

ICS Calendar Title: The Self and Its Others: Identity, Difference, and Responsibility
ICS Course Code: ICS 1621/2621 F08
Instructor: Dr. Shannon Hoff, shoff@icscanada.edu, 416-979-2331 ext. 232
Term and Year: Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30, Fall 2008
Last updated: September 1, 2008

Course Description

This course explores: a) the notion that subjectivity is not merely given but produced through encounters and engagements with society, language, and other selves; as well as b) the consequence of this phenomenon for thinking about ethical and political responsibility. We will examine the construction of ethnic, racial, gendered, and post-colonial "difference," the forces that have constituted them as "other" instead of "same," and the consequences this has for the development of the self and its obligations. We will set up the theoretical issues by discussing Plato, Kant, Hegel, and Levinas, but will focus specifically on readings from prominent theorists of race, gender, and post-coloniality.

Course Materials

Required course texts can be purchased at the Bob Miller Book Room, 180 Bloor St. West, lower concourse.

Homi K. Bhabha, from *The Location of Culture*. London: Routledge, 2004. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: PN761 .B48 2004 ; SMC: PN761 .B48 2004]

Judith Butler, "*Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and Feminist Theory*" (1988)

Frantz Fanon, from *Black Skin, White Masks*. New York: Grove Press, 2008. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: GN645 .F313 2008 ; ROBA: GN645 .F313 2008X]

_____, from *The Wretched of the Earth*. New York: Grove Press, 2004. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: DT33 .F363 1968 ; SMC: DT33 .F313 2004]

Luce Irigaray, from *i love to you*. New York: Routledge, 1996. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B824.18 .I7513 1996]

_____, from *This Sex Which Is Not One*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HQ1206 .I713]

Lucius P. Outlaw, "Philosophy, Ethnicity, and Race: the Alfred P. Stiernotte Lectures in Philosophy". Hamden, CT: Quinnipiac College, 1989.

Edward Said, from *Orientalism*. New York: Vintage Books, 2003. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: DS12 .S24 1994 ; ROBA: DS12 .S24 2003]

Gayatri Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?," in *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1999. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HX523 .M3766 1988; VUEM: HX523 .M3766 1988]

Course Requirements

Class Participation: 15%

Each course member is required to do the reading assignment and participate in class discussions. Good participation should be mindful and conducive of the contributions of others.

Presentations: 30%

Each course participant will give two presentations on course reading. The 20-30 minute presentations should highlight main points and raise questions to the text.

Research Paper: 55%

A final draft of the research paper is due on January 9th, one month after the end of class. A 100-500 word abstract of the paper is due on December 2nd. I encourage you to hand in earlier drafts of the paper in order to get early feedback.

Note on Reading

Much of post-colonial theory depends on literary analysis. To that end, here are some literary recommendations follow: Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, Jamaica Kincaid's *A Small Place* and *Lucy*, Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*, Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*, and the work of Salman Rushdie.

Recommended Readings:

- Kwame Anthony Appiah, *In My Father's House: Africa in the Philosophy of Culture*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1993, c1992. [TRIN: DT 352.4 .A66 1993]
- Bill Ashcroft et. al., eds., *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures*. London: Routledge, 2002. [VUPT: PR9080 .A85 2002]
- _____, *The Post-Colonial Studies Reader*. London: Routledge, 2006. [ROBA: PR9080 .P57 2006]
- Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*. London: Vintage, 1997. [SCM: HQ1208 .B3513 1997]
- Robert Bernasconi and Tommy Lee Lott, *The Idea of Race*. Indianapolis : Hackett, 2000.
- Homi K. Bhabha, *Nation and Narration*. London: Routledge, 1990. [VUPT: PN56 .N19 N38 1990]
- Bernard R. Boxill, *Blacks and Social Justice*. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1992. [ROBA: E185.615 .B63 1992]
- Judith Butler, *Bodies That Matter: on the discursive limites of "sex"*. London: Routledge, 1993. [ROBA: HQ1190 .B88 1993]
- _____, *Giving an Account of Oneself*. New York : Fordham University Press, 2005. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD450 .B895 2005; SMC: BD450 .B895 2005]
- John Caputo, *Against Ethics: Contributions to a Poetics of Obligation With Constant Reference to Deconstruction*. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1993. [SMC: BJ1012 .C316 1993]
- _____, *More Radical Hermeneutics: On Not Knowing Who We Are*. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 2000. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD241 .C336 2000]
- Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*. New York: Monthly Review Press, 2000. [SMC: JV51 .C413 2000]
- Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*. London: Continuum, 2003. [KNOX: RC455 .D4213 2003]
- _____, *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*. London : Continuum, 2004. [VUPT: B77 .D413 2004]
- Jacques Derrida, *Speech and Phenomena: and Other Essays on Husserl's Theory of Signs*. Evanston : Northwestern University Press, 1973. [ROBA: B3279 .H94 D382]
- _____, *Writing and Difference*. Chicago : University of Chicago Press, c1978. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: PN176 .D47813]
- W. E. B. DuBois, *The Souls of Black Folk*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. [ROBA: E185.6 .D797 2007]
- Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*. New York : Vintage Books, 1980-1990. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HQ12 .F6813 v.1-3]
- _____, *Discipline and Punish: the Birth of the Prison*. New York : Vintage Books, 1995. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HV8666 .F6813 1995]
- _____, *Madness and Civilization: a History of Insanity in the Age of Reason*. New York: Vintage Books, 1988. [VUPT: RC438 .F613 1988]
- Sigmund Freud, *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*. London: Penguin Books, 1991. [TRIN: BF173 .F85 V613 1991]
- Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1993. [VUPT: CB235 .G55 1993]
- Ranjit Guha, *The Subaltern Studies Reader, 1986-1995*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997. [ROBA: DS463 .S77 1997-Short Term Loan (Course Reserves)]
- G. W. F. Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*. Oxford : Clarendon Press, 1977. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2928 .E5 M54 1977]
- Axel Honneth, *The Struggle for Recognition: the Moral Grammar of Social Conflicts*. Cambridge, UK : Polity Press, 1995. [ROBA: HM136 .H59813 1995X]
- bell hooks, *Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism*. Boston: South End Press, 1981. [ROBA:HQ1410 .H68]
- _____, *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*. Cambridge, MA : South End Press, 2000. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HQ1426 .H675 2000]
- Immanuel Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*. Indianapolis : Hackett Pub. Co., 1983. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2766 .E5 E44 1983]
- Julia Kristeva, *Nations Without Nationalism*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1993. [ROBA: DC34 .K7513

