

Entered 8.28.2017

ANTH760  
Development of Social Cultural Theory (3 credits)  
Mondays, 6:00pm- 8:45pm Woods Hall 1130  
Professor Chernela  
Office hrs. Wed., 2 PM or by appt., [chernela@gmail.com](mailto:chernela@gmail.com)

This course reviews major intellectual currents in anthropological theory from the nineteenth century to the present with emphasis placed on application of theory and theory of application. Several themes extend throughout the course, providing material for debate and discussion. These themes will include the place of anthropology in Western intellectual history; the debated uniqueness of the anthropological enterprise; the role of theory and analysis in anthropological practice; the utility of the problematizing operation; the impact of theoretical orientation on production and product; and theorizing authorship in the roles of the outside participant-observer (as researcher or practitioner) and the insider actor-participant. Materials proceed from 19th century contributors (including Tyler, Durkheim, and Boas), exploring the cumulative nature of anthropological theory, through the 20th centuries and into the present, finding commonalities, threads, and innovations in the exercise.

**Grading Requirements.** Grades will be based upon performance in two areas: class oral presentations and written submissions. Each student will receive five opportunities to discuss an author and his/her contribution in oral (10%) and written (10%) form (x 5 ea. = 100%). The purpose of several writing assignments is to clarify any questions you may have and provide an opportunity for improvement.

Each student is responsible for reading the literature assigned. On five occasions, the student will discuss the assigned author's contribution, and illustrate the impact of the author on subsequent scholarship. The oral presentation and discussion are supplemented with a written commentary.

**The written commentary** should be five double-spaced pages with in-text citations; the bibliography, which is not counted in the page length, should be in the format of the *American Anthropologist*.

**The class discussion** entails 1) articulating the main points of the assigned author and 2) demonstrating her/his/their impact on later work through specific illustration.

**The role of classmates:** The presenter should be able to generate class discussion; their grade will depend, in part, on the interaction they inspire and lead.

## SYLLABUS\*

### **Aug. 28, Introduction to Course Requirements; Themes.**

Defining the field. What role does theory play? What are the tensions between Theory and Practice? What is the role of “problematizing”?

### **Sept. 4, Labor Day**

### **Sept. 11, Theorizing Change: Nineteenth century evolutionary foundations:**

Lewis Henry Morgan (1818 – 1881), American anthropologist

Karl Heinrich Marx (1818 – 1883), German philosopher,

Edward Burnett Tylor (1832 – 1917), English anthropologist

#### **Read:**

Morgan, Ancient Society (1877), [www.marxists.org/reference/archive/morgan-lewis/ancient-society/](http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/morgan-lewis/ancient-society/)

Engels, Frederick and Marx, Karl (1884) “The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State” ch 2

[www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1884/origin-family/ch02b.htm](http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1884/origin-family/ch02b.htm)

Tylor, Edward B., (1889) On a Method of Investigating the Development of Institutions; Applied to Laws of Marriage and Descent (1889) *The Journal of the Anthropological Institute* Vol. 18. UM Research Port

[Suggestions for influence: Eleanor Leacock, Peggy Sanday, Henrietta Moore, Julian Steward, Morton Fried, Elman Service, Jonathan Haas, Kent Flannery]

### **Sept. 18: Theorizing Coherence: Émile Durkheim (1858 – 1917), French sociologist**

#### **Read:**

Durkheim, Emile: What Is a Social Fact? (1895)

[www.cardiff.ac.uk/socsi/undergraduate/introsoc/durkheim10.html](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/socsi/undergraduate/introsoc/durkheim10.html)

[Or] Durkheim, Emile: Sociology and Social Facts, In Lemert, 79 (Elec. Handout)

[Suggestions for influence: Geertz, Bourdieu]

### **Sept 25, Boas and Benedict: 1) Community and Identity; 2) Historic Particularism; 3) Cultural relativity; and 4) the foundations of an American, engaged anthropology**

#### **Read:**

Franz Boas: The Mind of Primitive Man (1901). Electronic handout.

George Stocking: Franz Boas and the Culture Concept (1966). Electronic handout.  
Ruth Benedict, Research on the Development of the Indian Personality (1942)

[http://search.alexanderstreet.com/view/work/bibliographic\\_entity%7Cbibliographic\\_details%7C3282093#page/1/mode/1/chapter/bibliographic\\_entity|bibliographic\\_details|3282093](http://search.alexanderstreet.com/view/work/bibliographic_entity%7Cbibliographic_details%7C3282093#page/1/mode/1/chapter/bibliographic_entity|bibliographic_details|3282093)

## **Oct. 2. The Construction of Gender: Margaret Mead**

### **Read:**

Margaret Mead (1935) Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies

And/Or, the Mead Archive: <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/mead/mead-field.html>

[Suggestions for influence: Ortner, Butler]

## **Oct. 9, Foundations in Economic Anthropology .**

### **Read:**

Marcel Mauss: The Gift, Excerpts (1925) In McGee, Pp., 102-114

Bronislaw Malinowski, Argonauts Pp. 177-191. Electronic handout.

