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(GNDR 21400/31400; PLSC 21410/31410)
ADVANCED THEORIES OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY
Winter Quarter 2018
Tues. 2:00-4:50pm
5733 S. University Ave, First Floor Seminar Room (103)

Course Description

Beginning with the breakup of the New Left and the proliferation of “new social movements” such as feminism and gay liberation, this seminar explores the key debates around which gender and sexuality were articulated as politically significant categories. How did feminist and queer politics come to be scripted increasingly in terms of identity and its negation? To what extent has a juridical and state-centered conception of politics come to displace quotidian practices of freedom? What are the limits to rights-oriented political movements? What are the political implications of the recent ontological turn to affect and materiality in feminist and queer theory?

Course Requirements

One 12-15 page paper (a close reading of one or two texts) and one collaborative class presentation. An electronic version of the paper (double-spaced, 12-point font), sent to lmgerilli@uchicago.edu and aheffernan@uchicago.edu, is due on **March 12 by 5:00PM**.

Course Readings

Required (and many recommended) readings are available on CANVAS.
An asterisk * denotes required reading. **Read essays in the order listed.**

We will be reading three books, listed below (please note that PDFs are available on Canvas, but some of you may prefer to use hard copies).

- *Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*, 2nd edition (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 2014 [1985]).
- *Judith Butler, *Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015).
- *Samuel Moyn, *The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2010).

January 9th

I. Introduction

No assigned reading

January 16

II. New Social Movements and the Breakup of the New Left

*Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*, 2nd edition (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 2001[1985]).

*Jacques Rancière, *Disagreement: Politics and Philosophy* (Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 1999), Preface and Ch. 1, "The Beginning of Politics," vii-20.

Recommended

Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, "Postmarxism Without Apologies," in Ernesto Laclau, *New Reflections on the Revolution of Our Times* (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 1997).

Peter Osborne, "Radicalism without Limit?: Discourse, Democracy and the Politics of Identity," in *Socialism and the Limits of Liberalism* (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 1991).

January 23rd

III. Democratic Politics as Practices of Freedom

*Hannah Arendt, "Action," in Arendt, *The Human Condition* (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1998 [1958]), 175-247.

*Hannah Arendt, "What is Freedom?" in *Between Past and Future: Eight Exercises in Political Thought* (New York: Penguin, 1993 [1954]), 143-172.

*Michel Foucault, "The Ethics of the Concern for the Self as a Practice of Freedom," *Essential Works of Foucault*, vol. I (New York: The New Press, 1997), 281-301.

*Ella Myers, "Resisting Foucauldian Ethics: Associative Politics and the Limits of the Care of the Self," *Contemporary Political Theory* vol. 7, no. 2 (May 2008), 125-146.

Recommended:

Amy Allen, *The Politics of Our Selves: Power, Autonomy, and Gender in Contemporary Critical Theory* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2007).

Hannah Arendt, *On Revolution* (New York: Penguin, 2006); 215-239, 248-281.

Albrecht Wellmer, "Hannah Arendt on Revolution," in *Hannah Arendt in Jerusalem*, ed. Steven E. Anschheim (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2001), 33-46.

Linda Zerilli, *Feminism and the Abyss of Freedom*, (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2005), 1-32.

January 30th

IV. Performative Democratic Politics

* Judith Butler, *Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly* (Harvard, 2015).

* Katie E. Oliviero, "Vulnerability's Ambivalent Political Life: Trayvon Martin and the Racialized and Gendered Politics of Protection," *Feminist Formations* vol. 28, no. 1 (Spring 2016): 1-32.

*Miriam Ticktin, "Sexual Violence as the Language of Border Control: Where French Feminist and Anti-Immigrant Rhetoric Meet," *Signs* vol. 33, no. 4 (2008), 863-889.

Recommended:

- Parveen Adams and Jeff Minson, "The 'Subject' of Feminism," *The Woman in Question*, eds. Parveen Adams and Elizabeth Cowie (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1990), 81-101.
- Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (New York: Routledge, 1990).
- Judith Butler and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, *Who Sings the Nation-State? Language, Politics, Belonging* (New York: Seagull Books, 2007).
- Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*, vol. I (New York: Vintage, 1990).
- Donna Haraway, "A Manifesto for Cyborgs," in *Feminism/Postmodernism*, ed. Linda Nicholson (New York: Routledge, 1990), 190-233.
- Katie E. Oliviero, "Sensational Nation and the Minutemen: Gendered Citizenship and Moral Vulnerabilities," *Signs* vol. 36, no. 3 (Spring 2011): 679-706.
- Linda Zerilli, "Doing without Knowing: Feminism's Politics of the Ordinary," *Political Theory* 24:4 (August 1998): 435-458; *Feminism and the Abyss of Freedom*, 33-65.

