

Course Instructor: Benjamin Lozano
Course Time: Mon/Wed 5:00-6:45pm
Course Room: Oakes Acad. 106
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Hiscon-119

The Politics of Recognition

Introduction

Our course examines questions and issues surrounding the politics of recognition –and does this in three parts: First, we ask questions concerning the images of ourselves and their relation to the other, the other within the self, selves within the other, and others and selves within community. Secondly, we ask questions concerning of the geopolitical, political, cultural, and ethical dispositions involving the politics of recognition. Thirdly, we ask questions concerning the politics of difference.

This course requires submission of one 2-page paper, one conference presentation, and one final 8-12 page essay on a topic of the student's choosing.

Trajectory of the Course

Weeks 1-3 we will open up questions concerning the politics of recognition. What is the subject, the self, and its relation to politics? Who is the other, what is its political relation to the self? Is the subject a center, a locus, a unit, a one? Or is it decentered and multiple, a mobile horizon of dark properties and desires? –and what are the political consequences of our answer? We will ask and address questions about our values, the self, the other, and the other in the self?

Weeks 4-6 we will deepen our examination of the politics of recognition by turning towards questions involving contemporary geopolitics, empire, the state, and the war on terror. We will also begin to sketch a framework for critique (defined as an exposition of the internal limits of a given concept, question, or issue).

Week 7-8 we will begin to move from questions of critique now to questions about engineering. We will ask and address questions about the self-images involved in political thought and practices, about values, and about the limits and possibilities for transcending limits on the transvaluation of values. We will open up the question of the politics of difference

Weeks 9-10 will bring the course to a conclusion with an in-class conference, and then submission of the final essay.

Goal of the Course

This course situates the study of the politics of recognition in the context of questions involving the viability of the practice a politics of difference. Careful attention to the themes of this course, as well as maintaining an open, contemplative, and analytical disposition, will result in an understanding of political, economic, cultural, and ethical stakes involved.

Course Requirements

- A. Students are asked to attend all classes, arriving prepared to present on and/or discuss the readings for that day –there are roughly 100 pages of reading each week. The readings for each week are listed in their order of course emphasis; students are encouraged to read course material in the order in which it is listed.
- B. The grade breakdown is as follows: (1) Participation 30% (2) Essay One 20% (3) Final Essay (8-12 pages) 50%

Required Texts

Jean Laplanche, *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999

Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari, *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism & Schizophrenia*, University of Minnesota Press, 1987

Carl Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*, University of Chicago Press, 1996

---*Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*, University of Chicago Press, 1973

Alain Badiou, *Ethics: An Essay on the Understanding of Evil*, Verso, 2001

Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Vintage Books, 1967

Gilles Deleuze, *Nietzsche & Philosophy*, Columbia University, 1983

All other required selections are found at speculativematerialism.com (e) or through online link (URL).

Five Keys to Success in this Course

- i. *Doing assigned reading ahead of time, taking notes when something strikes you as necessary; returning to those notes and/or key passages from the reading periodically.*
- ii. *Attending class on time, prepared, often; passively or actively participating in class.*
- iii. *Bringing readings and notes on readings to class.*
- iv. *Preparing for assignments ahead of time; beginning work on assignments ahead of time; submitting assignments on time; taking pride in your work as an artist does with her art.*
- v. *Searching for the kernels of true light in a barrage of dark sunshine. (optional)*

Class Schedule

I. What is Recognition?

A. Week 1. Subjectivity, Decenterment, Multiplicities

Required

Jean Laplanche, The Unfinished Copernican Revolution, from *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999 (pgs. 52-83)

Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari, Introduction: Rhizome, from *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism & Schizophrenia*, University of Minnesota Press, 1987

James Surowiecki, "What Does Procrastination Tell Us About Ourselves", *The New Yorker*, Oct. 2010, http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/books/2010/10/11/101011crbo_books_surowiecki

Recommended

Benjamin Lozano, "A Contested Revolution: On the Speculative Method", *Cosmos and History: The Journal of Natural and Social Philosophy*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2010

