



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

SUBJECTIVITY: TOPICS IN PSYCHO LOGIC ANTHROPOLOGY B - 53865

Last update 26-10-2020

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Sociology & Anthropology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Yehuda Goodman

Coordinator Email: ygoodman@huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Mon 14-15 email request

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Yehuda Goodman

Course/Module description:

After learning the conceptual tool of "subjectivity in anthropology and in psychological anthropology in particular, we will follow a research process – and ethnographic inquiry and writing of a seminar paper corresponding with current theories of subjectivity. Among possible conceptualization culture and personality research, cultural relativism in constructing the self, and newer concepts like fragmented self and self in context, self in action, self and institutions and subjectivity as a replacement for the self.

Course/Module aims:

Based on critical reading in psychological anthropology, including an analytical history of subjectivity and major currents and principles, following then an original research project carried out by students and discussed in class. Submitting a seminar paper.

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

- Identify core principles in the early and current conceptualizations in psychological anthropology
- Follow closely changes in the psychological anthropology paradigm.
- Categorize the various approaches within this paradigm
- Interpret relevant reading material in light of the paradigm principles
- Generalize from a specific research ethnographic project to broader approaches
- Criticize the various approaches in psychological anthropology to allow for further theoretical development
- Using principles learned to carry out in-depth interviews and participant observation
- Analyzing materials collected using qualitative and narrative methods
- Writing a seminar paper that included case study, broader social context and analytical framework which corresponds with psychological anthropology

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, conversation and critical discussion on various reading in psychological anthropology (relating to the various approaches expressed in them). We'll have shared reading in class of the various ethnographies and discussing in particular the materials collected by students in the field and in the library.

Course/Module Content:

- Rationale: Subjectivity as an analytical, historical and disciplinary question
- What is psychological anthropology? what is subjectivity and how do we inquire into it?
- Major issues in psychological anthropology. History of a research paradigm
- Subjectivity and alternative concepts: personality, self, persona, identity
- Subjectivity and language, fragmentation, the body, gender and the unconscious
- Culture and personality: cultural patterns and cultural relativism
- Culture and personality: Sexuality and socialization
- The fragmented self and deconstructing the self
- The pragmatic turn in understanding the subject
- Subjectivity, history and memory
- Morality and subjectivity
- Subjectivity and subject position
- Subjectivity – New formulations
- Subjectivity as loss

Required Reading:

- Moore, Henrietta L. (2007). A Genealogy of the Anthropological Subject. In: *The Subject of Anthropology*. Ch 2., pp. 23-42. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Benedict, Ruth Fulton (1930). *Psychological types in the Cultures of the Southwest*.
- Mead, Margaret (1935). *Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies*.
- Ewing, Katherine. 1990. The Illusion of Wholeness: Culture, Self and the Experience of Inconsistency. *Ethos*, 18 (3): 251-278.
- Desjarlais, Robert 1998. The Makings of Personhood in a Shelter for People Considered Homeless and Mentally Ill. *Ethos*. 27 (4):466-489.
- Desjarlais, Robert and Theresa O' Nell A. 1998. Introduction. Pragmatic Turn in Psychological Anthropology. *Ethos*. 27 (4):407-414.
- Brenneis, Donald 1998. Identifying Practice: Comment on "The Pragmatic Turn in Psychological Anthropology. *Ethos*. 27 (4): 530-535.
- Hollan, Douglas 2008. Being There: On the Imaginative Aspects of Understanding Others and Being understood. *Ethos*, 36 (41): 475-489
- Hollan, Douglas and Jason C. Throop 2008. Whatever Happened to Empathy?: Introduction. *Ethos* 36(41): 385-401.
- Ziggon, Zarett 2011. A Moral and Ethical Assemblage in Russian Orthodox Drug Rehabilitation. *Ethos*, 39 (1): 30-50.

Adrian Bonie 2004. *The Camera's Positioning: Brides, Grooms, and Their Photographers in Taipei's Bridal Industry*. *Ethos* 32(2): 140 – 163.

Holland, Dorothy and Kevin Leander, 2004. *Ethnographic Studies of Positioning and Subjectivity: An Introduction*. *Ethos* 32(2): 127 - 139.

Mattingly, Cheryl, 2014. *The Moral Perils of a Super Strong Black Mother*. *Ethos* 42(1): 119–138.

