

Anthropology and Sociology of Development

Academic year 2014 - 2015

Power, State and Violence

ANSO014 - Spring - 6 ECTS

Seminar Description

This seminar aims at revisiting the notions of violence, power and State through the last two decades' debates in (political) anthropology and sociology, with a particular focus on the contradictory effects of globalization and its social actors. Actually, the Weberian model of the post-Westphalian 'modern State' often considered as obsolete in the aftermath of the Cold War, has been rehabilitated by the international aid agencies, who have been more active than ever in elaborating and exporting new Statebuilding approaches, thus contributing to redefine governance patterns, both at the national and local levels.

In the first part of the seminar, we will therefore examine the (re)shaping of the conceptions of power and some of the (new) forms of national and transnational governmentalities in parallel to the subjectivity of the actors of violence who are putting into question the political and moral order of the State. The Foucauldian approaches will be privileged.

In the second part of the seminar, we will focus on a specific aspect of 'violence management' by State and civil society organizations, i.e. the one often defined as 'Dealing with the Past', aiming at reconstructing social bonds, collective memory and national unity in the aftermath of international armed conflicts, civil wars or political transitions. An important academic and policy related literature has developed on the topic. We will therefore examine a number of case studies to analyse the roles and impacts of actors and institutions operating in the field, and to assess the relevance of the socio-anthropological approaches.

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Syllabus

1. Pedagogical Objectives

At the end of the seminar, students will be able to:

- master a number of conceptual, analytical and methodological tools in the field of sociology/anthropology of power, State and violence.
- critically engage in the relevant debates, drawing on the compulsory readings and the recommended texts.
- situate their research assignments -and their case-studies' analyses in particular- within the thematic material presented during the seminar's sessions.

2. Organization

Sessions will take place every Tuesdays during the Spring 2015 semester, between 2.15 and 4.00 pm in room S2, starting on Tuesday, 17th of February.

The compulsory readings of each session will be available on the seminar's website. **It is mandatory for all students to read the assigned texts before each seminar.**

3. Calendar and Sessions' Topics

The seminar is taught primarily in **English**. Questions and commentaries, as well as the final papers may be formulated/written in English or in French.

1 – 17th February - INTRODUCTION

Seminar presentation: objectives, content, calendar.

Students' inputs, QARQ method and evaluation criteria

2 – 24th February - VIOLENCE, POWER AND THE STATE: FOUCALDIAN APPROACHES

Readings:

DEBRIX, F., 2009, « Nothing to Fear but Fear: Governmentality and the Biopolitical Production of Terror », in : *International Political Sociology*, vol. 3, pp. 398-413.

HOLMER NADESAN, M., 2008, « Introduction », in : *Governmentality, Biopower and Everyday Life*, London, Routledge, pp. 1-14.

LASCOUMES, P., 2004, « La Gouvernamentalité : de la critique de l'État aux technologies du pouvoir », in : *Le Portique*, 13-14, URL : <http://leportique.revues.org/index625.html>

3 – 3rd March - BOURDIEU AND FOUCAULT ON POWER, STATE AND NEOLIBERALISM

Readings:

GECIENE, Ingrida, « The Notion of Power in the Theories of Bourdieu, Foucault and

Baudrillard », in : *Sociologija. Mintis ir veiksmas*, vol. 2, pp. 116-124.

CALLEWAERT, Staf, 2006, « Bourdieu, Critic of Foucault », in : *Theory, Culture and Society*, vol.23, n°6, pp. 73-98.

RIEGER-LADICH, MARKUS, 2010, « Governmentality Revisited : Bourdieu meets Foucault », in : *International Perspectives on Education and Society*, vol.12, pp. 105-120.

SPRINGER, Simon, 2012, « Neoliberalism as discourse : between Foucauldian Political Economy and Marxian poststructuralism », in : *Critical Discourse Studies*, vol. 9, n°2, pp. 133-147.

