

Social Studies of the Human Sciences
S&TS 4951, Fall 2009
Dr. Christine Leuenberger
Department of Science & Technology Studies

Class meets: W 2:30PM - 4:25PM
Classroom: GSH 160
Office Hours: W 12:30-1:30 pm and by appointment
Office: 131 Rockefeller

Course Description

This seminar explores how the human and social sciences have provided the knowledge and categories we use to make sense of human beings and their behavior. Looking across a range of disciplines - including sociology, anthropology, psychiatry, psychology, psychoanalysis, and economics - we will look at how human beings have become objects of scientific investigation. We will focus on how culture, politics, and the professional environment impact the human sciences and how the use of rhetoric constitutes academic discourse. We will also focus on the social scientific construction of selves, sex and gender.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and participation in seminars (10%)
2. Short responses (up to 2 pages) to all readings to be posted on blackboard's discussion board (course web site for STS 495) weekly (15%)
3. Presentation (4-5 pages) in class of one week's readings (must include at least two articles). Presenter will also lead class discussion (15%).
4. In-class exam 6-7 pages (25%).
5. Final take-home paper (8-9 pages) (35%). Outline due Week 9.

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. The URL for the student code of academic integrity is: <http://www.cornell.edu/Academic/AIC.html>. The URL for how to use sources correctly is: <http://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/index.cfm> and for guides to citation styles see: <http://www.library.cornell.edu/services/citing.html>. The in-class use of any technological devices is discouraged. The use of devices such as cell phones, iphones, blackberries, and computers for any other purposes than the taking of notes is prohibited and will negatively affect the participation grade.

Course Web Site

Information and additional information about all assignments will be posted on the course Web site, which should be consulted regularly to check for announcements. Readings that are available on-line will also be accessible from this site. The URL is: <http://blackboard.cornell.edu/webapps/login> (login and enroll in STS 4951).

Supplementary Course Material

In this course we will (time permitting) make use of documentaries and videos including In Search of Ourselves; Stuart Hall: Race: The Floating Signifier; Tristan and Isolde; Consuming Kids: The Commercialization of Childhood; Extracts from the Rodney King Trail; 60 minutes: Pay Attention; Orientalism. We will also do rhetorical analyses of academic texts and political speeches.

Required Readings

John S. Nelson, Allan Megill, and Donald N. McCloskey (eds.), The Rhetoric of the Human Sciences: Language and Argument in Scholarship and Public Affairs (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1987) (available at the Campus Store).

Charles Bazerman and James G. Paradis (eds), Textural Dynamics of the Professions: Historical and Contemporary Studies of Writing in Professional Communities (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1991) (available at the Campus Store).

Stuart A. Kirk and Herb Kutchins, The Selling of DSM: The Rhetoric of Science in Psychiatry (New York: Aldine De Gruyter, 1992) (available at Uris Library Reserve).

Course Reader (available at the Campus Store).

All other articles are available from the STS 4951 website on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.cornell.edu>).

Topics covered

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Theorizing the Human Sciences:

Required for Discussion:

Smith Roger, "Introduction", p. 3-4, 9-34 in The Norton History of the Human Sciences (NY: Norton, 1997).

Palmer Donald D. "Michel Foucault", pp. 87-93, in Structuralism and Poststructuralism (NY: Writers and Readers Publishing, 1997).

Hacking Ian, "Making up People", in Heller et. al. Reconstructing Individualism, 1986: 222-236.

Recommended:

Foucault Michel, "The Human Sciences", in The Order of Things (NY: Pantheon Books, 1970).

Sarup Madam: "Foucault and the Social Sciences", in Post-structuralism and Postmodernism (University of Georgia Press, 1993).

Fillingham Lydia Alix, "The Order of Things", pp. 78-87, in Foucault for Beginners

(NY: Writers and Readers Publishing, 1993).

Week 3: The Making of Professions

Required:

Abbott Andrew, "Introduction", "The Cultural Environment of Professional Development", p 1-31; 177-211, in The System of Professions: An Essay on the Division of Expert Labor (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1988).

