

HISC 251 A Readings in Science Studies

Winter 2008

Donna Haraway, 433 Humanities 1, haraway@ucsc.edu

Wednesdays, 9-12

420 Humanities 1

Office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 2-3:30 and by appt.

Essays are on webCT

<http://ic.ucsc.edu/webct>

pdfs are marked with an *

Books are at the Literary Guillotine

204 Locust Street

Santa Cruz, CA

457-1195

gitlit@literaryguillotine.com

Ordered for purchase:

Rebecca Cassidy and Molly Mullin, eds., *Where the Wild Things Are Now: Domestication Reconsidered* (New York: Berg, 2007)

Erica Fudge, *Brutal Reasoning: Animals, Rationality, and Humanity in Early Modern Europe* (Cornell University Press, 2006)

John Knight, ed., *Natural Enemies: People-Wildlife Conflict in Anthropological Perspective* (Routledge, 2001)

(Unavailable. Pdfs of some of this book will be posted to the webct.) Gregory Pfluger and Brett Walker, eds., *JAPANimals: History and Culture in Japan's Animal Life* (University of Michigan Press, 2005)

E.E. Evans Pritchard, *The Nuer* (Oxford University Press, 1969)

(Will be available by the end of January.) Indra Sinha, *Animal's People* (Simon and Shuster, 2007)

J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (Penguin, 1999)

“Science Studies Meet Critter Studies: Companion Species in Global Bio[X]”

Emphasizing diverse cultures, histories, politics, and scenes, this seminar will examine the knot tied by science and technology studies, animal studies, postcolonial studies, cultural studies, film, art practice, and literary fiction. The matrix is the weave of biopower, biocapital, bioart, and bioscience within which historically located multi-species relationships co-constitute each other. The key question throughout is, how might histories be inherited; how might still be flourishing be possible? If we take seriously the need for survivable categories not based on “the human” and its constitutive exclusions, what inter- and intra-active worlds might take shape? Note that the term “critter” in this seminar can designate people, technologies, and all sorts of living and dead organisms—all in parts and wholes and in many media.

Please read carefully all of the material listed for the week. Please post no more than one page of comments to the webCT before the seminar meets and bring a copy with you to orient your participation in discussion. I will ask a couple of students to lead off each week with commentary and questions (no more than 20 minutes total) to get discussion going. I’ll give a mini lecture most weeks (about 20 minutes), near the end of class most of the time. A final 15 page seminar paper dealing with themes and materials for the seminar is due on Wednesday of finals week. I’d like to meet with all the students in the seminar in office hours a couple of times in the quarter to talk about your questions and think together about your paper.

Three editions of the *Handbook of Science and Technology Studies* (1995, 2001, 2007) will be on reserve in McHenry to provide a snapshot of knots of scholarly conversation in a dynamic interdisciplinary practice over about 15 years. We will read 4 essays critical to this seminar from the 3rd edition, edited by Edward J. Hackett, Olga Amsterdamska, Michael Lynch and Judy Wajcman:

Adele E. Clarke and Susan Leigh Star, “The Social Worlds Framework: A Theory/Methods Package,” pp. 113-138

Lucy Suchman, “Feminist STS and the Sciences of the Artificial,” pp. 139-164

Warwick Anderson and Vincanne Adams, “Pramoedya's Chickens Postcolonial Studies of Technoscience,” pp. 181-204

Regula Valérie Burri and Joseph Dumit, “Social Studies of Scientific Imaging and Visualization,” pp. 297-318

Weekly Schedule

Week 1. January 9. Introduction

Discussion of themes and seminar process.

Viewing:

White Dog (1982), directed by Samuel Fuller, with Kristy McNichol, Christa Lang, Paul Winfield, and Burl Ives, loosely based on Romain Gary novel. See
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Dog;
http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/white_dog/

Week 2. January 16. Tools in science studies. White Dog and Disgrace in dialogue

Readings:

J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (Penguin, 1999)

*Adele E. Clarke and Susan Leigh Star, "The Social Worlds Framework: A Theory/Methods Package," pp. 113-138

*Lucy Suchman, "Feminist STS and the Sciences of the Artificial," pp. 139-164

Week 3. January 23. Postcolonial? Killing Generations, Nurturing Ecocountry

Readings:

*Steve Baker, "'You Kill Things to Look at Them': Animal Death in Contemporary Art," in *Killing Animals*, The Animals Studies Group (University of Illinois Press, 2006), pp. 69-98

*Deborah Bird Rose, "What if the Angel of History Were a Dog?" *Cultural Studies Review* 12, no 2 (March 2006): 67-78

*Carla Freccero, "Figural Historiography: Dogs, Humans, and Cynathropic Becomings," draft-in-progress, Feb. 2007, do not cite or distribute without permission

*Donna Haraway, "Figuring Strathern's Kin: Relatives Are Always a Surprise (and often a scandal)," Paper for Presidential Panel in honor of Marilyn Strathern, AAA, Dec. 1, 2007

*Ursula LeGuin, "The Wife's Story" from *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*

Week 4. January 30. When Species Meet: Enemies

Please read:

John Knight, ed., *Natural Enemies: People-Wildlife Conflict in Anthropological Perspective* (Routledge, 2001)

Week 5. February 6. When Species Meet: Household Animals. Ethnography, Power, History

Readings:

E.E. Evans Pritchard, *The Nuer* (Oxford University Press, 1969), pp. 1-94

*"Introduction, JAPANimals: Entering into Dialogue with Japan's Nonhuman Majority," by Brett Walker, pp. 1-20

*“The Swift Horses of Nukanobu: Bridging the Frontiers of Medieval Japan,” by Alexander Bay, pp. 91-124

*Eduardo Kohn, “How Dogs Dream: Amazonian Natures and the Politics of Trans-Species Engagement,” *American Ethnologist* 34, no. 1 (Feb 2007): 3-24

Viewing:

The Story of the Weeping Camel (2003), directed by Luigi Falorni and Byambasuren Davaa. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Story_of_the_Weeping_Camel

Week 6. February 13. Human/Animal in the Postcolony

Readings:

Indra Sinha, *Animal's People* (Simon and Shuster, 2007)

*Warwick Anderson and Vincanne Adams, “Pramoedya's Chickens Postcolonial Studies of Technoscience,” pp. 181-204

Week 7. February 20. When Europe is not Western

Readings:

Erica Fudge, *Brutal Reasoning: Animals, Rationality, and Humanity in Early Modern Europe* (Cornell University Press, 2006)

Week 8. February 27. Domestications

Readings:

Rebecca Cassidy and Molly Mullin, eds., *Where the Wild Things Are Now: Domestication Reconsidered* (New York: Berg, 2007). I'll ask each seminar member to take 3 essays to present so that we cover the whole book.

*Donna Haraway, “Speculative Fabulations for Technoculture's Generations: Taking Care of Unexpected Country,” *Artium* 2007

Patricia Piccinini, <http://www.patriciapiccinini.net/> and Piccinini at Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery (links on course web page)

Beatriz da Costa, PigeonBlog project, <http://www.beatrizdacosta.net/>

Week 9. March 5. Laboratories and Entangled Lives

Readings:

*Regula Valérie Burri and Joseph Dumit, “Social Studies of Scientific Imaging and Visualization,” pp. 297-318

*Karen Barad, “The Ontology of Knowing, the Intra-activity of Becoming, and the Ethics of Mattering,” in *Meeting the Universe Halfway* (Duke University Press, 2007), pp. 353-396

*Hannah Landecker, “Living Differently in Time: Plasticity, Temporality, and Cellular Biotechnologies,” *Culture Machine* 7 (2005)

<http://culturemachine.tees.ac.uk/Cmach/Backissues/j007/Articles/landecker.htm>

*Natasha Myers, “Animating Mechanism: Animations and the Propagation of Affect in the Lively Arts of Protein Modeling,” *Science Studies*, Special Issue on the Future of Feminist Technoscience, 19 (2): 6-30. pdf available from <http://web.mit.edu/nmyers/www/>

Natasha Myers, A Bioluminescent Photo Gallery, Reconfiguring Vision in BioImaging, <http://web.mit.edu/nmyers/www/plants.html>

SymbioticA website: <http://www.symbiotica.uwa.edu.au/>

Week 10. March 12. Queer Mazes

Readings:

* Hugh Raffles, “Introducing the Illustrated Insectopedia,” book ms in progress, 2007

*Ursula LeGuin, “Mazes,” from *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*

