

CULTURE, SYMBOLS, AND SOCIAL INTERACTION  
SOCIOLOGY 920: 602: 01

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Hours: To be announced

Social interaction is made possible, in large measure, by the existence of cultural symbols. During the semester, we will examine a variety of symbol systems, exploring the social foundations of these systems, the character of the symbols themselves, and the various ways in which social actors project and manipulate symbols. We also will explore the differing effects that certain symbols and social interaction styles can have on the structure of social life. At the same time, we will probe the ways in which social structure and technological innovation influence the face of social interaction.

Part one of the course will highlight symbolic communication within micro-level interaction. Lectures and readings will focus our attentions on four specific symbol systems: gestures, smell, touch, and talk. Class discussions will unfold the role these systems play in the establishment of meaning within interpersonal encounters.

Part two of the course will focus on institutionalized symbol systems: language, visual arts, music, national symbols, and media narratives. We will examine the different levels of meaning contained in each of these systems. We also will explore the role social structure plays in the production of these systems. We will probe the impact of various symbolic forms with reference to communication effectiveness. And we will examine the ways in which audience responses to these symbols can alter the social setting.

In its final phase, the course directs attentions to technologically mediated interaction. Lectures and readings focus on the ways in which technology alters the interaction process, and the ways in which it can blur previously conceived social distinctions: e.g. macro versus micro level interaction, life versus death.

REQUIRED TEXTS

A volume of xeroxed articles and book excerpts constitute the majority of readings for this class. I will put 1 copy of this volume in the sociology library. Other arrangements will be discussed in the first class.

## REQUIREMENTS

This course presents a variety of requirements designed to tap the full array of your academic strengths and skills:

1) "Deep Thoughts": Beginning on week 2 of the semester, each student is expected to come to class with two "reactive" statements – statements addressing the readings assigned for the day. The first statement should cite the point(s) you believe constitute a real strength of the material. The second statement should provide one criticism of the material. These statements are designed to focus your thinking and facilitate class discussion. Therefore, your reflections should be short and to the point: specifically, each statement should be one paragraph in length (6-8 sentences – really a paragraph, not a page).

Your assignments will be collected and graded on a weekly basis. (However, you will be exempt from these assignments if you are responsible for the week's oral class presentation – see below.) This work will constitute 20% of your final grade.

2) Oral Presentation(s): Many of our meetings will devote some portion of class time to student led discussions. The actual number of presentations will be determined by the size of the class. However, each student will be expected to lead at least one such discussion during the semester. If class size is large, two or more students will share the week's discussion task.

Presentations will be scheduled during the first week of classes. Students will be graded on their performance. These grades will count for 15% of the final grade.

3) Toward a Research Paper: Three short, focused written assignments are part of the course requirements:

A) Paper Topic and Bibliography: Each student must propose a research topic addressing any of the substantive areas covered in this course. Students must provide a one-page description of their project, and generate a list of 12 bibliographic citations representing their research area. This assignment will count for 20% of your final grade.

B) Summary and Critique of the Literature: Using the Social Science Citation Index, students will identify the five most cited items in their bibliography. Students also will

select two additional items from their list – selections driven solely by the student’s intellectual tastes. With these seven items in hand, students must a)read the materials, b)summarize the writings’ collective contribution to the literature, and c)forward two weaknesses of this literature. (Obviously, if you have a list of books, we will negotiate the number of things that you read.) Taken as a whole, what do these writings say about the current state of sociological knowledge on your topic? What are the issues and controversies introduced by these materials? What questions do the articles/books pose for the topic you are planning to research? What questions/issues are currently missing from discourse in your field?

This paper should be 6-8 pages in length. It will count for 20% of your final grade.

C) Research Proposal: Students have proposed a research topic and explored some relevant literature. In this assignment students must revisit and revise the one page description of their research topic, expanding it to something akin to an article introduction. Students also are required to discuss one possible method for studying the problem at hand. Extra credit will go to students who identify a viable funding source for their project.

This paper should be 6-8 pages in length. It will count for 20% of your final grade.

4) Attendance: I will view student input as vital to this course. Faithful attendance is a must, and students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to enter discussion. Attendance will constitute 5% of your final grade.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

MEETING 1: Introduction to the course

Discussion: Goals of the Course; Requirements; Scheduling issues.

Lecture: Intro to the Course: Thinking about the Social and the Cultural.

Lab: Executing a literature search.

Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Cerulo, K. 1998. Deciphering Violence: The Cognitive Structure of Right and Wrong. New York: Routledge.

Schudson, M. 1989. "How Culture Works: Perspectives from Media Studies on the Efficacy of Symbols." *Theory and Society* 18: 153-180.

Sewell, W. 1992. "A Theory of Structure, Duality, Agency, and Transformation." *American Journal of Sociology* 98: 1: 1-29.

Spillman, L. 1995. "Culture, Social Structure, and Discursive Fields" *Current Perspectives In Social Theory* 15: 129-154.

## SOCIAL INTERACTION AT THE MICRO LEVEL

MEETING 2: Glances, Stances, Expressions, and Personal Space.

Assignment: Goffman, E. 1963. "Chapter 6: Face Engagements." pp. 83-111 in *Behavior in Public Places* New York: Free Press.

Hall, E. T. 1966. *The Hidden Dimension* Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday. Chapters 5 (pp. 51-60) and 10 (pp. 113-125). (You might want to skim chapters 11-12).

Babrow, A. S. 1998. "Colloquy: Developing Multiple-process Theories of Communication." *Human Communication Research* 25: 1: 152-155.

### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Al-Khawaja, J.M.A. 1997. "Clinical Descriptions of Children's Anxiety During the Gulf War." *Psychological Reports* 80: June: 733-734.

Argyle, M. 1979. *Person to Person: Ways of Communicating* New York: Harper and Row.

