University of North Carolina Department of Geography

GEOGRAPHY 814 Fall 2011 Advanced Reading Seminar in Geography -- Contemporary Geographical Concepts

M 3.30-6.00pm DEY 403 John Pickles

Office Hours: Wednesday 1-3pm; Friday 2-3pm or by appointment.

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Purpose of the Seminar

The seminar has been developed in response to graduate student requests for a conceptually oriented reading seminar focused on key concepts and debates in Geography and drawing on geographical texts. The course also responds to discussions over a number of years about how best to link geographical debates to the broader social and cultural theories you may encounter in advanced courses in cultural and social theory.

I have become increasingly convinced of the need for such a course, particularly because of the challenges many students face in coming to grips with the now expansive and crucial literatures on social, cultural, and political spatial and environmental theory (Marx, Foucault, Deleuze, Agamben, Derrida, Spivak, Hall, de Landa, etc.), but also because of the danger of privileging outside, non-geographical texts and debates over those in our own discipline. Here I seek to redress that. With only one or two exceptions of scholars actively engaging with geography, all the texts this semester will be by geographers.

The main goals of this seminar are thus to:

- (i) introduce you to some of the major thinkers, texts, and debates in Geography over the past three decades.
- (ii) investigate these thinkers, texts, and debates through specific concepts that have played important roles in shaping the geographical and cartographical impaction; and
- (iii) where possible, to do so through an engagement with some of the more visible or novel publication outlets in the field.

I hope the seminar will help graduate students to articulate their interests in social, cultural, and political theory and practice in terms of the professional concerns of the discipline; provide a course that explicitly engages with geographical texts and geographers without a secondary path through other fields. At the very least, the seminar should prepare you for the conceptual nuances that shape the structuring of sessions and discussions at annual geography conferences, as well as necessary foundational frameworks for any intervention on these and related topics.

Requirements and Evaluation

I expect all participants to read prior to and participate in all class sessions, to engage in discussion and presentation of materials, and to develop a research paper on an aspect of inquiry relevant to the course and engaged directly with its texts.

The seminar is reading-intensive (about 120-150 pages per week), so set aside time accordingly. Most of the readings will be available online, online in the Library, or in pdf form on

Blackboard/Sakai. Be sure to come to class ready to present and discuss the required readings for the week. The success of any reading seminar depends on the quality of the class discussions and on our abilities (and at times, the perseverance) to engage with course readings both individually and as a group. Students who do not/cannot meet this first requirement will fare poorly in this seminar.

In practice, the format for the seminar works like this: each week (after our first meeting), I shall introduce the topic and context of the issues we have been reading about. I shall speak for no more than 30 minutes. We will then have a short period of question and answers for purposes of clarification and elaboration, after which we will work through the set of readings with students directing most of the discussions. Each week's readings will have been assigned to one or more seminar participants. Their task will be to briefly summarize and evaluate the topic as presented in the readings, to bring out some of the most interesting and significant issues, to make connections between the text and other readings of the week or earlier in the semester, and to raise questions of the rest of the class for discussion. These should be 15 minute presentations with written text to distribute to the class later.

Students will be evaluated on:

- the quality of class participation (20% of total);
- discussion leadership (20% of total).
- two papers (30% of total each).

You are required to write two papers (each no longer than 15 pages double spaced). In each you will be asked to demonstrate that you have a grasp of the literature and concepts on which we will focus throughout the semester.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Available online: Harald Bauder and Salvatore Engel-Di Mauro (eds) *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings.* ISBN 0-88955-566-4; 978-0-88955-566-2 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

READINGS

All assigned readings are to be completed by the Monday for which they are assigned. With two Monday holidays, be sure to read the assigned readings for that week if any are assigned. Discussion of those readings will be combined with the readings for the following week.

Week 1: August 29, 2011 – Introduction to the seminar and syllabus

Week 2: September 5, 2011 -- Labor Day (no meeting) Read the Geographical Imagination in preparation for discussion next week.

The Geographical Imagination

Derek Gregory. On Geography. http://web.mac.com/derekgregory/iWeb/Site/On%20Geography.html

Peter Kropotkin (1885) What Geography Ought to Be. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap.2, p.11 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Guy Debord (1955) Introduction to a Critique of Urban Geography. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap. 3, p.23 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Heffernan, M. (2009) Histories of geography. In N. J. Clifford, S. L. Holloway, S. P. Rice & G. Valentine (Eds.), *Key Concepts in Geography*, 2nd edition (pp. 3-20). London and Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE.

