

ICS Calendar Title: The Self and Its Others

ICS Course Code: ICS 120604/220604 W11

Instructor: Dr. Shannon Hoff, shoff@icscanada.edu, 416.979.2331 ext. 232

Term and Year: Thursdays, 1:30-4:30pm, Winter 2011

Last Updated: December 21, 2010

Course Description:

This course explores: a) the notion that subjectivity is not merely given but produced historically in relation to a larger social and political context; as well as b) the consequence of this phenomenon for thinking about responsibility. We will examine the significance of sexual, racial, 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 responsibility. The focus of the course will be Simone de Beauvoir and Frantz Fanon’s discussions of sexual, racial, and post-colonial identity. We will also, however, set up the philosophical issues by discussing Plato’s identification of the various aspects of identity and R. D. Laing’s notion of “ontological security,” and unpack them by discussing important writings from Virginia Woolf, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Tamim Ansary.

Course Materials:

Tamim Ansary, *Destiny Disrupted*. New York: PublicAffairs, 2009. [Robarts Library: DS35.63 .A57 2009X]

Simone de Beauvoir, *Ethics of Ambiguity*. New York: Citadel Press, 1976. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BJ1063 .B383 1976]

_____. *The Second Sex*. New York: A.A. Knopf, 2010. [Pratt Library: HQ1208 .B352 2010]

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

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

R. D. Laing, *The Divided Self*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1960. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: RC465 .L3]

Martin Luther King, Jr., “*Letter from a Birmingham Jail*”. Englewood: Prentice-Hall, 1971. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: E175.9 C46]

Plato, *Apology and Crito* (*Complete works*). Indianapolis: Hackett, 1997. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B358 .C3 1997]

Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One’s Own*. Orlando, Fla.: Harcourt, 2005. [Pratt Library: PN471 .W6 2005]

Malcolm X, “*The Ballot or the Bullet?*”

Course Requirements:

Class Participation: 15%

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

of others.

Presentations: 25-35%

Each course participant will give one or two presentations on course readings.

Essays: 50-60%

Everyone will write short essays on assigned topics related to course readings.

Assignments will be distributed in class.

Recommended Readings:

Kwame Anthony Appiah, *In My Father's House*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. [Trinity College Library: DT352.4 .A66 1993]

Bill Ashcroft et. al., eds., *The Empire Writes Back*. London: Routledge, 2002. [Trinity College Library: PR9080 .A85 2002]

_____. *The Post-Colonial Studies Reader*. London: Routledge, 2006. [Robarts Library: PR9080 .P57 2006]

Robert Bernasconi and Tommy Lee Lott, *The Idea of Race*

Homi K. Bhabha, *Nation and Narration*. London: Routledge, 1990. [Robarts Library: PN56 .N19 N38 1990]

Bernard R. Boxill, *Blacks and Social Justice*. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1992. [Robarts Library: E185.615 .B63 1992]

Judith Butler, *Bodies That Matter*. New York: Routledge, 1993 [St. Michael's College Library: HQ1190 .B88 1993]

_____. [*Giving an Account of Oneself*](#). New York : Fordham University Press, 2005. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD450 .B895 2005]

_____. [*Gender Trouble*](#). New York: Routledge, 1999. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HQ1154 .B88 2006]

John Caputo, *Against Ethics*. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1993. [Robarts Library: BJ1012 .C324 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, 1972. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: JV51 .C413]

W. E. B. DuBois, *The Souls of Black Folk*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. [Robarts Library: 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*](#). New York: Vintage Books, 1995. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HV8666 .F6813 1995]

Sigmund Freud, *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1991. [Trinity College Library: BF173 .F85 V613 1991]

- Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic*. London: Verso, 1993. [Robarts Library: CB235 .G55 1993]
- Ranjit Guha, *The Subaltern Studies Reader*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997. [Robarts Library: DS463 .S77 1997]
- 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*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 1995. [Robarts Library: HM136 .H59813 1995X]
- bell hooks, *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*. Cambridge: South End Press, 2000. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: HQ1426 .H675 2000]
- Hord, Fred, ed. *I Am Because We Are: Readings in Black Philosophy*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1995. [Robarts Library: DT15 .I15 1995X]
- Immanuel Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1983. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2766 .E5 E44 1983]
- _____. *The Critique of Practical Reason*. New York: Liberal Arts Press, 1956. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2773 .E5 B4]
- Julia Kristeva, *Nations Without Nationalism*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1993. [Robarts Library: DC34 .K7513 1993]
- _____. *Strangers to Ourselves*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1991. [Robarts Library: B808.2 .K7413 1991]
- Emmanuel Levinas, *Totality and Infinity*. Pittsburgh, Pa.: Duquesne University Press, 2002. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD396 .L4313]
- _____. *Otherwise Than Being*. Pittsburgh, Pa. : Duquesne University Press, 1998. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B2430 .L483 A8313 1998]
- Eugene Thomas Long, *Self and Other: Essays in Continental Philosophy of Religion*. Dordrecht, Netherlands : Springer, 2007. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD438.5 .S45 2007]
- Albert Memmi, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*. London: Earthscan, 2003. [Robarts Library: JV51 .M413 2003]
- Charles W. Mills, *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1998. [Robarts Library: E185.615 .M54 1998X]
- _____. *The Racial Contract*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1997. [Robarts Library: HT1523 .M56 1997X]
- Chandra Talpade Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes"
- Jean-Luc Nancy, *The Inoperative Community*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1991. [Robarts Library: HM131 .N3313 1991]
- James H. Olthuis, ed., *Knowing Other-wise*. New York: Fordham University Press, 1997. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B831.2 .K66]
- _____. *Towards an Ethics of Community*. 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. [Robarts Library: E185.615 .O9 1996X]
- 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: A.A. Knopf, 1993. [Robarts Library: PN771 .S245 1993]
- _____. *Orientalism*. New York : Vintage Books, 1994. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: DS12 .S24 1994]
- Jean-Paul Sartre, *Being and Nothingness*. New York : Philosophical Library, c1956. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: B819 .S272 1956]
- _____. *Anti-Semite and Jew*. [New York] : Schocken Books, c1965. [St. Michael's College Library: B2430 .S338 R45]
- Henry Schwarz and Sangeeta Ray, eds., *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies*. Malden, MA : Blackwell Publishers, 2000. [Pratt Library: JV51 .C75 2000]
- Gayatri Spivak, *In Other Worlds*. New York : Routledge, 1988. [Robarts Library: HM101 .S773 1988]
- _____. *The Post-Colonial Critic*. London : Routledge, c1990 [Robarts Library: HN27 .S66 1990]
- _____. *The Critique of Post-Colonial Reason*. Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1999. [Robarts Library: JV51 .S58 1999X]
- Charles Taylor, *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, c1994. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: E184 .A1 M84 1994]
- _____. *Sources of the Self*. Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1989. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BD450 .T266 1989]
- Michael Theunissen, *The Other*. Cambridge, Mass. : MIT Press, 1986. [Trinity College Library: B804 .T4513 1986]
- Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation*. Nashville, Tenn.: Abingdon Press, 1996. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BV4509.5 .V65 1996]
- Cornel West, *Race Matters*. New York : Vintage Books, 1994. [Robarts Library: E185.615 .W43 1994]
- Naomi Zack, *Thinking About Race*

Course Schedule:

Part One: Identity Formation

January 13: Introduction

January 20: Plato, Apology and Crito

January 27: R. D. Laing, The Divided Self

Part Two: Women's Identity

February 3: Simone de Beauvoir, Ethics of Ambiguity

February 10: Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex

February 17: Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex

February 24: No Class: Reading Break

March 3: Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*

Part Three: Race and Post-Colonial Identity

March 10: Frantz Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*

March 17: Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

March 24: Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

March 31 Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"

Malcolm X, "The Ballot or the Bullet?"

Part Four: Conclusion

April 7: Tamim Ansary, *Destiny Disrupted*

April 14: Film: Satyajit Ray, *The Home and the World*