

Draft Aug 7, 2011

ANG 6930
Theoretical Foundations of Anthropology and 20th Century Social Thought
Fall 2011

Prof. Maria Stoilkova

Anthropology Department
3345 Turlington Hall
stoilkov@anthro.ufl.edu

Seminar meets: W: 11:45 – 2:45 @ CBD 224

Office Hrs:Turlington 3345 (also by appointment)

Course description:

This seminar seeks to chart some of the many theoretical interfaces between anthropology and the philosophical traditions of social and political sciences of the 20th century.

We follow some of the most influential theoretical debates of the last two centuries and how they have informed (but also have been influenced) by anthropological thought and theory. The seminar partially relies on (or can be used as a complement to) other courses in political anthropology and economic anthropology offered in the UF Anthropology Department. It reflects on anthropological work but focuses mainly on the larger intellectual context within which anthropological questions have been formulated.

We begin by reviewing the classics – the work of Marx, Durkheim and Weber – and their core investigations around questions of ‘modernity’, ‘capitalism,’ ‘industrialization,’ ‘division of labor,’ ‘individualization,’ and ‘rationalization’. We ask what is ‘progress,’ ‘freedom,’ ‘equality,’ and ‘humanism’.

Aihwa Ong has urged us that only “by weaving the analysis of cultural politics and political economy into a single framework can we hope to provide a nuanced delineation of the complex relations between transnational phenomena, national regimes, and cultural practices in the late modernity” (“Flexible Citizenship” 1999).

Contemporary “politics of” anthropology reflect Critical Theory approaches, and Postmodern, “Foucauldian” emphases on power and representation, held together by

the bottom-up approaches that have always defined anthropology. We explore the contours of these theories and ideas as they reflect anthropological thinking on power, knowledge, cultural logics and contemporary societies (of risk, post-modernity, liquidity etc.).

Finally we also pay attention on some recent anthropological elaborations on method.

Format and Assignments:

This seminar is based on student presentations of the select material and small research they prepare for each author, to intellectually contextualize author's work. The list of authors is selected loosely, while the agenda of the course will be finalized based on students' interests and needs (note that there are more readings assigned than we will be able to cover in class!!!).

The seminar aims to help students navigate through the various theoretical debates in social sciences of the last two centuries and help them systematize their theoretical knowledge of anthropology and other social sciences.

Each student will be presenting a reading each class session, or a short summary of the particular theoretical school within which these works have occurred. In addition students are expected to prepare short commentaries on the readings each week, which serve as a starting point for discussion. These readings are made available to everyone prior to class meetings (either copies, or scans). We will also try to set up a webpage with various resources and student commentaries on the readings. By the middle of the semester students are expected to have conceptualized a topic for their final research paper and turn in a short description or an outline of their paper topic of choice.

Materials will be made available electronically or through photo copies prior to class meetings. Students are responsible for gathering the material if they do not own the relevant publication.

Students pursue their own areas of interest, and at the end of the class are expected to write an analytical paper on topics of their own choice as related to the class material (up to 15 pages long double-spaced). Certain flexibility in that respect is allowed.

Week 1, Aug 24: Introduction

Week 2, Aug 31: Defining the Modern and *the classicists* – Karl Marx

Paul Rabinow, 2003. *Anthropos Today: Reflections of Modern Equipment*. Princeton University press

Robert Antonio (Ed.) 2003. *Marx and Modernity*. Blackwell. (Introduction, part 2, 3, 11)

Week 3, Sept 7: Karl Marx (cont.)

Karl Marx: “The Communist Manifesto”

Karl Marx: extracts from “Capital” and “The German Ideology” (From: Lawrence H. Simon (Ed.) 1994. *Karl Marx, Selected Writings* Hackett Publishing Company)

Week 4, Sept 14: *the classicists*: Max Weber

Gerth and Mills. 1991 *From Max Weber*. Oxford University Press

Chapter X (read only pp. 253, 262-64) in “Meaning of Discipline.”
Chapter XI (pp. 267-301). “Social Psychology of the World Religions.”
Chapter XII (pp. 302-322). “Protestant Sects and the Spirit of Capitalism.”
Chapter XIII (pp. 323-362). “Religious Rejections of the World and Their Directions.”
Chapter VII (pp. 180-195). “Class, Status, and Party.”
Chapter IX (pp. 245-252). “Sociology of Charismatic Authority.”

