

University of Sussex
Department of Anthropology
Reproduction, Self and Society

Anthropology 2nd year course, Autumn 2009-10

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Seminar tutors: Shelby Wigmore, Achim Roseman

Course coordinator: Grazia De Tommasi, C168, ext. 7185

Lectures will be held on Mondays from 2-4 in lecture theatre A001.

Seminars will take place in various groups and rooms on Thursdays: please check your timetable on Sussex Direct.

The Course

The study of human relatedness and kinship has been central to the history of British social anthropology. This second year course draws upon material from a wide range of ethnographic contexts to examine the ways in which societies organise and conceptualise human relationships. It is concerned with the transformation of social structures and processes as well as the connections between kin organisations and power in developing and post-industrial societies. The course considers both accepted and more novel ways in thinking about human kinship: how we become related through 'substance', emotion, place and technology, for example. It covers both historical ground as well as the contemporary debates in the study of human relationality.

The course is taught over the 9 weeks of the Autumn term. It consists of a weekly two hour lecture and two hour seminar. The lectures provide an overview of a topic and are usually accompanied by visual material. The issues raised in the lecture are discussed in greater detail and with reference to ethnographic material in the seminars.

Course Work: There is much writing on kinship and much to read in the form of monographs, review articles, special topic articles, edited volumes and so on. You are encouraged to go through as much of this literature on your own as possible. You will be expected to prepare for each seminar and will be asked to present your work either individually or in groups. You are encouraged to write essays on the seminar topics each week and discuss these with your tutor. They are not assessed but provide a good preparation for the exam later in the year.

Assessment: The course is assessed by an unseen exam held in the Summer term. Further information about the exam will be provided at the beginning of the Summer term. Please be sure to check your emails regularly and be in touch with your seminar tutors and course coordinator.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, a successful student should be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the ways in which ideas of relatedness are culturally constructed
- An ability to use anthropological methods in the analysis of kinship and other relations
- An appreciation of the ways in which concepts of kinship, family and relatedness relate to changing patterns of power and domination
- The ability to carry out basic research in anthropological themes
- The ability to present research findings in a clear and concise fashion

Course pack: Some of the essential readings are available in the form of a study pack, which can be purchased from the School Office at the start of the term.

Accessing articles using JSTOR All journal articles referenced on this reading list are available in hard copy at the Library or via the electronic journal archive 'JSTOR'. Students can access this on University managed PCs via <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/library/electronic/index.php>. After entering your username and password, click on 'Electronic Journals', then 'By Collection', then select 'JSTOR' and search the database for the article.

Key Books

Carsten, J. 2004. *After Kinship*. Cambridge: CUP.

Carsten, J., 2000, *Cultures of Relatedness*. Cambridge: CUP.

Franklin, S., and McKinnon, S., ed., 2004. *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies* Durham: Duke University Press.

Parkin, R. and L. Stone (eds) (2004) *Kinship and Family: An Anthropological Reader*. Oxford:Blackwell.

Stone, L. (ed) (2000) *New directions in anthropological kinship*. Oxford : Rowman & Littlefield.

General Background Readings

Collier, J. and S. Yanagisako (eds.) 1987. *Gender and Kinship: Essays towards a unified analysis*

Cornwall, A., and Lindisfarne, N., *Dislocating Masculinities*

Davis-Floyd, R.E. and C.F Sargent eds., 1997, *Childbirth and Authoritative Knowledge*

Edwards, J., et.al., 1993, *Technologies of Procreation*

Ginsburg, F & R.Rapp, 1995. *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*

Holy, L. 1996. *Anthropological Perspectives on Kinship*

MacCormack C. & M.Strathern, 1980, *Nature, Culture and Gender*

Moore, H. 1988, *Feminism and Anthropology*

Martin, E. 1987. *The Woman in the Body*

Ragone, H., and Winddance Twine, F., 2000, *Ideologies and Technologies of Motherhood*

Schneider, D., 1968, *American Kinship*

Schneider, D. 1984, *A Critique of the Study of Kinship*

Strathern, M.,1992. *Reproducing the Future: Anthropology, Kinship and the New Reproductive Technologies*.

Van Hollen, C., 2003 *Birth on the Threshold: Modernity and Birth in South India*.
Wade, P., 2002. *Race, Nature and Culture*.