-- "A Special Form of Outer Darkness", *Radical Philosophy*, Volume No. 159, January/February 2010

Jean Laplanche, "Time and the Other", from *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999 (pgs. 234-259)

-- *New Foundations for Psychoanalysis*, Basil Blackwell, 1989

-- *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985

-- *Seduction, Translation, and the Drives*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, 1992 (pg. 3-89; 161-223) (e)

-- "The Derivation of Psychoanalytic Entities", in *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985 (e)

Sigmund Freud, *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, WW Norton 1961

-- *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, WW Norton 1959

-- *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*, WW Norton 1966 (esp. see Ch. XXV "Anxiety")

-- *Inhibitions, Symptoms, and Anxiety*, WW Norton, 1921

-- "Analysis Terminable and Interminable" (1937)

-- "Constructions in Analysis" (1937)

Itinerary

01/06. Introduction to the course

01/08. The decentered subject; introduction to the speculative method

A. Week 2. An Introduction to Political Community (Molar & Molecular)

Required

Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari, Micropolitics and Segmentarity, from *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism & Schizophrenia*, University of Minnesota Press, 1987

Jean Laplanche, Implantation, Intromission, from *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999 (pgs. 133-137)

Recommended

Gilles Deleuze, *Bergsonism*, Zone Books, 1988 Chapter 1 (e)

James Surowiecki, "What Does Procrastination Tell Us About Ourselves", *The New Yorker*, Oct.

2010, http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/books/2010/10/11/101011crbo_books_surowiecki

Benjamin Lozano, "A Contested Revolution: On the Speculative Method", *Cosmos and History: The Journal of Natural and Social Philosophy*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2010

-- "A Special Form of Outer Darkness", *Radical Philosophy*, Volume No. 159, January/February 2010

Jean Laplanche, "Time and the Other", from *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999 (pgs. 234-259)

- *New Foundations for Psychoanalysis*, Basil Blackwell, 1989
- *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985
- *Seduction, Translation, and the Drives*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, 1992 (pg. 3-89; 161-223) (e)
- "The Derivation of Psychoanalytic Entities", in *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985 (e)
- Sigmund Freud, *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, WW Norton 1961
- *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, WW Norton 1959
- *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*, WW Norton 1966 (esp. see Ch. XXV "Anxiety")
- *Inhibitions, Symptoms, and Anxiety*, WW Norton, 1921
- "Analysis Terminable and Interminable" (1937)
- "Constructions in Analysis" (1937)

Itinerary

- 01/13. Questions of method, methods of questioning
- 01/15. An abstract exercise on political community (Lars Von Trier's *Dogville*)

C. Week 3. Seduction and Persecution, Community and the Self

Required

- Jean Laplanche, "Seduction, Persecution, Revelation", *Essays on Otherness*, Routledge, 1999 (pgs. 166-196)
- "Notes on Afterwardsness" (pgs. 260-265)

Recommended

- Jean Laplanche, *New Foundations for Psychoanalysis*, Basil Blackwell, 1989
- *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985
- *Seduction, Translation, and the Drives*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, 1992 (pg. 3-89; 161-223) (e)
- "The Derivation of Psychoanalytic Entities", in *Life & Death in Psychoanalysis*, John Hopkins University Press, 1985 (e)
- Sigmund Freud, *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, WW Norton 1961
- *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, WW Norton 1959
- *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*, WW Norton 1966 (esp. see Ch. XXV "Anxiety")
- *Inhibitions, Symptoms, and Anxiety*, WW Norton, 1921
- "Analysis Terminable and Interminable" (1937)
- "Constructions in Analysis" (1937)
- James Surowiecki, "Greater Fools", *The New Yorker*, July 5th 2010, http://www.newyorker.com/talk/financial/2010/07/05/100705ta_talk_surowiecki
- Jason Zweig, "What Conflict of Interest? How Power Blinds us to Our Flaws", *Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 16th 2010, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704049904575554224110186824.html>