Becker Harold S., "Conventions", in Art Worlds (University of California Press, 1982), pp. 40-67.

Goodwin Charles, "Professional Vision", in American Anthropologist, New Series, Vol. 96, No. 3 (Sep 1994): 606-633. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Recommended:

Bazerman Charles, "How Language Realizes the Work of Science: Science As a Naturally Situated, Social Semiotic System", in Shaping Written Knowledge (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1988), pp. 291-317.

Week 4: Rhetoric in the Sciences and Public Life

Required:

Billig Michael, "Protagoras and the origins of rhetoric", in Arguing and Thinking: A Rhetorical Approach to Social Psychology (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989), pp. 31-50.

Nelson John S. et al. "Rhetoric of Inquiry", pp. 3-18 in The Rhetoric of the Human Sciences (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1987).

Berkenkotter C, and T, Huckin, and J. Ackerman: "Social Context and Socially Constructed Texts: The Initiation of a Graduate Student into a Writing Research Community", in Charles Bazerman and James Paradis, Textural Dynamics of the Professions (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1991), pp. 191-215.

Atkinson M.J., "Claptrap", in Our Masters' Voices: The Language and Body Language of Politics, 1984: 47-85.

Recommended:

Pinch T., "Rhetoric and the Cold Fusion Controversy", in Krips et.al. Science, Reason, and Rhetoric, 1996: 153-176.

Week 5: On Classifying Humans and Objects

Required:

Durkheim Emile, "Introduction: Subject of Our Study: Religious Sociology and the Theory of Knowledge", in The Elementary Forms of Religious Life (NY: Free Press, 1915), pp. 13-33.

Bowker Geoffrey C. and Susan Leigh Star, "Introduction", in Sorting Things Out: Classification and its Consequences Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1999), pp. 1-32. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Sacks, H. (1989) 'The M.I.R. Membership Categorization Device', uit: G. Jefferson, ed. *Harvey Sacks - Lectures 1964-1965*, Special Issue. *Human Studies* 12: 271-8

Recommended:

Hacking Ian, "The Making and Molding of Child Abuse. Critical Inquiry, 17: 253-288, 1991. On-line on Blackboard.

Leuenberger Christine, "Constructions of the Berlin Wall: How Material Culture is used in Psychological Theory", Social Problems. 53/1. February 2006: 18-37. On-line on Blackboard.

Hacking Ian, "Two souls in one body". Critical Inquiry, 17: 838-867, 1991. On-line on Blackboard.

Warren Schmaus, "Categories and Classification in the Social Sciences", in Stephen P. Turner and Mark W. Risjord (eds.), Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology (Amsterdam: Elsevier Science, 2007), 429-458.

Week 6: Social Studies of Sociology

Required:

Giddens Anthony, "Sociology: Issues and Problems", in Sociology: A Brief but Critical Introduction (MacMillan, 1982), pp. 1-27.

Schwegler R. and L. Shamoan, "Meaning Attribution in Ambiguous Texts in Sociology", in Charles Bazerman and James Paradis, Textural Dynamics of the Professions (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1991), pp. 216-233.

Wrong Dennis H., "The Influence of Sociological Ideas on American Culture", in Herbert J. Gans (eds) Sociology in America (London: Sage, 1990), pp. 19-30.

Gusfield Joseph R. "Sociology's Critical Irony: Countering American Individualism", in Herbert J. Gans (eds) Sociology in America (London: Sage, 1990), pp. 31-46.

Recommended:

David Carrithers, "The Enlightenment Science of Society", in Christopher Fox, Roy Porter and Robert Wokler (eds.), Inventing Human Science: Eighteenth-Century Domains (Berkeley: University of California Press). 1995: 232-270.

Stephen P. Turner, "Defining a Discipline: Sociology and its Philosophical Problems. From its Classics to 1945", in Stephen Turner and Mark W. Risjord (eds.), Philosophy of

Anthropology and Sociology (Amsterdam: Elsevier Science, 2007), 3-69.

