

ES 189
Visuality, Sexuality and Race
Spring 2011

Professor: Daphne V. Taylor-García, dtg@ucsd.edu

Office Location: Department of Ethnic Studies, SSB 226

Office Hours: T/Th 2:00—3:00pm

Course Description

This course will explore the rise and institutionalization of modern visual culture from the 16th to 18th centuries, particularly in relation to colonialism, race and sexuality in the Americas. Examples will be drawn primarily from Spanish colonialism, but British colonies will also be examined.

In 1952 Frantz Fanon wrote, “I am given no chance. I am overdetermined from without. I am the slave not of the “idea” that others have of me but of my own appearance.” From racial profiling to the commodification of racialized sexuality, visual culture has been the focus of much recent scholarship, debate and political organizing. In this course we will examine the historical dimensions of the relationship between visual culture, colonialism, race and sexuality to better understand how they inform contemporary social realities.

Required Texts

Stuart Hall. *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*, Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1997.

Ilona Katzew. *Casta Painting: Images of Race in Eighteenth-Century Mexico*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.

All other readings can be viewed and downloaded via the UCSD library course reserve website:
<http://libraries.ucsd.edu/resources/course-reserves/index.html>

Accommodations

I would like to ensure this class is accessible to everyone. Please contact me as soon as possible if you require any specific accommodations for a disability or any other medical reason.

Course Requirements

Assignments

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance and Participation | 20% |
| Quiz | 10% |
| Midterm Paper | 30% |
| Final Paper | 40% |

Grading Scale

| | | | |
|--------|----|-------|----|
| 94-100 | A | 73-75 | C |
| 90-93 | A- | 70-72 | C |
| 86-89 | B+ | 66-69 | D+ |
| 83-85 | B | 63-65 | D |
| 80-82 | B- | 60-62 | D- |
| 76-79 | C+ | 0-60 | F |

Attendance and Participation: Please arrive in class on time and having completed the assigned readings for the day. Informed and engaged discussion is a critical part of the learning process and everyone is, of course, expected to contribute. Occasionally you will be asked to bring to class a specific question or point for discussion. More than 3 absences will result in an additional 1/2 letter-grade deduction.

Quiz: The quiz will be held on Tuesday, April 5. No make-up quizzes will be allowed!

Midterm Paper: Look for a visual image that speaks to an aspect of the course readings and write a 5-page explanation of the image. Include the image with your paper and reference at least three (3) articles from units 1, 2 and/or 3. Please attach a “works cited” page.

If you are feeling creative, feel free to create a visual image that speaks to an aspect of the course readings. The focus of this assignment will be on how well you explain your visual image.

Please do not e-mail me your paper. Hardcopies only! Due May 5th in class.

Final Paper: Write a 7-page research paper on visual culture, sexuality and race. You can focus on an art exhibit, a television commercial, a film, or any other form of visual culture of your choice. Reference a minimum of two (2) outside academic sources and three (3) articles from units 3, 4 and/or 5. No e-mailed papers will be accepted. Hardcopies only! Due June 7th at 5pm.

Students must complete all assignments to get a passing grade. This includes P/NP students.

Please note: Readings may be changed or added during the course.

Class Schedule

Week 1

Tuesday, March 29

Introduction

Siobhan Somerville, “Queer,” in *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*, New York: NYU Press, 2007.

UNIT 1

Terms and Concepts for Thinking about Visual Culture

Thursday, March 31

Stuart Hall, “The Work of Representation,” in *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*, Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1997. Pg 15 - 41 and Readings A, B, and C

Week 2

Tuesday, April 5

Stuart Hall, “The Work of Representation,” in *Representation*, Pg. 41 – 63 and Readings D, E, and F.

QUIZ

UNIT 2

Land, Colonialism and Visual Culture

Thursday, April 7

Jennifer L. Morgan, "‘Some Could Suckle over Their Shoulder’: Male Travelers, Female Bodies, and the Gendering of Racial Ideology," in *Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.

Week 3

Tuesday, April 12

Micheal Taussig, "On the Indian's Back: The Moral Topography of the Andes and its Conquest," in *Shamanism, Colonialism and the Wild Man*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991.

Thursday, April 14

Jonathan Bordo, "Picture and Witness at the Site of the Wilderness," *Critical Inquiry*, Vol. 26, No. 2 (Winter, 2000).

In class: Daphne Odjig, *Paintbrush in My Hand*.

UNIT 3

Colonial Body Politics and the Visual

Week 4

Tuesday, April 19

Susan Kellogg, "Colliding Worlds: Indigenous Women, Conquest, and Colonialism," in *Weaving the Past*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Thursday, April 21

Marcia Ochoa, "Becoming a Man in Yndias: The Meditations of Catalina de Erauso, The Lieutenant Nun," in *Technofuturos: Critical Interventions in Latina/o Studies*, Lanham: Lexington Books, 2007.

Week 5

Tuesday, April 26

Deborah A. Miranda, "Extermination of the Joyas: Gendercide in Spanish California," *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, Volume 16, Number 1-2, 2010.

Thursday, April 28

Ilona Katzew, *Casta Painting: Images of Race in Eighteenth-Century Mexico*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004. Chapters 1 and 2

Week 6

Tuesday, May 3

Ilona Katzew, *Casta Painting*, Chapter 3

Thursday, May 5

Ilona Katzew, *Casta Painting*, Chapter 4

MIDTERM DUE

UNIT 4

Visual Culture in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction

Week 7

Tuesday, May 10

Elizabeth Eisenstein, "Defining the Initial Shift," in *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Thursday, May 12

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction," in *Illuminations*, New York: Schocken Books, 1968.

Week 8

Tuesday, May 17

Stuart Hall, "The Spectacle of the 'Other'," in *Representation*, Pgs. 225-257 and readings A and B

Thursday, May 19

Stuart Hall, "The Spectacle of the 'Other'," in *Representation*, Pgs. 257-277 and readings C and D

UNIT 5

Colonialism, Visual Culture and Contemporary Politics of Knowledge Production

Week 9

Tuesday, May 24

Henrietta Lidchi, "The Poetics and Politics of Exhibiting Other Cultures," in *Representation*. Pgs. 153-184 and Readings A,B, C and D

Thursday, May 26

Henrietta Lidchi, "The Poetics and Politics of Exhibiting Other Cultures," in *Representation*, Pgs. 184-205 and Reading E

Week 10

Tuesday, May 31

Coco Fusco, "The Other History of Intercultural Performance," in *The Visual Culture Reader*, ed. Nicholas Mirzoeff, New York: Routledge, 1998.

Film: *Two Undiscovered Amerindians Visit...*

Thursday, June 2

Review and Concluding Remarks

June 7, 2011

Final Paper Due by 5pm. Dropbox located at SSB 226 in the Ethnic Studies Department.