

## Ethnic Studies 200C: Research in Ethnic Studies

Professor Yen Le Espiritu

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### Course Description

This course will present students with project research designs, presented by Ethnic Studies faculty and affiliated faculty. Presenters will discuss how they conceive of and pose their research questions, integrate theoretical and methodological models that guide their research plan, how they think about the type and direction of the research undertaken, and how they conceptualize the end result in terms of presentation and reading audiences, publishing plans, and the larger conversations that the research will engage.

### Assignments and Due Dates

- **Response Papers:** Each week, you'll write a half-page response to and 3 discussion questions on the assigned materials.

Due date: Every Monday by noon via WebCT

- **Idea Paper:** free writing on possible ideas for your comprehensive literature review (2-3 pp)

Due date: Sunday April 10 by 6pm via WebCT (week 3)

- **Lit Review Prospectus:** first draft of lit review that identifies a clearly defined topic, fields that you will review, and at least one section of the paper (5-7pp)

Due date: Sunday May 1 by 6pm via WebCT (week 6)

- **Second Draft:** draft at least one more section of the paper (5-7 pp)

Due date: Sunday, May 22 by 6pm via WebCT (week 9)

- **Final paper:** 15 pp.

Due date: Wednesday of finals week

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Week 1: Tuesday, March 29- Introduction

Week 2: Tuesday, April 5 --

A. Juxtaposition, Interruption and Shuttling as Interdisciplinary methods.

**Presenter: Kalindi Vora** (9:45-10:50)

- Kalindi Vora, "Chapter One: Introduction: Life Support: India's Production of Vital Commodities." in *\*Life Support: Vital Exchange Between India and the US*. [Working Draft].\*

- Gayatri Spivak. "A Literary Representation of the Subaltern," in Spivak, Gayatri. In *Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics*, pp. 241-68. New York: Routledge, 1988.

B. Critical Refugee Studies

**Presenter: Yen Espiritu (11-12:50)**

Min Zhou, "Straddling Different Worlds: The Acculturation of Vietnamese Refugee Children." In *Ethnicities: Children of Immigrants in America*. UC Press, 2001  
Yen Le Espiritu. *Body Counts: The Vietnam War, the Refugees, and the Writing of Ghost Stories*. Book Proposal submitted to UC Press.

Yen Le Espiritu. "Negotiating Memories of War: Arts in Vietnamese American Communities." In *Art in the Lives of Immigrant Communities in the U.S.*, edited by Paul DiMaggio and Patricia Fernandez-Kelly. (New York: Rutgers University Press, 2010), pp. 316-342.

Yen Le Espiritu. "Militarized Refuge: A Critical Rereading of Vietnamese Flight to the US." Draft.

Week 3: Tuesday, April 12 – Performance Studies

**Presenter: Patrick Anderson, Comm/Ethnic Studies (10 -11:30)**

Patrick Anderson. *So Much Wasted: Hunger, Performance, and the Morbidity of Resistance*. Duke University Press, 2010.

Week 4: Tuesday, April 19 -- Life, Death and the Black Reproductive

**Presenter: Sara Kaplan (11:30-12:50)**

Patterson, Orlando. "The Constituent Elements of Slavery." *Slavery and Social Death: A Comparative Study*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1980. 1-13.

Kaplan, Sara Clarke. "Love and Violence/Maternity and Death: Black Feminism and the Politics of Reading (Un)representability." *Black Women, Gender & Families* 1.1 (Spring 2007): 94-124.

Kaplan, Sara Clarke. "Our Founding (M)Other: Erotic Love and Social Death in Sally Hemings and The President's Daughter." *Callaloo* 32.3 (Summer 2009): 773-791.

**Week 5: Tuesday, April 26 — African Diasporic Studies**

A. Racial Violence in Historical and Comparative Perspective: Comparing South Africa and the American South

**Presenter: Ivan Evans, Sociology (10:00-11:20)**

Ivan Evans, *Cultures of Violence: Racial Violence and the Origins of Segregation in South Africa and the American South*, Chs. 1-4 and 7-9.

B. Migration and Struggle during the Age of Revolution; Notes on Comparative Methodologies in African Diaspora Studies

**Presenter: Sara Johnson, Literature (11:30-12:50)**

Sara Johnson, "'You Should Give them Blacks to Eat': Cuban Bloodhounds and the Waging of an Inter-American War of Torture and Terror." *American Quarterly* Vol. 61.1 (March 2009): 65-92.

Sara Johnson. "French Set Girls and Transcolonial Performance." In *The Fear of French Negroes: Transcolonial Imagination in the Revolutionary Americas*. Berkeley: University of California Press, forthcoming.

Week 6: Tuesday, May 3 – The Politics of Intellectual Property Law

**\*\*\* Featured Students: Juvenal and Lisa (10-11:30) \*\*\***

**Presenter: Boatema Boateng, Communication (11:30-12:50)**

Required:

Anderson, B. "The Last Wave." In *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism* (Revised Edition), 113-140. London/New York: Verso, 1991.

Boateng, B. "The Tongue Does Not Rot" and "We Run a Single Country." In *The Copyright Thing Doesn't Work Here: Adinkra and Kente Cloth and Intellectual Property in Ghana*, 35-65; 117-143. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2011.

Foucault, M. "What is an Author?" In *The Foucault Reader*, edited by Paul Rabinow, 101-120. New York: Pantheon Books, 1984.

Recommended:

Boateng, B. "Introduction." In *The Copyright Thing Doesn't Work Here: Adinkra and Kente Cloth and Intellectual Property in Ghana*, 1-33. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2011.

Week 7: Tuesday, May 10—

**\*\*\*\*Featured Students: Kai and Sal (10-11:30)\*\*\*\***

**Presenter: Fatima El Tayeb, Literature/Ethnic Studies (11:30 - 12:50)**

Michel-Rolph Trouillot, "An Unthinkable History," in *Silencing the Past: Power and Production of History*. Beacon Press.

Fatima El-Tayeb. "The Birth of a European Public": Migration, Postnationality, and Race in the Reuniting of Europe. *American Quarterly*, Vol. 60, no. 3, Sept. 2008, pp. 649-670.

Week 8: Tuesday, May 17-- Land and, Labor and Visual Culture

**Presenter: Curtis Marez (10-11:30)**

- Curtis Marez. "Looking Beyond Property: Native Americans and Photography"

- Curtis Marez. "The Homies in Silicon Valley"

- Curtis Marez. 2009. "Obama's Blackberry, Or This is Not a Technology of Destruction." *Journal of Visual Culture*, 8: 219-223.

**\*\*\*\* Featured Students: Christina and Vanessa (11:30-12:50) \*\*\*\***

Week 9: Thursday, May 24-- Genealogies of Race, Normality, and Pathology: Meanings of Blackness in the Human Sciences

**Presenter: Gabriel Mendes (10-11:30)**

- Gabriel Mendes. Introduction and Chapter 3 of *A Deeper Science: Richard Wright, Dr. Fredric Wertham and the Fight for Mental Healthcare in Harlem, NY, 1940-1960*.

- Frantz Fanon, "The Negro and Psychopathology," from *Black Skin, White Masks*.

- Daryl Scott, "Introduction," *Contempt and Pity: Social Policy and the Image of the Damaged Black Psyche*
- Suggested: Ralph Ellison, "An American Dilemma: A Review" in *Shadow and Act*.

**\*\*\*\* Featured Students: Suboh and Malathi (11:30-12:50)\*\*\*\***

Week 10: Thursday, May 31 – Student presentations