

ETHN 119: Race in the Americas
Summer Session II 2010

Instructor: Angie Morrill

M/W 2:00-4:50pm, Solis Hall 110

Office hours: Wed 5-7 at Price Center or by appointment

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Overview:

This class will analyze the meanings of race in the Americas through concepts including colonialism, decolonization, indigeneity, diaspora, slavery and mestizaje. Our project will be to engage questions and meanings about cultural memory, knowing and being and the production of knowledge. Diana Taylor argues the archive (written records of knowledge) and the repertoire (performed knowledge) are not opposed. The violent history of the Americas complicates “being as knowing” when what is allowed into the archive is ethnographic knowledge produced to reinforce difference and support social and racial hierarchies. What does inclusion in the archive mean? Is it possible? Does embodied performance and “being as knowing” lead to inclusion? Is that possible or desired?

Attendance is critical to doing well, there are only ten classes and attendance and participation are 50% of your final grade.

Readings:

Week 1

The Archive and the Repertoire Diana Taylor

“Acts of Transfer”,

“Scenarios of Discovery: Reflections on Performance and Ethnography”

“Memory as Cultural Practice: Mestizaje, Hybridity, Transculturation”

Week 2

Gloria Anzaldua, *Borderlands/La Frontera*

Chapter 1 23-35

Ch 7 99-113

Miller, M. G., *Rise and fall of the cosmic race: the cult of mestizaje in Latin America* (2004)

Introduction & Chapter 1 (1-44)

Week 3

Luz Arce, selection from *The Inferno*

Forum responses

Week 4

Chela Sandoval, *Methodology of the Oppressed*

“Love as a Hermeneutics of Social Change, a Decolonizing *Movida*” 138-156

“Revolutionary Force: Connecting Desire to Reality” 158-176

Grading:

Assignments: 25%

Participation: 25%

Final presentation: 50%

There may be additional readings or changes made to assigned readings. No readings are assigned in Week 5 because you will be working on your final projects. The final is scheduled for September 3rd, 3-5:50. There will be a final presentation of performances and projects on that day.