Aronoff, J., Woike, B.A., and Hyman, L. M. 1992. "Which are the Stimuli in Facial Displays of Anger and Happiness?: Configurational Bases of Emotion Recognition." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 62: 1050-1066.

Birdwhistell, R. 1970. *Kinesics and Context* Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press.

Boyd, S.D. 1996. "What's A Body To Do?" *Public Management* 78: April: 25-27.

Bremner, J. and Roosenburg, H. 1991. *A Cultural History of Gesture* Ithaca: Cornell.

- Ekman, P. 1982 *Emotion in the Human Face* 2nd edit. New York: Cambridge.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1985. *Telling Lies* New York: W. W. Norton.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1993. "Facial Expression and Emotion. *American Psychologist* 48: 384-392.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1997. "Silver-Tongue Sleuthing." *American Legion Magazine* 142: 5: 32-33+.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1997. *What The Face Reveals: Basic and Applied Studies of Spontaneous Expression Using the Facial Action*. New York: Oxford.
- Feldman, R.S. 1992. *Applications of Nonverbal Behavioral Theories and Research*. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- Hall, E.T. 1959. *The Silent Language*. Greenwich, CT: Fawcett Publ.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1974. *Handbook for Proxemic Research* Washington, DC: Society for the Anthropology of Visual Communication.
- Jones, D. 1998. "Penetrating Gaze" *Nature* 392: April 23: 764.
- Klein, R.B. 1995. "Winning Cases with Body Language: Moving Toward Courtroom Success." *Trial* 31: July: 82-85.
- Knapp, M L., Cody, M.J., and Reardon, K.K. 1987. "Nonverbal Signals" in *Handbook of Communication Science* C. Berger and S. Chaffee (eds.) Newbury Park: Sage.: pp. 385-418.
- Mazur, A., Rosa, E., Faupel, M., Heller, J., Leen, R., and Thurman, B. 1980. "Physiological Aspects of Communications Via Mutual Gaze." *American Journal of Sociology* 86: 50-74.
- Meijer, M. 1991. *Emotional Meaning in Large Body Movements*. The Netherlands: Tilburg.
- Murzynski, J. and Degelman, D. 1996. "Body Language of Women and Judgments of Vulnerability to Sexual Assault." *Journal of Applied Social Psychology* 26: September: 1617-1626.
- Robinson, J. D. 1998. "Getting Down to Business: Talk, Gaze, and Body Orientation During Openings of Doctor-Patient Consultation." *Human Communication Research*
- Siminoff, L.A., Erlen, J.A., and Sereika, S. 1998. "Do Nurses Avoid AIDS Patients?" *AIDS Care* 10: 2: 147-163.

Smith, H.W. 1981. "Territorial Space on a Beach Revisited: A Cross National Exploration." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 44: 132-137.

Sommer, R. 1969. *Personal Space* Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Spangler, L. 1995. "Gender-Specific Nonverbal Communication Impact for Speaker Effectiveness." *Human Resource Development Quarterly* 6: 4: 409-419.

Spitz, H.H. 1997. *Nonconscious Movements: From Mystical Messages to Facilitated Communications*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

Sternberg, L. 1991. *Functional Communication*. New York: Springer-Verlag.

Zimmerman, J.D. 1996. "A Prosocial Media Strategy: Youth Against Violence: Choose To De-Fuse." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 66: 3: 354-362.

Zukin, S. 1991. *Landscapes of Power: From Detroit to Disney World*. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press.

Also see: the *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior*: Published 4 times per year since 1976.

### MEETING 3: Smell and Touch

This class will be divided into two sections: a lecture and demonstration led by the best smelling professor in the department AND a student led discussion on touch.

Lecture/Demonstration: The Sweet Smell of Success.

Student Led Discussion: Toward a Sociology of Touch

Assignment: Hall, E. T. 1966. *The Hidden Dimension* Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday. pp. 45-50.

Classen, C. 1993. *Worlds of Sense*. New York: Routledge. Chapter 2 (pp. 37-49).

Jones, S. E. 1994. *The Right Touch*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press. Pp. 17-22; 298-304.

### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Ackerman, Diane. 1990. *A Natural History of the Senses* New York: Vintage.

Burgoon, J. K., Walther, J. B., and E. J. Baesler. 1992. "Interpretations, Evaluations, and Consequences of Interpersonal Touch." *Human Communication Research* 19: 2: 237-263.

Corbin, A. 1986. *The Foul and the Fragrant: Odor and the French Social Imagination*. M. L. Kochan, R. Parker, and C. Prendergast, Trans. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Univ. Press.

Engen, T. 1991. *Odor, Sensation, and Memory* New York: Praeger.

Jones, S. E. 1993. *The Right Touch: Understanding and Using the Language of Physical Contact* Creskill, NJ: Hampton Press.

Jones, S. E. and A. E. Yarbrough. 1985. "A Naturalistic Study of the Meanings of Touch" *Communication Monographs* 52: 1: 19-56.

McDaniel, E. and Andersen, P. A. 1998. "Interpersonal Patterns of Interpersonal Tactile Communication: A Field Study" *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior* 22: 1: 59-75.

Montagu, A. 1986. *Touching* New York: Harper and Rowe.

Schiff, W. 1982. *Tactual Perception: A Sourcebook*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

### MEETING 4: Patterns of Talk.

This class will be divided into two sections. First comes a lecture by your sweet-talkin' professor. This will be followed by a student led discussion.

Lecture: *Sociology of Conversation*

Student Led Discussion: *Talk and Sociology*

Assignment: Goffman, E. 1981. *Forms of Talk* Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press: Chapter 1.

Eliasoph, N. 1996. "Making A Fragile Public: A Talk-Centered Study of Citizenship and Power." *Sociological Theory* 14: 3: 262-289. (Note: The paper we are discussing was the 1998 ASA Culture Section Award Winner for the Best Article.)

### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Austin, J. L. 1962. *How To Do Things with Words* New York: Oxford Univ. Press.

Boden, D. 1994. *The Business of Talk: Organizations in Action*. Cambridge, England: Polity Press.

Boden, D. and D. Zimmerman. 1991. *Talk and Social Structure* Berkeley: Univ. of Cal. Press.

Braithwaite, C. A. 1997. "Blood Money: The Routine Violation of Conversational Rules." *Communication Reports* 10: 1: 63-73.

Capella, J. 1987. "Interpersonal Communication: Definitions and Fundamental Questions." in *Handbook of Communication Science* C. Berger and S. Chaffee (eds.) Newbury Park: Sage.: 184-238.

Cicourel, A. 1976. *The Social Organization of Juvenile Justice* London: Heinemann Educ.: pp. 111-130.

Coupland, N. and Jaworski, A. 1997. "Relevance, Accomodation, and Conversation: Modeling the Social Dimension of Communication." *Multilingua* 16: 2-3: 233-258.

Cushing, P. J. 1996. "Gendered Conversational Rituals on the Internet: An Effective Voice Is Based on More than Simply What One Is Saying." *Anthropologica* 38: 1: 47-80.

Duncan, S. Jr. 1972. "Some Signals and Rules for Taking Speaking Turns in Conversations." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 23: 2: 283-292.

Eder, D. and Enke, J. L. 1991. "The Structure of Gossip: Opportunities and Constraints." *American Sociological Review* 56: 4: 494-508.

Eliasoph, N. 1998. *Avoiding Politics: How Americans Produce Apathy in Everyday Life*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Gamson, W. 1992. *Talking Politics*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Jaworski, A. 1992. *The Power of Silence* Newbury Park: Sage.

Kim, M. and Aune, K. S. 1997. ""The Effects of Psychological Gender Orientations on the Perceived Salience of Conversational Restraints." *Sex Roles* 37: 11-12: 935-953.

Kollock, P., Blumstein, P., and Schwartz, P. 1985. "Sex and Power in Interaction: Conversational Privileges and Duties." *American Sociological Review* 50: 34-46.



Lichterman, P. 1996. *The Search for Political Community*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Marche, T. and Peterson, C. 1993. "The Development and Sex Related Use of Interruption Behavior." *Human Communication Research* 19: 3: 388-408.

Meltzer, Morris, and Hayes. 1971. "Interruption Outcomes and Vocal Amplification." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 18: 3: 392-402.

Pistrang, N., Barker, C., and Rutter, C. 1997. "Social Support As Conversation: Analyzing Breast Cancer Patients' Interactions With Their Partners." *Social Science and Medicine* 45: 5: 773-782.

Rogers, D. B. and Schumacher, A. 1983. "Effects of Individual Differences on Dyadic Conversational Strategies." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 45: 700-705.

Searle, J. R. 1965. "What Is a Speech Act?" in M. Black (ed.) *Philosophy In America* Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press. PP. 221-239.

Schegloff, E. 1997. "Narrative Analysis" Thirty Years Later. *Journal of Narrative and Life History* 7: 1-4: 97-106.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1997. "Whose Text? Whose Context?" *Discourse and Society* 8: 2: 165-187.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. "Conversation Analysis and Socially Shared Cognition" in *Perspectives on Socially Shared Cognition* L. Resnick, J. Levine, and S. Teasley (eds.) Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1968. "Sequencing in Conversational Openings." *American Anthropologist* 70: 1075-1095.

Tannen, D. 1998. *The Argument Culture: From Debate to Dialogue*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1994a. *Gender and Discourse*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press

\_\_\_\_\_. 1994b. *Talking From 9 to 5: How Women's and Men's Conversational Styles Affect Who Gets Heard, Who Gets Credit, and What Gets Done at Work*. New York: W. Morrow.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1990. *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation* Boston: Wm. E. Morrow and Co.

Trimboli, C., and Walker, M. B. 1982. "Smooth Transitions in Conversational Turn-taking: Implication for Theory." *Journal of Social Psychology* 117: 305-306

MEETING 5: This week, I am scheduling individual appointments with each member of the class. During this time, we will discuss your ideas for a research paper.

#### MEETINGS 6: Class Presentations of Research Abstracts

Students will prepare a short presentation of their proposed research topics. Class members should be prepared to offer constructive feedback on each proposal, helping presenters to limit, focus, or strengthen their topics. Then ...

Assignment A (Abstract-Biblio) is due at or before Meeting 6.

#### SOCIAL INTERACTION AT THE MACRO-LEVEL

##### MEETING 7: The Basic Elements of Symbolic Meaning.

In today's class, we discuss some of the concepts that will help us decipher symbolic communication and social interaction at the macro level. In particular, we will explore denotative versus connotative meaning, syntagmatic structure, and symbolic codes.

Lecture A: Symbol Systems – basic terminology and concepts

Lecture B: The Syntactic Structure of Music

Student Led Discussion: Language and Art Codes

Assignment: Bernstein, B. 1971. *Class, Codes, and Control* London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. Chapter 8.

Cerulo, K. A. 1995. *Identity Designs* (ASA Rose Book Series) New Brunswick, NJ: RU Press -- pp. 35-46: and pp. 171-178

Student Presenters, please read:

Bergesen, A., and A. Jones. 1992. "Decoding the Syntax of Modern Dance." Pp. 169-181 in *Vocabularies of Public Life*, R. Wuthnow edit. London: Routledge

Bergesen, A. 1992. "A Theory of Pictorial Discourse." Pp. 158-168 in *Vocabularies of Public Life* R. Wuthnow edit. London: Routledge

#### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Barthes, R. 1977. *Image-Music-Text: Essays Selected and Translated by S. Heath*. Glasgow: Fontana Collins.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1985. *The Responsibility of Forms* New York: Hill and Wang. Chapter 1.

