



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Cultures in Boxes: Ethnography of Collecting and Archiving - 12834

Last update 26-09-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Folklore and Folk Culture Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dani Schrire

Coordinator Email: dani.schrire@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 14:15-15:15

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Dani Schrire

Course/Module description:

We will read and discuss articles that examine the "food-chain" of archives from the moment of transcription and recording, making of files, digitization, censorship, reading-rooms and post archival processes such as artistic engagements with archives, archives and critique and archives as a cultural metaphor.

Course/Module aims:

In the course we will learn to discern between various stages in processing cultural knowledge in archives while noting the various intersections between archives and cultures. We will learn how to use archives in cultural researches while maintaining a high degree of reflexivity on knowledge processes that take place there.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. To recognize different archival stages.
2. To recognize various transformations that cultural knowledge undergoes in archives.
3. To analyse the meaning of such transformation in research which makes use of archives.
4. To interpret cultural processes that take place in archives.
5. To get to know tradition archives and be familiar with methods of research in such archives

Attendance requirements(%):

85

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: We will read a text every week, which will be discussed in class. Some classes will take place within archival collections. As a preparatory discussion we will use online forums in the "Moodle". The final paper will be devoted to an analysis of cultural transformations that take place in a single archive.

Course/Module Content:

A number of meetings will be dedicated to various transformations that archival materials undergo at different moments: in preserving material, in transcription, recording, file production, digitization, collections, reading in reading rooms,

censorship. A few of our meetings will be devoted to post-archival processes such as art that relates to archives, critique that archives have the potential of generating, archive as a cultural metaphor.

Required Reading:

Before every meeting there will be a choice of reading one article of a list of two-three articles - reading requirements may change:

רוני בירן, "פרשת ברל ורבולונסקי," מחקרי ירושלים בפולקלור יהודי, 19-20 (1999), 239-270; חיה בר-יצחק, כוחו של סיפור. ספר היובל לאסע"י (חיפה: אוניברסיטת חיפה, תשס"ח): 16-26; גלית חזן-רוקם, אדם לאדם גשר. פתגמים של יהודי גורגיה בישראל (ירושלים, יד יצחק בן צבי והאוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים, תשנ"ג): 9-20; 32-35;

Annette Kuhn, "Photography and Cultural Memory: A Methodological Exploration." *Visual Studies* 22 (2007): 283-292; Michael Thompson, "Rubbish Theory: The Creation and Destruction of Value". *Encounters* 52, 6 (1979): 12-24; Mary Bucholtz, "The Politics of Transcription." *Journal of Pragmatics* 32 (2000): 1439-1465; Béla Bartók, *Serbo-Croatian Folk Songs*. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1951): 3-20; Benjamin Filene, "'Our Singing Country': John and Alan Lomax, Leadbelly, and the Construction of an American Past." *American Quarterly* 43, 4 (1991): 602-624; Ben Highmore, "Mass Observation: A science of everyday life" *Everyday Life and Cultural Theory. An Introduction* (London and New York: Routledge, 2002), 75-112; Bruno Latour, "How to make a file ripe for use" *The Making of Law: An Ethnography -of the Conseil d'Etat*. Translated by Marina Brilman and Alain Pottage (Cambridge: Polity, 2010): 70-106; Ilana Feldman, *Governing Gaza. Bureaucracy, Authority, and the Work of Rule, 1917-1967* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2008): 31-61; Michaela Fenske, "Micro, Macro, Agency: Historical Ethnography as Cultural Anthropology Practice," *Journal of Folklore Research* 44 (2007): 67-99; Regina Bendix, "Property and Propriety: Reflections on Archived and Archival Cultures", *Culture Archives and the State: Between Nationalism, Socialism, and the Global Market. Working Papers of the Center for Folklore Studies*, v. 1 (Ohio: Columbus, 2007); Arlette Farge, *The Allure of the Archives*. Translated by Thomas Scott-Railton (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013); Joan M. Schwartz and Terry Cook, "Archives, Records, and Power: The Making of Modern Memory. *Archival Science* 2 (2002): 1-19; Diana Taylor, *The Archive and the Repertoire: Performing Cultural Memory in the Americas* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2003); Hal Foster, "An Archival Impulse." *October* 110 (2004): 3-22; David M. Hopkin, "Storytelling in a Maritime Community: Saint Cast, 1879-1882," in *Voices of the People in Nineteenth-Century France* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012): 31-78; Guy Beiner, "History-Telling," *Remembering the Year of the French* (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2007): 81-114; William G. Pooley, "Can The 'Peasant' Speak? Witchcraft and Silence in Guillaume Cazaux's 'The Mass of Saint Sécaire'." *Western Folklore* 71 (2012): 93-118; George E. Marcus, "The Once and Future Ethnographic Archive". *History of the Human Sciences* 11:49 (1998): 49-63.

Additional Reading Material:

אדית גרזון-קיווי, "רישום הנגינה המזרחית", עדות ג (1947): 73-78;

Richard Bauman, "'Better than any monument': Envisioning Museums of the Spoken Word," *Museum Anthropology Review* 5 (2011): 1-13; Dani Schrire, "Ethnographic Questionnaires: After Method, After Questions," in *Approaching Methodology*, Second Edition (Helsinki: Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, 2013), 201-212; Galit Hasan-Rokem, *The Birth of Scholarship out of the Spirit of Oral Tradition* *Fabula* 39 (1998): 277—290; Ann Laura Stoler, *Along the Archival Grain; Epistemic Anxieties and Colonial Common Sense* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009): 17-53; Ben Highmore, *Michel de Certeau. Analysing Culture* (London: Continuum, 2006): 81-115.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %

Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 10 %

Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 15 %

Other 15 %

Additional information: