

The Culture of the Periphery

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The south in Israel, like in many other places in world, is not only the name of a geographic region. The image of the south is often associated with the powerless, less educated poor, with violence and the unsophisticated.

In the south of Israel coexist a variety of populations and cultures. Immigrants from different countries, Bedouins, worker immigrants, and refugees living in cities, tribes, farms, and kibbutzim. All of these are part of the periphery.

This course examines the south in Israel as an example of the complicated relations between ethnicity, economic, space, power, and culture. We look at films, literature, and music and consider the culture as a site of resistance and counter hegemonic to the culture of the center.

Students can write their final papers on other areas of the world, and can bring to discussion examples of other cities, sites, and cultures relevant to the issues under consideration.

Course requirements

- Attendance and participation (10%)
- Written commentary on the weekly readings (20%)
- Two five-page papers (35% each)

Students should bring to class their own area and theoretical interests and are strongly encouraged to write the final paper on cases other than that of Modern Hebrew culture.

Course program

Periphery, south, margins, theoretical perspectives

Roberto Cardoso de Oliveira, Peripheral Anthropologies "versus" Central Anthropologies

Journal of Latin American Anthropology, 01/1999, Volume 4-5, Issue 2-1

Doris Wastl-Walter , Mo'nika M. Va'radi & Friedrich Veider To cite this article: Doris Wastl-

Walter , Mo'nika M. Va'radi & Friedrich Veider (2003) Coping with marginality: to stay or to go, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 29:5, 797-817

Nikos Papastergiadis, Hybridity and Ambivalence Places and Flows in Contemporary Art and Culture

Jean Comaroff and John L. Comaroff, Theory from the south, or, How Euro-America is evolving toward Africa, Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, N.Y. : Routledge, 2016.

Bhabha, H. K. 1990, The third space: Interview with Homi Bahab", in: Rutherford, J. (ed).

Identity: community, culture, Difference. London: Lawrence and Wishart, pp/ 207-221

Bahab H. K. 1994. The location of culture, New York, Routledge

The south as image

Mitchell, W. J. T Mitchell, W. J. Thomas, [Landscape and power](#) 2002, 2nd ed.

Presentations (student's)

Ethnicity, Gender and periphery:

Hurston, Zora Neale, Their eyes were watching God, Fawcett premier book, 1969

Morrison, Toni, *Playing in the dark: whiteness and the literary imagination*, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1992.

Music from the periphery: objection, alternative or "other voice"

Tagg, Philip, Open Letter: 'Black Music', 'Afro-American Music' and 'European Music'

Popular Music, Vol. 8, No. 3, African Music (Oct., 1989), pp. 285-298

Saada-Ophir, Galit, Arab Jewish Musicians and the Politics of Performance, *Cultural Anthropology*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (May, 2006), pp. 205-233

Saada-Ophir, Galit, Mizrahi Subaltern Counterpoints: Sderot's Alternative Bands

Anthropological Quarterly; Summer 2007; 80, 3; ProQuest Central

pg. 711

Gavro, David, Green, yellow, red, Israel 2007 (film)

Aviv Nurith, *From language to language*, France and Israel, 2004 (Film)

Immigrants:

Somanov Roman, *The dreamers from Babilon*, Israel 2015 (film)

Shayo Keren, **Sound of Torture**, Israel, 2013. Film.

Kemp, Adriana; Kfir, Nelly, Mobilizing Migrant Workers' Rights in "Non-immigration"

Countries: The Politics of Resonance and Migrants' Rights Activism in Israel and Singapore,

Law & Society Review, Volume 50, Number 1, 1 March 2016, pp. 82-116(35)

"Developments town":

Oren Yiftachel and Erez Tzfadia, Between periphery and 'third space': identity of Mizrahim in Israel's development towns" in: Kemp Adriana, Israelis in conflict : hegemonies, identities, and challenges, Brighton [England] ; Portland, Or. : Sussex Academic Press, 2004.

Shemesh Tali, White gold, Black work, Israel 2012 (Film)

Shlez Juli and Tzabari Doron, Daroma (T.V series) Israel 2002

"Conflict Zone"

Agamben, Giorgio, Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life, Stanford (1995)

Gaza Sderot - Life in spite of everything, (video website) Israel 2008

<https://www.upian.com/en/project/gzasderot>

Levi Avi, !8 KM, Israel 2004 (Film)

Afterwards: Between Literature, Film, and Activism

Morrison, Toni (ed.), Burn this book : notes on literature and engagement,.

Edition: 1st Harper pbk. New York : HarperPaperbacks ; Enfield : Publishers Group UK

[distributor], 2012

Maimon, Vered, Grinbaum, Shiraz (eds.) Activestills, Photography as Protest in

Palestine/Israel, Pluto 2017