Bergesen, A. 1984. "The Semantic Equation: A Theory of the Social Origins of Art Styles." in R. Collins (ed.) *Sociological Theory* San Francisco: Josey Bass. pp. 187-221.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1979. "Spirituals, Jazz, Blues, and Folk Music." pp. 333-350 in R. Wuthnow (ed.) *The Religious Dimension*. New York: Academic Press.

Corner, J. 1986. "Codes and Cultural Analysis." in *Media, Culture, and Society* R. Collins, J. Curran, N. Garnham, P. Scannell, P. Schlesinger, and C. Sparks (eds.) London: Sage. pp. 49-62.

Douglas, M. 1975. *Implicit Meanings* London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1970. *Natural Symbols* New York: Pantheon. Chapter 3.

Eco, U. 1976. *Theory of Semiotics*. Bloomington, IN: University of Indiana press.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1985. "How Culture Conditions the Colors We See." Pp. 157-175 in (M. Blonsky, ed.) *On Signs*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Press.

Giles, H. and J. M. Wiemann. 1987. "Language, Social Comparison, and Power" in *The Handbook of Communication Science* C. Berger and S. Chaffee (eds.) Newbury Park: Sage. pp. 350-384.

Gombrich, E. H. 1960. *Art and Illusion: A Study in the Psychology of Pictorial Representation*. New York: Phaidon.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1981. "Image and Code: Scope and Limits of Convention in Pictorial Representation." in W. Steiner (ed.) *Image and Code*. Ann Arbor: Univ. of Michigan Press.

Hervey, S. 1982. *Semiotic Perspectives* New York: Free Press.

Hodge, R. and G. Kress. 1988. *Social Semiotics* Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press. Chapters 1 and 4.

Jepperson, R. L. and Swidler, A. 1994. "What Properties of Culture Should We Measure?" *Poetics* 22: 359-371.

*Language In Culture and Society* 1964. D. Hymes (ed.). New York: Harper and Row.

Mohr, J. 1998. "Measuring Meaning Structures" *Annual Review of Sociology* 24: 345-370.

Sapir, E. 1949. *Selected Writings in Culture, Language, and Personality* Berkeley: Univ. of California Press.

de Saussure, F. 1959. *Course in General Linguistics* New York: Philosophical Library. Chapters 1-3.

#### MEETING 8: National Symbol Systems: Identity Designs

In today's class, we will explore the links between social structural dimensions and symbolic content and form. Further, we will explore the processes by which the meaning of certain symbols becomes institutionalized.

Assignment: Cerulo, K. A. 1995. *Identity Designs* (ASA Rose Book Series) New Brunswick, NJ: RU Press: Introduction, Chapter 4 or 5, and Chapter 6.

#### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Agulhon, M. 1981. *Marianne Into Battle* Trans. J. Lloyd. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Anderson, B. 1983. *Imagined Communities* London: Vernon.

Armstrong, J. A. 1982. *Nations Before Nationalism*. Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press.

Balibar, E. and Wallerstein, I. 1991. *Race, Nation, and Class: Ambiguous Identities*. London: Verso.

- Beaune, C. 1991. *The Birth of an Ideology: Myths and Symbols of Nation in Late-Medieval France*, Transl. SR Huston. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press.
- Berezin, M. forthcoming. *Communities of Feeling: Culture, Politics, and Identity in Fascist Italy*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press.
- Bergesen, A. 1977. "Political Witch Hunts: The Sacred and the Subversive in Cross National Perspective." *American Sociological Review* 42: 2: 220-233.
- Birnbaum, P. 1988. *States and Collective Action: The European Experience*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.
- Bloom, W. 1990. *Personal Identity, National Identity and International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.
- Boli-Bennett, J. 1979. "Ideology of Expanding State Authority in National Constitutions" in *National Development and the World-System* J. Meyer and M. Hannon (eds.) Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1989. *New Citizens for a New Society: The Institutional Origins of Mass Schooling in Sweden*. New York: Pergamon Press.
- Brubaker, R. 1992. *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.
- Calhoun, C. 1993. "Nationalism and Identity" *Annual Review of Sociology* 19: 211-239.
- Cohen, AP. 1986. *Symbolizing Boundaries: Identity and Diversity in British Cultures*. Manchester.
- Durkheim, E. 1915. *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life* Trans. by J. W. Swain. New York: Free Press. pp. 121-182; 194-272.
- Fine, G. 1996. "Reputational Entrepreneurs and the Memory of Incompetence: Melting Supporters, Partisan Warriors, and Images of President Harding." *American Journal of Sociology* 101: 5: 1159-1193.
- Firth, R. 1973. *Symbols: Public and Private* Boston: Allen and Unwin.
- Gellner, E. 1983. *Nations and Nationalism*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press.
- Giddens, A. 1984. *The Nation State and Violence*. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press.
- Gillis, J. 1994. *Commemorations: The Politics of National Identity*. Princeton: Princeton Univ. Press.

Greenfield, L. 1992. *Nationalism: Five Roads To Modernity*. Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press.

Hobsbaum, E. 1992. *Nations and Nationalisms Since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality* 2nd edit. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Hobsbawm, E and Ranger, T. 1983. *The Invention of Tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Hutchinson, J and Smith, AD. 1994. *Nationalism*. New York: Oxford.

Johnston, H. 1991. *Tales of Nationalism: Catalonia, 1939-1979*. New Brunswick: Rutgers Univ. Press.

Kubik, J. 1994. *The Power of Symbols Against the Symbols of Power: The Rise of Solidarity and the Fall of State Socialism in Poland*. Univ. Park: Pennsylvania State Univ. Press.

Lane, C. 1981. *The Rites of Rulers: Rituals In Industrial Societies* Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Merritt, R. 1966. *Symbols of American Community 1735-1775* New Haven: Yale University Press.

