

The Ohio State University

College of Education

School of Educational Policy and Leadership



ED P&L 833

THE POLITICS OF CURRICULUM KNOWLEDGE

Winter

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Office Hours by Appointment

Introduction: This course will focus on Theory and Theorizing and its implications for the curriculum field. Students will examine classic pieces of literature that focus on sociology, social and critical theory. The class is geared to introduce students to the concepts and issues surrounding theory and theorizing. Moreover, this will be a reading course - that is, the main purpose of the course is an attempt to delve into the works of scholars and share thoughts, insights, concerns, questions, etc. There will be no formal term papers required - what will be required is a commitment of earnest engagement with the scholarly writing assigned. Depending upon student progress, the readings and conversations may continue through the Spring quarter 2000.

Required Texts:

Berger, Peter L., & Luckmann, Thomas. (1966). **The Social Construction of Reality - A treatise in the sociology of knowledge.** New York: Anchor Books, DoubleDay

Dorfman, Ariel (1996). **The Empire's Old Clothes: What the Lone Ranger, Barbar, and other innocent heroes do to our minds.** Penguin Press. ISBN: 0140256377

Dorfman, Ariel & Mattelart, Armand (1971). **How to Read Donal Duck - Imperialist ideology in the Disney Comic.** New York: International General. (Fourth Printing, 1991)

Lemert, Charles (ed.) (1999). **Social Theory - The Multicultural and Classic Readings** (2nd edition). Boulder, Westview Press.

Jay, Martin. (1973). **The Dialectical Imagination- A history of the Frankfurt School and the Institute of Social Research, 1923-1950.** (1996 edition). Berkeley: UC Press.

Marcuse, Herbert. (1964). **One-Dimensional Man.** (2nd edition 1991). Boston: Beacon Press.

Course Requirements:

I. PARTICIPATION -- active engagement in weekly discussions of readings

II. Production and dissemination of weekly reading points/bullets to be distributed to rest of the class

III. Attendance

Evaluation

Participation 50%

Weekly bullets 40%

Attendance 10%

100%

Course Outline (tentative)

Session 1: Introduction. Dissemination of syllabus. Explanation of course and requirements.

Session 2: Lemert: Introduction-- Social Theory: Its uses and pleasures

Berger & Luckmann, [The Social Construction of Reality](#)

Session 3 Jay, [The Dialectical Imagination](#)

Everyone reads Chapter 2 each member of class to take one chapter

Session 4 Marcuse, [One Dimensional Man](#)

Session 5 Dorfman, [The Empire's Old Clothes: What the Lone Ranger, Barbar, and other innocent heroes do to our minds](#)

Dorfman& Mattelart, [How to Read Donald Duck](#)

The Lemert Text: in this section of the course, everyone must read the introduction to the section the following :

1. entire class will read selected pieces as indicated with •

2. if there is an additional reading(s) beyond the assignment that you wish to address, please do so, however, you are then required to bring in bullets for the additional reading.

Session 6: Lemert Part 1 & 2

Session 7: Lemert part 3 &4

Session 8: Lemert part 5

Session 9: Lemert part 6

Session 10: Lemert: Final Notes

Conclusion

Course critique & suggestions

Where do we go from here?

Lemert Readings

Part I : Modernity's Classical Age: 1848-1919

• [Marx Class Struggle, with Engels p. 37 \[5\]](#)

Engles The Patriarchal Family p. 66

Durkheim Anomie and the Modern Division of Labor p. 70

• [Weber What is Politics? p. 110 \[-2\]](#)

[The types of legitimate domination p. 112 \[3\]](#)

James The Self and Its Selves p. 157

• [DuBois Double-Consciousness and the Veil p. 163 \[4.5\]](#)

• [Gilman The Yellow Wallpaper p. 172 \[-2\]](#)

• [Cooper The Colored Woman's Office p. 179 \[5.5\]](#)

Simmel The Stranger p. 184

Part II: Social Theories and World Conflict

• [Keynes The Psychology of modern society p. 203 \[1.5\]](#)

[The new liberalism p. 205 \[1.5\]](#)

