

**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**ANTH 303b (001) (3 credits)  
ETHNOGRAPHY OF EUROPE**

Term 2 – Winter 2009  
Mon., Wed. & Fri. 15:00-16:00  
AnSo 205

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Office hours: Fri. 13:45-14:45 or by appointment

**Anth 303  
ETHNOGRAPHY OF EUROPE**

**Course Description:**

With the expansion of the European Union, the definition of Europe is being pushed to its limits. This course will explore the historical foundations of Europe and look at some of the challenges that the new Europe is now facing. We will explore ethnic conflict, immigration and citizenship, religion, historical memory and its role in the construction of national identity. A number of case studies from specific European countries will be used to look more closely at current social issues and trends in European ethnography. We will also consider the development and challenges of doing ethnographic research in Europe today.

**Objectives:**

- Understand current issues in European ethnography
- Comprehend recent trends in European ethnography
- Understand the particularities of European ethnography (in the past and present)
- Develop critical thinking and writing skills
- Work effectively in groups
- Improve research skills

**Texts:**

Belmonte, Thomas. (2005 (1979)) *The Broken Fountain*. New York: Columbia UP.

Selected readings available on Web CT and at the Koerner Library in the course reserve area.

## Evaluation:

Attendance & participation	15%
Group presentation & bibliography	10%
Memos	10%
Essay	35%
Final exam	30%

## Assignments:

- **Group presentation**
- **Memos**
- **Essay**

**Group presentation:** Working in groups of 2-3, you will prepare a presentation (can include a debate, a visual presentation, group discussion, creation of a web page, etc.) on one of the topics broached in the course or a topic of your choice (to be okayed by the instructor). Please do not summarise the course readings. You will be required to investigate further and present new material. Group members may also want to use this as an opportunity to work on their paper topics. As a group you will prepare an annotated bibliography that will be posted on the course's WebCT page. All members of the group will share the same grade. Groups and date of presentation to be decided in class. Presentations and discussion will take place in class on Fridays (unless otherwise discussed).

**Memos:** You will hand in 3 memos based on 3 of the readings (your choice). A memo is a two-page typed (double-spaced) reflection or comment on a course reading.

**Essay:** For this paper you should choose a debate or issue in European ethnography (contemporary or historical—eg. techniques in multi-sited ethnography used to study migration, the question of European identity in an expanding European Union, the legitimacy of European ethnography) that interests you and write a think paper that explores different perspectives on this topic. Feel free to include course material as a starting point but you should also go beyond this point of departure. You should also include your own commentary and analysis. Your paper must include proper citations (APA or AAA citation in text) and a bibliography. Your paper must be 10-12 pages (double-spaced), not including bibliography. It should be typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman or a similar size font) with regular 1-inch margins. **Due in class on Mon., March 23, 2009. Hard copies only** (electronic files upon request). Late essays will be penalized 10% per day.

**Exam:** The final exam will be a take-home exam with two essay questions that address the broad themes from the course. The exam must be **submitted via e-mail as a Word file** (.doc) to the instructor at [reblack@gmail.com](mailto:reblack@gmail.com). Submission date TBA.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated and all plagiarised work will be given a mark of zero. Please refer to UBC guidelines on plagiarism or ask the instructor if you have any doubts or questions

<http://www.vpacademic.ubc.ca/integrity/policies.htm>

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/clc/airc.htm>

## Course outline:

### Week of Jan. 5

- Introduction, course objectives, outline, grading, assignments and expectations
- What do you mean by Europe and the Ethnography of Europe?
- Europe imagined

#### Readings:

Dainotto, R. M. (2007). "The Discovery of Europe" in *Europe (in theory)*. Durham: Duke UP: 11-51.

Goddard, V., J. Llobera & C. Shore. (1994). "Introduction: The anthropology of Europe" in Goddard et. al (Eds.) *The Anthropology of Europe: Identities and boundaries in conflict*. New York: Berg: 1-40.

Shore, Cris. (2000). "Creating the people's Europe: symbols, history and invented traditions" in *Building Europe: The cultural politics of European integration*. London: Routledge: 40-65.

### Week of Jan. 12

Regional identities: Regionalism, nationalism and local identities

#### Readings:

MacClancy, Jeremy "At play with identity in the Basque area" in Sharon Macdonald (ed.) *Inside European Identities: Ethnography in Western Europe*. Providence: Berg (p. 84-97)

Hobsbawm, Eric (1983). "Introduction inventing traditions" in Hobsbawm & Ranger *The Invention of tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 1-14

Film: The Basque of Santazi

### Week of Jan. 19

Consuming Europe and the Anthropology of Food

#### Readings:

Leitch, Allison. (2003). "Slow Food and the politics of pork fat: Italian food and European identity" *Ethnos*. Vol. 68(4): 437-462

Douglas, Mary (1997). "Deciphering a meal" in Counihan & Van Esterik (Eds.) *Food and culture: A reader*. New York: Routledge: 36-54.

