

Research Seminar in Ethnic Studies

Ethnic Studies 210

Spring 2008

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SSB223

Weds- 2-3

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Office Hours:

Thurs -11-12

This seminar is designed to present the basic foundations of research design and to explore your own ideas about how to plan research. The specific objective here is the production of a research prospectus. Within this context we will examine the role of insider or indigenous researchers, the ethics of involvement, and the application of experiential knowledge to research problems. Class periods will be devoted to both required readings and your own progress in designing a research topic.

Introduction

April 1 – Introduction. The structure of research design. Overview of readings and assignments.

Part I: Indigenous knowledge, research and ethics

April 8 - Reading assignment: Medicine Part 1-4,

Written assignment: (1) reading summary and questions, (2) Preliminary research idea (about one double-spaced page, but not to exceed two pages). Be prepared to discuss.

April 15 - Doing “Indigenous research@

Medicine Part 4-6, Appendices;

Written assignment: reading summary and questions

April 22- Ethics: Harrison, AAA, Mills, Limon, Abu-Lughod, Hale

Written Assignments: (1) Reading questions. (2) Preliminary draft of Initial research plan. Be prepared to discuss this in class.

Part II. Analyzing Research Design

April 29 - Reading assignment: *All Our Kin*

Written assignment: (1) analysis and questions.(2) Abstract and annotated bibliography of primary literature on your research topic.

May 6 - Reading assignment: *Fit to Be Citizens*

Written assignment: analysis and questions

May 13 - Reading assignment: *Carnal Appetites*

Written assignment: (1) analysis and questions (2) Research topic, focus and framework.

May 20 -- Reading assignment: *Shadowed Lives*

Written assignment: (1)analysis and questions (2) Proposed methodology and significance

May 27- Reading assignment: *Wisdom Sits in Places*

Written assignment: (1)analysis and questions

June 3 - Written assignment: Final Research Prospectus—

Required assignments: As outlined above each participant in the class will be required to come prepared to discuss reading assignments, and to turn in various written assignments.

Part I: Indigenous paradigms and ethics

(April 10- April 22) For each class period reading a double spaced typewritten critique/review of one to two pages.

Part II. Analyzing Research Design :

(April 29- June 03) A double spaced analysis not to exceed two pages of **each text** to address the following when appropriate:

What is the purpose of the research? Where and how did the research originate? What questions frame and organize the argument and discussion of the author? How was the study/research conducted (what methods were used)? Where and of what significance is the place, people, or community or research site? Why is this research and or study relevant and significant to ethnic studies and social science? How does this relate to your own research?

The Research Prospectus. In order to construct a research prospectus each participant will turn in periodical assignments:

April 8 - Preliminary Research Topic

April 22- Preliminary Draft of Research Plan

May 6 - Annotated Bibliography of research topic (to be explained in class)

May 20- Second Draft of Research Topic/Question and supporting literature

May 27- Draft of proposed methodology and significance

June 3- Final Research Prospectus.

Grading: Class Participation 30%; Reading summaries and written assignments 30%; Final Research Prospectus 40%.

Required Texts:

Basso, Keith *Wisdom Sits in Places*, University of New Mexico Press:1996

Chavez, Leo *Shadowed Lives: Undocumented Immigrants in American Society*,

Harcourt Brace and Jovanovich 1996

Medicine, Bea. *Learning to be an Anthropologist and Remaining a Native* University of Illinois Press, 2001

Molina, Natalia *Fit to Be Citizens*. University of California Press, 2006

Probyn, Elspeth *Carnal Appetites: FoodSexIdentities*: Routledge, 2000

Stack, Carol *All Our Kin*, Basic Books: 1997.

Articles

Abu-Lughod, Lila

1994 Writing Against Culture in *Recapturing Anthropology*. Richard G. Fox ed.
School of American Research: Santa Fe, 135-162

American Anthropological Association

1973 (1946,1952) aResolutions@, in *To See Ourselves*, ed. Thomas Weaver. Scott, Foresman and Company: Glenview Ill.43-45.

1973(1970) Principals of Professional Responsibility. in *To See Ourselves*, ed. Thomas Weaver. Scott, Foresman and Company: Glenview Ill. 46-48.

Hale, Charles

2006 Activist Research v. Cultural Critique: Indigenous Land Rights and the Contradictions of Politically Engaged Anthropology. *Cultural Anthropology* 21(1) 96-120.

Harrison, Faye

1991 Ethics and Ethnography. In *Decolonizing Anthropology*. Ed. Faye Harrison, American Anthropological Association: Washington D.C.

Limon, Jose.

1994 Representation, Ethnicity, and the Precursory Ethnography. Notes of a Native Anthropologist. in *Recapturing Anthropology*. Richard G. Fox ed. School of American Research: Santa Fe, 115-135.

Mills, C. Wright

1973(1959) On Politics in *To See Ourselves*, ed. Thomas Weaver. Scott, Foresman and Company: Glenview Ill. 10-18.