

GRADUATE SEMINAR: ANTHROPOLOGY OF EUROPE

Spring Term, 2011
Robert M. Hayden, Instructor
(rhayden@pitt.edu)

Europe, generally considered to be outside of the main focus of anthropology even into the 1980s, has come to be seen as an important region for anthropological work. This seminar is aimed at graduate students in anthropology and other disciplines, who wish, first, to become acquainted with the anthropology of Europe in the "area studies" sense; and second, who are interested in coming to grips with important theoretical developments in/ stemming from this field. For those wishing to undertake research in Europe, this seminar should serve as an orientation to anthropological work on the region and hence as preparation for the area comprehensive examination in the Department of Anthropology. But the seminar will also consider important developments in anthropological theory that have stemmed from research in Europe, and thus serve as a case study in the interplay of theory and ethnographic research in a specific geographic region.

As is customary in graduate seminars, discussion, rather than lecture, will be the format of the class. Each participant in the seminar will be required to make a presentation to the class; and each participant is encouraged to suggest some readings to the class as preparation for her seminar presentation. Students should be prepared to present an overview of anthropological work on a/ the people(s) or region(s) that they have selected for study. Each student is required to submit a substantial research paper at the end of the term. The topic of the research paper will be decided in consultation with the instructor. In addition, each student will be required to prepare a bibliography of the anthropological literature on her chosen region/ nation/ people for distribution to the other members of the seminar.

We are fortunate that ABD students Dan Hammer, Hande Sozer and Narcis Tulbure, who took an earlier version of this seminar in 2005 and who have now completed fieldwork, have contributed to the design of this syllabus, and Dan and Hande will take part in the discussions. I see this as a tremendous opportunity for current students to learn from their immediate predecessors. We are also fortunate because Professor Elizabeth Krause (U. Mass – Amherst), who will be at Pitt on other business, has agreed to take part in the seminar on March 15, and will assign readings.

The readings are somewhat skewed to the eastern parts of Europe, for several reasons. First, much important theoretical work on the continent has focussed on places such as Greece, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia, and recently, Turkey (a development that also says something about conceptualizations of Europe). Second, the forty-five year experiment with what was "actually existing socialism" represented an attempt at a large-scale manifestation of one trend of European thought -- view it as a

Revised Feb. 28, 2011

modern European ideology in action. Finally, the demise of state socialism on the one hand, and the extension of the European Union on the other, brought to the fore issues on the definition of Europe and arguments over the supposed essence of being "European;" the supposed nature of European societies and cultures, and the "naturalness" of social distinctions such as nation and gender.

In the last week of the course we will do something unusual in US scholarship, and especially in area studies scholarship, by switching regions. "Europe: is not the only region, and focus of area studies research, to be subject of rethinking these days, so we will take the happy coincidence of a 2010 symposium on reconceptualizing Asia to consider the extent to which the issues we have been discussing in regard to "Europe" may carry over to other fields.

Note: Several works are so well known and basic in intellectual discourse that I assume that you have read them – if you have not, reading them before we start is a good idea. Among these works are Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*; Edward Said, *Orientalism*.

GRADUATE SEMINAR: ANTHROPOLOGY OF EUROPE

Spring Term, 2011

NOTE: The readings listed are meant to orient discussion. Additional readings may be suggested by the instructor or by other participants.