Nigel Thrift (2002). The future of geography. *Geoforum* 33, pp.291–298

Johnston, R. J. (2005). Geography - coming apart at the seams? (Extended version). In N. Castree, A. Rogers & D. J. Sherman (Eds.), *Questioning Geography: Fundamental Debates*. Malden, MA: Blackwell. Use this link: http://www.ggv.bris.ac.uk/personal/RonJohnston/CurrentPapers/Other/other25.pdf

Gunnar Olsson. (1) Inference Problems in Locational Analysis; (2) Servitude and Inequality in Spatial Planning: Methodology and Ideology in Conflict; (3) -/-; (4) The Social Space of Silence; and (5) Chiasm of Thought-and-Action. In *GO: On the Geographies of Gunnar Olsson*. Edited by Christian Abrahamsson and Martin Gren. Ashgate (in press). (Sakai)

Trevor Barnes. My Gunnar Olsson http://www.geog.ubc.ca/~tbarnes/pdf/CHAPTER Gunnar Olsson and me.pdf

John Pickles. Radical thought-in-action: Gunnar Olsson's critique of cartographic reason. *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography.* Volume 89, Issue 4, pages 394–397, December 2007

Week 3: September 12, 2011 – Praxis

This week we will focus discussion on the readings for last week (Geographical Imagination) and this week (Geographical Praxis).

Harvey, D. (1974) What kind of geography for what kind of public policy? *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, 63*:18-24.

Nicholas K. Blomley (1994) Activism and the Academy Chap 4, pp.28- http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Vera Chouinard (1994) Reinventing Radical Geography: Is All That's Left Right? *Chap* 5, pp. 33- http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Neil Smith and Caroline Desbiens (1999) The International Critical Geography Group: Forbidden Optimism? Chap 6, pp.39- http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Massey, D. (2001) Geography on the agenda. *Progress in Human Geography*, 25:5-17.

Dorling, D. and Shaw, M. (2002) Geographies of the agenda: Public policy, the discipline and its (re) 'turns.' *Progress in Human Geography, 26*: 629-646.

Massey, D. (2002) Geography, policy, and politics: A response to Dorling and Shaw. *Progress in Human Geography*, *26*: 645-646.

Staeheli, L. and Mitchell, D. (2005) The complex politics of relevance in geography. *Annals of the Association of Human Geographers*, *95*: 357-372.

Expeditions

Review: William Bunge. Detroit Expedition

Week 4: September 19, 2011 - Mapping

Yves Lacoste (1973) An Illustration of Geographical Warfare: Bombing the Dikes on the Red River, North Vietnam. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap.32, p.620 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

John Pickles (1995) Representations in an Electronic Age: Geography, GIS, and Democracy. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap.33, p.637 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Matthew H. Edney (2005) Putting "Cartography" into the History of Cartography: Arthur H. Robinson, David Woodward, and the Creation of a Discipline. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap.36, p.711 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

John Pickles. A History of Spaces: Cartographic Reason, mapping, and the geo-coded world. Routledge: New York and London, 2004: 1-59.

Jeremy W. Crampton (2001) Maps as Social Constructions: Power, Communication and Visualization. *Critical Geographies: A Collection of Readings*. Chap.35, 691 http://www.praxis-epress.org/availablebooks/introcriticalgeog.html

Jeremy W. Crampton. Cartography: performative, participatory, political. *Progress in Human Geography* 33 (2009) http://mitotedigital.org/ccra dev/sites/all/files/content/docs/Crampton Cartography Political. pdf

Jeremy W. Crampton. Maps as social constructions: power, communication and visualization. *Prog Hum Geogr* 2001; 25; 235-52. http://mitotedigital.org/ccra dev/sites/all/files/content/docs/Crampton Map Social construct ion.pdf

Jeremy W. Crampton and John Krygier. An Intoduction to Critical Cartography. *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, 4 (1), 2006 pp. 11-33 http://www.acme-journal.org/vol4/JWCJK.pdf

Week 5: September 26, 2011 -- The Post-Colonial

Jane M. Jacobs. Introduction: After Empire. In *Handbook of Cultural Geography*. Edited by Kay Anderson, Mona Domosh, Steve Pile, and Nigel Thrift. SAGE, 2003, pp. 345-353.

Daniel Clayton. Critical Imperial and Colonial Geographies. In *Handbook of Cultural Geography*. Edited by Kay Anderson, Mona Domosh, Steve Pile, and Nigel Thrift. SAGE, 2003, pp. 354-368.

Derek Gregory. (Post)Colonialism and the Production of Nature. In *Social Nature: Theory, Practice, and Politics* (eds) Noel Castree and Bruce Braun, Blackwell 2001, pp.84-111.