Itinerary

- 01/20. No class -MLK day
- 01/22. No class

II. Politics, the State, Otherness, Critique

A. Week 4. The Sovereign, the Subject, Emergency, Exception

Required

- Carl Schmitt, *Political Theology: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty*, University of Chicago Press, 1973 (chapters 1 & 2)
- Thomas Hobbes, Chapter 1 "Of the State of Men Without Civil Society" in *De Cive*, <http://socserv.mcmaster.ca/econ/ugcm/3ll3/hobbes/hobbes1>

YouTube Video: Grand Theft Auto 4 Video Review

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkb2ZxaNCww>

Proclamation 7463: Declaration of National Emergency By Reason of Certain Terrorist Attacks

<http://www.fas.org/irp/news/2001/09/fro9i80i.html>

Military Order of Nov. 13th 2001: Detention, Treatment, and the Trial of Certain Non-Citizens in War

<http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/eo/mo-11130i.htm>

Authorization for Use of Military Force, September 14th 2001

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RS22357.pdf>

Rasul v. Bush 542 U.S. 466 (2004) <http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/03-334.ZO.html>

Recommended

Hans Kelsen, *The General Theory of Law and State* (selections) (e)

Memo from Office of Legal Council to Deputy Counsel to the President: The President's Constitutional Authority to Conduct Military Operations Against Terrorists and Nations Supporting Them, September 25, 2001* <http://www.justice.gov/olc/warpowers925.htm>

Statement by the President in His Address to the Nation, Sept. 11th 2001, <http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010911-16.html>

George W. Bush, Address to a Joint Session of Congress and the American People, Sept. 20th 2001

<http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010920-8.html>

Agreement Between the United States and Cuba for the Lease of Lands for Coaling and Naval stations, February 23rd 1903, <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/diplomacy/cuba/cubao02.htm>

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Navy, Order Establishing Combatant Status Review Tribunal, July 7th 2004, <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Jul2004/d20040707review.pdf>

The Detainee Treatment Act, Division A Title X of the DOD Appropriations Bill 2006

<http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/4d/oe/7374e99d914558e9c75a6e939af4.pdf>

Hamdan v. Rumsfeld 548 U.S. (2006)* <http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/05-184.ZC.html>

Military Commissions Act (October 2006)*

<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/faculty/nkk/documents/MilitaryCommissions.pdf>

Boumediene v. Bush 128 S. Ct 2229 (2008) <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/07pdf/06-1195.pdf>

John Ferejohn and Pascal Pasquino, "The Law of the Exception: A Typology of Emergency Powers", *Int. Jour. of Const. Law*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (Apr. 2004)

Benjamin Lozano, "About Time: The Timeliness of Habeas Corpus and an Exceptional Circumstance in *Boumediene v. Bush* – A Precedent" (2009)

http://works.bepress.com/benjamin_lozano/

Giorgio Agamben, *State of Exception*, Univ. Chicago Press, 2005

Bruce Ackerman, "The Emergency Constitution", *Yale Law Journal*, Vol. 113 No. 5, Mar. 2004*

J. Yoo, *War By Other Means: An Insider's Account of the War on Terror*, Atlantic Monthly Press, 2006

Itinerary

01/27. The State of Emergency, the Sovereign Exception

01/29. Laura Poitras' *The Oath*

B. Week 5. Politics, the Political, the Other, and Critique (part I of II)

Required

Carl Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*, University of Chicago Press, 1996

Carl Schmitt, "Theory of the Partisan" <http://www.scribd.com/doc/8005192/Theory-of-the-Partisan-by-Dr-Carl-Schmitt>

Bin Laden's 1996 Fatwa, http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/military/july-dec96/fatwa_1996.html

National Security Strategy for the United States (2002) (pgs 1-7)

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/policy/national/nss-020920.pdf>

Jonathan Glover, *Humanity: A Moral History of the 20th Century*, Yale Univ. Press, 2001 (ch.1) (e)
Judith Shklar, "The Liberalism of Fear", pg. 21-38 (e)
The Four Geneva Conventions (1949) <http://www.icrc.org/eng/war-and-law/treaties-customary-law/geneva-conventions/index.jsp>

