu-Lughod, "Writing Against Culture" in *Recapturing Anthro* (pp137-162)
© Flax: Postmodernism and gender relations in *Signs*
© Masci-Lees et al: The postmodernist turn in anthropology in *Signs*

Week 15.0 (December 9)

- Topic:** Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods V
Reading: * Paul Rabinow, "Representations are Social Facts" in *Writing Culture* (pp 234-261)
© Clifford Geertz, "The State of the Art" in *Available Light* (pp 89-133)

Week 15.5 (December 11)

- Topic:** Questions of Representation and Ethnographic Methods VI
Reading: * George Marcus, "Afterword" in *Writing Culture* (pp 262-265)
© Margery Wolf, Ch. 5 "Writing Ethnography" in *Thrice Told Tale* (127-142)

Week 16.0 (December 16)

- Topic:** Phrenology
Paper: Paper III due: Commentary on Representation and Ethnographic Methods (4pm)

END OF SEMESTER: HAVE A NICE WINTER BREAK!