

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES  
SPRING 2002

**Geography 792G—Subjectivity/Economy**

**Instructor:** Julie Graham  
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**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2-3 and by appointment

**Class:** Wednesday 2:30 - 5:15  
Morrill 4, Rm. 258

**Requirements:**

- A background in post-structuralist and Marxian theory
- Attendance
- Participation in class discussion
- A one or two page paper that engages with at least one of the readings (and/or films) each week

**Suggestions:**

- Work towards integrating the theoretical material presented in this class into your dissertation and other projects
- Prepare a paper to be given at a conference in the Fall of 2002

## Jan 30 Introduction

### Feb 6 “The question of subjectivity in the Marxian tradition”

- \*\*Althusser, Louis. “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses (Notes Towards an Investigation).” In *Lenin and Philosophy and Other Essays*, pp. 85-126. New York: Monthly Review Press, 2001.
- \*Callari, Antonio. “Economic Subjects and the Shape of Politics.” *Review of Radical Political Economics*. 23(1&2) 1991: 201-207.
- \*\*Healy, Stephen ““Satisfaction and the Communal Subject: *iek* reads Lenin.” Unpublished manuscript, Dept. of Geosciences, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2001.
- \*Mouffe, Chantal. “Hegemony and Ideology in Gramsci.” In *Gramsci and Marxist Theory*, edited by C. Mouffe. London: Routledge, 1979, pp. 168-203.
- \*\*Lenin, V. I. *State and Revolution*, Ch. 5. Peking: Foreign Language Press, 1970, pp. 99-122.
- Lukacs, Georg. *History and Class Consciousness: Studies in Marxist Dialectic*. Translated by Rodney Livingstone. Cambridge, The MIT Press, 1971/1990.
- Gramsci, Antonio. *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. London: Lawrence and Wishart, 1971.
- Jameson, Fredric. “Class and Allegory in Contemporary Mass Culture: *Dog Day Afternoon* as a Political Film.” In *Signatures of the Visible*. London: Routledge, 1992.

**Films:** Matrix, Dog Day Afternoon.

### Feb 13 “Foucault’s subjects: The subject of power”

- \*\*Foucault, Michel. “The Subject and Power.” In *Michel Foucault: Beyond Structuralism and Hermeneutics*, H. L. Dreyfus and P. Rabinow. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1983.
- \*\*Montag, Warren. ““The soul is the prison of the body’: Althusser and Foucault, 1970-1975.” *Yale French Studies*, 88 (1996): 53-77.
- \*\*Butler, Judith. “Subjection, Resistance, Resignification: Between Freud and Foucault.” In *The Psychic Life of Power: Theories in Subjection*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1997, 83-105.
- \*Lecourt, Dominique. *Marxism and Epistemology: Bachelard, Canguilhem, Foucault*. London: New Left Books, 1975.

\*Amariglio, Jack. "The Body, Economic Discourse, and Power: An Economist's Introduction to Foucault." *History of Political Economy* 20, No. 4 (Winter 1988): 583-613.

Amariglio, Jack, Stephen Resnick, and Richard Wolff. "Class, Power, and Subjectivity." In Cary Nelson (ed) *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1998.

Cousins, Mark and Athar Hussain. *Michel Foucault*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1984.

Visker, Rudi. *Michel Foucault: Genealogy as Critique*. London: Verso, 1995. (This is mainly about science, but it's interesting.)

## **Feb 20 "Foucault's subjects: The subject of governmentality"**

\*Walters, William. "Decentering the Economy: Review Article." *Economy and Society* 28, No. 2 (May 1999): 312-23.

\*\*Rose, Nikolas "The Productive Subject." In *Governing the Soul: The Shaping of the Private Self*. London: Routledge, 1989: 55-118.

\*Walters, William. "The Discovery of 'Unemployment': New Forms for the Government of Poverty." *Economy and Society* 23, No. 3 (August 1994): 265-90.

\*\*Brown, Wendy. "Politics without Banisters: Genealogical Politics in Nietzsche and Foucault." In *Politics Out of History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001: 91-120.

\*Gordon, Colin. "Governmental Rationality: An Introduction." In *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997: 1-51.

\*\*Foucault, Michel. "Governmentality." In *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997: 87- 104.

\*Procacci, Giovanna. "Social Economy and the Government of Poverty." In *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997: 151-168.

Ewald, François. "Insurance and Risk." In *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997: 197-210.

Donzelot, Jacques. "Pleasure in Work." In *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon, and Peter Miller. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997: 251-280.

**Films:** Brazil

## **Feb 27 "From Althusser to Lacan"**

\*\*Laclau, Ernesto. "New Reflections on the Revolution of Our Time," "The Impossibility of Society," and "Psychoanalysis and Marxism." In *New Reflections on the Revolution of Our Time*. London: Verso, 1990: 3-85; 89-92; 93-96.