Marshall Sahlins (1972) Stone Age Economics.

## **Oct. 16, Revisiting Evolution: Theorizing Nature, Labor, and Society**

### **Read:**

Julian Steward: Cultural Causality and Law [Research Port]

Marvin Harris: ..India's Sacred Cattle. McGee, Pp. 204-217.

[Recommended:]

Leslie White: Energy and the Evolution of Culture (1943). In McGee, 256+

Morton Fried: Evolution of Social Stratification and the State(1960). McGee, 288+

## **Oct. 23, Althusser and the Marxian Legacy in Anthropology: Knowledge, Language, and the State**

### **Read:**

Karl Marx, The German Ideology: Feuerbach (1845-6).

[www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/german-ideology/ch01b.htm](http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/german-ideology/ch01b.htm)

Louis Althusser: Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses

[Suggestions for influences: Louis Althusser, Stuart Hall, Theodor Adorno, Michael Silverstein, Judith Irvine]

## **Oct. 30, Structuralism and Post-structuralism: Of Signs and their Relationships**

Ferdinand de Saussure (1857 – 1913), Swiss linguist

Claude Lévi-Strauss (1908-2009)

### **Read:**

Saussure, Course. <http://www.angelfire.com/md2/timewarp/saussure.html>

Claude Lévi-Strauss: Structural Analysis... (1963) In McGee, Pp., 347-362  
Claude Levi-Strauss: The Structural Study of Myth. In Lemert, 335+

[Recommended:]

Mary Douglas: External Boundaries (1966). In McGee, Pp., 526-536

Victor Turner: Symbols in Ndembu Ritual (1967). In McGee, Pp., 536-552

### **Nov. 6, Language and Culture**

#### **Read:**

Bronislaw Malinowski- electronic handout

David Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf-electronic handout

Erving Goffman - electronic handout

### **Nov. 13, Rethinking the Role of History**

#### **Read one of:**

Sidney Mintz,

Eric Wolf,

Sahlins

### **Nov. 20 The State, Society, and Reason - Guest speaker, Christopher Hewlett**

Michel Foucault: Power as Knowledge. In Lemert, P. 318 [and electronic]

### **Nov. 27 Theorizing the Quotidian: Theory and Practice**

Pierre Bourdieu: Structures, Habitus, Practices. In Lemert, P. 479

Marcel Mauss (1973, orig. 1934) Techniques of the Body. Web link:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/29890878/Marcel-Mauss-Techniques-of-the-Body>

### **Nov. 29, American Anthropology Association Meetings.**

### **Dec. 4 Review**

### **Dec. 11, Last day of Class.**

\*This may be subject to change

#### **Readers:**

Lemert, Charles, ed. (1993) Social Theory: The Multicultural & classic Readings.  
Boulder: Westview Press. [\$16.00, used Amazon.com]

McGee, R. Jon and Richard L. Warms, eds. (2004) *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History* (Third Edition). New York: McGraw Hill.

## READINGS, ALPHABETICAL ORDER

Adorno, Theodor and Max Horkheimer (1993, orig., 1972) "The culture industry: enlightenment as mass deception." (From *Dialectic of Enlightenment*.) *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp 29-44. [Recommended]

Althusser, Louis (2001, orig. 1971 ) *Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses (Notes Towards and Investigation)*. In *Media and Cultural Studies: KeyWorks*, (eds) M. G. Durham and D. M. Kellner. Oxford: Blackwell. Pp. 79-87 [Recommended]

Boas, Franz (2004, orig. 1920) *The Methods of Ethnology*. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 132-140)

Bourdieu, Pierre (1999, orig. 1974) *Structures, Habitus, Practices*. *In Social Theory: The Multicultural and classic Readings*, ed. Charles Lemert. Boulder: Westview Press. Pp. 441-446. [Required]

Bourdieu (1993, orig., 1978) "How can one be a sports fan?" *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp. 339-356 [Recommended]

Clifford, James (1993, orig., 1988) "On collecting art and culture." *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp. 49-73

De Certeau, Michel (1993, orig., 1984). "Walking in the city." *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp. 151-160. [Required]

Douglas, Mary (2004, orig. 1966) *External Boundaries*. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. 371-385) [Required]

Durkheim, Emile. (2004, orig. 1895) *What Is a Social Fact?* *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. 85-91)

Evans-Pritchard, E.E. (2004, orig. 1940). *The Nuer of the southern Sudan*. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. 184-201)

Foucault, Michel (1993, orig., 1984). "Space, power and knowledge". *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp 161-169. [Recommended]

Foucault, Michel (1972-1977) "Two Lectures." *In Anthropology in Theory: Issues in Epistemology*. Pp. 417-422.