*From *Queering the Non/Human*, eds. Giffney and Hird: “Introduction” by Noreen Giffney and Myra Hird, and “Foreword: Companion Species, Mis-recognition, and Queer Worlding,” by Donna Haraway

*Donna Haraway, “Sharing Suffering,” from *When Species Meet* (University of Minnesota Press, 2008)

Listening:

The Sound of Light in Trees: Bark Beetles and the Acoustic Ecology of Pinyon Pines
David Dunn (Artist)

“Using innovative microphones of his own design, David Dunn takes us into the almost unknown acoustical world inside pine trees, home to an extraordinary array of living sound makers. This intimate sonic environment includes the sounds of the trees' circulatory system, branches moving in the wind, and the communication of insects, most strikingly a concentration of bark beetles taking advantage of dry tree tissues in the midst of a prolonged drought. This soundscape composition presents a composite audio portrait of what we might hear in the myriad branches of a single pinyon pine in the foothills of the southern Rockies. In addition to being a compelling listening experience, the recordings presented here suggest that the acoustic behaviors of bark beetles are far more varied than previously realized. Dunn's extensive liner notes include descriptions of the physiology of beetle sound production and make the case for a breaking the mutually self-imposed barriers between science and the arts. 100% of the revenues from sales of this CD will support the work of the Acoustic Ecology Institute.”

Viewing:

Cornelia Hess-Honeger, *Heteroptera: The Beautiful and the Other, or Images of a Mutating World* (New York, Zurich, Berlin: Scalo, 2001). I'll bring this amazing book in so we can look at her images.

Alternative Map of Readings

I. Critters of the Laboratory

Karen Barad, "The Ontology of Knowing, the Intra-activity of Becoming, and the Ethics of Mattering," in *Meeting the Universe Halfway* (Duke University Press, 2007), pp, 353-396

Donna Haraway, "Sharing Suffering," from *When Species Meet* (University of Minnesota Press, 2008)

Hannah Landecker, "Living Differently in Time: Plasticity, Temporality, and Cellular Biotechnologies," *Culture Machine* 7 (2005)

<http://culturemachine.tees.ac.uk/Cmach/Backissues/j007/Articles/landecker.htm>

Natasha Myers, "Animating Mechanism: Animations and the Propagation of Affect in the Lively Arts of Protein Modeling," *Science Studies*, Special Issue on the Future of Feminist Technoscience, 19 (2): 6-30. pdf available from

<http://web.mit.edu/nmyers/www/>

Natasha Myers, A Bioluminescent Photo Gallery, Reconfiguring Vision in BioImaging,

<http://web.mit.edu/nmyers/www/plants.html>

SymbioticA website: <http://www.symbiotica.uwa.edu.au/>

II. Critters Called Domestic, Critters Called Wild

Rebecca Cassidy and Molly Mullin, eds., *Where the Wild Things Are Now: Domestication Reconsidered* (New York: Berg, 2007)

Beatriz da Costa, especially the PigeonBlog project, <http://www.beatrizdacosta.net/>

III. Critters Making Culture

Gregory Pfluger and Brett Walker, eds., *JAPANimals: History and Culture in Japan's Animal Life* (University of Michigan Press, 2005)

Erica Fudge, *Brutal Reasoning: Animals, Rationality, and Humanity in Early Modern Europe* (Cornell University Press, 2006)

E.E. Evans Pritchard, *The Nuer* (Oxford University Press, 1969)

Eduardo Kohn, "How Dogs Dream: Amazonian Natures and the Politics of Trans-Species Engagement," *American Ethnologist* 34, no. 1 (Feb 2007): 3-24

IV. Making Enemies, Making Kin

John Knight, ed., *Natural Enemies: People-Wildlife Conflict in Anthropological Perspective* (Routledge, 2001)

Deborah Bird Rose, "What if the Angel of History Were a Dog?" *Cultural Studies Review* 12, no 2 (March 2006): 67-78

Carla Freccero, "Figural Historiography: Dogs, Humans, and Cynathropic Becomings," draft-in-progress, Feb. 2007, do not cite or distribute without permission

Donna Haraway, "Speculative Fabulations for Technoculture's Generations: Taking Care of Unexpected Country," *Artium* 2007

Patricia Piccinini, <http://www.patriciapiccinini.net/>

V. Seeing Critters

Steve Baker, "'You Kill Things to Look at Them': Animal Death in Contemporary Art," in *Killing Animals*, The Animals Studies Group (University of Illinois Press, 2006), pp. 69-98