Csordas, J. Thomas, 2014. *Afterword: Moral Experience in Anthropology*. *Ethos* 42(1): 139–152.

Additional Reading Material:

Spiro, Melford. 1993. *Is the Western Conception of the Self "Peculiar" within the Context of the World Cultures?*. *Ethos*, 21 (2): 107-153.

Biehl, João, Good Byron and Kleinman, Arthur (eds). 2007. *Introduction: Rethinking Subjectivity*. In: *Subjectivity: Ethnographic Investigations* . pp. 1-24. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Biehl, João. 2005. *Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment*. Especially the following pages: 1-24, 35-43, 71-73, 85-91, 151-162, 171-178, 187,-198, 209-215, 235-247, 257-264, 292-296, 303-309, 313-319, 360. Berkeley: Univeristy of California Press.

Hollan, Douglas 1992. *Cross-Cultural Differences in the Self*. *Journal of Anthropological Research* 48(4): 283-300.

Holland, Dorothy and Andrew Kipnis 1994. *Metaphors for Embarrassment and Stories of Exposure: The Not-So-Egocentric Self in American Culture*. *Ethos* 22(3): 316 – 342.

Lester, J. Rebecca. 2009. *Brokering Authenticity: Borderline Personality Disorder and the Ethics of Care in an American Eating Disorder Clinic*. *Current Anthropology* 50(3): 281-302

Calabrese, Joseph. 2008. *Clinical Paradigm Clashes: Ethnocentric and Political Barriers to Native American Efforts at Self-Healing*. *Ethos*, 36(3): 334-353.

Goodman, Jane E. 1998. *Singers, Saints, and the Construction of Postcolonial Subjectivities in Algeria*. *Ethos*, 26(2): 204 - 228

Saymor, Susan. 2004. *Multiple Caretaking of Infants and Young Children: An Area in Critical Need of a Feminist Psychological Anthropology*. *Ethos*, 32(4): 538 – 556.

Chapin, Bambi L. 2004. *Transforming Possession: Josephine and the Work of Culture*. *Ethos*, 36(2): 220 - 245.

Mattingly, Cheryl. Nancy C. Lutkehaus, and C. Jason Throop 2008. *Bruner's Search for Meaning: A Conversation between Psychology and Anthropology*. *Ethos*, 36(1): 1-28

Barlow Kathleen and Bambi Chapin (Eds.). 2010: *Mothering as Everyday Practice*. *Ethos* 38(4)

Aikiko Hayashi and Joe Tobin 2011 *The Japanese Preschools Pedagogy of Peripheral Participation*. 39.2 *Ethos* 39(2)

Csordas, Thomas. 2009. *Growing Up Charismatic*. *Ethos* 37:4

Elinor Ochs and Carolina Izquierdo 2009. *Responsibility in Childhood*. *Ethos* 37(4)

Sandel, David 2010. *Where Mourning Takes Them* *Ethos* 38 (2)
Odden, Harold 2009. *Interaction of Temperament and Culture* *Ethos* 37 (2)
Mccollum, Chris, 2002. *Relatedness and Self-Definition: Two Dominant Themes in Middle-Class Americans' life Stories*. *Ethos* 30(1-2): 113 - 139.
Matsuki, Keiko 2000. *Negotiating of Memory and Agency in Japanese Oral Narrative Accounts of Wartime Experiences*. *Ethos* 28(4): 534-550.
White, Geoffrey, 2000. *Histories and Subjectivities*. *Ethos* 28(4): 493-510.
Linde Charlotte, 2000. *The Acquisition of a Speaker by a Story: How History Becomes Memory and Identity*. *Ethos* 28(4): 608-632.
Snell-Rod, Claire, 2013. *To Know the Field: Shaping the Slum, Environment and Cultivating the Self*. *Ethos* 41(3): 271-291.
Mageo, Jeannette, 2013. *Dreaming and its Discontents: US Cultural Models in the Theatre of Dreams*. *Ethos* 41(4): 387-410.
Parish, Steven M. 2014. *Between Persons: How Concepts of Person Make Moral Experience Possible*. *Ethos* 42(1): 31-50.
Zigon, Zarret and Throop C. Jason, 2014. *Moral Experience: Introduction*. *Ethos* 42(1): 1-15

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 5 %
Participation in Tutorials 5 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 5 %
Research project 80 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 5 %
research proposal

Additional information: