On Race, Geopolitics & Feminisms: A Conversation

Friday, May 13/3 PM / Dakes Moral Room

This conversation brings together three scholars whose work foregrounds the imbrications of race, gender and sexuality within emergent paradigms of religion and geopolitics. Discussion will engage the current context of the so-called “Global War on Terror.”

Nadine Naber is Assistant Professor of American Culture and Women’s Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is completing a book manuscript on race, gender, and sexuality among Arab Americans in San Francisco, California. Her new ethnographic research traces shifts in the racialization of Arabs and Muslims in the aftermath of September 11th. Currently, she is co-editing a special issue of the MIT Electronic Journal of Middle East Studies on Arab American feminisms, as well as an anthology entitled “From Invisible Citizens to Visible Subjects: Arab American Identities Before and After September 11th.”

Minoo Moallem is Professor and Chair of Women’s Studies at San Francisco State University. She is co-editor (with Caren Kaplan and Norma Alarcón) of Between Women and Nations: Nationalisms, Transnational Feminisms and the State (Duke, 1999). Her most recent book is Between Warrior Brother and Veiled Sister: Islamic Fundamentalism and the Feminist Politics of Patriotry (California, 2005). Currently, she is working on a book manuscript entitled “Immigrants and Consumers: Iranians in North America and Europe.”

Neferti Tadiar is Associate Professor of History of Consciousness at UC Santa Cruz. Her research is focused on contemporary Filipino and Philippine culture, and addresses more broadly questions about the role of gender, race, and sexuality in discourses and material practices of nationalism, transnationalism, and globalization. Publications include “Sexual Economies in the Asia Pacific,” in What Is a Race? Critical Perspectives on the Pacific Region Region (Arif Dirlik ed., Seattle, 1990), and Feminism and Production: Sexual Economies and Other Philippine Consequences for the New World Order (Hong Kong University, 2004).

LECTURE: Will to Power, Will to Line: Towards a Politics of Liberation
Monday, April 18/4–6 PM / Dakes Moral Room

SEMINAR: Planetary Politics
Tuesday, April 19/1–3 PM / Dakes Moral Room

SEMINAR READING:


Readings may be requested by email up to one week in advance from ccul@ucsc.edu.

Enrique Dussel is Professor of Philosophy at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. He is the main spokesperson for the Latin American movement known as liberation philosophy. He is author of over 50 books and 300 articles. His work in English includes The Underside of Modernity: Anarchism (Humanities, 1996), The Assumption of Empire (Humanities, 1996), and Under the Sun: Latin American Theologies of Liberation (Orbis, 1985). He is presently founding a two-volume work entitled Politics of Liberation.

The problem...is the question of the overcoming of specific,” in Enrique Dussel’s The Long Theft (Verso, 1997) and his forthcoming Beyond Eurocentrism (some of it has appeared in English in Outlaw Woman: Discourses of Power and Resistance in the Americas and Europe, particularly the 1960s and 1970s. She is Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Oregon. His books include Anarchism in the Chinese Revolution (California, 1990), Schools into Fields and Factories: Anarchists, the Guo-dian, and the National Labor Unions in Shenzhen, 1987-1992 (Duke, 1991); and After the Revolution: Working to Global Capitalism (University Press of New England, 1974).

ROXANNE DUNBAR-ORTIZ is a founder of the feminist movement and anti-war activist and organizer, forming associations with revolutionary groups across the spectrum of radical and underground politics during the 1960s and 1970s. She is Professor of Ethnic Studies and Women’s Studies at California State University, Hayward. She is the author of The Great Stress of Survival: Resistance, Rejection, and Indignation of the Americans (Zed, 1984), and the memoir Red Dirt (Verso, 1997) and Outlaw Women (City Lights, 2001).

JOHN HOLLOWAY is one of the best-known analysts of the Zapatista rebellion, and the author of Change the World Without Taking Power (Pluto, 2002). He has lived in Mexico for over a decade and teaches political science at the Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades in the Universidad Autónoma de Puebla.

BARRY PATEMAN is an Associate Editor of the Emma Goldman Papers, and has been the project’s research associate in the UK since 1989. He has also taught free classes on anarchism at the Anarchist Library at City College in San Francisco.

EDDIE YUEN is the co-editor of The Battle for Seattle: The New Challenge to Capitalist Globalization (Soft Skull, 2000) and Coordinating Editor of the Publications Group (WPW, 2004). He is on the faculty of the activism and social justice movement and is the co-editor of The Underside of Modernity: Anarchism (Humanities, 1996), and Under the.
Vivian Sobchack
RESPONSIBLE VISIONS: A CONVERSATION WITH VIVIAN SOBCHACK
Monday, April 11 / 4 PM / Oakes Moral Room
This roundtable discussion will consider Vivian Sobchack’s most recent book, *Responsible Visions*.褊 episoumple, Envisioning and Moving Image Culture* (California, 2004), and specifically her focus on responsible visions and carnal thoughts. Her approach emphasizes corporeal rather than intellectual engagements with film and other media, and argues that our bodies are not just visible objects but also sense-making subjects. Selections from her text will be available from the Center for Cultural Studies.

Eduardo Mendieta
BIOPIRACY & BIOTERRORISM:
BANANA REPUBLICS, NAFTA, & TACO BELL
Tuesday, April 12 / 3 PM / Baobab Lounge, Merrill College
The year 2004 marks the tenth anniversary of NAFTA, the third year after 9-11, and the third year after the beginning of the war against terrorism. Mendieta links these anniversaries and offers some points of departure to link the war on terror with the other wars that the United States has unleashed on other countries. Mendieta writes, “Bio-terrorism, like the terrorism of 9-11, takes elements from everyday life, from quotidian existence, and turns them into tools of destruction and devastation. … But unlike the terrorism of 9-11, the effects and after-effects of the bioterrorism and biopiracy of NAFTA are passed off as events in a natural history of destruction.” For speaker information on Eduardo Mendieta, see “Notes on Speakers,” page 3.

Paola Bacchetta
RE-SIGNIFYING RESISTANCE: RACIALIZED LESBIANS, (UN)VEILED DRAG, AND THE ANTI-MIJAR LAW IN FRANCE
Wednesday, April 12 / 1 PM / Oakes Social Room
Paola Bacchetta is Associate Professor of Women’s Studies at UC Berkeley. Her research interests encompass gender, sexuality, postcolonial theory, postmodern theory, feminisms/renomists movements, right-wing movements, ethnic conflict, and qualitative research and field methods. She is co-editor of *Right-Wing Women: From Conservativists to Extremists around the World* (Routledge, 2002). Gender in the Hindu Nation: RWS Women as Ideologies (New Delhi: Women Unlimited) was published in 2004.

Robert Bernasconi
THE TYRANNY OF MEANING’S HISTORY: KANT, HEGEL, AND LEVINAS
Monday, May 2 / 4 PM / Oakes Moral Room
Robert Bernasconi is the Miss Chair of Excellence in the Department of Philosophy, University of Memphis. He is the co-editor of *Rico and Marxism in Continental Philosophy* (Indiana, 2003), *Concepts of Race in the Eighteenth Century* (Thomassen, 2001), *In Praise of Emmanuel Levinas and the Eighteenth Century*, (Texas Tech, 2001), and *Revealing Levinas* (Indiana, 1995), and the author of *Heidegger in Question: The Art of Existence* (Humanities Press International, 1995) and *The Question of Language in Heidegger’s History of Being* (Humanities, 1985), as well as numerous articles on continental philosophy. His talk is drawn from his ongoing work on the philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas.

Sanjay Seth
WESTERN KNOWLEDGE AND ITS INDIAN OBJECT
Tuesday, May 3 / 4 PM / Sanborn Bldg
Sanjay Seth is Senior Lecturer in Politics at LaTrobe University in Melbourne, Australia. He has published widely on political theory, postcoloniality, Indian history and politics, and Marxism. His *Maoist Theory and Nationalist Politics: The Case of Colonial India* (Sing) appeared in 1995. He is also founding co-editor of the journal *Postcolonial Studies*. His talk is from his recently completed book manuscript, “Subject to Pedagogy: Western Knowledge and Colonial India.” He writes about his paper, “The episode in question was that of the alleged ‘moral crisis’ of the educated Indian, who, many argued, had been plunged into confusion and moral disarray following his exposure to Western knowledge in the schools and universities established by his British rulers. In the discourse of moral crisis, the knowledge being disseminated through Western education was simultaneously put to use in explaining an unanticipated effect of this education. How adequate was Western knowledge to explaining its own effects?” More generally, what is the status of the knowledge we produce when we ‘apply’ the categories of modern Western thought in order to understand or explain India?”

Philip Wegner
GETTING BEYOND THE COLD WAR’S CLOSURE: REPETITIONS AND REVISIONS IN THE TERMINATOR FILMS
Monday, May 24 / 7 PM / Oakes Moral Room
Philip E. Wegner is Associate Professor of English at the University of Florida, where he teaches twentieth-century literature, narrative theory, critical theory, and cultural studies. He is the author of *Imaginary Communities: Utopia, the Nation, and the Spatial Histories of Modernity* (California, 2002), and is completing a new book, *Living Between Two Deaths: Periodizing U.S. Culture, 1989-2001*. He writes, “If 9/11 stages the end of a Cold War and its deterministic Ings and gives expression to the dizzying sense of freedom the United States felt in this moment to impose its will unhindered on the entire globe, then 7/7 can be said to repeat this gesture, in order to show the constraints and burdens that come with such an unparalleled position. It would be September 11 that would help ‘us’ assume a new global role, thereby marking both the final closure of the world historical situation of the Cold War and the opening of a new period in global history, that of the terrible infinity of the new Empire’s ‘war on terror.’”