February 6th

V. Intersectional Democratic Politics

- * Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color," *Stanford Law Review* vol. 43, no. 6 (July 1991): 1241-1299.
- * Jennifer C. Nash, "Institutionalizing the Margins," *Social Text* vol. 32, no. 1 (Spring 2014): 45-64.
- * Brittney Cooper, "Intersectionality," in *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory*, eds. Lisa Disch and Mary Hawkesworth (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016), 385-406.
- * Patricia Zavella, "Intersectional Praxis in the Movement for Reproductive Justice: The Respect ABQ Women Campaign," *Signs* vol. 42, no. 2 (2017): 509-533.

Recommended:

- M. Jacqui Alexander and Chandra Talpade Mohanty, *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures* (New York: Routledge, 1997).
- Randi Gressgård, "Mind the Gap: Intersectionality, Complexity and 'the Event,'" *Theory & Science* vol. 10, no. 1 (2008).
- Ange-Marie Hancock, "When Multiplication Doesn't Equal Quick Addition: Examining Intersectionality as a Research Paradigm," *Perspectives on Politics* vol. 5, no. 1 (2007): 63-79.
- Vivian M. May, *Pursuing Intersectionality: Unsettling Dominant Imaginaries* (New York: Routledge, 2015).
- Leslie McCall, "The Complexity of Intersectionality," *Signs* vol. 30, no. 3 (2005): 1771-1800.
- Jasbir Puar, "I Would Rather be a Cyborg than a Goddess: Becoming Intersectional in Assemblage Theory" *PhiloSOPHIA* vol. 2, no. 1 (2012): 49-66.

February 13th

VI. Juridical Politics/Governance Feminism

- * Michel Foucault, "The Social Triumph of the Sexual Will" and "Sex, Power, and the Politics of Identity," in *Essential Works of Foucault*, vol. I (New York: The New Press, 1998), 157-173.

- *Wendy Brown and Janet Halley, "Introduction," in *Left Legalism/Left Critique*, eds. Wendy Brown and Janet Halley (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2002), 1-37.
- *Janet Halley, "The Move to Affirmative Consent," *Signs* vol. 42, no.1 (2016): 257-279.
- * Karen M. Tani, "An Administrative Right to be Free from Sexual Violence? Title IX and Enforcement in Historical and Institutional Perspective," *Duke Law Journal* vol. 66 (2017): 1847-1903.

Recommended:

- Michael Foucault, "Governmentality," in *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, eds. Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1991), 87-104
- Mary Ann Franks, "Split Decisions: How and Why to Take a Break from Feminism by Janet Halley," *Harvard Journal of Law & Gender* 30 (Winter 2007), 257-267.
- Colin Gordon, "Governmental Rationality: An Introduction," in *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, eds. Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1991), 1-52.
- Janet Halley, *Split Decisions: How and Why to Take a Break from Feminism* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2006).
- _____, "Take a Break from Feminism?" in *Gender and Human Rights*, ed. Karen Knop (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 57-81.
- Lynne Huffer, *Are the Lips a Grave? A Queer Feminist on the Ethics of Sex* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2013).
- Linda Zerilli, "Refiguring Rights Through the Political Practice of Sexual Difference," *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Criticism* vol. 15, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 54-90 (chapter 3 of *Feminism and the Abyss of Freedom*).

February 20th

VII. Universalist Human Rights Politics

- *Samuel Moyn, *The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2010).
- *Elisabeth Bernstein, "Carceral Politics as Gender Justice: The 'Traffic in Women' and Neoliberal Circuits of Crime, Sex, and Rights," *Theory and Society* vol. 43, no. 3 (May 2012): 233-259.
- *Jasbir K. Puar, "The Golden Handcuffs of Gay Rights: How Pinkwashing Distorts both LGBTIQ and Anti-Occupation Activism," *The Feminist Wire*, January 30, 2012, <http://thefeministwire.com/2012/01/the-golden-handcuffs-of-gay-rights-how-pinkwashing-distorts-both-lgbtqi-and-anti-occupation-activism/>

Recommended:

- Judith Butler, "Competing Universalities," in Judith Butler, Ernesto Laclau, and Slavoj Žižek *Contingency, Hegemony, Universality* (Brooklyn, NY: Verso, 2000), 136-181.
- Robert Meister, *After Evil: A Politics of Human Rights* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010).

