

DECOLONIAL THEORY
Spring 2016
Thursdays 5:00- 7:50pm
SSB 103

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 and has many formations. In this course we will focus on scholarship examining the redefinition of the human over the last 500+ years. Students will be introduced to a key theoretical framework that is of particular interest in the contemporary moment: the “coloniality of being.” 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.

Required Texts

Fanon, Frantz. *Black Skin, White Masks*. New York: Grove Press, 2008.

Kauanui, J. Kehaulani. *Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.

Martínez, María Elena. *Genealogical Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011.

Pagden, Anthony. *The Fall of Natural Man: The American Indian and the Origins of Comparative Ethnology*. Cambridge University Press, 1987.

All other readings will be available on TED.

Requirements

Attendance and Participation: 20%

Presentations: 20% each (40% total)

Each student will be responsible for 2 presentations. Presenter should be prepared to lead the class discussion.

Final Paper: 40%

15-17 pg research paper based on course materials.

SCHEDULE

Week 1

March 30

Introductions

The Triadic Schema

Week 2

April 6

Pagden, Anthony, *The Fall of Natural Man: The American Indian and the Origins of Comparative Ethnology*. Cambridge University Press, 1987.

On Blood

Week 3

April 13

Special Guest: J. Kehaulani Kauanui

Hawaiian Blood: Colonialism and the Politics of Sovereignty and Indigeneity. Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.

3-4:30pm at the CCC

Week 4

April 20

Martínez, María Elena. *Genealogical Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011.

On the Coloniality of Being

Week 5

April 27

Fanon, Frantz. *Black Skin, White Masks*. New York: Grove Press, 2008.

Week 6

May 4

Guest Speaker: Inés Hernández-Avila

"Indigenous Intellectual Sovereignities: A Hemispheric Convocation. An Overview and Reflections on a United States/Mexico Binational Two-Part Conference"

Wicazo Sa Review, Vol. 14, No. 2, (Autumn, 1999), pp. 77-91

"Mediations of the Spirit: Native American Religious Traditions and the Ethics of Representation." *American Indian Quarterly*, Vol. 20, No. 3/4, (Summer - Autumn, 1996), pp. 329-352

"Relocations upon Relocations: Home, Language, and Native American Women's Writings." *American Indian Quarterly*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (Autumn, 1995), pp. 491-507

3-4:30pm at the CCC

Week 7

May 11

Wynter, Sylvia.

*"1492: A New World View." *Race, Discourse, and the Origin of the Americas*. Ed. Vera Lawrence Hyatt and Rex Nettleford. Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995.

*"Unsettling the Coloniality of Being/Power/Truth/Freedom: Towards the Human, After Man, its Overrepresentation--An Argument." *CR: The New Centennial Review* 3.3 (2003): 257-337.

*"Afterword: Beyond Miranda's Meanings: Un/silencing the 'Demonic Ground' of Caliban's 'Woman.'" *Out of the Kumbia: Caribbean Women and Literature*. Ed. Carol Boyce Davies and Elaine Savory Fido. Trenton: Africa World Press (1990): 355-73.

Week 8

May 18

Maldonado-Torres, Nelson. "On the Coloniality of Being: Contributions to the Development of a Concept." *Cultural Studies*, 21:2, 240 - 270.

*"Post-Continental Philosophy: Its Definition, Contours, and Fundamental Sources." *Worlds and Knowledges Otherwise*, Fall 2006.

*"The Topology of Being and the Geopolitics of Knowledge: Modernity, Empire, Coloniality." *City*, Vol. 8, No. 1, April 2004.

Week 9

May 25

Lugones, Maria. "Heterosexualism and the Colonial / Modern Gender System." *Hypatia*, Volume 22, Number 1, Winter 2007. pp. 186-209

"The Coloniality of Gender." *Worlds & Knowledges Otherwise*, Spring 2008.

Mendez, Xhercis. "Notes Toward a Decolonial Feminist Methodology: Revisiting the Race/Gender Matrix." *Trans-Scripts* 5 (2015)

Coloniality across Borders

Week 10

June 1

Byrd, Jodi. "'This Island's Mine': The Parallax Logics of Caliban's Cacophony." *Transit of Empire: Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism*, Duke University Press, 2011.

Figueroa, Yomaira. "Faithful Witnessing as Practice." *Hypatia* vol. 30, no. 4 (Fall 2015).

Nakano Glenn, Evelyn. "Settler Colonialism as Structure: A Framework for Comparative Studies of U.S. Race and Gender Formation."