• [Horkheimer Notes on Science and the Crisis p. 208 \[4\]](#)

Parsons The Unit Act of Action systems p. 213

Mannheim The sociology of knowledge and Ideology p. 217

Fromm Psychoanalysis and sociology p. 222

Mead The Self, the I and the Me p. 224

Merton Social structure and Anomie p. 229

• [Myrdal The Negro Problem as a moral issue p. 245 \[2\]](#)

• [Benjamin Art, war, and fascism p. 255 \[1\]](#)

• [Woolf A Room of one's own p. 257 \[-2\]](#)

• [Gramsci Intellectuals and hegemony p. 259 \[+2\]](#)

• [Gandhi Nonviolent force: A spiritual dilemma p. 261 \[1.5\]](#)

[• Mao Tse-tung Identity, struggle, contradiction p. 263 \[3\]](#)

Part III: The Golden Moment: 1945-1963

[• Bell The end of ideology in the west p. 287 \[+2\]](#)

Parsons Action systems and social systems p. 297

Merton Manifest and latent functions p. 304

Lévi-Strauss The structural study of myth p. 310

[Althusser Why theory p. 318 \[3\]](#)

[• Erikson Youth and American identity p. 326 \[3\]](#)

Goffman On Face-work p. 330

[• deBeauvoir Woman as other p. 337\[2\]](#)

[• Césaire Between colonizer and colonized p. 340 \[+2\]](#)

[Mills The Sociological Imagination p. 348 \[3\]](#)

SDS Participatory Democracy p.352

[• Friedan The problem that has no name p. 356 \[3\]](#)

[• Fanon Decolonizing, national culture, and](#)

[the Negro Intellectual p. 359 \[-5\]](#)

Part IV Will the Center Hold? 1963-1979

[• Habermas Emancipatory Knowledge p. 380 \[+3\]](#)

Smith Knowing a society from within: A woman's Standpoint p. 388

[• Lasch The Moynihan Report: Rethinking family p. 400 \[5\]](#)

Chodorow Gender personality and the reproduction of mothering p. 406

[• Foucault Discourse on the West p. 415 \[3.5\]](#)

[• C.L.R. James Black Power and Stokely p. 419 \[6\]](#)

Garfinkel Reflexive properties of practical sociology p.437 [4]

• [Bourdieu Structures, habitus, practices p. 441 \[5\]](#)

• [Lorde The Master's tools will never dismantle the Master's House p. 447 \[2\]](#)

Part V After Modernity, Since 1979

• [LaClau & Mouffee Radical Democracy: Alternative for a New Left p.494 \[3.5\]](#)

• [Asante The Afrocentric idea p. 504 \[+2\]](#)

• [Schlesinger E Pluribus Umum p. 514 \[5\]](#)

West The new cultural politics of difference p. 521

• [Minh-ha Infinite layers/Third world? p. 543 \[4\]](#)

Collins Black feminist thought in

the matrix of domination p. 553

• [Anzaldúa The new Mestiza p. 564 \[6\]](#)

Weeks Sexual Identification is a Strange Thing p. 571

• [Allen Who is your Mother? Red roots of White Feminism p. 586 \[8\]](#)

[Havel The end of the Modern Era p. 594 \[2.5\]](#)

Part VI. Searching for the Millennium

• [Tilly Future social Science and the invisible elbow p. 611 \[3.5\]](#)

Gates The Information Age p. 615

Hall The Global, the Local and the return of Ethnicity p. 626

• [Aronowitz et. al The post-work manifesto p. 635 \[5\]](#)

Wilson What to do when work disappears p. 641

[Stacey The post-modern family p.647 \[6\]](#)

• [Hochschild Working women in the Time Bind p.654 \[4\]](#)

- [Seidman The productivity of the closet p. 658 \[3\]](#)
 - [Jingsheng The courage to stand alone p. 661 \[2.5\]](#)
 - [Morrison Reach toward the ineffable p. 663 \[.5\]](#)
- [Lemert Final Notes: Where does reading end? p 665 \[3\]](#)