

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Department of Geography

**GEOGRAPHY 804: SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY SEMINAR:  
SPATIAL PRACTICES – THINKING AND ACTING GEOGRAPHICALLY**

Fall 2009

Wednesday 5:00-7:50pm: Saunders Hall 204

**Office Hours (Saunders Hall 206):** *Thursdays 2:30 to 4:30*

This semester's social geography seminar will focus on 'space', 'spatial thought', and 'spatial practices'. It will introduce students to key texts and concepts, locate these in geographical contexts, and evaluate their impact on disciplinary and social movement practice. We will work through selected texts by, among others, Michel Foucault, Michel de Certeau, Henri Lefebvre, Gunnar Olsson, Derek Gregory, David Harvey, Ed Soja, Doreen Massey, as well as some social movement groups and artists working with conceptions of social space, borders, identities, and practices.

Students should complete the course with a firm grasp of the ideas, texts, and reasons for what Ed Soja referred to as the "re-assertion of space" in social theory and the ways in which these various reassertions have shaped both contemporary socio-spatial practices and the changing disciplinary role of Geography.

**Course Organization**

800 level seminars in geography are reading and research seminars. To that end, we will read collectively and collaboratively, engage in focused discussion of the texts, claims, and implications of what we read, and engage with concrete examples of spatial practices today. Students will read every week, participate in discussion, and prepare periodic summary/position papers with which to open and lead discussion in seminar. Students will write either three shorter (5-6 page essays) or one end of semester research paper (18-20 pages). Grades will be based on participation (40%) and the research papers (60%).

**Required Texts**

Edward W. Soja. *Postmodern geographies*. (\$18)

Henri Lefebvre. *The Production of Space*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1995. (\$35)

Michel Foucault. *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. Vintage, 1995. (\$10)

Gaston Bachelard. *The Poetics of Space*. Beacon, 1994. (\$10)

Michel de Certeau *The Practice of Everyday Life*. University of California Press, 2002. (\$15)

Doreen Massey. *For Space*. Sage Publications, Ltd. 2005. (\$48)

David Harvey. *Spaces of Hope*. University of California Press, 2000. (\$23)

**Recommended Background Texts**

- Hubbard, Phil; Kitchin, Rob; and Valentine, Gill. *Key Thinkers on Space and Place*. Sage. 2004. (\$52)
- Mike Crang. *Thinking Space*. Routledge, 2000. (\$50)

## PART 1: THE RE-ASSERTION OF SPACE IN SOCIAL THOUGHT

### Week 1: 8/26. Introduction

### Week 2: 9/2. The socio-spatial dialectic

- Ed Soja. *Postmodern Geographies: The Reassertion of Space in Critical Social Theory*. Verso, 1989. Chapter 1, pp. 1-42. [http://books.google.com/books?id=3\\_CYZ-gdd4kC&printsec=frontcover&dq=the+production+of+space+online+pdf&source=gbs\\_similarbooks\\_s&cad=1#v=onepage&q=&f=true](http://books.google.com/books?id=3_CYZ-gdd4kC&printsec=frontcover&dq=the+production+of+space+online+pdf&source=gbs_similarbooks_s&cad=1#v=onepage&q=&f=true)
- Ed Soja. The socio-spatial dialectic. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 70(2): 207-225.
- John Pickles. Part 1: Geography and Traditional Meta-physics (15-38) & Part IV: Human Science, Worldhood and Spatiality (141-170). *Phenomenology, Science and Geography: Spatiality and the Human Sciences*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 1985.
- John Pickles. *A History of Spaces: Cartographic Reason, mapping, and the geo-coded world*. Routledge: New York and London, 2004: 1-59.

## PART 2: THE PRODUCTION OF SPACE -- HENRI LEFEBVRE

### Week 3: 9/9. The Production of Space I

Henri Lefebvre. *The Production of Space*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1995.

1. Plan of the Present Work: 1-67.
2. Social Space: 68-129.

### Week 4: 9/16. The Production of Space II

Henri Lefebvre. *The Production of Space*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1995.

3. Social Space: 130-168.
4. Spatial Architectonics: 169-228.

### Week 5: 9/23. The Production of Space III

Henri Lefebvre. *The Production of Space*. Wiley-Blackwell, 1995.

5. From Absolute to Abstract Space: 229-291.
6. Openings and Conclusions: 401-423.
7. Afterword by David Harvey: 424-434.

## PART 3: SPACE/POWER -- MICHEL FOUCAULT

### Week 6: 9/30. On Geography

- S. Elden and J. W. Crampton. Space, Knowledge and Power: Foucault and Geography. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 1-18.
- Michel Foucault. Questions on Geography. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 173-184.
- Michel Foucault. Of Other Spaces (1967), Heterotopias. <http://foucault.info/documents/heteroTopia/foucault.heteroTopia.en.html>

- Michel Foucault. Some Questions from Michel Foucault to *Herodote*. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 19-22.
- Francophone Responses 1977: In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 23-40.