4 - 10th March - INVITED LECTURER

John AUSTIN, PhD candidate, the Graduate institute:

'Evils Beyond Borders? Torture, Topology, and Social Theory'

Readings:

CATON, Steven and ZACKA, Bernardo, 2010, « Abu Ghraib, the security apparatus and the performativity of power », in : *American Ethnologist*, vol. 37, n°2, pp. 203-211.

5 – 17th March - RETHINKING THE STATE

Readings:

ARETXAGA, B., 2003, « Maddening States », in: *Annual Review of Anthropology*, vol. 32, pp. 393-410.

BLOM HANSEN, Th. and STEPPUTAT, F., 2005, « Introduction », in : *Sovereign Bodies*, Th. Blom Hansen & F. Stepputat, Princeton University Press, pp. 1-36.

NELSON, D. M., 2005, “Life During Wartime” in: *Anthropologies of Modernity: Foucault, Governmentality, and Life Politics*, J.X. Inda (ed.), Oxford, Blackwell Publ., pp. 215-247.

WILKE, Boris and ZAKAR Muhammad, 2011, “Violence Research from North Africa to South Asia: a Historical and Structural Overview”, in: *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, vol.5, n°1, pp. 32-54.

6 – 24th March - FOR AN ANTHROPOLOGY OF VIOLENCE

Readings:

SCHROEDER, Ingo and SCHMIDT, Bettina, 2001, Introduction: Violent Imaginaries and violent practices. In *Anthropology of Violence and Conflict*, I.W. Schroeder, B.E. Schmidt (eds), London, Routledge, pp. 1-24.

SHEPER HUGUES, Nancy and BOURGOIS, Philippe., 2003, “Introduction: Making Sense of Violence”, in: *Violence in War and Peace: an anthology*, N. Sheper-Hugues and Ph. Bourgois (eds.), London, Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 1-31.

AVRUCH, Kevin, “Notes Toward Ethnographies of Conflict and Violence”, in: *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, vol. 30, pp. 637-648.

WEISS, Nerina and SIX-HOHENBALKEN, Maria, « Introduction », in : *Violence Expressed. An Anthropological Approach*, (eds.), London, Ashgate, pp. 1-18.

7 – 31st March - DEALING WITH THE PAST: CONCEPT AND INSTITUTIONS

Readings :

BLEEKER MASSARD, M., 2004, « Introduction », in : *Dealing with the Past*, M. Bleeker Massard & J. Sisson (eds.), Bern, KOFF-Swisspeace, pp. 5-14.

HAYNER, P. (2011), *Unspeakable Truths. Transitional Justice and the Challenge of Truth Commissions*. London, Routledge, 2nd edition, pp. 1-26.

BELL, Duncan, 2009, « Introduction : Violence and Memory », in : *Millennium. Journal of International Studies*, vol.38, n°2, pp. 345-360.

(no session on April 7th: Easter holidays)

8 - 14th April - TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Readings:

EL FEGIERY, Moataz, 2014, *Truth and Reconciliation? Transitional Justice in Egypt, Lybia and Tunisia*. Madrid, FRIDE, Policy Brief n°177, 6pp.

VAN DRUNEN, Saskia (2010), *Struggling with the Past. The Human Rights Movement and the Politics of Memory in Post-Dictatorship Argentina*. Amsterdam, Rozenberg Publishers, pp. 21-46.

DUTHIE, Roger and SPECHT, Irma, 2009, « DDR, Transitional Justice, and the Reintegration of Former Child Combatants », in : *Disarming the past : transitional justice and excombatants*, A. Cutter Patel, P. de Greiff, and L. Waldorf (eds.), New York, Social Sciences Research Council, pp.190-227.

9 - 21st April – MEMORIES OF VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE OF MEMORIES

Readings:

CONNERTON, Paul, 2008, « Seven Types of Forgetting », in : *Memory Studies*, n°1, vol. 58, pp. 59-71.

