

DECOLONIAL THEORY
ETHN 163E—Spring 2016
Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:50pm
Center Hall 220

Professor: Daphne V. Taylor-García
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Office Hours: Tuesday 5-6pm at the Raza Centro /Friday 5-6pm and by appointment at my office

Course Description

Decolonial theory is a very large body of intellectual work. Thus, this course will be neither comprehensive nor exhaustive. Instead, the course will focus on two key themes that are of particular interest in the contemporary moment: the “coloniality of being” and “grassroots theory.” The purpose of this course is twofold: to familiarize students with some of the central concerns in decolonial theory as well as to continue to think through possible futures.

Course Requirements

1) Class Discussion and Attendance – 20%

Seminar style classes are discussion based. So while I will lecture to help elucidate, contextualize or elaborate a particular concept, it is also expected that students will come to class ready to engage in a discussion. Please arrive in class having completed the assigned readings for the day.

2) Assignment #1 and #2: Each paper is to be 4 - 5 pages long. Instructions: Identify and explain a key argument in each unit’s readings. Draw your examples from the unit.

First paper due based on Unit 2: April 22nd, 6pm at SSB 226 – 20%

Second paper due based on Unit 3: May 20th, 6pm at SSB 226 – 20%

3) Attend a special event hosted by:

The Ethnic Studies, Critical Gender Studies, the Black Studies Project, or the Chicano/a~Latino/a Arts and Humanities Program — 10%

Write a 1pg report of what you learned or what questions were raised for you from the event. Assignment is due within one week of the event’s date.

4) Assignment #3: This paper is to be 750 words long.

Instructions: Write an op-ed based on an issue raised in Harsha Walia’s book.

Follow these guidelines on how to write an op-ed:

http://newsoffice.duke.edu/duke_resources/oped

Due June 3rd – 20%

3) Class Presentation

15 min presentations that will open the class. Sign up required. - 10%

Papers should be written in a 12-point standard font (e.g., Times New Roman), double spaced, and paginated.

Required Books (Book can be purchased at UCSD bookstore. All articles available on TED)
Harsha Walia. *Undoing Border Imperialism*. Oakland: AK Press, 2013.

- Please bring copies of the readings to class.
- Please note: Readings may be edited or added depending on class discussions.

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 medical reason.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

March 29

Introductions

Discussion of terminology

UNIT 1: The Triadic Schema

March 31

Film: Watch *When Worlds Collide* at the library (FVLVDV 10511-1)

Week 2

April 5

Anibal Quijano and Immanuel Wallerstein. "Americanity as a Concept"

April 7

Anibal Quijano. "Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism and Latin America"

UNIT 2: On Blood

Week 3

April 12

J. Kehaulani Kauanui. Excerpt from *Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity*

Special Event

Wednesday, April 13:

Guest Speaker: J. Kehaulani Kauanui

3-4:30pm CCC

April 14

J. Kehaulani Kauanui. Excerpt from *Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity*

Week 4

April 19

María Elena Martínez. Excerpt from *Genealogical Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico*

April 21

Illona Katzew. Excerpt from *Casta Paintings: Images of Race in Eighteenth Century Mexico*

Unit 3: The Coloniality of Being

Week 5

April 26

Frantz Fanon: Excerpt from *Black Skin, White Masks*

April 28

Film: *Concerning Violence*

Week 6:

May 3

Inés Hernández-Avila

Indigenous Intellectual Sovereignities: A Hemispheric Convocation

Special Event

Wednesday, May 4

Guest Speaker: Inés Hernández-Avila

3-4:30pm CCC

May 5

Inés Hernández-Avila:

Relocations upon Relocations: Home, Language, and Native American Women's Writings

Week 7

May 10

Sylvia Wynter. "Unsettling the Coloniality of Being/Power/Truth/Freedom," Pgs. 257-283

May 12

Wynter, continued. Pgs. 283-331

Week 8

May 17

Nelson Maldonado Torres. "The Coloniality of Being"

May 19

Maria Lugones. "The Coloniality of Gender"

UNIT 3: Decolonizing Border Imperialism

Week 9

May 24

Harsha Walia. *Undoing Border Imperialism*. Oakland: AK Press, 2013.

Pgs xviii—78

May 26

Walia. Pgs 81-156

Week 10

May 31

Walia. Pgs. 159—244

June 2

Walia. Pgs. 249—283

Assignment #3 Due June 3rd by 6pm

Please drop off in box at SSB 226