1993]

- _____, *Powers of Horror*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1982. [KNOX: PQ2607 .E834 Z73413 1982]
- _____, *Strangers to Ourselves*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1991. [TRIN: PN56 .A45 K7513 1991]
- Emmanuel Levinas, *Totality and Infinity*. Pittsburgh, Pa. : Duquesne University Press, [2002], c1969. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD396 .L4313]
- Eugene Thomas Long, *Self and Other: Essays in Continental Philosophy of Religion*. Dordrecht, Netherlands : Springer, c2007. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD438.5 .S45 2007]
- Albert Memmi, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*. London : Earthscan, 2003 [ROBA: JV51 .M413 2003]
- Charles W. Mills, *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1998. [ROBA: E185.615 .M54 1998X]
- _____, *The Racial Contract*. Ithaca : Cornell University Press, 1997. [ROBA: HT1523 .M56 1997X]
- Chandra Talpade Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes". Chap. 1 in *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003. [ROBA: HQ1870.9 .M64 2003X]
- Jean-Luc Nancy, *The Inoperative Community*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 1991. [VUPT: HM131 .N3313 1991]
- James H. Olthuis, ed., *Knowing Other-wise: Philosophy at the Threshold of Spirituality*. New York : Fordham University Press, 1997. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B831.2 .K66]
- _____, *Towards an Ethics of Community: negotiations of difference in a pluralist society*. Waterloo, Ont. : Published for the Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion = Corporation canadienne des sciences religieuses by Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2000 [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD394 .T68 2000]
- Lucius T. Outlaw, *On Race and Philosophy*. New York: Routledge, 1996. [ROBA: E185.615 .O9 1996X]
- _____, "Philosophy, Ethnicity, Race: the Alfred P. Stiernotte Lectures in Philosophy." Hamden, CT: Quinnipiac College, 1989.
- Paul Ricoeur, *Oneself as Another*. Chicago, Ill. : University of Chicago Press, c1992. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2430 .R533 S6513]
- Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Knopf, 1993. [ROBA: PN771 .S245 1993]
- Jean-Paul Sartre, *Being and Nothingness: an Essay on Phenomenological Ontology*. New York : Philosophical Library, c1956. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B819 .S272 1956]
- _____, *Anti-Semite and Jew*. [New York] : Schocken Books, 1965. [SMC: B2430 .S338 R45]
- Henry Schwarz and Sangeeta Ray, eds., *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies*. Malden, MA : Blackwell Publishers, 2000. [TRIN: JV51 .C75 2000]
- Sophocles, *Antigone*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003. [ICS Reserve Shelf: PA4414 .A1 G7 v.1 ; ROBA: PA4414 .A7 F73 2003]
- Gayatri Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?"; *In Other Worlds*
- _____, *The Post-Colonial Critic*. New York ; London : Routledge, c1990. [ROBA: HN27 .S66 1990]
- Charles Taylor, *Multiculturalism and the Politics of Recognition*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1994. [SMC: E184 .A1 M84 1994]
- _____, *Sources of the Self: the Making of Modern Identity*. Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1989. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD450 .T266 1989]
- Michael Theunissen, *The Other: Studies in the Social Ontology of Husserl, Heidegger, Sartre, and Buber*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1986. [TRIN: B804 .T4513 1986]
- Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace: a Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation*. Nashville, Tenn. : Abingdon Press, c1996. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BV4509.5 .V65 1996]
- Cornel West, *Race Matters*. New York: Vintage Books, 1994. [ROBA: E185.615 .W43 1994]
- Naomi Zack, *Thinking About Race*. Belmont, CA : Thomson Wadsworth, c2006

Course Schedule

Sept. 9-16 *Part One*: Introduction: Plato, Kant, Hegel, Levinas

Sept. 23-Oct. 14 *Part Two*: Gender

- Luce Irigaray, *This Sex Which Is Not One*
- Judith Butler, "Performative Acts and Gender Constitution"; *Gender Trouble*

Oct. 21 Reading Break

Oct. 28-Nov. 18 *Part Three*: Race

- Lucius P. Outlaw, "Philosophy, Ethnicity, and Race"
- Frantz Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*

- Frantz Fanon, *Wretched of the Earth*

Nov. 25-Dec. 9 *Part Four*. Post-Colonialism

- Edward Said, *Orientalism*
- Homi K. Bhabha, "Signs Taken for Wonders"
- Gayatri Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?"

Dec. 2 Submit abstract of research paper

Jan. 9 Submit final draft of research paper