Week 7: Social Studies of Anthropology

Required:

Mark Risjord, "Ethnography and Culture", in Stephen P. Turner and Mark W. Risjord (eds.), Philosophy of Anthropology and Sociology (Amsterdam: Elsevier Science, 2007), 399-428. On-line on Blackboard.

Geertz Clifford, "Thick Description", in The Interpretation of Cultures, 1973: 3-30. On-line on Blackboard.

Clifford James, "On Ethnographic Authority". Representations 1 (2). 1983: 118-146. On-line on Blackboard.

Rosaldo Renato, "Where Objectivity Lies: The Rhetoric of Anthropology", in John S. Nelson et. al. The Rhetoric of the Human Sciences (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press). 1987: 87-110.

Recommended:

Asad Talad (eds.) Anthropology and the Colonial Encounter (London: Ithaca Press). 1973. Pages to be assigned.

James Clifford et al. Writing Culture. 1986. Pages to be assigned.

Said Edward W, Culture and Imperialism (New York: Vintage, 1994), 3-61.

Steve Woolgar, "Reflexivity is the Ethnographer of the Text", in Steve Woolgar (eds.) Knowledge and Reflexivity. (London: Sage), 1988: 14-34.

Geertz Clifford. "'from the Native's Point of View': On the Nature of Anthropological Understanding", in Clifford Geertz, Local Knowledge (New York: Basic Books, 1983).

Wokler Robert, "Anthropology and Conjectural History in the Enlightenment", in Christopher Fox, Roy Porter, and Robert Wokler, Inventing Human Science: Eighteenth-Century Domains (Berkeley: University of California Press). 1995: 31-52.

Week 8: Social Studies of Psychiatry

Required:

Eaton William W. "The Social Construction of Bizarre Behaviors" in The Sociology of Mental Disorders (Praeger. 2001), pp. 1-44.

Kirk Stuart A. and Herb Kutchins, The Selling of DSM: The Rhetoric of Science in Psychiatry (NY: Aldine de Gruyter, 1992), pp. 1-12; 17-28; 219-248.

Cookey Elisabeth C. and Phil Brown. "Spinning on its axes: DSM and the social construction of psychiatric diagnosis. " International Journal of Health Services 1998.

28/3: 525-554.

Conrad Peter and D. Potter. "From Hyperactive children to ADHD Adults; observations on the expansion of medical categories', in Social Problems. 2000. 47/4: 559-582. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Recommended:

Parkinson McCarthy L. "A Psychiatrist using DSM-III: The Influence of a Charter Document in Psychiatry", in Charles Bazerman and James Paradis, Textural Dynamics of the Professions (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1991), pp. 358-378.

Week 9: Social Studies of Psychology and Psychoanalysis

Required:

Rose Nikolas "Assembling the Modern Self", in Roy Porter (eds.) Rewriting the Self (Routledge, 1997), pp. 224-248.

Herman Ellen, "In the Name of Enlightenment", The Romance of American Psychology (University of California Press, 1995), pp. 1-16.

Kirschner, Suzanne R.. "The Assenting Echo: Anglo-American Values in Contemporary Psychoanalytic Developmental Psychology" in Social Research (Winter 90, Vol. 57 Issue 4), p. 821-857. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Hartnack, Christiane, "Vishnu on Freud's Desk: Psychoanalysis in Colonial India", in Social Research (Winter 90, Vol. 57 Issue 4), p. 921-949. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Leuenberger Christine, "Socialist Psychotherapy and its Dissidents", in Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences (Vol 37/3, 2001), pp. 261-273. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Recommended:

Herman Ellen, "Toward a Larger Jurisdiction for Psychology" The Romance of American Psychology (University of California Press, 1995), pp. 304-315.

Bazerman Charles, "Codifying the Social Scientific Style: The APA Publication Manual as a Behaviorist Rhetoric", in John S. Nelson et al, The Rhetoric of the Human Sciences: Language and Argument in Scholarship and Public Affairs (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1987), pp. 125-144.

