“There are tremendous problems of defining what the positive increments in our knowledge of human behavior actually have been”
- George Stocking, 1965

About

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Email: golub@hawaii.edu
Office Hours: Friday, 1-3 pm,
Saunders 313

Description

This course is an advanced seminar for graduate students designed to complement Anthropology 601 "Ethnology". The main focus of this course will be on the American school of sociocultural anthropology theory, its development, and its incorporation of wider trends in social theory and philosophy during the period of 1962-2003. This class is designed to constitute a 'disciplinary history' of anthropology rather than a scholarly intellectual or sociological history of the discipline. As such it is designed to allow students to create a usable past for themselves in the development of their own theoretical approaches and, as result, help create the next step in the collective autobiography of the discipline.

Questions to be asked include: What is anthropology? What is 'science'? Is anthropology one? How do our values and subject position effect our research and our writing? How do anthropologists 'do' theory by talking about what anthropologists have done?

Major topics will include structuralism, interpretive anthropology, Marxist anthropology and political economy, subaltern studies and critiques of colonialism, historical anthropology, globalization theory, and science and technology studies. Major 'social theorists' to be discussed include Weber, Marx, Levi-Strauss, Bourdieau, Foucault, Bakhtin, and (possibly) Gramsci and Latour.

Course Objectives

Students will gain:

• Scholarly competence in the history of anthropological theory since 1962.
• An understanding of the nature of theory formation in the social sciences and their own capacity to use primary sources in order to construct a workable intellectual genealogy for themselves and their research projects.
• High proficiency in participation in an academic seminar.
• Familiarity with 'primary' sources and 'classic' texts in anthropological and social theory that will enable them to claim, for example, that they have "read Weber".
• A sense of the sociology of anthropology as a discipline and how this relates to trends in 'high table' anthropological theory.

Grading

This class will be taught using the 'Melbourne Method' seminar. The class will be divided into three groups, each of which will take turns playing three roles in class: question-givers, question-answers, and
question-critiquers. At the end of each class, the question givers will provide discussion questions for the next session's reading (they will have to read ahead of time). At the next meeting, the question answerers will start discussion by answering the questions posed in the previous section. The criticizers thus open up general discussion by criticizing the answers to the questions as well as the way the questions themselves were posed. The groups then swap roles, with the criticizers ending the class giving questions for the next session. There will be a handout explaining the dynamics of this system.

**Schedule**

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Notes</th>
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| 1    | 13 Jan - 19 Jan | History, disciplinary history, and anthropological theory | Levine, "Disciplines and Their Stories" in Visions of the Sociological Tradition pp. 7-12  
Stocking, "On The Limits of 'Presentism' and 'Historicism' In The Historiography of the Behavioral Sciences" pp. 1-12 |
| 2    | 20 Jan - 26 Jan | Neokantian Origins (a refresher) | Monday: MLK Day  
Tuesday 22: Last day to add  
Rickert, "Natural Scientific Concept Formation and Empirical Reality" in Limits of Concept Formation in The Natural Sciences (p. 36-45)  
Windelband, "History and Natural Sciences"  
Boas, "On the study of geography"  
Boas, “Method of Ethnography”  
Sapir, “Culture Genuine and Spurious”  
Boas, “Limits of the Comparative Method”  
Boas, “On The Occurrence of Similar Inventions In Areas Wide Apart”  
Mason, “Occurrence of Inventions in Areas Wide Apart” (response)  
Boas, “Museums of Ethnology and Their Classification”  
Radcliffe-Brown, "On Social Structure"  
Durkheim, "What is a Social Fact" from Rules of Sociological Method 15 pg |
| 3    | 27 Jan - 2 Feb | Max Weber | Weber, "Basic Sociological Categories" 3-63  
Weber, "Science as a vocation" 129-158  
Weber, "Politics as a vocation" 77-128  
Weber, "Objectivity and social policy" 50-112 |
| 4    | 3 Feb - 9 Feb | Structuralism | Levi-Strauss, Totemism  
Levi-Strauss, "The Savage Minds" ch.1 (ignore the section on art), 2 and 5  
Leach, “Brain Twister” |
| 5    | 10 Feb - 16 Feb | Instructor in Australia | Talk amongst yourselves |
### 6
17 Feb - 23 Feb

**Interpretive and/or Symbolic Anthropology**
- Langer, "The New Key" and "Fabric of Meaning" in Philosophy in a New Key
- Geertz, "Thick Description" and "Deep Play: The Balinese Cockfight"
- Geertz, "Introduction" to Myth, Symbol, and Culture
- Mary Douglas, "Abominations of Leviticus"
- Jim Fernandez, “Performances and Persuasions”
- Roseberry, "Balinese Cockfights and the Seduction of Anthropology"
- Turner, “Symbols in Ndembu Ritual” (in Forest of Symbols)

### 7
24 Feb - 1 Mar

**Marx and the Revolution**
- Fanon, "Concerning Violence"
- Marx, "The German Ideology" (in Tucker)
- Marx, “Capital” (selections)
- Marcuse, “Repressive Tolerance”