- Jan 11: Introductions, Concepts, Terms of analysis:
V. Stolcke, "Talking Culture: New Boundaries, New Rhetorics of Exclusion in Europe" *Current Anthropology* 36: 1-24 (1995).
M. Ozyurek, "Convert Alert: German Muslims and Turkish Christians as Threats to Security in the New Europe," *Comparative Studies in Society & History* 51: 91-116 (2009)
M. Dietler, "'Our Ancestors, the Gauls:' Archeology, Ethnic Nationalism and the Manipulation of Celtic Identity in Europe." *American Anthropologist* 96: 584-605 (1994).
J. Borneman & N. Fowler, "Europeanization." *Annual review of Anthropology* 26: 487-514 (1997).
Rogers, Douglas. "Postsocialisms Unbound: Connections, Critiques, Comparisons." *Slavic Review* 69(1): 1-15 (2010)
- Jan. 18: Where's Europe? Symbolic Geographies
L. Wolff, *Inventing Eastern Europe: The Map of Civilization in the Mind of the Enlightenment* (chs. 1,2,8, conclusion);
M. Bakić-Hayden, "Nesting Orientalisms in the Former Yugoslavia" *Slavic Review* (1996);
S. Gal, "Bartok's Funeral," *American Ethnologist* 18(3) (1991);
M. Todorova, "The Balkans: From Discovery to Invention", *Slavic Review* (1994);
S. Huntingdon, "The Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Affairs* (1993);
C. Hann, "Is Balkan Civil Society an Oxymoron?" *Ethnologia Balkanica* 7 (2003): 6378.
Recommended:
Maria Todorova, *Imagining the Balkans* (Oxford U.P., 1997)
Vesna Goldsworthy, *Inventing Ruritania* (Yale U.P., 1999).
- Jan. 25: State Borders-Ethnic Frontiers (Discussion Leader: Hande Sozer)
- A chapter from Cole, J.W. and E. Wolf (1974) The Hidden Frontier: Ecology and Ethnicity in an Alpine Valley, NY: Academic Press.
- Peter Sahlins, "State formation and national identity in the Catalan borderland during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries" in Border Identities, (eds) Wilson, Thomas M. and Hastings Donnan (1998)pp. 31-61.
- Brubaker, Rogers (1996) "National minorities, nationalizing states, and

Revised Feb. 28, 2011

external national homelands in the New Europe” in Nationalism reframed : nationhood and the national question in the New Europe, pp. 55-78.

- Donnan, Hastings (2007) Material Identities: Fixing Ethnicity in the Irish Borderlands, *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*, 12:69–105
Recommended:
- John Borneman (1992) “State Territory, and Identity Formation in the Postwar Berlins” *Cultural Anthropology*, 7 (1), pp. 44-61.

Feb. 1: Alternative frameworks: Class or Nation?
Readings: Symposium on Szporluk, in *East European Politics & Societies* 4(1):98-150 (1990);
Wolf, "Introduction" to *Europe & the People Without History* (1982): 3-23.
Jeff Pratt, *Class, Nation and Identity* (2003).
Presentation:

Feb 8: Constructing Nations 1
Verdery, "Whither 'Nation' and 'Nationalism'?" *Daedalus* 122 (#3): 37-46 (Summer 1993)
Rogers Brubaker, *Nationalist Politics and Everyday Ethnicity in a Transylvanian Town*

Feb 15: Anthropology of the State
Phillips Abrams, “Notes on the Difficulty of Studying the State,” *J. Historical Sociology* 1(1) (Mar. 1988):
Foucault on governmentality
Gupta & Ferguson, “Spatializing States,” *AE* 29 (#4) (2002)
Veena Das & Deborah Poole, intro chapter to *Anthropology in the Margins of the State* (2004)
Mitchell, *APSR* 39 (#1) (March ‘91)

Feb 22: Constructing Nations 2
Hertzfeld, *Cultural Intimacy: Social Poetics in the Nation-State* (Routledge, 1997)
Ozyurek, Esra, *Nostalgia for the Modern: State Secularism & Everyday Politics in Turkey*. (Duke Univ. Press 2006).

Mar. 1: Religion in the New Europe
Antisemitism and Islamophobia, a discussion from *American Ethnologist* (32/4) November 2005

- (MAIN ARTICLE) Matti Bunzl “Between Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia on the New Europe,” pp. 499-508.
- Esra Ozyurek, “The Politics of Cultural Unification, Secularism, and the Place of Islam in the New Europe” pp.509-521.
- Andre Gingrich “Anthropological Analyses of Islamophobia and Anti-

- Semitism in Europe" pp. 513-515
- Dominik Boyer "Welcome to the New Europe," pp.521-523
 - Nina Glick Schiller "Racialized Nations, Evangelizing Christianity, Police States, and Imperial Power," pp.526-532
 - Buntz's reply, "Methods and Politics," pp. 533-537

Recommended: Talal Asad (2003) "Muslims as a 'Religious Minority' in Europe" in *Formations of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modernity*, Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, pp. 159-180

R. Hayden, "Muslims as 'Others' in Serbian and Croatian Political Discourse," in Joel Halpern and David Kideckel, eds., *Neighbors at War: Anthropological Perspectives on Yugoslav Ethnicity, Culture and History*. Pp. 116-124. Penn State University Press, 2000.