\*\*Zizek, Slavoj "Beyond Discourse Analysis." In *New Reflections on the Revolution of Our Time*, edited by Ernesto Laclau. London: Verso, 1990: 249-260

\*\*Judith Butler "Conscience Doth Make Subjects of Us All." *Yale French Studies*, 88 (1995), 6-26.

\*Laclau, Ernesto. "Preface." In *Sublime Object of Ideology*, London: Verso, 1989.

\*Stavrakakis, Yannis. "Encircling the Political: Towards a Lacanian Political Theory." In *Lacan and the Political*. London and New York: Routledge, 1999: 71-98.

Montag, Warren. "The emptiness of a distance taken." *Rethinking Marxism* 4, No. 1 (1991): 31-38.

Mocnik, Rastko. "Ideology and Fantasy." In *The Althusserian Legacy*, edited by E. A. Kaplan and M. Sprinker. London: Verso, 1993: 139-156.

Pfaller, Robert. "Negation and Its Reliabilities: An Empty Subject for Ideology?" In *Cogito and the Unconscious*, edited by S. Zizek. Durham: Duke University Press, 1998: 225-246.

Althusser, Louis. *Writings on Psychoanalysis*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.

Zizek, Slavoj. *Sublime Object of Ideology*. London: Verso, 1989. (Introduction and Chapter 1.)

**Film:** Blade Runner.

## **Mar 6 "Sexuation I"**

\*Mitchell, Juliet. "Introduction-I." In *Feminine Sexuality: Jacques Lacan and the école freudienne*, edited by J. Mitchell and J. Rose. New York and London: W.W. Norton and Co., 1983: 1-26.

\*Rose, Jacqueline. "Introduction-II." In *Feminine Sexuality: Jacques Lacan and the école freudienne*, edited by J. Mitchell and J. Rose. New York and London: W.W. Norton and Co., 1983: 27-57.

\*\*Copjec, Joan. "Sex and the Euthanasia of Reason." In *Read My Desire*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1994: 201-236.

\*\*Fink, Bruce. "Object (a): Cause of Desire," and "There is No Such Thing as a Sexual Relationship." In *The Lacanian subject: between language and jouissance*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995: 83-97; 98-125.

Lacan, Jacques. *The Seminar of Jacques Lacan, Book XX: Encore 1972-1973*. New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 1975/1998.

### **March 13 "Sexuation II"**

\*\*Butler, Judith. "Preface," "Introduction," and "Arguing with the Real." In *Bodies that Matter: On the discursive limits of "sex"*. London: Routledge, 1993: ix-xii, 1-23, 187-222.

\*Shepherdson, Charles. "The Role of Gender and the Imperative of Sex." In *Supposing the Subject*, edited by Joan Copjec. London: Verso, 1994.

\*Salecl, Renata. "Why is a Woman a Symptom of Rights?" In *The Spoils of Freedom: Psychoanalysis and Feminism after the Fall of Socialism*. London: Routledge, 1994: 112-133.

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. London: Routledge, 1990.

Heath, Stephen. "Difference." In *The Sexual Subject: A Screen Reader in Sexuality*, edited by Screen (Mandy Merck and Barbara Creed). London: Routledge, 1992: 47-106.

**Film:** *Obscure Object of Desire*.

### **SPRING BREAK**

#### **March 27 "Screen Debate on "Suture": From *Film noir* to *Neo noir*"**

\*\*Zizek, Slavoj. *The art of the ridiculous sublime: on David Lynch's Lost Highway*. Seattle : Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities : Distributed by the University of Washington Press, 2000.

\*\*Copjec, Joan. "Locked Room/Lonely Room: Private Space in Film Noir." In *Read My Desire*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1994: 163-200.

\*Laclau, Ernesto and Lillian Zac. "Minding the Gap: The Subject of Politics." In *The making of the political identities*, edited by E. Laclau. London and New York: Verso, 1994, 11-39.

Zizek, Slavoj. *For They Know Not What They Do: Enjoyment as a Political Factor*. London: Verso, 1991. (Especially, Chapters 1 and 2.)

Miller, Jacques-Alain. "Suture, Elements of the Logic of the Signifier." *Screen 18*, No. 4 (1977/78): 24-34.

Heath, Stephen. "Notes on Suture." *Screen 18*, No. 4 (1977/78): 48-76.

**Films:** Double Indemnity, Last Seduction, and Lost Highway.

### **April 3 NO CLASS**

#### **April 10 "Desire and Punishment"**

\*\*Connolly, W. "The Desire to Punish." *The Ethos of Pluralization*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1995, 41-74.

\*\*Brown, Wendy. "The Desire to be Punished: Freud's 'A Child is Being Beaten'." In *Politics Out of History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001, 45-61.

