

In Formation: Ethnographies of Emergent Structures (Lively Capital)

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Time: Wed. 3:00-5.50 p.m.

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IN-FORMATION: ETHNOGRAPHIES OF EMERGENT STRUCTURES

Lively Capital

Anthro 289 (Fall 2004)

Note:

This seminar relates to themes that will be explored in a workshop to be hosted by the Department of Anthropology this fall, called “Lively Capital: Biotechnologies, Ethics and Governance in Global Markets”. The dates of the workshop are November 5, 6 and 7 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). It is expected that everyone taking this seminar will attend the workshop in its entirety as a part of the course requirement. Some of the readings in the class will be the papers that are being presented in this workshop; these will be accessible on the workshop web site, and will *not* be in the course packet.

Readings:

Required books are on reserve in Langson Library. Books may be purchased from the UCI Bookstore, *except* for the Marilyn Strathern book, which is out of print and which I will make available to you. The following books are required:

- Haraway, Donna. 2003. *The Companion Species Manifesto: Dogs, People, and Significant Otherness*. Prickly Paradigm Press.
- Derrida, Jacques. 1994. *Specters of Marx: the State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning, and the New International*. Routledge.
- Ansell-Pearson, Keith. 1999. *Germinal Life: The Difference and Repetition of Deleuze*. Routledge.
- Strathern, Marilyn. 1999. *Property, Substance, and Effect: Anthropological Essays on Persons and Things*. Athlone Press.
- Doyle, Richard. 2003. *Wetwares: Experiments in Postvital Living*. University of Minnesota Press.
- Coombe, Rosemary. 1998. *The Cultural Life of Intellectual Properties: Authorship, Appropriation and the Law*. Duke University Press
- Dumit, Joseph. 2004. *Picturing Personhood: Brain Scans and Biomedical Identity*. Princeton University Press.

- Fortun, Kim. 2001. *Advocacy after Bhopal: Environmentalism, Disaster, New Global Orders*. University of Chicago Press.

The following book is recommended, not required, and is also available at the bookstore and on reserve:

- Powers, Richard. 1999. *Gain*. Picador.

Requirements:

Everyone is expected to take turns leading class discussion each week (two people per week). This involves preparing written notes and questions that are pre-circulated to the class via e-mail *the day before class* (that means *Tuesday noon* at the latest).

A final paper is also required. I would like the paper to be a “fieldwork” paper, based on the presentations and discussions at the Lively Capital workshop. It could highlight specific themes in the workshop papers and relate them either to other readings in class, or to your own dissertation / research projects, if relevant. I don’t expect papers to be longer than 15 pages, but they can be; they can also go beyond analyses of the written papers, and include “field notes” of discussions and responses to papers at the workshop. If papers relate to ongoing dissertation / proposal writing, then it needs to be clear as to how the workshop papers and / or theoretical sensibilities of this course have contributed to, and been incorporated in, your paper. I would strongly suggest meeting with me to discuss your papers individually. Papers are due on the last day of class, December 1.

Week 1, Sep 29: Introductions

Week 2, Oct 6: Lively Geometries and Politics - 1

- Ansell-Pearson, Keith. *Germinal Life: The Difference and Repetition of Deleuze*. 1999, Routledge.
- Deleuze, Gilles and Felix Guattari. “Rhizome”, “Treatise on Nomadology”, and “Micropolitics and Segmentarity” in *Thousand Plateaus*.

Week 3, Oct 13: Lively Geometries and Politics - 2

- Doyle, Richard. *Wetwares: Experiments in Postvital Living*. 2003, University of Minnesota Press.
- Doyle, Richard. “Ecodeletics: Psychedelics, Technological Innovation, and Ecological Consciousness”. [paper for Lively Capital workshop]

Week 4, Oct 20: Speculation and Futures

- Derrida, Jacques. *Specters of Marx: the State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning, and the New International*. 1994, Routledge
- Fortun, Mike. "For an Ethics of Promising". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Rabinow, Paul. "Mode" in *Anthropos Today*.

Week 5, Oct 27: Encounter Value

- Haraway, Donna. *The Companion Species Manifesto: Dogs, People, and Significant Otherness*. 2003. Prickly Paradigm Press.
- Haraway, Donna. "Value-Added Dogs and Lively Capital". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Zhan, Mei. "Cevic Cats, Fried Grasshoppers, and David Beckham's Pyjamas: Making Bodies in Post-SARS China".

Week 6, Nov 3: Global Orders

- Fortun, Kim. *Advocacy after Bhopal: Environmentalism, Disaster, New Global Orders*. 2001. University of Chicago Press.
- Cohen, Lawrence. "Organ Transplants, Bioavailability, and the Order of Debt". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Peterson, Kris. "AIDS, Globalization, and Policy Driven Financial Forms". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]

Week 7, Nov 10: People and Things - 1

- Strathern, Marilyn. *Property, Substance, and Effect: Anthropological Essays on Persons and Things*. 1999, Athlone Press.
- Marx. "Commodity Fetishism" in *Capital*, Vol. 1. Available online at: <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/ch01.htm#S4>
- Appadurai, Arjun. "Introduction"; and Kopytoff, Igor. "The Social Life of Things: Commoditisation as Process" in Appadurai, ed. *The Social Life of Things*.

Week 8, Nov 17: People and Things – 2 (rescheduled because of AAA?)

- Coombe, Rosemary. *The Cultural Life of Intellectual Properties: Authorship, Appropriation and the Law*. 1998. Duke University Press.
- Coombe, Rosemary. "Giving Birth to Communities: Environmental Co-Production of Neo-liberal and Indigenous Political Subjects". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Jasanoff, Sheila on biotechnology and property. [paper for Lively Capital workshop]

Week 9, Nov 24: Selves

- Dumit, Joseph. *Picturing Personhood: Brain Scans and Biomedical Identity*. 2004: Princeton University Press.
- Abu el-Haj, Nadia on the Jewish gene. [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Lakoff, Andrew. "Diagnostic Liquidity: Mental Illness and the Global Trade in DNA". [paper for Lively Capital workshop]

Week 10, Dec 1: Surplus

- Marx, sections on labor theory of value from *Capital*, vol. 1. Available online at <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-c1/>
Please read: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12.
- Dumit, Joseph. “Drugs, Algorithms, Markets and Surplus Health”. [paper for Lively Capital workshop]
- Žižek, Slavoj. “How Did Marx Invent the Symptom?” in Žižek, ed. *Mapping Ideology*. 1994. Verso.