**Week 7: 10/7. Beyond the dead, the inert, the inactive**

- Michel Foucault. *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. Vintage, 1995. [Selections]
- Gilles Deleuze. A new cartographer (*Discipline and Punish*). *Foucault*. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1986: 23-46.
- Michel Foucault. The Incorporation of the Hospital into Modern Technology. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 141-152.
- Michel Foucault. The Meshes of Power. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 153-162.
- Michel Foucault. The Language of Space. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 163-168.
- Michel Foucault. The Force of Flight. In J. W. Crampton and S. Elden. *Space, Knowledge and Power*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 2007: 169-172.
- Juliet Fall. 2005. Michel Foucault and Francophone geography. Circulations, conversions and disappearances. *EspacesTemps.net* <http://espacestems.revues.org/document1540.html>

## PART 4: LIVED SPACES

**Week 8: 10/14. The Poetics of Space**

Gaston Bachelard. *The Poetics of Space*. Beacon, 1994.

**Week 9: 10/21. No Class. Fall Break.**

**Weeks 10: 10/28. Spatial Practices of Everyday Life**

- Yi Fu Tuan. Space and Place: Humanistic Perspective. In Gary Gaile and Gunar Olsson. *Philosophy in Geography: 387-472*.
- Michel de Certeau *The Practice of Everyday Life*. University of California Press, 2002 (selections).
- Guy Debord. Introduction to a Critique of Urban Geography. In Ken Knabb (ed.) *Situationist International Anthology*. Bureau of Public Secrets, Berkeley 1981: 5-8.
- Denis Wood. Situationists and the Derive. *The Power of Maps 2*. Guilford Press, 2010.

**Week 11: 11/4. Spaces of Exception**

- Giorgio Agamben. "The State of Exception as Paradigm of Government" in *State of Exception*. University of Chicago Press, 2005. 1-31.
- Matt Hannah. Spaces of Exception and Unexceptionability. In Deborah Cowen and Emily Gilbert (eds.) *War, citizenship, territory*. Routledge: London and New York, 2007: 57-73.
- Derek Gregory. Law, Violence and Exception in the Global War Prison. In Derek Gregory and Alan Pred (eds.) *Violent Geographies: fear, terror, and political violence*. Routledge: New York and London 2006: 205-235.
- Gerry Kearns. The geography of terror. *Political Geography*. Vol. 27, 2008: 360-364.

## PART 5: FOR SPACE – DOREEN MASSEY

### Week 12: 11/11.

Doreen Massey. *For Space*. Sage, 2005.

1. Setting the scene: 1-16.
2. Unpromising associations: 17-60.
3. Living in spatial times? 61-104.

### Week 13: 11/18.

Doreen Massey. *For Space*. Sage, 2005.

4. Reorientations: 105-146.
  5. A relational politics of the spatial: 195.
- Nicholas Clifford, Matthew Sparke and Doreen Massey. Exchange on *For Space* from *Progress in Human Geography* 31.3 (2007): 389-405
  - Doreen Massey. *Power-geometries and the Politics of Space*. Hettner Lectures, 1998. University of Heidelberg.

## PART 6: SPACES OF HOPE – DAVID HARVEY

### Week 14: 11/25. Spaces of Hope

- David Harvey. *Spaces of Hope*. University of California Press, 2000.  
Chapters 1-5: 3-96.
- Todd May. Gilles Deleuze. How might one live? Gilles Deleuze: an introduction. Cambridge University Press, 2005, pp. 1-20.  
<http://assets.cambridge.org/97805218/43096/sample/9780521843096ws.pdf>
- Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari "Introduction: Rhizome" and "The Smooth and the Striated" in *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*. University of Minnesota Press, 1987. 3-25 and 474-500.
- Doel M A, 1996, "A hundred thousand lines of flight: a machinic introduction to the nomad thought and scrumpled geography of Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari" *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 14(4) 421 – 439.
- Claire Colebrook. 2004. The Sense of Space: On the Specificity of Affect in Deleuze and Guattari. *Postmodern Culture* Volume 15, Number 1, September 2004, pp. 1-32.
- Colwell, C. Deleuze and Foucault: Series, Event, Genealogy. *Theory & Event* Volume 1, Issue 2, 1997.

### Week 15: 12/2. Spaces of Hope

- David Harvey. *Spaces of Hope*. University of California Press, 2000.  
Chapters 6-12: 97-233

### Reading for the winter break:

- Derek Gregory. Part 1: Strange Lessons in Deep Space (3-208) *Geographical Imaginations*. Blackwells, Oxford, 1994.
- Matthew Sparke. *In the Space of Theory: Post-foundational Geographies of the Nation-State*. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 2005.