

ETHN 100

Fall 2009

Denise Silva, Instructor

Syllabus

Printable Version Course Requirements

Introduction : Below you will find the description of course requirements and their corresponding percentage of the final grade.

Requirements : Class Participation [in-class & online] (15%): This includes your attendance, participation in class discussions and in online exercises; Peer Evaluation (10%): You will be grading your classmates in three opportunities: (a) during group work, (b) during the workshop presentations, and (c) their participation in online exercises; Workshop – Group work (20%): See Assignments Tab; Assignments (25%) - See Assignments Tab; Final Exam (30%) - See Assignments Tab;

Course Description

In this course, we will discuss a shift in the theorizing of racial subjection, which is marked by a move away from the understanding of racial subjugation as an effect of white/Europeans' negative reactions to peoples of color's physical and mental (moral) traits. Through an analysis that seeks what cannot be immediately addressed by social scientific tools, we will explore the limits of the notions of cultural difference and racial difference deployed in sociological and anthropological studies. After teasing out that which is erased by these mainstream disciplinary projects, we will consider how Ethnic Studies scholarship is carving a radical critical space, which is able to respond to the challenges present global configurations of power pose to those involved in the project of global (racial) justice. When doing so, not only will we be interested in identifying the contributions and limitations of this line of critical interrogation. More importantly, we will consider what political strategies may dissipate the cycle of dispossession, displacement, and death, which, since the initial moment of conquest, has marked the trajectory of the "others of Europe."

Class & Instructor Information

Meetings : Tue & Thu: 11:00 - 12:20p

Instructor : Prof. Denise Ferreira da Silva

Office Hours : Tuesdays & Thursdays: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM or by appointment (face-to-face or Chat Room)

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Website : <http://weber.ucsd.edu/~dsilva>

### Required Books

Available at Groundworks : Avery Gordon, *Ghostly Matters*. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota Press, 1999  
and Andrea Smith, *Conquest*. Boston: South End Press, 2005.

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