Matthews Fred, "The Americanization of Sigmund Freud", in Journal of American Studies (1/1967): 39-62.

Hale Nathan, "From Bergstrasse XIX to Central Park West: The Americanization of Psychoanalysis, 1919-1940", in Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences (14/1978): 299-315.

Hacking Ian, Mad Travelers: Reflections on the Reality of Transient Mental Illnesses (London: Free Association Books), 1998, 7-30. On-line on Blackboard.

Week 10: Social Studies of Economics and Economic Reasoning in Everyday Life Required:

Hirsch Paul et. al. "Clean models vs. dirty hands: why economics is different from sociology", in S. Zukin and P. DiMaggio (eds) Structures of Capital (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 39-56.

Klamer Arjo. "As if Economists and their Subject were rational", in John S. Nelson et al, The Rhetoric of the Human Sciences: Language and Argument in Scholarship and Public Affairs (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1987), pp. 163-183.

Dorothy Nelkin and Lori Andrews "Homo Economicus; Commercialization of Body Tissues in The Age of Biotechnology." Hastings Center Report 1998 28 (5):30-39. (available on-line on Blackboard).

Smelser Neil J. and Richard Swedberg (eds). "Labor and Leisure", in The Handbook of Economic Sociology (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), pp. 672-690.

Zelizer Viviana A. "Human Values and the Market: The Case of Life insurance and Death in 19th-Century America" in American Journal of Sociology (84, 1978), pp. 591-610) (available on-line on Blackboard).

Polanyi Karl, "Our Obsolete Market Mentality: Civilization Must Find a New Thought Pattern", in Tichard Swedberg (eds.) (Cheltenham: An Elgar Reference Collection, 1996), pp. 146-154.

Recommended:

McCloskey Deirdre, "How to do a rhetorical analysis of economics, and why" in The Rhetoric of Economics (Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1998).

Porter Theodore M. "Economic Measurement and the Values of Science", Trust in Numbers (Princeton : Princeton University Press, 1995).

Zelizer Viviana A. "Introduction"; "From Useful to Useless and Back to Useful? Emerging Patterns in the Valuation of Children", in Pricing the Priceless Child, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), pp. 3-21, 208-228.

Parsons Talcott, "The Symbolic Environment of Modern Economies", in Richard Swedberg (eds.) Economic Sociology (Cheltenham: An Elgar Reference Collection, 1996), pp. 218-235.

Abolafia Mitchel Y. "Markets as cultures: an ethnographic approach", in Michel Callon The Laws of the Markets (Oxford: Blackwell, 1998), pp. 69-85.

Smelser Neil J. and Richard Swedberg (eds). "The Sociological Perspective on the Economy", in The Handbook of Economic Sociology (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), pp. 4-8.

Week 11: Politics and the Human Sciences

Required:

Eghigian Greg, Andreas Killan and Christine Leuenberger, "The Self as Project: Politics and the Human Sciences in the Twentieth Century: An Overview", Osiris 22, 2007. On-line on Blackboard.

Rose Nikolas and Peter Miller, "Political Power beyond the State: Problematics of Government", The British Journal of Sociology 43/2 (1992): 173-205.

Rose Nikolas, "Individualizing Psychology", in John Shotter and Kenneth Gergen (eds.) Texts of Identity, (Sage, 1992), pp. 119-132.

Gerovitch, Slava, "'Mathematical Machines' of the Cold War: Soviet Computing, American Cybernetics and Ideological Disputes in the Early 1950s," Social Studies of Science. 31/2 (April 2001): 253-287. On-line on Blackboard.

Leuenberger Christine, "Cultures of Categories", in Osiris, Vol 22, 2007. On-line on Blackboard.

Recommended:

Herman Ellen, "The Dilemmas of Democratic Morale", The Romance of American Psychology: Political Culture in the Age of Experts (University of California Press, 1995), pp. 48-81. On-line on Blackboard.

