

University of California, San Diego

**ETHN 240:
Multidisciplinary Methods in Ethnic Studies**

Professor Lisa Sun-Hee Park

Office: SSB 220

Office hours: M 12-1pm; F 10-12pm

Office phone: 858-822-2823

Winter 2007

W 10-12:50pm

Email: lspark@ucsd.edu

COURSE OVERVIEW

The goal of this course is to provide critical methodological tools to undertake an Ethnic Studies project, which many times requires that we make “visible” those experiences and histories made “invisible.” The methodology behind the discipline of Ethnic Studies is multidimensional and interdisciplinary—as it should be. However, this inherent multidisciplinaryity is a blessing and a curse. It is a complex and messy endeavor, but at the same time, it is an honest reflection of life and the lived experiences that comprise our society. The theories that compel the use of a particular method of social inquiry reflect the (changing) goals and objectives of Ethnic Studies itself. The methods we undertake, then, are political and require rigorous intellectual attention. This course attempts to begin this analytical journey by discussing the ideas and concerns of various researchers who have contributed to a constructive dialog regarding methodologies and their larger political and social implications.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Available at Groundwork Books)

- Baker, Lee. 1998. *From Savage to Negro: Anthropology and the Construction of Race, 1896-1954*. University of California Press.
- McClintock, Anne. 1995. *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Context*. University of Minnesota Press.
- Rosaldo, Renato. 1993. *Culture and Truth: Remaking of Social Analysis*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- Sandoval, Chela. 2000. *Methodology of the Oppressed*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. 2004 [1999]. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. Zed Books Ltd.
- Smith, Dorothy. 2005. *Institutional Ethnography: A Sociology for People*. AltaMira Press.
- Williams, Patricia. 1992. *Alchemy of Race and Rights*. Harvard University Press.
- Yu, Henry. 2002. *Thinking Orientals: Migration, Contact, and Exoticism in Modern America*. Oxford University Press.
- Zuberi, Tukufu. 2001. *Thicker Than Blood: How Racial Statistics Lie*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This is a graduate seminar that requires your active participation. Students will take turns leading the discussion. This will require a brief presentation of the materials and a series of specific discussion questions (to be turned into the instructor). Everyone must come prepared to participate in the discussion, along with a succinct critical essay analyzing the week's readings. Each essay should argue a central point with supporting evidence from course materials. The final paper should demonstrate your ability to critically define and assess potential implications of an issue, debate, or argument re-occurring in the assigned readings and class discussions.

Weekly analysis (1 page, single spaced)	30%
Lead discussion	20%
Final paper (Due Fri., March 23)	50%

OUTLINE OF COURSE READINGS

January 10: Introduction to the Course

January 17:

Rosaldo, Renato. 1993. *Culture and Truth: Remaking of Social Analysis*. Boston: Beacon Press.

January 24:

Zuberi, Tukufu. 2001. *Thicker Than Blood: How Racial Statistics Lie*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

January 31:

Sandoval, Chela. 2000. *Methodology of the Oppressed*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

February 7:

Baker, Lee. 1998. *From Savage to Negro: Anthropology and the Construction of Race, 1896-1954*. University of California Press.

February 14:

Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. 2004 [1999]. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. Zed Books Ltd.

February 21:

McClintock, Anne. 1995. *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the Colonial Context*. University of Minnesota Press.

February 28:

Smith, Dorothy. 2005. *Institutional Ethnography: A Sociology for People*. AltaMira Press.

March 7:

Yu, Henry. 2002. *Thinking Orientals: Migration, Contact, and Exoticism in Modern America*. Oxford University Press.

March 14:

Williams, Patricia. 1992. *Alchemy of Race and Rights*. Harvard University Press.