Weber “Religious Rejections of the World and their Directions” (Pdf file available)

Week 5, Sep 21: *the classicists* : Emile Durkheim

Mustafa Emirbayer (Ed.) 2003. *Emile Durkheim: Sociologist of Modernity*. Blackwell (Introduction, Ch 3, 4, 10)

Durkheim, *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life*

- 1) <http://www.archive.org/stream/elementaryformso00durk#page/48/mode/2up>
- 2) <http://durkheim.uchicago.edu/Summaries/forms.html> (provides a summary of the book)

You might find it useful the following set of interpretative works:

Giddens, Anthony, 1971. *Capitalism and Modern Social Theory*. An Analysis of the writings of Marx, Durkheim and Max Weber. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press

Sayer Derek, 1991. *Capitalism and Modernity: Excursus on Marx and Weber*. Routledge

Lash, Scott and Sam Whimster eds. 1987. *Max Weber, Rationality and Modernity*. London Alen&Unwin

Kivisto, Peter (Ed.). *Illuminating Social Life: Classical and Contemporary Theory Revisited*, 4th edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, 2008

Week 6, Sep 21 – The Human Condition (Hannah Arendt)

Arendt, H “The Human Condition”

Arendt, H “Truth and Politics” In: *Between Past and Future*. New York: Viking Press, 1961. Revised edition, 1968.

Week 7, Sept 28: Structure, Agency and the Space of Ideology

Louis Althusser. “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses: Notes Toward an Investigation”
(<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/althusser/1970/ideology.htm>)

Antonio Gramsci, 1971. *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. Quinton Hoare and Geoffrey Smith (eds.) New York: International Publishers (the Modern Prince: 133-185; State and Civil Society: 206-246; Americanism and Fordism: 277-318)

Note: The Introductory essay by Hoare and Smith is of value.

(Optional) Clifford Geertz, 1973. “Ideology as a Cultural System” In: *The Interpretations of Cultures*. Basic Books

Week 8, Oct 5: Forms of Subjectification: Michel Foucault

Foucault, Michel. "Las Meninas." *The Order of Things*. New York: Random.

(<http://mh.cla.umn.edu/txtimbw2.html>)

Foucault, Michel "History of Sexuality" vol 2 "The Use of Pleasure" esp. p. 27

Week 9: Oct 12: The Archaeology of Seeing: Michel Foucault

Foucault, Michel "The Subject and Power"

Foucault, Michel. "The Techniques of the Self"

Foucault, "Truth and Power" In: *Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews and Other Writings, 1972-1977* 131

Foucault, M "Society must be defended"

Web resources:

<http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/irvinem/CCTP748/Foucault-Outline.html>

Week 10: Oct 19 -- Modern forms of governing, governmentality

Paper outline due!!!

Rose, N. 1999. "Powers of Freedom". Cambridge

Gordon, C. 1991. "The Foucault Effect": Introduction. U of Chicago Press

Rabinow, P and Rose, N 2006. "Biopower Today" *Biosocieties* 1 195-217

Venn and Terranova, 2009. "Introduction: Thinking after Michel Foucault" *TC&S* 26/6

Week 11, Oct 19 – The Politics of Affect

Hardt, M and Negri, A 2000. "Empire". Harvard University Press

Week 12 – Oct 26

Deleuze, G, 1990 "Negotiations" Columbia University Press

Ruddick, S. 2010. "The Politics of Affect". In: *Theory Culture and Society* 27 21-45.

Week 13: Nov 2 – Constituting the Subject through Practice (Pierre Bourdieu)

Pierre Bourdieu, 1977. *Outline of a Theory of Practice*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Reading guide at: <http://www.arasite.org/bdieuprc.htm>)

Pierre Bourdieu, 1986. *The Logic of Practice*, Book I, "Critique of Theoretical Reason," pp. 23-141.

Pierre Bourdieu "The Forms of Capital." In J.G. Richardson (ed.), *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*. New York: Greenwood Press, pp. 241-258.

Pierre Bourdieu and Loïc Wacquant, 1992. *An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology*, pp. 94-139, 224-235. University of Chicago Press

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flz6shD3g2s>

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/fr/bourdieu.htm>

Sociology is a Martial Art: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_V_X52VQcA

Week 14, Nov 9: Consequences of Modernity

Giddens, A. 1990 "The Consequences of Modernity"

"Reflective Modernization"

"The transformation of intimacy"

Week 15, Nov 16 – Defining the Global Times

Harvey, D. "Spaces of Hope" and /or "Spaces of Global Capitalism"

Bauman, Z. "Liquid Times"

Week 16, Nov 23 – Ethics and Morality for the 21 century

Agamben "Homo Sacer" or/and "State of Exception"

Week 17: Nov 30 – Society of Risks

Beck. U. 2009. "World at Risk" Polity Press

Or? Reassembling the Social (**Latour, 2005**).

Week 18: Dec 7 – End of Classes