Mitch Ash, "Kurt Gottschaldt and Psychological Research in Nazi and Socialist Germany", in Kristie Macrakis and Dieter Hoffmann (eds.) Science under Socialism: East Germany in Comparative Perspective (Cambridge Mass: Harvard University Press, 1999).

J.C. Scott, Seeing Like a State. How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Conditions Have Failed (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988). (Pp 1-8, 193-222, 342-358).

Michael Powers, The Audit Society: Rituals of Verification (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997). Pp. 41-68.

Rose Nikolas, The Powers of Freedom (Cambridge University Press, 1999). On-line on Blackboard.

Herman Ellen, "Nervous in the Service", in The Romance of American Psychology: Political Culture in the Age of Experts (University of California Press, 1995), pp. 82-123. On-line on Blackboard.

Gerovitch Slava, From Newsspeak to Cyberspeak (MIT Press, 2002), pp. 199-251.

Leuenberger Christine, "The End of Socialism and the Reinvention of the Self: A Study of the East German Psychotherapeutic Community in Transition", Theory & Society, 31/2. 2002: 257-282. On-line on Blackboard.

Smith Roger "Soviet Psychology" in The Norton History of the Human Sciences (NY: Norton, 1997), pp. 783-798.

Eghigian Greg, "Was there a Communist Psychiatry? Politics and East German Psychiatric Care, 1945-1989", Harvard Review of Psychiatry 10/6 (2002). On-line on Blackboard.

Week 12: Scientific Constructions of the Self

Required:

Holstein James and Jaber Gubrium, "Formulating the Social Self", in The Self We Live By. 2000: 17-37.

Lindholm Charles, "The Discovery of the Individual", in Culture & Identity (NY: McGraw Hill, 2001), pp. 19-41.

Porter Roy (eds.), "Introduction", in Rewriting the Self: Histories from the Renaissance to the Present (London: Routledge, 1997), pp. 1-28.

Degler Carl, "Why did Culture Triumph?", in In Search of Human Nature: The Decline and Revival of Darwinism in American Social Thought (NY: Oxford University Press, 1991), pp. 187-211.

David Healy, "Shaping the Intimate: Influences on the Experiences of Everyday Nerves", in Social Studies of Science, 34/2. 2004: 219-245. On-line on Blackboard.

Cohn Simon, "Petty Cash and the Neuroscientific Mapping of Pleasure", BioSocieties (2008), 3, 151-163. On-line on Blackboard.

Recommended:

Degler Carl, "Biology Redivivus" in In Search of Human Nature: The Decline and Revival of Darwinism in American Social Thought (NY: Oxford University Press, 1991), 215-244.

Susman Warren I., "Personality and the Meaning of Twentieth Century Culture" in John Higham (eds.) New Directions in American Intellectual History (John Hopkins University Press, 1979), pp. 212-226.

Week 13: Sex and Gender in the Sciences

Required:

Sarup, Madam: "Foucault: Sex and the Technologies of the Self" in Identity, Culture, and

the Postmodern world, 1996. (e-book).

Herman Ellen, “The Curious Courtship of Psychology and Women’s Liberation”, in The Romance of American Psychology (University of California Press, 1995), 276-303.

Gilligan Carol, “Women’s Place in a Man’s Life Cycle”, In a Different Voice: Psychological Theory and Women's Development (Harvard University Press, 1993), pp. 5-23.

Martin Emily, "Body Narratives, Body Boundaries", in Laurence Grossberg et. al. (ed.) Cultural Studies (Routledge, 1991), pp. 409-423.

Fausto-Sterling Anne, “Of Gender and Genitals: The use and abuse of the modern intersexual”, in Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality (New York: Basic Books, 2000), pp. 45-77.

Recommended:

Stefan Hirschauer, “The Medicalization of Gender Migration”, in The International Journal of Transgenderism, 1/1, 1997. On-line on Blackboard.

Garfinkel Harold, “Passing and the managed achievement of sex status in an ‘intersexed’ person”. Studies in Ethnomethodology (Prentice Hall, 1967): 116-185.