Hannah Landecker, "Cellular Features: Microcinematography and Early Film Theory," *Critical Inquiry* 3, no4 (2005):903-937.
(<http://criticalinquiry.uchicago.edu/issues/current/31n4landecker.html>)

Eva Shawn Hayward, "Refracting *The Love Life of the Octopus*," in *Octopus: A Journal of Visual Studies*, Inaugural Issue, 2005

Hugh Raffles, "Introducing the Illustrated Insectopedia," book ms in progress, 2007

Cornelia Hess-Honeger, *Heteroptera: The Beautiful and the Other, or Images of a Mutating World* (New York, Zurich, Berlin: Scalo, 2001)

Fiction:

Indra Sinha, *Animal's People* (Simon and Shuster, 2007)

J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (Penguin, 1999)

Ursula LeGuin, "Mazes" and "The Wife's Tale" from *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*

Films:

White Dog (1982), directed by Samuel Fuller, with Kristy McNichol, Christa Lang, Paul Winfield, and Burl Ives, loosely based on Romain Gary novel

Amores Perros (2000), directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu

The Story of the Weeping Camel (2003), directed by Luigi Falorni and Byambasuren Davaa. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Story_of_the_Weeping_Camel

Additional Resources:

Karen Barad, *Meeting the Universe Halfway* (Duke University Press, 2007)

Jonathan Burt, *Animals in Film* (Reaktion Books, 2002)

Melinda Cooper, "Monstrous Progeny: The Teratological Tradition in Science and Literature," in *Frankenstein's Science*, edited by Jane Goodall and Christa Knelwolf (Ashgate, 2007).

Sarah Franklin, *Dolly Mixtures* (Duke University Press, 2007)

Noreen Giffney and Myra Hird, eds., *Queering the Non/Human* (Ashgate, in press for 2008)

Donna Haraway, *When Species Meet* (University of Minnesota Press, 2008)

Garry Marvin, *Bullfight* (University of Illinois Press, 1994)

Gregg Mitman, *Reel Nature: America's Romance with Wildlife on Film* (Harvard University Press, 1999)

Rudolf Mrázek, *Engineers of Happy Land: Technology and Nationalism in a Colony* (Princeton University Press, 2002)

Natasha Myers, "Modeling Proteins, Making Scientists: An Ethnography of Visual Cultures and Pedagogy in Structural Biology," PhD dissertation, MIT, 2007

Natasha Myers, "Molecular Embodiments and the Body-work of Modeling in Protein Crystallography" is forthcoming in *Social Studies of Science*.

Karen Rader, *Making Mice: Standardizing Animals for American Biomedical Research, 1900-1955* (Princeton University Press, 2004)

More films of interest:

Amours de la pieuvre (1965) (*Love Life of the Octopus*), directed by Jean Painlevé

The Cave of the Yellow Dog (2005), written and directed by Byambasuren Davaa
See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Cave_of_the_Yellow_Dog

More Fiction

Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake* (Anchor, 2004)

Marlene Van Niekerk, *Triomf*, translated by Leon De Kock (Overlook, 2005)

Linda Hogan, *Power* (New York: Norton, 1998)
Romain Gary, *White Dog* (University of Chicago Press, 2004)

Course syllabi and bibliographies:

Garry Marvin, *Animals and Society* (great syllabus & extensive bibliography from autumn 2000), <http://www2.asanet.org/sectionanimals/Syllabus2.html>

Carla Freccero, LTPR 204/LTFR 230, "Humanism in the Making: Animals before/after Descartes," Fall 2007, syllabus on Electronic Reserves

Art emphasizing critter-human-technology collaborations:

Patricia Piccinini, <http://www.patriciapiccinini.net/>

Beatriz da Costa, especially the PigeonBlog project, <http://www.beatrizdacosta.net/>

Phil Ross, www.philross.org/

Biotechnique, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, October 2007-January 2008, curated by Phil Ross, <http://biotechnique.blogspot.com/>

Natasha Myers, A Bioluminescent Photo Gallery, Reconfiguring Vision in BioImaging, <http://web.mit.edu/nmyers/www/plants.html>

Lynn Randolph, <http://www.lynnrandolph.com/02.html>