

FNSP 310

THEORY SEMINAR

Term 1 2007
T & Th 11:00-12:20
Buchanan D325

Linc Kesler (linc.kesler@ubc.ca)
ANSO 122; 604.827.5176
hrs. T & Th 2:00-4:00 & by appt.

MATERIALS

Garoutte, Eva Marie. *Real Indians: Identity and the Survival of Native America*. Berkeley: U California P, 2003.

Lawrence, Bonita. *"Real" Indians and Others: Mixed-Blood Urban Native Peoples and Indigenous Nationhood*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2004.

Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. London: Zed, 1999.

Additional materials online (OL) or in Photocopy packet available at the bookstore and on reserve at the Koerner library (P), or to be arranged later (TBA)

SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Readings (see course bibliography)	Assignments
1	9/4-6	Introduction: Lopez (P), Ortiz (handout)	
Identity			
2	9/11-13	Garrouette Intro-2; Lawrence Intro-1	
3	9/18-20	Lawrence on gender 2-3, (4-5)	
4	9/25-27	Garrouette 3, Lawrence 6-8	
5	10/2-4	Garrouette 4, Lawrence 9-11	
6	10/9-12	Garrouette 4-end, Lawrence 12	
7	10/16-18	Loomba (P); Medicine (P), Crosby (P)	P1 due Fri 1:00
Technology			
8	10/23-25	Bogatyrev & Jakobson (P), Donaldson (OL)	
9	10/30-11/1	Mather (P), Cruikshank (P), Mander (P)	
10	11/6-8	Auslander (P), Zimmerman (P), Kunuk (P2)	
11	11/13-15	Film Clips	P 2 due Fri 1:00
Strategy			
12	11/20-22	Smith Intro-3	
13	11/27-29	Smith 4-7, Concluding Discussion	

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

FNSP 310 is a Writing Intensive Course. As part of this designation, Major Assignments 1 & 2 include a provision for revision. Revisions of these assignments, based on the feedback you receive, may be submitted any time before the last day of classes (Nov. 30). These assignments will initially be graded to a rigorous standard, with the understanding that revision may result in a higher final grade, but that the initial grade sets the baseline for the final one. The length requirements noted below indicate a range: you may go higher or lower, but should be clear in your rationale for doing so. Standard academic documentation in the MLA format (parenthetical preferred) is required, and help is available as necessary.

Assignment 1: Theories of Race and Ethnicity (40%) Due 1:00 PM Friday, Oct 19

A paper, 8-10 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt proportional type or equiv.), working primarily with the assigned readings (and, at your option, some degree of secondary research), on theories of race and ethnicity as they apply to Indigenous individuals and communities. Your paper should develop your own thinking, but should take full advantage of the readings and work with them in detail. Your paper should be critical in nature; that is, it should go beyond the presentation of basic information to involve a critical appraisal of the ideas with which you choose to work. Additional research, should you choose to do it, may involve thinking on these matters developed by Indigenous writers or writers from different cultural situations. Further information will follow on this assignment before the due date.

Assignment 2: Technology (40%) Due 1:00 PM Friday, Nov 16

A paper of 8-10 pages or equivalent in some other media (web page, for instance), working to integrate the reading materials from this section and any other materials you consider relevant (there are many possibilities) into the formation of a critical investigation on the relationship between media (oral transmission, writing, print, film, video, electronic media, etc.), content, and social function in relation to Indigenous people and communities. This is a large topic area, so your project will necessarily be exploratory; and it may also be experimental. You may include other media and allocate some portion of your grade to materials shared with the class as time and circumstances permit. Group work is a possible option. Please arrange for a conference to discuss your ideas ahead of time if you would like to propose group work or are planning something unusual or experimental.

Weekly Writings: (20%)

At the beginning of each Tuesday class, you are responsible for turning in a 1-2 page (suggested length: see above) response to the week's readings. These responses should show a detailed knowledge of the readings, but should not be summaries: they should be your identification of the issues and ideas you find most compelling or problematic in

the readings, and your analysis of them. Since we will not have discussed the readings, your comments may be preliminary and exploratory, but they should reflect your careful reading and thought, and should be succinct, since you do not have much space. These assignments, for weeks 2-10, will be graded on a 4 pt. scale, with 3 pts. being the default for satisfactory completion, 4 pts. possible for exceptionally thoughtful (but not necessarily longer) work, and 1 or 2 pts. possible for partial completion. Since weeks 12-13 are not followed by a major assignment, weekly writings for these weeks will be credited for a maximum of 6 pts. Work submitted after the due date will only be given partial credit (if you are legitimately unable to attend class, you may email your work before the start time to meet the deadline).

Class attendance and participation in discussion is an important part of this course. A high rate of absenteeism may result in deductions from this portion of your grade.

Techniques for completing assignments will be discussed in class. If you are in doubt about a topic or approach, ask a question, see me after class, or drop me an email. I will be happy to go over drafts of your work with you at any time during office hours or by appointment. The important thing is to develop your thinking into interesting projects. You are under no obligation to agree with any position taken in class, and doing so confers no special advantage. Say what you think and provide reasons: your work will be based on the quality of the argument and analysis you present. These assignments provide an opportunity to work on your writing or other compositional skills. Since time is at a premium, decide what you think is important, and work to state it clearly. Help is available, and mechanics count: please be sure to proofread written work, and use the computer or a dictionary to check spelling, etc. And be sure to let me know if you would like other assistance to develop some aspect of your work.

NOTE WELL: instances of plagiarism on written assignments have increased substantially in recent years. Your thinking for this course, however structured, must be your own, and other people's work you use must be acknowledged in the standard MLA format (see the MLA handbook at the library or bookstore and ask if you are in doubt). Submission of work done by another person or failure to document material taken from another source (text, the internet, etc.) will be regarded as academic dishonesty and will result in disciplinary action: under UBC regulations, the consequences can be very serious. Ask for help if you are in doubt or having trouble. Ignorance is not an extenuating circumstance. Please review the Arts faculty policy on academic dishonesty at:

http://www.arts.ubc.ca/Consequences_of_Academic_Disho.92.0.html.

If you are doing additional research for work in this course also be aware that on many topics the best information is still available in printed form (not the internet), and that searching through library databases is still the most reliable way to find it. Please ask if you would like help in learning how to locate material.

Grading

A = exceptional insight in to the issues, clear and integrated argument, detailed knowledge of readings and ideas shown in strategically chosen examples. **B** = significant insight into the issues, clear argument and analysis, detailed knowledge of issues and materials demonstrated. **C** = some level of coherent analysis, basic knowledge of materials demonstrated. **D** = lacking in analysis, minimal knowledge of issues and materials demonstrated, some factual inaccuracies. **F** = basic knowledge of issues and materials not adequately demonstrated.

All work is due at the beginning of class on the dates indicated. There will be a 5% per class penalty for late work on the major assignments, and weekly assignments will only be given partial credit past the due date. No work will be accepted after 5 PM Friday of the last week of classes, except under exceptional circumstances or by prior arrangement. Staple all written work, do not use report covers, and be sure to include page numbers. Be sure your printing equipment is in good working order and that your work is legible. Standing deferrals will be given only under exceptional circumstances. Keep a copy of all work until you receive your final grade. If you have questions about your grade following the completion of the term, please contact me as soon as possible.

Every effort will be made in this course to accommodate differences in learning styles and circumstances. Please let me know if you have any disabilities or special requirements and appropriate accommodations can be made.