Sharad Chari and Katherine Verdery. Thinking between the posts: postcolonialism, postsocialism and ethnography after the Cold War. *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 2009;51(1):6–34.

Jonathan D. Lepofsky. Geographies of the Multitude: Finding the Spatial in Empire and its Counters. *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, 2009, 8 (2), 149-160

James Sidaway. *Empire's* Geographies. ACME. *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, 2005, 3 (2), pp. 63-78. http://www.acme-journal.org/vol3/Sidaway.pdf

Mary Gilmartin and Lawrence D Berg. Locating postcolonialism. *Area* (2007) 39.1, 120–124 http://www.d.umn.edu/~okuhlke/GEOG%205803%20Readings/Week%2013/MGLB07.pdf

Alison Blunt. Cultural geographies of migration: mobility, transnationality and diaspora. *Progress in Human Geography* (2007) 31(5) pp. 684–694.

Tim Cresswell. Mobilities 1: Catching up. *Prog Hum Geogr November 5, 2010 0309132510383348*

Week 6: October 3, 2011 -- Space 1

Soja, Edward W. (1989) *Postmodern Geographies: The Reassertion of Space in Critical Social Theory*. Verso. (Chapter 1 – History: Geography: Modernity), pp. 1-42. http://books.google.com/books?id=3 CYz-gdd4kC&printsec=frontcover&dq=the+production+of+space+online+pdf&source=gbs_similar_books_s&cad=1#v=onepage&q=&f=true

Edward W. Soja. The Socio-Spatial Dialectic. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (Jun., 1980), pp.207-225.

Harvey, David (2004) Space as a key word. *Hettner Lectures* Vol. 8, pp. 93–115. Stuttgart: Steiner.

On-line resources: there are a number of lectures and interviews on the web http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02eskyHJY_4 on his life, geography and outlook; http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYQb0fthNfl on the 2008-09 'crisis'; http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tr1Cj1QzdCY lecture series at Cornell on spaces of global capitalism

Harvey, D. (1990). The time and space of the Enlightenment project. Ch. 15 in *The Condition of Postmodernity: An Enquiry into the Origins of Cultural Change*. Oxford: Blackwell. (pp. 240-259)

Massey, Doreen (1994) Politics and Space/Time, chapter in *Space Place and Gender*. Cambridge, Polity Press.

Thrift, N. (2009). Space: The fundamental stuff of geography. In N. J. Clifford, S. L. Holloway, S. P. Rice & G. Valentine (Eds.), *Key Concepts in Geography*, 2nd edition (pp. 85-96). London and Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE.

Ong, Aihwa (2007) Neoliberalism as a mobile technology. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32(1) 3-8.

Week 7: October 10, 2011 -- Space 2: The Vega Symposium on the Political Challenge of Relational Space

Dorren Massey. The Political Challenge of Relational Space: Introduction to the Vega Symposium, *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004, p. 3.

Doreen Massey. Geographies of responsibility. *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004, pp.5-18

John Allen. The whereabouts of power: politics, government and spaces. *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004 pp.19-32.

Ash Amin. Regions Unbound: Towards a New Politics of Place. *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004 pp.33-44.

Linda M. McDowell. Masculinity, identity, and labour market change: some refletions on the implications of thinking relationally about difference and the politics of inclusion. *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004, pp. 45-56.

Nigel Thrift. Intensities of Feeling: Towards a Spatial Politics of Affect. *Geografiska Annaler* 86 B (1), 2004 pp.57-78.

Week 8: October 17, 2011 – Diversities; the case of economies

J.K. Gibson-Graham. Capitalocentrism and globalization. *The end of capitalism (as we knew it)*. Selected chapters.

Trevor J. Barnes. Retheorizing Economic Geography: From the Quantitative Revolution to the "Cultural Turn". *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 91(3), 2001, p. 546–565.

Trevor Barnes. Introduction: 'Never Mind the Economy. Here's Culture'. In T. Barnes, E., J. Peck, and E. Sheppard. *Companion to Economic Geography*. Wiley.

John Pickles. The Cultural Turn and the Conjunctural Economy: Economic Geography, Anthropology, and Cultural Studies. In Barnes, T., Peck, J., and Sheppard, E. (eds.) *The New Companion to Economic Geography*. Wiley 2012, forthcoming. Lawrence Grossberg. Considering value: Rescuing economies from economists. Chapter 4. *Cultural Studies in the Future Tense*. Duke University Press, 2011.

