Department of Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO)
Academic year 2019-2020

Crowds and Publics
ANSO069- Spring - 6 ECTS
Schedule & Room

Course Description
This seminar introduces PhD students to central concepts and practices, as well as themes and debates, in contemporary anthropology and sociology. Through class readings, discussions, and assignments, we will explore how research problems and questions are defined and articulated, how theory is constructed as well as its relation to empirically-grounded research. Students will have the opportunity to connect these inquiries to further the development of their own particular research interests. In addition to grappling with key themes and debates, the seminar seeks to foster a strong sense of social and intellectual community and peer learning amongst doctoral candidates, who will be an integral part of the ANSO community over the coming four years.

Syllabus
Evaluation: Active student participation is expected. Each week 1-2 students will be responsible for presenting the material in class (guidelines will be provided). The final grade will be based on the following assignments:

1 in-class presentation  %20
1 book or film review  %30
1 final essay & proposal  %50

The assignments will be posted on Moodle Lecture Topics and Assigned Reading:
Week 1

Tuesday  **February 18**  *Introduction: Crowds and Publics*


Week 2

Tuesday  **February 25**  *The Crowd in Literature: People in the Streets, Minnes and Spirit Possession*

- Song “Les Foules” by Edith Piaf.
- Edgar Allan Poe, “The Man of the Crowd (pp. 3-11 )
- Charles Baudelaire, “Crowds” (short poem ); “To a Passerby (short poem)
- Walt Whitman, “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry”, ”Out of the rolling ocean the crowd” (short poem)

Week 3

Tuesday  **March 3**  *The Crowd Problem*


Week 4

Tuesday  **March 10**  *XIXth Cent. Crowd Psychology I: Savage Hords, Leaders and Organized Crowds*

- Gustave Le Bon, *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*, pp. 3-89

Week 5

Tuesday  **March 17**  *XIXth Cent. Crowd Psychology II: Savage Hords, Leaders and Organized Crowds*

- Gabriel Tarde, *The Laws of Imitation*, pp. 59-88

Week 6

Tuesday  **March 24**  *XIXth Cent Classic Crowd Theory III*


Week 7
Tuesday March 31 Crowds and The Retreat of the Political I


Week 8
Tuesday April 7 Crowds and The Retreat of the Political II

• Gaonkar, Dilip. 2014. "After the Fictions. Notes Towards a Phenomenology of the Multitude," e-flux journal #58, October

Recommended:
• Jonson, Stefan, "The Art of Protest" (unpublished manuscript -- pp. 35).

Recommended:

Week 9
Tuesday April 21 Rethinking the Crowd: Canetti, Malabou, Mazzarella

• Catherine Malabou, “The Crowd” pp. 25-44

Week 10
Tuesday April 28 Representing the Crowd in Cinema


Recommended:
Week 11
Tuesday  May 5
To be assigned

Week 12
Tuesday  May 12
To be assigned

Week 13
Tuesday  May 19
To be assigned

Week 14
Tuesday  May 26
To be assigned