Film: Our Daily Bread

### Week of Jan. 26

Anthropological approaches to nationalism

#### Readings:

Sutton, David. (1997). "Local name, foreign claims: family inheritance and national Greek heritage on a Greek island" *American Ethnologist* (24): 415-437.

## **Week of Feb. 2**

The anthropology of sport, the new Europe and post-nationalism or neo-nationalism?

Readings:

Gingrich, A. & M. Banks. (eds.) (2006). "Introduction" *Neo-liberalism in Europe and beyond*. Oxford: Berghahn Books: 1-26.

Stroeken, Koen, (2002) "Why 'the world' loves watching football" *Anthropology Today*, vol. 18 (3), June 2002: 9-13

King, Anthony (2000) "Football fandom and post-national identity in the new Europe" *British Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 51(3) September 2000: 419-442

## **Week of Feb. 9**

Immigration and migration

Readings:

Freedman, Jane. (2000). "Women and immigration: Nationality and citizenship" in Freedman & Tarr. *Women, immigration and identities in France*. Oxford: Berg: 13-28.

Freedman, J. & C. Tarr. (2000). "The *sans-papiers*: An interview with Madjiguène Cissé" in Freedman & Tarr. *Women, immigration and identities in France*. Oxford: Berg: 29-68.

Silverstein, Paul A. (2005) "Immigrant racialization and the new savage slot: Race, migration and immigration in the New Europe" *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 34: 363-384.

## **Week of Feb. 16 – Reading Week- No class**

## **Week of Feb. 23**

Transnational identities and trade in the Euro-Med area

Readings:

Appadurai, Arjun, (1996), "Global ethnoscaples: Notes and queries for a transnational anthropology" and "Disjuncture and difference in the global cultural economy" in *Modernity at large: Cultural dimensions of globalization*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press: 27-65.

Peraldi, Michel (2005) "Algerian routes: Emancipation, deterritorialisation and transnationalism through suitcase trade" *History & Anthropology*. Vol. 16(1) March, 2005.

## **Week of March 2**

Travellers and Roma: Nomads encounters sedentary Europe

Readings:

Levinson, Martin P. & Andrew Sparkes. (2004) "Gypsy Identity and orientations to space" *Contemporary Ethnography*, Vol. 33(3), Dec. 2004: 704-734.

Film: Suspino

**Week of March 9**

Religion: Debating Islam's place in the New Europe

Readings:

Bunzl, Matti (2005) "Between anti-Semitism and Islamophobia: Some thoughts on the new Europe" *American Ethnologist*, Vol 32(4): 499-508.

Ozyurek, Esra (2005) "The politics of cultural unification, secularism and the place of Islam in the new Europe" *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 32(4): 509-512.

**Week of March 16**

Performing culture: Contesting tradition

Readings:

Papapavlou, Maria (2003) "The city as a stage: Flamenco in Andalusia" *Journal of the Society for the Anthropology of Europe* 3(2): 14-24

**Week of March 23**

Gendered Europe: Renegotiating gender roles

Readings:

Pink, Sarah (2003). "'A bit of dust on the floor': in the absence of the Spanish housewife?" *Journal of Gender Studies*, Vol 12 (3): 181-190.

Douglas, Carrie, (1984). "Toro Muerte, Vaca Es": An Interpretation of the Spanish Bullfight. In *American Ethnologist* 11(2): 242-258

De Soto, Hermine. (2000). "Crossing Western Boundaries: How East Berlin women observed women researchers from the West after Socialism, 1991-1992" in De Soto & Dudwick (eds.). *Fieldwork dilemmas: Anthropologists in postsocialist states*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press: 73-99.

Film: *Taking the face*

**Week of March 30**

Rural and urban Europe: the disappearing countryside, the overcrowded city

Readings:

Krause, Elizabeth L. (2005). "Encounter with the "Peasant": Memory work, masculinity and low fertility in Italy" *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 32(4) 593-617.

Belmonte, Thomas. (2005) *The Broken Fountain*. Columbia University Press (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

**Week of April 6**

Virtual Europe: Ethnographic Methods and the Anthropology of Imagination

Readings:

Wolbert, Barbara (2001) "The Visual production of locality: Turkish family pictures and the creation of virtual neighborhoods" *Visual Anthropology Review* Vol. 17(1): 21-35.

Last class April 8 – take-home exam will be given out at the end of class.