Timothy Mitchell. Rethinking economy. *Geoforum* 39 (2008) 1116–1121

Andrew E.G. Jonas. 'Alternative' This, 'Alternative' That...: Interrogating Alterity and Diversity. In D. Fuller, A.E.G. Jonas, and R. Lee (eds) *Interrogating Alterity: Alternative Economic and Political Spaces* (Ashgate), pp. 3-30.

Roger Lee. Spiders, Bees or Architexts? Imagination and the Radical Immanence of Alternatives/Diversity for Political-Economic Geographies. In D. Fuller, A.E.G. Jonas, and R. Lee (eds) *Interrogating Alterity: Alternative Economic and Political Spaces* (Ashgate), pp. 273-288.

Andrew Jones. Theorizing practice in economic geography: Foundations, challenges, and possibilities. *Progress in Human Geography*, 2010, 35(3) 366–392

Week 9: October 24, 2011

Writing week. First paper due in class October 31.

Week 10: October 31, 2011 - Place

Tuan, Y.-F. (1974). Space and place: Humanistic perspective. In S. Gale and G. Olsson (eds.) *Philosophy in Geography*, pp. 387-427.

Adams, P., Hoelscher, S., and Till K. (2001) Place in context: Rethinking humanist geographies. *Textures of Place*, P. Adams, S. Hoelscher, K. Till, eds. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2001), xiii-xxxiii.

Till, K. (2008). Artistic and activist memory-work: Approaching place-based practice. *Memory Studies* 1(1), 95-109.

Massey, D. B. (1994). *Space, place, and gender.* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Chapter 6, "A global sense of place," pp. 146-156).

Castree, N. (2009). Place: Connections and boundaries in an interdependent world. In N. J. Clifford, S. L. Holloway, S. P. Rice & G. Valentine (Eds.), *Key Concepts in Geography*, 2nd edition (pp. 153-172). London and Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE.

Arturo Escobar. Culture sits in places: reflections on globalism and subaltern strategies of localization. *Political Geography* 20 (2001) 139–174

Cosgrove, D. (1985). Prospect, perspective and the evolution of the landscape idea. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, *10*, 45-62.

Rose, G. (1997). Looking at landscape: The uneasy pleasures of power (excerpt). In T. J. Barnes & D. Gregory (Eds.), *Reading Human Geography: The Poetics and Politics of Inquiry* (pp. 342-354). London and New York: Arnold. (from 1993 book)

Schein, R. H. (1997). The place of landscape: A conceptual framework for interpreting an American scene. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, *87*(4), 660-680.

Week 11: November 7, 2011 – Territoriality

Stuart Elden. Contingent Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity and the Sanctity of Borders. *SAIS Review* Volume 26, Number 1, Winter-Spring 2006, pp. 11-24

Neil Brenner and Stuart Elden. Henri Lefebvre on Space, State, Territory. *International Political Sociology.* Volume 3, Issue 4, pages 353–377, December 2009.

Stuart Elden. Thinking Territory Historically. *Geopolitics*, 15:757–761, 2010

Stuart Elden. Thinking Territory Politically. *Political Geography* Volume 29, Issue 4, May 2010, Pages 238-241

Stuart Elden. Land, terrain, territory. *Prog Hum Geogr December 2010 vol. 34 no. 6 799-817*

Marco Antonsich. Rethinking territory. Prog Hum Geogr June 2011 vol. 35 no. 3 422-425.

Stuart Elden. Response to Antonsich: The role of history. *Prog Hum Geogr June 2011 vol.* 35 no. 3 426-429.

Jeremy W. Crampton. Cartographic calculations of territory. *Prog Hum Geogr February* 2011 vol. 35 no. 1 92-103

Read also: http://www.dur.ac.uk/geography/staff/geogstaffhidden/?id=93 and Elden on The Birth Of Territory. http://progressivegeographies.com/the-birth-of-territory/

Week 12: November 14, 2011 - Scale

Herod, A. (2009). Scale: The local and the global. In N. J. Clifford, S. L. Holloway, S. P. Rice & G. Valentine (Eds.), *Key Concepts in Geography*, 2nd edition (pp. 217-235). London and Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE.

Marston, S. A. (2000). The social construction of scale. *Progress in Human Geography*, 24(2), 219-242.

Brenner, N. (2001). The limits to scale? Methodological reflections on scalar structuration. *Progress in Human Geography*, *25*(4), 591-614.

Martston, S.A., Jones, J.P., and Woodward K. (2005) Human geography without scale. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 30(4) 416-432.