Mukerji, C. 1998. *Territorial Ambitions and the Gardens of Versailles*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Sahlins, P. 1989. *Boundaries: The Making of France and Spain in the Pyrénées*. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press.

Schwartz, B. 1996. "Memory as a Cultural System: Abraham Lincoln in World War II." *American Sociological Review* 61: 5: 908-927.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. Mourning and the making of a sacred symbol: Durkheim and the Lincoln assassination. *Social Forces* 70: 2: 343-364.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1990. *George Washington: The Making of an American Symbol* Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press.

Smith, A. 1986. *The Ethnic Origins of Nations* Oxford: Basil Blackwell.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1991. *National Identity*. Reno: Univ. of Nevada Press.

Soysal, YN. 1994. *Limits of Citizenship: Migrants and Postnational Membership in Europe*. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press.

Spillman, L. 1997. *Nation and Commemoration: National Identities in the United States and Australia*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1994. Imagining community and hoping for recognition: bicentennial celebrations in 1976 and 1988. *Qualitative Sociology* 17: 1: 3-28.

Wagner-Pacifici, R. and Schwartz, B. 1991. "The Vietnam Veterans Memorial: Commemorating a Difficult Past." *American Journal of Sociology* 97: 2: 376-420.

Wuthnow, R. 1980. "World Order and Religious Movements" in *Studies of the Modern World-System* A. Bergesen (ed.) New York: Academic Press.

Zerubavel, Y. 1995. *Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the Remaking of Israeli National Tradition*. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago.

Cut Loose -- Spring Break!!!!

MEETING 9: Social Structure and Symbolic Interaction.

Today's class extends last lecture's focus. We continue to examine various ways in which certain social locations and/or certain social structural arrangements can influence an actor's choice of communicative actions and symbolic production. This week, we will address the selection of a somewhat "deviant" strategy of action—innovation.

Lecture: Network Location and Innovation

Student Led Discussion: The Social Structure of Innovation

Assignment: Rogers, M. 1959. "The Batignolles Group: Creators of Impressionism." in *The Sociology of Art and Literature: A Reader* M. Albrecht, J. Barnett, and M. Griff (eds.). New York: Praeger.

Presenters read all articles; class members, choose any one.

Crane, D. 1997. "Globalization, Organizational Size, and Innovation in the French Luxury Fashion Industry: production of Culture Theory Revisited." *Poetics* 24: 6: 393-414.

Grattet, R., Jeness, V., and Curry, T. R. 1998. "The Homogenization and Differentiation of Hate Crime Law in the United States, 1978 to 1995: Innovation and Diffusion in the Criminalization of Bigotry." *American Sociological Review* 63: 2: 286-307.

Liebersohn, S. and Mikelson, K. S. 1995. "Distinctive African American Names: An Experimental, Historical, and Linguistic Analysis of Innovation." *American Sociological Review* 60: 928-946.

#### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Bonacich, P. 1990. "Communication Dilemmas in Social Networks: An Experimental Study." *American Sociological Review* 55: 3: 448-459.

Burt, R. 1987. "Social Contagion and Innovation: Cohesion vs. Structural Equivalence." *American Journal of Sociology* 92: 6: 1287-1335.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1982. *Toward A Structural Theory of Action: Network Models of Social Structure* New York: Academic Press.

Carley, K. M. 1991. "A Theory of Group Stability." *American Sociological Review* 56: 331-354.

Cerulo, K. 1990. "To Err Is Social: Network Prominence and Its Effects on Self-Estimation." *Sociological Forum* 5: 4: 619-134

Coleman, J.S., Katz, E., and Menzel, H. 1966. *Medical Innovation*. New York: Bobbs-Merrill.

Granovetter, M. 1973. "The Strength of Weak Ties." *American Journal of Sociology* 78: 6: 1360-1380.

Leavitt, P. 1951. "Some Effects of Certain Communication Patterns on Group Performance." *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology* 46: 38-50.

Rogers, E. 1995. *The Diffusion of Innovations*. 4th edit. New York: Free Press.

Ruane, J. Cerulo, K. and Gerson, J. 1995. "Professional Deceit: Normal Lying in an Occupational Setting." *Sociological Focus* 27: 2: 91-109.

Velente, T.W. 1995. *Network Models and the Diffusion of Innovations*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press.

Wellman, B. 1983. "Network Analysis: Some Basic Principles." in R. Collins (ed.) *Sociological Theory* San Francisco: Jossey Bass. pp. 155-200.



## MEETING 10: Individual Meetings

Our regular class meeting will be cancelled. In its place, I will schedule individual meetings with those students who want them. In these meetings, we will discuss your progress on the literature review/critique assignment.

Assignment B (Lit Review/Critique) is due at or before Meeting 11.

## MEETING 11: Creating Communication Effectiveness

This class will be divided into two parts: a lecture and a student led discussion.

Lecture: The Functions of Distortion  
Student Led Discussion: Reception Theory

Assignment: Cerulo, K. 1988. "What's Wrong With This Picture?" *Communication Research* 15: 1: 93-101.

Presenters read all articles; class members, choose any two.

Cerulo, K. under review. "Reading Between the Lines: Social Patterns in Audience Elaborations of Violent News Leads." *Sociological Forum*.

Griswold, Wendy. 1987. "The Fabrication of Meaning: Literary Interpretation in the United States, Great Britain, and the West Indies." *American Journal of Sociology* 92: 5: 1077-1117.

Shively, JoEllen. 1992. "Cowboys and Indians: Perceptions of Western Films Among American Indians and Anglos." *American Sociological Review* 57: 725-734.

Steiner, L. 1988. "Oppositional Recoding As An Act of Resistance." *Critical Studies in Mass Communication* 5: 1: 1-15.

