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”