\*Leader, Darian. "Beating Fantasies and Sexuality." In *Sexuation*, ed. Renata Salecl. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2000, 106-130.

\*Interview with Foucault and the Lacanians, "The Confession of the Flesh." In *Power/Knowledge*, ed. Colin Gordon. New York: Pantheon, 1980, 194-228.

\*Zizek, Slavoj. "Why is the Truth Monstrous?" and "Of Stones Lizards and Men" chs. 7 & 8 In *The Fragile Absolute*. London: Verso, 2000, 69-92.

**Films:** Fight Club

#### **April 17 (UMass Monday but we will have class) "The question of the other"**

\*\*Yegenoglu, Meyda. "Introduction," "Mapping the Field of Colonial Discourse," and "Veiled Fantasies: Cultural and Sexual Difference in the Discourse of Orientalism." In *Colonial Fantasies: Towards a Feminist Reading of Orientalism*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1998: 1-13; 14-38; 39-67.

- \*\*Zizek, Slavoj. "Love thy neighbor? No, thanks!" In *The Psychoanalysis of Race*, edited by Christopher Lane. New York: Columbia University Press, 1998: 154-175.
- \*Sayyid, Bobby. "Sign O' Times: Kaffirs and Infidels Fighting the Ninth Crusade." In *The making of the political identities*, edited by E. Laclau. London and New York: Verso, 1994.
- \*Salecl, Renata. "See No Evil, Speak No Evil: Hate Speech and Human Rights." In *Radical Evil*, edited by J. Copjec. London: Verso, 1996: 150-168.
- Bhabha, Homi. "The Other Question: The Stereotype and Colonial Discourse." In *The Sexual Subject: A Screen Reader in Sexuality*, edited by Screen (Mandy Merck and Barbara Creed). London: Routledge, 1992: 312-331.
- Balibar, Etienne and Immanuel Wallerstein. *Race, nation, class: ambiguous identities*. London: Verso, 1991.
- Lacan, Jacques. *Television: A Challenge to the Psychoanalytic Establishment*. New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 1974/1990.

**Films:** Underground, Before the Rain, Hate.

#### **April 24 "Economic discourses and subjectivity"**

- \*\*Kayatekin, Serap A and David F. Ruccio. "Global Fragments: Subjectivity and Class Politics in Discourses of Globalization." *Economy and Society* 27, No. 1 (February 1998): 74-96.
- \*\*Zizek, Slavoj. "Four Discourses, Four Subjects." In *Cogito and the Unconscious*, edited by Slavoj Zizek. Durham: Duke University Press, 1998: 74-113.
- \*\*Pêcheux, Michel. "Ideology: Fortress or Paradoxical Space." In *Rethinking Ideology: A Marxist Debate*, edited by S. Hanninen and L. Paldan. New York and Bagnolet, France: International General/IMMRC, 1983: 31-35.
- \*Brown, Wendy. "Power without Logic without Marx." In *Politics Out of History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001: 62-90.
- Amariglio, Jack, and Antonio Callari. "Marxian Value Theory and the Problem of the Subject: The Role of Commodity Fetishism." In *Fetishism as Cultural Discourse*, edited by E. Apter and W. Pietz. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1993: 186-216.
- \*Madra, Yahya. "Towards an incalculable yet culpable subject." Unpublished manuscript, Dept. of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2001.

**Films:** Ermo.

## May 1 NO CLASS

### May 8 “The question of ethics”

\*\*Stavrakakis, Yannis. “Ambiguous Democracy and the Ethics of Psychoanalysis.” In *Lacan and the Political*. London and New York: Routledge, 1999: 122-140.

\*Gibson-Graham, J.K. “An Ethics of the Local.” *Rethinking Marxism* 15, No. 1 (2003f).

\*\*Brown, Wendy. “Moralism as Anti-politics.” In *Politics Out of History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001: 18-44.

\*\*Foucault, M. “The Ethics of the Concern of the Self as a Practice of Freedom.” In *Ethics: Subjectivity and Truth*, edited by P. Rabinow, trans. R. Hurley and others. New York: The New Press, 1997, 281-301.

\*Glynos, Jason. “Thinking the Ethics of the Political in the Context of a Postfoundational World: From an Ethics of Desire to an Ethics of the Drive.” *theory and event* 4, no. 4 (2000). 14 pp.

\*Chow, Rey. “Ethics of Psychoanalysis” *diacritics* 23(1) 3-22.

Foucault, M. *The History of Sexuality, Vol. 2: The Uses of Pleasure*. New York: Pantheon, 1985.

Zupancic, Alenka. *Ethics of the Real: Kant, Lacan*. London: Verso, 2000.

Lacan, Jacques. *The Seminar of Jacques Lacan, Book VII: The Ethics of Psychoanalysis 1959-1960*. New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 1986/1992.

**Film:** Memento

### May 15 Presentations