Bibliographic Reading in the Area (Part 1):

Altheide, D. 1976. *Creating Reality: How TV News Distorts Events* Beverly Hills: Sage.

Barthes, R. 1967. *Elements of Semiology* New York: Hill and Wang.

Berger, J. 1972. *Ways of Seeing*. New York: Viking.

Cerulo, K. 1995. "Designs on the White House: TV Ads, Message Structure, and Election Outcome." *Research In Political Sociology* vol 7: 63-88.

Ericson, R. V., Baranek, P. M., Chan, J. B. L. 1991. *Representing Order: Crime, Law, and Justice in the News Media* Toronto: Univ. of Toronto Press. Chapter 2.

Goffman, E. 1974. *Frame Analysis* New York: Harper Colophon.

Koffka, K. 1935. *Principles of Gestalt Psychology* New York: Harcourt, Brace and Co.

Kohler, W. 1947. *Gestalt Psychology* New York: Liveright.

Leach, E. 1976. *Culture and Communication* Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Parenti, M. 1986. *Inventing Reality: The Politics of Mass Media* New York: St. Martin's Press.

Tuchman, G. 1978. *Making News* New York: Free Press.

Bibliographic Reading in the Area (Part 2):

Ang, I. 1985. *Watching Dallas: Soap Opera and the Melodramatic Imagination*. London: Methuen.

Beisel, Nicola. 1993. "Morals Versus Art: Censorship, the Politics of Interpretation, and the Victorian Nude." *American Sociological Review* 58: 2: 145-162.

Bobo, J. 1988. "'The Color Purple': Black Women as Cultural Readers," pp. 90-109 in *Female Spectators*, E. D. Pribram (ed.). London: Verso

- DeVault, M. 1990. "Novel Readings: The Social Organization of Interpretation." *American Journal of Sociology* 95: 887-921.
- Fiske, J. 1984. "Popularity and Ideology: A Structural Reading of Dr. Who." in *Interpreting Television: Current Research Perspectives*, ed. W. D. Rowlands and B. Watkins, pp. 165-198. Beverly Hills: Sage.
- Fiske, John and Hartley, John. 1978. *Reading Television*. London: Methuen and Co..
- Iser, W. 1978. *The Act of Reading: A Theory of Aesthetic Response*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Jensen, K. 1986. *Making Sense of the News*. Aarhus: The University Press.
- Lamont, M. 1987. "How To Become a Dominant French Philosopher: The Case of Jaques Derrida." *American Journal of Sociology* 93: 3: 584-622.
- Liebes, T. and Katz, E. 1986. "Patterns of Involvement in Television Fiction: A Comparative Analysis." *European Journal of Communication* 1: 2: 151-172.
- Livingstone, S. and Lunt, P. 1994. *Talk On Television*. London: Routledge.
- Long, Elizabeth. 1986. "Women, Reading, and Central Authority: Some Implications of the Audience Perspective in Cultural Studies." *American Quarterly* 38: 591-612.
- Lull, J. 1995. *Media, Communication, and Culture*. New York: Columbia Univ. Press.
- Morley, D. 1980. *The Nationwide Audience*. London: British Film Institute.
- \_\_\_\_\_. 1992. *Television, Audiences, and Cultural Studies*. London: Routledge.
- Press, A. 1991. *Women Watching Television: Gender, Class, and Generation in the American Television Experience*. Philadelphia, PA: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press.
- Radway, J. 1984. *Reading the Romance*. Chapel Hill, NC: Univ. of North Carolina Press.
- Scheuer, J. 1995. "The Television Thing." *Dissent* 42: Summer: 299-301.
- Schlesinger, P., Dobash, R. E., Dobash, R. P., and Weaver, C. 1992. *Women Viewing Violence*. London: Bristish Film Institute.

This class will be divided into two parts: a student led discussion and a lecture.

Student Led Discussion: Thoughts on narrative analysis

Lecture: Narrative and Violence

Assignment: Dillon, M. 1996. "Cultural Differences in the Abortion Discourse of the Catholic Church: Evidence from Four Countries" *Sociology of Religion* 57: 1: 25-36.

Jacobs, R. N. 1996. "Civil Society and Crisis: Culture, Discourse, and the Rodney King Beating." *American Journal of Sociology* 101: 5: 1238-1272.

Zelizer, B. 1990. "Achieving Journalistic Authority Through Narrative." *Critical Studies In Mass Communication*: December.

Cerulo, K. 1998. *Deciphering Violence: The Cognitive Structure of Right and Wrong*. New York: Routledge: Chapter 3.

Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Bird, S. E. and Dardenne, R. W. 1988. "Myth, Chronicle, and Story: Exploring the Narrative Qualities of News" pp. 67-86 in J. W. Carey (ed.). *Media, Myths, and Narratives: Television and the Press*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.

Birdwhistell, R. A. 1970. "Sequence and Tempo" in *Kinesics and Context*. Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press.

Campbell, R. and Reeves, J. L. 1989. "TV News Narration And Common Sense: Updating the Soviet Threat" *Journal of Film and Video* 41: 2: 58-74.

Carey, J. W. 1975. "A Cultural Approach To Communication." *Communication* 2: 1: 1-22.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1983. "The Origins of Radical Discourse in Cultural Studies in the United States" *Journal of Communication* 33: 3: 311-313

Dillon, M. 1993. *Debating Divorce: Moral Conflict In Ireland*. Lexington: Univ. Press of Kentucky.

Dobkin, Bethany. 1992. "Paper Tigers and Video Postcards: The Rhetorical Dimensions of Narrative Form in ABC News Coverage of Terrorism." *Western Journal of Communication* 56: Spring: 143-160.

Eason, D. 1981. "Telling Stories and Making Sense." *Journal of Popular Culture* 15: 2: 125-129.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. "The New Journalism and the Image World: Two Modes of Organizing Experience" *Critical Studies In Mass Communication* 1: 1: 51-65.