Fried, Morton (2004, orig. 1960). On the Evolution of Social Stratification and the State. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. 288-301)

Geertz, Clifford (1964) Ideology as a Cultural System. *In Ideology and Discontent*, ed. David Apter. New York: Free Press. Pp 47-76.  
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~DRBR/geertz.html> [Required]

Geertz, Clifford (1973) Thick description: toward an interpretive theory of culture. *In The interpretation of cultures: selected essays*. New-York. Basic Books, pp. 3-30

Geertz, Clifford (1974) From the Native's Point of View: On the Nature of Anthropological Understanding. *Bulletin of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* 28(1) 26-45.

Geertz, Clifford (1980) Blurred Genres: The Refiguration of Social Thought. *The American Scholar* 49(2) 165-179.

Geertz, Clifford (2004, orig.1973). Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 553-574)

Gramsci, Antonio (2001, orig. 1971 ) (i) History of the Subaltern Classes; (ii) The Concept of "Ideology"; (iii) Cultural Themes: Ideological Material. *In Media and Cultural Studies: KeyWorks*, (eds) M. G. Durham and D. M. Kellner. Oxford: Blackwell. Pp. 13-17. [Recommended]

Hall, Stuart (1985) Signification, Representation, Ideology: Althusser and the Post-Structuralist Debates. *Critical Studies in Mass Communication* 2(2)91-114.  
[Required]

Harris, Marvin (2004, orig. 1966). The Cultural Ecology of India's Sacred Cattle. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 302-315) [Required]

Hill, Jane (1999) Language Race, and White Public Space. *American Anthropologist* 100(3):680-689.

Lévi-Strauss, Claude (2004, orig. 1963). Structural Analysis in Linguistics and in Anthropology. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 347-362)  
[Required]

Lyotard, Jean-Francois (1993, orig., 1989) "defining the postmodern" *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp 177-191.

Malinowski, Bronislaw (2004, orig. 1922). *The Essentials of the Kula*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 157-172)

Mauss, Marcel (1973) *Techniques of the Body*. *Economy and Society* 21(1) 70-88. Web link: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/29890878/Marcel-Mauss-Techniques-of-the-Body>

Marx, Karl and Friedrich Engels (2004, orig. 1845-6). *Feuerbach: Opposition of the Materialist and Idealist Outlook*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 67-81)

Mauss, Marcel (2004, orig. 1925) *The Gift (Excerpts)*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 102-114) [Required]

McGee, R. Jon and Richard L. Warms (2004) *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History (Third Edition)*. New York: McGraw Hill. (Selected Readings)

Mead, Margaret (2004, orig. 1935). *Introduction to Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 230-237) [Required]

Morgan, Lewis Henry (2004, orig. 1877). *Ethnical Periods*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 56-67) [Required]

Morgan, Lewis Henry (1877) *Ancient Society*. Web.

Ortner, Sherry (2004, orig. 1974). *Is Female to Male as Nature Is to Culture?* In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 371-385)

Ortner, Sherry B. (1984) "Theory in Anthropology since the Sixties." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 26(1) 126-166

Radcliffe-Brown, A.R. (2004, orig. 1924). *The Mother's Brother in South Africa*. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 172-184)

Rappaport, Roy (2004, orig. 1967). Ritual Regulation of Environmental Relations Among a New Guinea People. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 316-328)

Rosaldo, Renato (1993, orig., 1989). "After objectivism" *In The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993, ed. Simon During. New York: Routledge. Pp. 104-117.

Sahlins, Marshal (2003) *Stone Age Economics*. [Recommended]

Sahlins, Marshall, and Service, Elman R., eds. 1960. *Evolution and Culture*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. [Recommended]

Steward, Julian (2004, orig. 1955). The Patrilineal Band. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 240-255)

Turner, Victor (2004, orig. 1967). Symbols in Ndembu Ritual. *In Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 536-552) [Required]

Tylor, Edward Burnett (2004, orig. 1871). The Science of Culture. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 41-55)

Weber, Max (2004, orig. 1922) Class, Status, Party. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 67-81)

Woolard, Kathryn A. and Bambi B. Schieffelin (1994). Language Ideology. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 23: 55-82

White, Leslie (2004, orig. 1943). Energy and the Evolution of Culture. In *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History*, eds. R. Jon McGee and Richard L. Warms. New York: McGraw Hill. (Third Edition, pp. , 256-274)

### **Edited collections:**

During, Simon (1993) *The Cultural Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge.[Recommended]

Lemert, Charles, ed. (1993) *Social Theory: The Multicultural & classic Readings*. Boulder: Westview Press. [\$16.00, used Amazon.com]



McGee, R. Jon and Richard L. Warms, eds. (2004) *Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History* (Third Edition). New York: McGraw Hill.

Moore, Henrietta and Todd Sanders (2006) *Anthropology in Theory: Issues in Epistemology*. New York: Blackwell. [Recommended]

SAMPLE