Recommended

Mark Lilla, "The Enemy of Liberalism", NYRB, May 15th 1997
<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/1997/may/15/the-enemy-of-liberalism/?pagination=false>
Seymour Hersch, "Torture at Abu Ghraib", in *The New Yorker*, May 10th 2004
http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2004/05/10/040510fa_fact
Global War on Terror is Given New Name", *Washington Post*, March 25, 2009
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/03/24/AR2009032402818.html?hpid=topnews>
Jane Mayer, "The Memo: A Hidden History of Torture Policy" (pg. 32-45) in *The New Yorker*, Feb. 27th, 2006, http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2006/02/27/060227fa_fact
David Luban, "Terrorism, Torture, and the Ticking Bomb" (pg. 35-83), in *The Torture Debate in America*, ed. Karen Greenberg
Dershowitz, Alan, "Want to Torture? Get a Warrant", *San Francisco Chronicle*, Tuesday, January 22, 2002 <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2002/01/22/ED5329.DTL>
Military Order of November 13th 2001: Detention, Treatment, and the Trial of Certain Non-Citizens in War <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/11/2001113-27.html>
Paul Kramer, "The Water Cure: The First Torture Debate", *The New Yorker*, Feb. 25th 2008, http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2008/02/25/080225fa_fact_kramer

Itinerary

02/03. Geopolitics, the Political, Critique of the Universal
02/05. Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington's, *Restrepo*

C. Week 6. Politics, the Political, the Other, and Critique (part II of II)

Required

Alain Badiou, *Ethics: An Essay on the Understanding of Evil*, Verso, 2001
National Security Strategy for the United States (2002) (pgs 1-7)
<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/policy/national/nss-020920.pdf>

Recommended

Alain Badiou, *Saint Paul: The Foundation of Universalism*, Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 2003
Benjamin Lozano, "George W. Bush as a Reader of Badiou as a Reader of Saint Paul" (2007) (e)

Itinerary

02/10. Geopolitics, the Political, Critique of the Particular (Victimhood, Rescue, Fidelity)
02/12. Essay One Due. Recap

III. Multiplicity, Becoming, Affirmation, Joy

A. Week 7. From Critique to Transvaluation

Required

Friedrich Nietzsche, "Essay Two: 'Guilt', 'Bad conscience' and Related Matters", *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Vintage Books, 1967
Gilles Deleuze, *Nietzsche & Philosophy*, Columbia University, 1983 (Chapters 1 and 4)

Recommended

Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Gay Science*, Random House, 2010

Gilles Deleuze, *Logic of Sense*, Columbia University, 1990
--*Difference & Repetition*, Columbia University, 1996 (esp. "The Image of Thought")
Francis Spufford, *Red Plenty*, Graywolf Press, 2012
Red Plenty Seminar, Crooked Timber, 2013 <http://crookedtimber.org/category/red-plenty-seminar/>

Itinerary

02/17. No class –President’s Day
02/19. The Question of moving from Critique to Engineering

B. Week 8. Becoming, Nomadic Distribution

Required

Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari, Chapter 12. Treatise on Nomadology—The War Machine from *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism & Schizophrenia*, University of Minnesota Press, 1987
-- Chapter 10. Becoming Intense, Becoming-Animal, Becoming-Imperceptible (–selections pgs. 233-253)

Recommended

Gilles Deleuze, *Logic of Sense*, Columbia University, 1990
--*Difference & Repetition*, Columbia University, 1996 (esp. "The Image of Thought")
Bruce Mau, *An Incomplete Manifesto for Growth*, http://www.purecaffeine.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/bruce_mau_manifesto_printable.pdf

Itinerary

02/24. Becoming-Other: Towards a Politics of Difference
02/26. Nomadic Thought: Towards a Politics of Difference

C. Weeks 9-10. In Class Conference: The Politics of Recognition

03/03 Panel 1	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
03/05 Panel 2	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
03/10 Panel 3	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
03/12 Panel 4	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____