Elliott, D. 1988. "Family Ties: A Case Study of Coverage of Family and Friends During the Hijacking of TWA Flight 847" *Political Communication and Persuasion* 5: 67-75.

Fisher, W. R. 1985. "The Narrative Paradigm: In The Beginning." *Journal of Communication* 35: 1: 74-89.

Fiske, J. 1984. "Popularity and Ideology: A Structural Reading of Dr. Who." in *Interpreting Television: Current Research Perspectives*, ed. W. D. Rowlands and B. Watkins, pp. 165-198. Beverly Hills: Sage.

Fiske, J. and Hartley, J. 1978. *Reading Television*. London: Methuen and Co.

Franzosi, R. 1998. "Narrative Analysis, or Why and How Sociologists Should Be Interested in Narrative." *Annual Review of Sociology* 24: 517-554.

Genette, G. 1980. *Narrative Discourse* trans. J. Lewing. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Univ. Press.

Gitlin, T. 1980. *The Whole World Is Watching*. Berkeley, CA: Free Press.

Griffin, L. 1993. "Narrative, Event-Structure Analysis, and Causal Interpretation in Historical Sociology." *American Journal of Sociology* 98: 1094-1133.

Gurevitch, M. and Kavoori, A. P. 1994. "Global Texts, Narrativity, and the Construction of Local and Global Meanings in Television News." *Journal of Narrative and Life History* 4: 1&2: 2-24.

Gurevitch, M. and Levy, M. 1986. "Information and Meaning: Audience Explanations of Social Issues" pp. 159-175 in J. Robinson and M. Levy (eds.) *The Main Source*. Beverly and London: Sage.

Hall, S., Chritchler, C., Jefferson, T., Clarke, J. and Roberts, B. 1981. "The Social Production of News: Mugging In The Media" pp. 335-367 in S. Cohen and J. Young (eds.) *The Manufacture of News: Social Problems, Deviance, and Mass Media*. London: Constable.

Hauser, G. 1986. *Introduction To Rhetorical Theory*. Philadelphia: Harper and Row.

Kellner, H. 1987. "Narrativity in History: Post-Structuralism and Since" pp 1-29 in *The Representation of Historical Events*. A.D. Momigliano (ed.) Middletown, CT: Wesleyan Univ. Press.

Lewis, J. 1994. "The Absence of Narrative: Boredom and the Residual Power of Television" *Journal of Narrative and Life History* 4: 1&2: 25-40.

Liebes, T. 1988. "Cultural Differences in the Re-Telling of Television Fiction" *Critical Studies in Mass Communication* 5: 277-292.

McKerrow, R. E. 1989. "Critical Rhetoric: Theory and Praxis." *Communication Monographs* 56: 2: 91-114.

Medhurst, M. J. and Benson, T. W. 1984. "Rhetorical Studies in a Media Age" in *Rhetorical Dimensions in Media*. M. J. Medhurst and T. W. Benson (eds.). pp. ix-xxiii. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall/Hunt.

Merleau-Ponty, M. 1962. *Phenomenology of Perception*. trans. Colin Smith. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Mohr, J. 1994. "Soldiers, Mothers, Tramps, and Others: Discourse Roles in the 1907 New York City Charity Directory." *Poetics* 22: 327-357.

Parenti, M. 1986. *Inventing Reality: The Politics of Mass Media*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Perelman, C. 1982. *The Realm of Rhetoric*. Notre Dame: Univ. of Notre Dame Press.

Ricoeur, P. 1981. *Hermeneutics and the Human Sciences*. trans. by J. B. Thompson. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1984. *Time and Narrative* vol. 1. trans. K. McLaughlin and D. Pellauer. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press.

Roeh, I. 1989. "Don't Confuse Me With The Facts: Story Telling In The News" *American Behavioral Scientist* 32: ?: 162-168.

Schegloff, E. 1997. "Narrative Analysis" Thirty Years Later. *Journal of Narrative and Life History* 7: 1-4: 97-106.

Schudson, M. 1982. "The Politics of Narrative Form: The Emergence of New Conventions In Print and Television" *Daedalus* 111: 4: 97-112.

Spillman, L. 1995. "Culture, Social Structure, and Discursive Fields" *Current Perspectives In Social Theory* 15: 129-154.

Sturges, P. J. 1992. *Narrativity: Theory and Practice*. Oxford: Clarendon.

Tomashevski, B. (1925) 1965. "Thematics." pp. 61-95 in E. T. Lemon and M. J. Reis (eds.) *Russian Formalist Criticism: Four Essays*. Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press.

Tompkins, P. K. 1982. *Communication In Action: An Introduction to Rhetoric and Communication*. Belmont: Wadsworth.

Toolan, M. J. 1988. *Narrative: A Critical Linguistic Introduction*. New York: Routledge.

Tuchman, G. 1978. *Making News: A Study in the Social Construction of Reality*. New York: Free Press.

Whately, R. 1963. *Elements of Rhetoric*. D. Ehninger (ed.). Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press.

Wuthnow, R. 1989. *Communities of Discourse: Ideology and Social Structure in the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and European Socialism*. Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press.

Wagner-Pacifici, R. 1994. *Discourse and Destruction: The City of Philadelphia versus MOVE*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

## TECHNOLOGICALLY MEDIATED INTERACTION

### MEETING 13: Technological Influence I

Today's class will be divided into two parts; a formal lecture and a student led discussion.

Lecture: New Communication Technologies: Pros and Cons

Student Led Discussion: Technology and the Self.

Assignment: McLuhan, M. 1964. *Understanding Media*. New York: McGraw Hill.  
Sections 1, 2, 9, 31.

