Self, Culture and Society

reading list, Spring 2021

John Kelly

Part One

What is Social Science?

Postmodern and Postcolonial Reconsiderations

Week One Social Science paradigms?

1.1 launch of course: paradigms, in retrospect and prospect

1.2 Thomas Kuhn, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions (1962) chs 1-6 (pp.1-65).

Week Two

2.1 Kuhn, contd. chs. 7-10. (66-135)

2.2 Kuhn, rest. chs. 11-13 and 1969 postscript (136-210)

Week Three Foucault: paradigm change, or what?

3.1 Michel Foucault, The History of Sexuality Vol. 1

Part One “We ‘Other Victorians’” (1-13)

3.2 Foucault, cont’d.

Part Two “The Repressive Hypothesis” (17-49)

Week Four power, knowledge, pleasure; discourse and materiality

4.1 Foucault, cont’d.

Part Four “The Deployment of Sexuality” (77-131)

4.2 Foucault, cont’d.

Part Five “Right of Death and Power Over Life” (135-159)

[[ note: some instructors prefer *Discipline and Punish* (1975) over *The History of Sexuality vol.1.* (1976). If you are undecided, see notes on Foucault choice, below. In either case, Foucault follows Kuhn, considering dates and tone. ]]

Week Five Postcoloniality

5.1 Edward Said, Orientalism “Introduction” (pp.1-28)

(add, if you wish examples, either ch1 or ch3 listed next; ch.1 covers

earlier and obscure examples, ch3 Napoleon, text and conquest stories)

5.2 Said, Orientalism, cont’d “The Scope of Orientalism”

*either* entire (pp.31-110)

*or* ch.1 “Knowing the Oriental” (31-49)

*and/or* ch.3 “Projects” (73-92)

*and/or*  ch.4 “Crisis” (92-110)

---and/or---

Foucault, ch. 3, “Scientia Sexualis” (H of S vo.1 pp.53-73)

Kwame Anthony Appiah, “Is the Post- in Postmodernism the Post- in Postcolonial?”

[[ add the Foucault chapter if you wish your class to confront

Foucault’s orientalism; Appiah if you want to discuss

postcoloniality and postmodernism in relation to each other,

and/or Africa & Asia)

Part Two

Some Contemporary Issues

Week Six The Human impact upon the environment

6.1 The Challenge of the Anthropocene, to all other politics

Dipesh Chakrabarty “The Climate of History: Four Theses”

---and/or---

Chakrabarty, “Postcolonial Studies and the Challenge of Climate Change”

---and/or---

Chakrabarty, “Climate and Capital: On Conjoined Histories”

6.2 Challenges to the Anthropocene narrative

Eric Swyngedouw, “Whose Environment? The End of Nature, Climate Change

and the Process of Post-Politicization”

---and/or---

Andreas Malm and Alf Hornborg, “The geology of mankind? A critique of the

Anthropocene narrative.”

---and/or---

Prasenjit Duara, The Crisis of Global Modernity: Asian Traditions and a

Sustainable Future “Introduction” and ch.1.

Week Seven Third-Wave Feminism, inside and outside the West

7.1 Judith Butler “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution”

---and/or---

Butler, “Gender Trouble, Feminist Theory, and Psychoanalytic Discourse”

---and/or---

Gayle Rubin, “The Traffic in Women”

7.2 Saba Mahmood, “Feminist Theory, Embodiment, and the Docile Agent:

Some Reflections on the Egyptian Islamic Revival”

---and/or---

Amia Srinivasan “Does Anyone Have the Right to Sex?”

Week Eight The engineering of facts and its limits

8.1 Bruno Latour, “War and Peace of Microbes” Intro. & chapters 1,3,4 (1-59,111-150)

8.2 Jeffrey Bennett, “The “Bad” Kill: A Short Case Study in American Counterinsurgency”

(pp.311-325 in *Anthropology and Global Counterinsurgency*)

Latour, “Why Has Critique Run out of Steam? From Matters of Fact to

Matters of Concern”

Week 9.1 Self, Culture, Society and Schizophrenia

9.1 Jonathan Metzl, *The Protest Psychosis: How Schizophrenia Became a Black Disease*

Preface, Part 1, Part 3, Part 6.

Week 9.2, Ten Globalization and the rise of global cities

9.2 Francis Fukuyama “The End of History?”

Sinnathamby Rajaratnam “Singapore: Global City”

10 Arjun Appadurai “Deep Democracy: Urban Governmentality and the Horizon of

Politics”