

Geofeminisms II: Phylogeography, Love, and Justice

HISC 217A Feminist Theory
ANTH 234 Feminist Anthropology
Spring 2007

4th floor Humanities 1, Room 420, Mondays 6-9 PM

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The course

Phylogeography is the geography of lineage membership. In our exploration, we begin with multi-species assemblages through which human natures emerge. The seminar then offers a dialogue between two foci of analysis: landscape figures (interspecies arrangements) and intimate encounters (interspecies negotiations). A crosscutting dialogue addresses human relations with animals, on the one hand, and plants, on the other; where the first stimulates questions about contact and difference, the latter inspires discussion of cultivation and variety. The course crisscrosses between these two dialogues to open feminist curiosity about geographies of love and justice. We also have another theme: the multiplicity of genres through which disciplined feminist discussion can take place. In this course, we open our analytic lens to consider the possibilities of fiction and fantasy, of maps and museum displays, and of art and archives.

Requirements:

1. Readings are listed for the date by which they should be read.
2. Each week, class participants should prepare a one- to two-paragraph response, referring to a specific passage or image in the reading. Responses should be uploaded on the class web site.
3. Class participants will be responsible for discussion leadership and participation, as arranged in class.
4. A paper using class themes to develop each student's own research (10-20 pages, typed, double spaced) is due on June 11.

Readings:

Books are at the Literary Guillotine: 204 Locust Street, Santa Cruz, CA, 457-1195 gitlit@literaryguillotine.com. Articles will be available electronically. Some of the books are expensive. Please make plans in advance to share, get used copies online, use McHenry Reserves (24 hour), or buy new.

Ursula LeGuin, *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*. (1987, Capra Press).

Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*. (1992 [1966], W. W. Norton).

Jill Cassid, *Sowing Empire: Landscape and Colonization*. (2005, University of Minnesota Press).

Virginia Anderson, *Creatures of Empire: How Domestic Animals Transformed Early America*. (2006, Oxford University Press).

Carolyn Merchant, *Ecological Revolutions: Nature, Gender and Science in New England*. (1989, University of North Carolina Press).

Brett Walker, *The Lost Wolves of Japan*. (2005, University of Washington Press).

Richard White, *The Organic Machine*. (1995, Hill and Wang).

Deborah Bird Rose, *Reports from a Wild Country: Ethics for Decolonization*. (2005, University of New South Wales).

Adrian Franklin, *Animal Nation: The True Story of Animals and Australia*. (2006, University of New South Wales Press).

Sarah Franklin, *Dolly Mixtures: The Remaking of Genealogy*. (2007, Duke University Press).

Sue Coe and Judith Brody, *Sheep of Fools*. (2005, Fantagraphics Books).

Schedule

Week 1. April 9. Starting Points

Ursula LeGuin, *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*.

I. Landscapes as figures

Week 2. April 16. Plantations (Caribbean)

Jean Rhys, *Wild Sargasso Sea*

Jill Casid, *Sowing Empire*

Week 3. April 2X. Refiguring First Contacts (New England)

(We will have to reschedule for another evening this week.)

Carolyn Merchant, *Ecological Revolutions*

Virginia Anderson, *Creatures of Empire: How Domestic Animals Transformed Early America*

Week 4. April 30. Frontiers 1 (Northern Pacific Rim)

Brett Walker, *The Lost Wolves of Japan*

Richard White, *The Organic Machine*

Week 5. May 7. Frontiers 2 (Australia)

Deborah Rose, *Reports from a Wild Country*.

Adrian Franklin, *Animal Nation*.

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

See also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricia_Piccinini

Week 6. May 14. Atlases and Exhibits

Jonathan Sauer. "Solanum—Potato, Eggplant, and Other Nightshades," "Elaeis—Oil Palm," "Olea—Olive," and "Saccharum officinarum—Domesticated Sugar Cane," In *Historical Geography of Crop Plants*. (1993, CRC Press).

Helen Watson (with the Yolngu community at Yirrkala) and David Chambers, *Singing*

the Land, Signing the Land. (1989, Deakin University)

The following atlases are available on reserve at McHenry Library. Please look through them. Pick at least three maps from at least two atlases, and consider how they offer “worldings” that relate to class readings and discussions so far. Copy them, bring them to class, and be ready to explain what you learned from them. Feel free to bring your own maps and images as well.

Joni Seager, *The Penguin Atlas of Women in the World.* (2003, Penguin Books).
Xanthippe Augerot, *Atlas of Pacific Salmon.* (2005, University of California Press).
Ben Crow and Alan Thomas, *Third World Atlas.* (1983, Open University).
Harold Conklin, *Ethnographic Atlas of Ifugao.* (1980, Yale University Press).
Philipp Oswalt and Tim Rieniets, *Atlas of Shrinking Cities.* (2006, Hantje Cantz).

II. Interspecies Encounters

Week 7. May 2X. When Species Meet

(We will have to reschedule this meeting for an evening later in the week.)

Donna Haraway, *When Species Meet*, chapters 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12

Week 8. May 28. Weeds

Anna Tsing, “A History of Weediness,” In *Friction* (2005, Princeton), pp. 171-202;
“Unruly Edges: Mushrooms as Companion Species,” In Sharon Ghamari-Tabrizi, ed. *Thinking with Donna Haraway.*

Frieda Knobloch, “Weeds,” In *The Culture of Wilderness.* (1996, University of North Carolina Press).

Paulla A. Ebron, “Moving Mud.”

Ann Grodzins Gold, “Foreign Trees,” In Paul Greenough and Anna Tsing, eds. *Nature in the Global South.* (2003, Duke University Press).

James C. Scott, “Escape Agriculture.”

Margo Lanagan, “The Night Lily,” In *White Time.* (2006, HarperCollins).

Jacob Cartwright and Nick Jordan, “American Bullfrog,” and “Giant Hogweed,” In *Alien Invaders.* (2006, Book Works).

See also <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puDkLFCZyI>

Website for artist Phil Ross: <http://www.philross.org/>

Week 9. June 4. Sheep

Sarah Franklin, *Dolly Mixtures*

Sue Coe and Judith Brody, *Sheep of Fools*

See also Sue Coe’s website: <http://www.graphicwitness.org/coe/coebio.htm>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sue_Coe

Week 10. June 11. Ending Points

Potluck and final discussion.