K. Ghodsee, *Muslim Lives in Eastern Europe: Gender, Ethnicity, and the Transformation of Islam in Postsocialist Bulgaria*

Mar. 8: NO CLASS – Spring Break

Mar 15: State Socialism: Political Economy
 Verdery, "Theorizing Socialism: A Prologue to the Transition," *American Ethnologist* 18: 419-439(1991); Kideckel, "The Socialist Transformation of a Romanian Collective," *American Ethnologist* 9:320-340 (1982); Lampland, "Pigs, Party Secretaries and Private Lives in Hungary," *American Ethnologist* 18(3) (1991); Creed, "Agriculture & the Domestication of Industry in Rural Bulgaria," *American Ethnologist* 22: 528-548 (1995).

Recommended: A. O. Hirschman, *The Passions and the Interests: Political Arguments for Capitalism before its Triumph* (Princeton, U. P., 1977)

Mar 22: State Socialism: Gender
 "Gender & Nation Symposium," *East European Cultures & Societies* 8: 223-316 (1994) (articles by Verdery, Gal, Lampland); Koester, "Gender Ideology and Nationalism in the Culture & Politics of Iceland," *American Ethnologist* 22: 572-588 (1995); Kligman, "The Politics of Reproduction in Ceausescu's Romania," *East European Politics & Societies* (1992).

Recommended: G. Kligman, *The Politics of Duplicity: Controlling Reproduction in Ceausescu's Romania* (U. Cal. Press, 1998)
 Presentations:

Mar. 29: Prof. Elizabeth Krause (U Mass – Amherst) – Ethnic/ Racial Othering
 Angel-Ajani, Asale. 2000. Italy's Racial Cauldron: Immigration, Criminalization, and the Cultural Politics of Race. *Cultural Dynamics* 12(3):

331-352.

Ceccagno, Antonella. 2003. Migrant Chinese: Ethnic Identity and Globalization. *In Spread in Prato*. Pier Luigi Tazzi, ed. 52-57. Prato: Archivio Fotografico Toscano.

Krause, Elizabeth L. and Milena Marchesi. 2007. Fertility Politics as 'Social Viagra': Reproducing Boundaries, Social Cohesion and Modernity in Italy. *American Anthropologist* 109(2): 350-362.

Krause, Elizabeth L. 2006. Dangerous Demographies and the Scientific Manufacture of Fear. *The Corner House*, Briefing paper No. 36, <http://www.thecornerhouse.org.uk/>.

Lem, Winnie. 2010. Mobilization and Disengagement: Chinese migrant entrepreneurs in urban France. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 33(1): 92-107.

Schneider, Jane C., and Peter T. Schneider. 1991. Sex and Respectability in an Age of Fertility Decline: A Sicilian Case Study. *Social Science Medicine* 33(8):885-895.

- Apr 5: Post-Socialism
Chari, Sharad and Katherine Verdery. "Thinking Between the Posts: Postcolonialism, Postsocialism, and Ethnography after the Cold War." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 51(1): 6-34 (2009)
Comaroff & Comaroff, "Millennial Capitalism: First Thoughts on a Second Coming," *Public Culture* 12: 291-343 (2000)
K. Verdery, *The Vanishing Hectare*

Recommended:

Mandel & Humphrey, eds., *Markets & Moralities: Ethnographies of Postsocialism* (2002)
C. Hann, ed., *Postsocialism: Ideas, Ideologies and Practices in Eurasia*. (2002)
G. Creed, *Domesticating Revolution* (Penn State U.P. 1998)

- Apr. 12: European identities and the Revival of Right-Wing Politics:
Doug Holmes, *Integral Europe*
C. King, *Extreme Politics: Nationalism, Violence, and the End of Eastern Europe*
- Apr. 19: Comparisons: Conceptualizing Asia
"Symposium: Asia Redux: Conceptualizing a Region for Our Times." *Journal of Asian Studies* 69: 963-1029 (2010)

Apr. 26: Papers due.