Mizuko Ito
PERSONAL, PORTABLE, PEDESTRIAN: MOBILE PHONES IN JAPANESE LIFE
Friday, May 27 / 4:30 PM / Oakes Moral Room
Ever since NTT Docomo launched its i-mode mobile internet service in 1999, Japan has had an international leadership role in the wireless revolution. New mobile phones are a ubiquitous and essential part of Japanese life, not only for business people and youth, but across the social spectrum. The focus of the talk will be on ethnographic case studies of how mobile messaging and camera phone usage are embedded in the social networks and cultural ecologies of Japanese youth. The central argument is that current trends in mobile media point to a significant shift in the role of information and communication technology, a role that is more pervasive, lightweight, portable, and pedestrian, in contrast to the PC-centered uses that have dominated in the U.S. MikoIto is Research Scientist at the Annenberg Center for Communication, University of Southern California, and Visiting Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Media and Governance at Keio University in Japan. She has had an international leadership role in the wireless revolution. New mobile phones are a ubiquitous and essential part of Japanese life, not only for business people and youth, but across the social spectrum. The focus of the talk will be on ethnographic case studies of how mobile messaging and camera phone usage are embedded in the social networks and cultural ecologies of Japanese youth. The central argument is that current trends in mobile media point to a significant shift in the role of information and communication technology, a role that is more pervasive, lightweight, portable, and pedestrian, in contrast to the PC-centered uses that have dominated in the U.S.

The Exploratorium, one of the world’s first hands-on science museums, is a central site for thinking about how scientific knowledge is organized and presented to the public. We will be learning about how Exploratorium directors and designers negotiate the museum’s spatial experience in tandem with their educational goals as we spend an afternoon “behind the scenes” with Exploratorium employees and in the museum exhibits.

Space is limited; advance signup is required. To sign up, email Jessy O’Reilly at jware@ucsc.edu. Carpools will leave Oakes Circle at 11 AM.
In 2004-2005 he is a Rockefeller Associate Professor of Philosophy at UC Santa Cruz, and works on topics such as language rights to the future formation of both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

**Notes on Newsletters**

EDUARDO MENDIETA is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Stony Brook University. He has published widely as a journalist, and his scholarship works include many articles on the U.S. press in the context of the colonization of the Philippines, and he is the author of Imperial Subjects: U.S. Media and the Philippines (Illustri, forthcoming). He writes that “a century after its unilateral declaration of independence, the Philippine Insurrection remains obscure, forgotten by many and never once considered a matter of history.”

In 2004-2005 he is a Rockefeller Associate Professor of Philosophy at Stony Brook University, SUNY. He is widely recognized as the central philosopher on place. His three books on place stand as the foundational texts in regional studies. Although each cluster should in principle contribute to the listserv and participating faculty, clusters of faculty, or faculty and graduate students, may be authorized by program staff to be the lead or the primary contact for the reading group or seminar. This course will focus on a few central issues as well as each participant’s own research. Readings and partial right is reserved for the reading group and seminar will be made available via the listserv..

The Center invites applications from groups of faculty, or faculty and graduate students, for collaborative research activities. Funds may be used to bring new speakers, a visit, to workshops, and for copying, mail, and other incidental costs. Although each cluster should include some human faculty or graduate students, they may also include visiting faculty, graduate students, or undergraduate students in other campus division (Arts, Social Sciences, Physical and Biological Sciences, or Engineering). Projects that cross divisional boundaries are likewise encouraged, provided they do not reflect the interests or goals of the financial faculty and/or graduate students on campus. Applications for Research Cluster support should include a brief (1-2 page) description of the intellectual project of the cluster, a list of participants, and a detailed budget outlining planned activities. The applications should be submitted by May 1, 2005. Ongoing as well as new clusters are being considered, so please contact program staff for more information. The African Diaspora Research Cluster (ADRC) will continue the reading group’s conversations focusing on Africa and the diaspora. ADRC will also be sponsoring a "Special Student Seminar," an extension of the reading group that will explore the ways in which African and its diasporas is reproduced within current and emergent political formations. The course will focus on a few central issues as well as each participant’s own research. Readings and partial right is reserved for the reading group and seminar will be made available via the listserv.

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Margaret Ferguson: Disrupting Borders: Seeing Silences and Imagining Transformations

Margaret Ferguson is Professor of English at UC Davis and a member of the Comparative Literature Graduate Group. She taught at Yale, Columbia, and the University of Colorado before coming to Davis in 1997. She has recently published Didn’t Do it: Daughters, Literacy, Gender, and Empire in Early Modern England and France (Chicago, 2003) and is now working on a book about Aphra Behn called “The Wild Eye: Aphra Behn as a Narrator of Empire.” This talk is continues the year-long PEMIS series entitled “Just in Time: Feminists Remake the Pre- and Early Modern West,” which brings together major feminist theorists of pre- and early modernity in the west. The work of these scholars challenges us to better understand the uses we make of the past—why we study it, for whom, and to what ends. PEMIS is organizing a reading group in preparation for this talk by Professor Ferguson. Those interested should email mel@ucsc.edu or gweiner@ucsc.edu.

This event is presented by the Pre- and Early Modern Studies Research Unit of the Humanities Institute and co-sponsored by the Department of Art History, Binghamton University, with the support of the Center for Cultural Studies at UC Santa Cruz.

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