### 8
2 Mar - 8 Mar

**Reinventing Anthropology**
- Scholte, "Toward a reflexive and critical anthropology" Scholte in Reinventing
- Diamond, "Anthropology in Question", Stanley Diamond in Reinventing
- Berreman, "Anemic and Emetic Analyses in Social Anthropology"
- Wolf, “American Anthropologists and American Society” Wolf in Reinventing
- Kaplan, "Every man his own anthropologist" Kaplan
- Wolf et. al, "Anti-Kaplan"
- Kaplan, “The Idea of a Social Science and Its Enemies”, Kaplan
- Rubin, “The Traffic in Women”

### 9
9 Mar - 15 Mar

**Culture and Technoenvironmentalism**
- Friday 14: Last day to drop
- Steward, "The Economic and Social Basis of Primitive Bands"
- Harner, "The Ecological Basis for Aztec Cannibalism" AE 4(1): 117-135
- Sahlins, "Culture for Protein and Profit" Harris response, Sahlins response
- Harris, “The Cannibal Kingdom” in Cannibals and Kings
- Malinowski, “Science, Magic and Religion” (selections)?
- Sahlins "Culture and Practical Reason: Two Paradigms of Anthropological Theory"

### 10
16 Mar - 22 Mar

**From Gay Pirate Criticism to Queer Bucaneer Theory**
- Friday 21: Good Friday
- Bakhtin, "Discourse in the Novel" in The Dialogical Imagination
- Foucault, “Governmentality” selections from The Essential Foucault
- Foucault, “Discipline and Punish” (excerpts from Foucault reader)
- Foucault, “Sex and Truth”
- Gramsci/Raymond Williams
- “Stir Crazy” Geertz
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 Mar - 29 Mar</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Possible additional “GPC -&gt; QBT” Readings</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>30 Mar - 5 Apr</td>
<td>Colonialism and Alterity</td>
<td>Said, &quot;Orientalism&quot; ch 1</td>
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<td>Said, &quot;anthropology and its interlocutors&quot;</td>
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<td>Ahmad &quot;In Theory&quot;</td>
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<td>Spivak, &quot;Can The Subaltern Speak&quot;</td>
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<td>Guha, &quot;Prose of Counter-Insurgency&quot; in Culture/Power/History</td>
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<td>Fabian, Time and the Other (selections)</td>
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<td>Inden, &quot;Imagining India&quot;?</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>6 Apr - 12 Apr</td>
<td>‘Practice Theory’</td>
<td>Bourdieu, &quot;Structures, Habitus, and Power: Basis for a Theory of Symbolic Power&quot;</td>
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<td>in Culture/Power/History: Sahlins, Historical Metaphors and Mythical Realities</td>
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<td>Falk Moore, Law as Process?</td>
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<td>Comaroff, &quot;Rulers and Rules&quot;?</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>13 Apr - 19 Apr</td>
<td>Historical Anthropology and Political Economy</td>
<td>Wolf, &quot;Europe and The People Without History&quot; ch. 1,3,6, and afterwards</td>
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<td>Mintz, “Sweetness and Power” selections</td>
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<td>Taussig, “History as Commodity”</td>
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<td>Mintz and Wolf, “Reply to Taussig”</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>20 Apr - 26 Apr</td>
<td>The Crisis of Representation</td>
<td>Geertz, &quot;Blurred Genres&quot; (optional)</td>
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<td>Rabinow, “Facts are Social Representations”</td>
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<td>Marcus, &quot;A beginning&quot; cultural anthropology editorial</td>
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<td>Sangren, &quot;Rhetoric and the Authority of Ethnography&quot;</td>
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<td>Scholte, “The Literary Turn In Anthropology”</td>
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<td>Tyler, “Still RAYTING”</td>
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<td>Clifford, “On Ethnographic Authority”</td>
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<td>Tyler, “Post-Modern Ethnography”</td>
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<td>Fischer, “Ethnicity and the Postmodern Arts of Memory&quot;</td>
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<td>Marcus, “Contemporary Problems of Ethnography in Modern World Systems”</td>
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| 27 Apr - 3 May | **Writing Against Culture**                        | Gupta and Ferguson, "Beyond Culture: Space, Identity, and the Politics of Difference" CA 7(1):6-23  
Abu-Lughod, "Writing Against Culture"  
Hannerz, "Notes on the Global Ecumene"  
Brightman, "Forget Culture: Replacement, Transcendence, Relexification" CA 10(4): 509-546  
Bashkow "A Neo-Boasian Conception of Cultural Boundaries" AA 106(3): 443-458  
Public Culture, "Why Public Culture"  
George Marcus, "Introduction" Perilous States I  
Appadurai, "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy"  
Cultural Anthropology 1999 "last chance for culture"? |
| 4 May - 10 May | **Science, Technology, Sovereignty**                | Wednesday 7: Last day of instructions  
Ohng and Collier "Global Assemblages"  
Latour, "Reassembling the Social" (selections)  
Strathern, "Partial Connections" (selections)  

**Summing Up**  
Turner, The Maturity of Social Theory  
Abbot, Rethinking Accumulation in Sociology |