Jasbir Puar, *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2007). Intro, Chs. 1 & 3.

Linda Zerilli, "This Universalism Which is Not One," *Diacritics* vol. 28, no. 2 (Summer 1998): 2-20.

February 27th

XIII. Disability Studies: "The New Gender?"

*Douglas Baynton, "Disability and the Justification of Inequality in American History," in *The New Disability History: American Perspectives*, eds. Paul K. Longmore and Lauri Umansky (New York: NYU Press, 2001), 33-57.

*Anita Silvers, "Formal Justice," in *Disability, Difference, Discrimination: Perspectives on Justice in Bioethics and Public Policy*, eds. Anita Silvers, David Wasserman, and Mary B. Mahowald (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 1998); 13-53, 133-146.

*Fiona Kumari Campbell, "Legislating Disability," in *Foucault and the Government of Disability*, ed. Shelly Tremain (Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2005) 108-130.

*Jasbir Puar, *The Right to Maim: Debility, Capacity, Disability* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2017), Ch. 3 ("Bodies with New Organs: Becoming Trans/Becoming Disabled").

Recommended:

Nirmala Erevelles, "Thinking with Disability Studies," *DSQ: Disability Studies Quarterly* vol. 34, no. 4 (2014).

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, "Misfits: A Feminist Materialist Disability Concept," *Hypatia* vol. 26, no. 3 (Summer 2011): 591-609.

Alison Kafer, *Feminism, Queer, Crip* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2013).

Robert McRuer, *Crip Times: Disability, Globalization, and Resistance* (New York: NYU Press, 2018).

Ellen Jean Samuels, "My Body, My Closet: Invisible Disability and the Limits of Coming-Out Discourse," *GLQ* vol. 9, nos. 1-2 (2003): 233-255.

Anita Silvers, "Reconciling Equality to Difference: Caring (F)or Justice for People with Disabilities," *Hypatia* vol. 10, no. 1 (Winter 1995): 30-55.

Shelley Tremain, *Foucault and Feminist Philosophies of Disability* (Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2017).

Susan Wendell, "Toward a Feminist Theory of Disability," *Hypatia* vol. 4, no. 2 (1989): 104-124.

March 6th

IX. Affective Politics

*Brian Massumi, "The Autonomy of Affect," *Cultural Critique* (Fall 1995): 83-109.

*Clive Barnett, "Political Affects in Public Space: Normative Blind-Spots in Non-Representational Ontologies," *Transactions of the Institution of British Geographers* vol. 33 (2008): 186-200.

*Ruth Leys, "The Turn to Affect: A Critique," *Critical Inquiry* 37, no. 3 (Spring 2011): 434-472

*Linda M. G. Zerilli, "The Turn to Affect and the Problem of Judgment," *New Literary History* vol. 6, no. 2 (Summer 2015): 261-286.

Recommended:

- Sara Ahmed, "Imaginary Prohibitions: Some Preliminary Remarks on the Founding Gestures of the 'New Materialism'," *European Journal of Women's Studies* vol. 15, no. 1 (2008): 23-39
- _____, *Queer Phenomenology: Orientation, Objects, Others* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2006).
- Lauren Berlant, *Cruel Optimism* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2011).
- Patricia T. Clough, "The Affective Turn: Political Economy, Biomedicine and Bodies," in *The Affect Theory Reader*, eds. Melissa Gregg and Gregory J. Seigworth (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2010) 206-228.
- Antonio Damasio, *Descartes' Error: Emotion, Reason, and the Human Brain* (New York: Penguin, 1994).
- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick and Adam Frank, "Shame in the Cybernetic Fold: Reading Silvan Tomkins," in *Shame and Its Sisters: A Silvan Tomkins Reader*, eds. Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick and Adam Frank (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1995), 1-28.
- Ruth Leys, *The Ascent of Affect: Genealogy and Critique* (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2017).
- Brian Massumi, *Parables for the Virtual: Movement, Affect, Sensation* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2002)
- William Mazzarella, "Affect: What is it Good For?," *Enchantments of Modernity: Empire, Nation, Globalization* (New York: Routledge, 2009), 291-309.
- Birgit Sauer and Otto Penz, "Affective Governmentality: A Feminist Perspective," in *Gender, Governance and Feminist Analysis: Missing in Action?* eds. Christine Hudson, Malin Rönnblom, and Katherine Teghtsoonian (New York: Routledge, 2017), 39-58.