Reeves, B. and Nass, C. 1996. *The Media Equation: How People Treat Computers, Television, and New Media Like Real People and Places*. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press: Section 1, 3, 4, 9, 14.

Turkle, S. 1995. "Multiple Subjectivity and Virtual Community at the End of the Freudian Century." *Sociological Inquiry* 67: 1: 72-84.

#### Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Altheide, DL. 1995. *An Ecology of Communication: Cultural Formats of Control*. Hawthorne: Aldine de Gruyter.

Beniger, J. 1986. *The Control Revolution* Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press.

Benjamin, W. 1969. "The Work of Art in the Mechanical Age of Reproduction" in *Illuminations* H. Arendt (edit.). trans. by H. Zohn. New York: Schocken. pp. 217-252.

Ellul, J. 1964. *The Technological Society* New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Escobar, A. 1994. "Welcome To Cyberia: Notes on the Anthropology of Cyberculture." *Current Anthropology* 35: 3: 211-231.

Ferraroti, F. 1988. *The End of Conversation: The Impact of Mass Media on Modern Society* New York: Greenwood.

Fisher, C. 1997. "Technology and Community: Historical Complexities." *Sociological Inquiry* 67: 1: 113-118.

Habermas, J. 1989. *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere* trans. by T. Burger. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Habermas, J. 1976. *Communication and the Evolution of Society* trans. T. McCarthy Boston: Beacon Press.

Hudson, S. 1998. "Re-Creational Television: The Paradox of Change and Continuity Within Stereotypical Iconography." *Sociological Inquiry* 68 2: 242-257.

Kubey, R. and M. Csikszentmihalyi. 1990. *Television and the Quality of Life* Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum. Chapters 1, 9. (and as desired)

Lebow, J. 1998. "Not Just Talk, Maybe Some Risk: The Therapeutic Potentials and Pitfalls of Computer-Mediated Conversation." *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy* 24: 2: 203-206.

Marcuse, H. 1964. *One-Dimensional Man* Boston: Beacon Press. Intro, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4.



Miller, J. K. and Gergen, K. J. 1998. "Life on the Line: the Therapeutic Potentials of Computer Mediated Conversation." *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy* 24: 2: 189-202.

Nass, C. and J. Steuer. 1993. "Voices, Boxes, and Sources of Messages." *Human Communication Research* 19: 4: 504-527.

Postman, N. 1992. "Chapters 1, 3, and 7" in *Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture To Technology*. New York: Knopf.

Schlesinger, P. 1993. "Wishful Thinking: Culture, Politics, Media, and Collective Identities in Europe." *Journal of Communication* 43: 2: 6-17.

Assignment C (Description/Methods) is due on or before Meeting 14

#### MEETING 14: Technological Influence II

Again, today's class will be divided into two sections. Each will be a student led discussion.

Student Led Discussion: Technology and Community

Student Led Discussion: New Conceptualizations

Assignment: Meyrowitz, J. 1996. "Shifting worlds of strangers: medium theory and changes in "them" versus "us". *Sociological Inquiry* vol. 67: 4. 59-71.

Mukerji, C. and Simon, B. 1998. "Out of the Limelight: Discredited Communities and Informal Communication on the Internet." *Sociological Inquiry* 68: 2: 258-273.

Cerulo, K. and Ruane, J. "Death Comes Alive: Technology and the Reconception of Death." *Science As Culture* 6: 28: 3: 444-466.

Calhoun, C. 1998. "Community Without propinquity Revisited: Communications Technology and the Transformation of the Urban Public Sphere." *Sociological Inquiry* 68: 3: 373-397.

Cerulo, K. and Ruane, J. 1998 "Coming Together New Taxonomies for the Analysis of Social Relations." *Sociological Inquiry* 68 3: 398-425.

Bibliographic Reading in the Area:

Anderson, B. 1983. *Imagined Communities* London: Verso.

Caughey, J. 1984. *Imaginary Social Worlds* Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press.

Beniger, J. 1987. "Personalization of Mass Media and the Growth of Pseudo Community." *Communication Research* 14: 3: 352-371.

Calhoun, C. 1991. "Indirect relationships and imagined communities: large-scale social integration and the transformation of everyday life." pp. 95-121 in *Social Theory for a Changing Society*, ed. P Bourdieu and JS Coleman, New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Cerulo, K., Ruane, J. and Chayko, M. 1990. "Technological Ties That Bind: Media Generated Primary Groups." *Communication Research* 19: 1: 109-129

Fiske, J. 1988. *Television Culture* New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Horton, D. and Wohl, R. 1956. "Mass Communication and Para-Social Interaction: Observations on Intimacy at a Distance." *Psychiatry* 19: 3: 215-229.

Katz, E. 1998. "Broadcasting Holidays." *Sociological Inquiry* vol. 68: 2: 230-241.

Lazarsfeld, P. and Merton, R. 1948. "Mass Communication, Popular Taste, and Organized Social Action." pp. 95-118 in L. Bryson (ed.), *The Communication of Ideas* New York: Harper and Brothers.

Marx, G.T. 1994. "Fragmentation and Cohesion in American Society" pp. 306-330 in R. Dynes and K. Tierney (eds.) *Disasters, Collective Behavior, and Social Organizations*. Wilmington; Univ. of Delaware Press.

Meyrowitz, J. 1986. *No Sense of Place*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1989. "The Generalized Elsewhere." *Critical Studies in Mass Communication* 6: 3: 323-334.

Morley, D and Robins, K. 1995. *Spaces of Identity: Global Media, Electronic Landscapes, and Cultural Boundaries*. London: Routledge.

Purcell, K. 1997. "Toward A Communication Dialectic: Embedded Technology and the Enhancement of Place." *Sociological Inquiry* vol. 67: 4. 101-112.

Steuer, J. 1992. Defining Virtual Reality: Dimensions Determining Telepresence. *Journal of Communication* 42: 4: 73-93.