MINOW, Martha, 2002, “Breaking the Cycles of Hatred”, in: *Breaking the Cycles of Hatred: Memory, Law, and Repair*, Princeton University Press.

BRANTS, Chrisje and KLEP, Katrien, 2013, “Transitional Justice: History-Telling, Collective Memory and the Victim-Witness”, in: *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, vol. 7, n°1, pp. 36-49.

10 - 28th April - ETHNOGRAPHIES OF VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS: RAPE AS WEAPON OF WAR

Readings:

KIRBY, Paul, 2013, « How is rape a weapon of war? Feminist International Relations, modes of critical explanation and the study of wartime sexual violence », in : *European Journal of International Relations* vol. 19, pp. 797-821

BROWN, Carlie, 2012, “Rape as a weapon of War in the Democratic Republic of Congo”, in: *Torture*, vol. 22, n°1, pp. 24-37.

WALLER, James E., 2012, “Rape as a Tool of ‘Othering’ in Genocide”, in : *Rape: Weapon of War and Genocide*, C. Rittner and J. K. Roth (eds.), St. Paul: Paragon House, 2012.

STORR, Will, 2011, « The Rape of Men : the darkest secret of war », in : *The Guardian*, Sunday, 17th July.

11 – 5th May - MEMORY, VIOLENCE AND CINEMA

Screening and debate of/on a movie

12 – 19th May – All afternoon Students’ Workshop

13 – 26th May – All afternoon Students' Workshop

4. Evaluation

The active participation of students in class discussion is expected, and will be an important element in the determination of their final grade.

The main assignment is an individual **research paper** which will count for 50% of the grade. The term paper should be maximum 15 pages long, with proper citations and a bibliography (additional to the text page length). The paper should put forth a cogent argument or examine analytically an issue, beside reviewing the relevant literature. The paper may discuss any particular aspect of the course themes. Each research paper should cast the analysis of a case-study chosen by the student against thematic questions.

Students are invited to select a topic for their paper and submit a **one-page outline by April 12** at latest. The TA will arrange the timetable for the meetings with the responsible of the seminar to discuss your selected topic. All the meetings will be held between on Wednesday the 15th, and Friday the 11th of April.

The on-going research papers will be **presented during two afternoon workshops**. Each student will send by electronic post three days before the date of the workshop a 3-page **abstract** to the TA, who will mail them to all classmates. Students will be given 15 minutes time to present their work followed by a 5 minute critique by a student playing the role of the discussant, and followed by a general discussion with the workshop's participants.

The completed term paper is due by JUNE 6th at latest.

The overall grade received in this class will be distributed as follows:

Class participation: 25%

Paper presentation: 25%

Research paper: 50%

As usual, final grades equal to or above 4.00 will provide students with 6 ECTS (1 ECTS corresponding to 25-30 hours of work).

6. Academic Code of conduct

Your written assignments must represent an original work, with your use of all resources properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating or violation of the academic honour code will NOT be tolerated, and will be dealt with according to Institute rules' policy.

Student assignments will be randomly selected to be checked using software designed to identify academic plagiarism. Please, note that assignments that are confirmed to contain plagiarized material will be given a 'O' grade.

ANNEX

THE QARQ (Quote, Argument, Relation, Question) MODEL

Students introducing the texts for the debate will be invited to :

Quote –Cite a sentence or two from the text which reflects author’s main argument.

Argument –synoptically present author’s argument in your own language. If relevant, mention which thesis the author is defending and which one she is arguing against.

Relation – When possible, connect the argument of the text under discussion with texts previously discussed. Show how author’s argument supports or undermines argument of other authors.

Question –frame a question about the position or consistency of the argument: a) e.g., an issue which the author is silent about, and why this silence, and b) question about a dimension in the text that may not be amply addressed. Ideally, question should be internal to the text.