Collinge, C. (2006) Flat ontology and the deconstruction of scale: a response to Marston, Jones and Woodward. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 31(2) 244-251.

Hoefle, S.W. (2006) Eliminating scale and killing the goose that laid the golden egg? *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 31(2) 238-243.

Jonas, A.E.G. (2006) Pro scale: further reflections on the "scale debate" in human geography. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 31(3) 399-406.

Escobar, A. (2007) The "ontological turn" in social theory. A commentary on 'Human geography without scale', by Sallie Marston, John Paul Jones II and Keith Woodward. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32(1) 106-111.

Leitner, H. and Miller, B. (2007) Scale and the limitations of ontological debate: a commentary on Marston, Jones and Woodward. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32(1) 116-125.

Jones J.P., Woodward K. and Marston S.A. (2007) Situating flatness. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32(2) 264-276.

Week 13: November 21, 2011 -- Thanksgiving Break (no meeting)

Writing week—draft out second essay. Due December 12th

Week 14: November 28, 2011 - Natures

Braun, B. (2002). Picturing the forest crisis: Immutable mobiles, contested ecologies, and the politics of preservation. In *The Intemperate Rainforest: Nature, Culture, and Power on Canada's West Coast.* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Ch 6, pp. 213-255)

Noel Castree, David Demeritt and Diana Liverman. Introduction: Making Sense of Environmental Geography. Chapter 1.

Michael J Watts. Nature as Artifice and Artefact. In *Remaking Reality: nature at the millennium*. (ed by Bruce Braun and Noel Castree. Routledge, pp. 243-268.

Eric Sheppard. Geography, Nature, and the Question of Development. *Dialogues in Human Geography*. 1(1), March 2011, pp. 46-102.

Mapping posthumanism: an exchange (Noel Castree, Catherine Nash, Neil Badmington, Bruce Braun, Jonathon Murdoch, Sarah Whatmore). *Environment and Planning A.* 2004 volume 36(8) pages 1341 – 1363.

- --Introduction: posthumanism in question --Noel Castree, Catherine Nash
- --Mapping posthumanism --Neil Badmington
- --Modalities of posthumanism --Bruce Braun
- --Humanising posthumanism --Jonathan Murdoch
- --Humanism's excess: some thoughts on the 'post-human/ist' agenda --Sarah Whatmore

Chris Philo. Spacing Lives and Lively Spaces: Partial Remarks on Sarah Whatmore's Hybrid Geographies. *Antipode* 37(4), September 2005, pp. 824–833.

Sarah Whatmore. Remaking environments: histories, practices, policies. *Environment and Planning A* 2008, volume 40, pages 1777-1778. http://www.envplan.com/epa/editorials/a41189.pdf

Sarah Whatmore. Eating, ethics and the generative spaces of alternative food networks (ppt presentation)

http://www.utoronto.ca/cuhi/seminars/supportingdocs/Sarah%20Whatmore 14.03.06.pdf

Week 15: December 5, 2011 - Practices

Benno Werlen. Regions and Everyday Regionalizations From a Space-centred Towards an Action-centred Human Geography. In Henk van Houtum, Olivier Kramsch, and Wolfgang Zierhofer. *B/ordering Space*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2005, pp. 47-60.

Andrew Jones and James T. Murphy. Theorizing practice in economic geography: Foundations, challenges, and possibilities. *Progress in Human Geography*. Published online before print November 5, 2010, doi: 10.1177/0309132510375585

J.K. Gibson-Graham. Diverse Economies: Performative Practices for 'Other Worlds'. Ms.

Andrew Jones. Theorizing practice in economic geography: Foundations, challenges, and possibilities. Progress in Human Geography, 2010, 35(3) 366–392.

M. Lussault1 and M. Stock. "Doing with space": towards a pragmatics of space. Soc. Geogr. Discuss., 5, 1–23, 2009 www.soc-geogr-discuss.net/5/1/2009/

W.-D. Sahr, Curitiba. Interactive comment on "'Doing with space': towards a pragmatics of space" by M. Lussault and M. Stock. Soc. Geogr. Discuss., http://www.soc-geogr-discuss.net/5/C74/2009/sgd-5-C74-2009-supplement.pdf

Merle Patchett. A Rough Guide to Non-Representational Theory. Experimental Geography in Practice, November 12, 2010 https://merlepatchett.wordpress.com/2010/11/12/a-rough-guide-to-non-representational-theory/

Nigel Thrift (2003) Performance and... *Environment and Planning A* 2003, volume 35, pages 2019-2024.

Note: The reading schedules may change as the course progresses, as different issues emerge, and as new material becomes available.