Monographs

- Carsten, J. 1997, *The Heat of the Hearth*. Oxford : Clarendon Press.
Edwards, J., 2000, *Born and Bred*, Oxford : O.U.P.
Hutchinson, S. 1996. *Nuer Dilemmas: coping with money, war and the state*.
Berkeley: University of California Press.
Kanaaneh, R. 2003. *Birthing the Nation*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
Lamb, S., 2000 *White Saris and Sweet Mangoes: Aging, Gender and Body in India*
Berkeley: University of California Press.
Raheja, R and G.G Gold, 1994, *Listen to the Heron's Words, Reimagining Gender
and Kinship in North India. India*, Berkeley: University of California Press.
Ragone, H, 1995 *Surrogate Motherhood: Conception in the Heart*, Boulder:
Westview Press
Simpson, B., 1998. *Changing Families: An Ethnographic Approach to Divorce and
Separation*. Oxford : Berg
Shoshtak, M. 1990, *Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*, London : Allen
Lane.
Stack, C, 1974, *All Our Kin*, New York: Harper and Row.
Strathern, M, 1981, *Kinship at the Core: An Anthropology of Elmdon, a village in NW
Essex*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Weekly outline of topics

- Week 1: **Anthropology of Kinship**
 History and key concepts
- Week 2 **Biological Bases of Relatedness**
 A critical kinship perspective
- Week 3: **Reproducing Society**
 Gender, Birth and Power
- Week 4: **Politics of Descent and Marriage**
 Group membership, individual identity and social control
- Week 5: **Place and Belonging**
- Week 6: **Reproductive Technologies and Relatedness**
 Reshaping ideas of ‘natural’ conception
- Week 7 **Kinship, Family and the New Genetics**
- Week 8 **Adoption and Interpretations of Kinship**
 Working against ‘biology’ and technology?
- Week 9: **Lesbian/Gay Kinship**
 Challenging the assumptions of relatedness
- Week 10: **No Lecture / Mock Exam in Seminars**

Week 1: Anthropology of Kinship: History and Key Concepts

This lecture locates the study of human relationships in terms of the history and development of ideas and conceptual frameworks within anthropology. The readings below give you a sense of the centrality of 'kinship' within anthropological thinking over time.

Seminar Questions:

1. Why study Kinship?
2. The history of kinship studies within Anthropology
3. What is its relevance today?
4. Why is the notion of personhood central to kinship studies?

Key readings

- * Carsten, J., 2000. *Cultures of Relatedness* (Introduction), Cambridge: CUP.
- Peletz, M. (1995) Kinship Studies in Late Twentieth Century Anthropology. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 24:343-72.
- Holy, L. 1996. *Anthropological Perspectives on Kinship* (chaps on 'First Principles' and 'Kinship, Descent and Marriage').
- Franklin, Sarah, and Susan McKinnon (2000) New Directions in Kinship Study: A core concept revisited, *Current Anthropology* 41:275–279
- *Carsten, J., 2004. *After Kinship*. (chap. 4 The Person)

Monographs/ edited volumes

- Shoshtak, M., 1990. *The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman*
- Lamb, S., 2000. *White Saris and Sweet Mangoes: Ageing, Gender and Body in India*
- Carsten, Janet (1997) *The Heat of the Hearth: the Process of Kinship in a Malay Fishing Community*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Franklin, Sarah and Susan McKinnon (2001) *Relative Values: New Directions in Kinship Study*. Chapel Hill: Duke University Press.

Useful Background Reading

- Schneider, David. A Critique of the Study of Kinship. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P, 1984.
- _____. *American Kinship: A Cultural Account*. 2nd ed. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1980.
- Kuper, A. 1983, *Anthropologists and Anthropology* (esp. intro)
- Barnard, A. 2000. *History and Theory in Anthropology* (especially chap 3. on Changing perspectives on evolution)
- Sousa, P. 2003. The Fall of Kinship: Towards an Epidemiological Explanation, *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, Vol 3 (4).
- Goody, J., ed., 1974. *The Character of Kinship*
- Fox, R. 1967, *Kinship and Marriage*
- Spencer, P. 1965, *The Samburu*
- Fortes, M. *The Web of Kinship among the Tallensi*
- Fortes, M., 1969, *Kinship and the Social Order*.

Week 2: The Biological Bases of Human Relatedness: A Critical Kinship Perspective

Are human relations a cultural construction or are they fundamentally rooted in biology? To answer this question we draw on the classic debates between anthropologists Schneider, Gellner, Beattie and Needham. We explore the meaning and relevance of these debates to contemporary society in Britain, Europe and North America. Do these debates have any relevance to the ways in which family ties are being reconfigured today? To what extent are these ideas themselves being challenged through the studies on kinship processes in other parts of the world?

Seminar Questions:

1. How biologically based are human relationships?
2. Are family forms fixed or are they constantly emerging?
3. What alternative models exist for conceptualising kinship outside the Northern Euro-American context?

Useful background material: see short pieces by J.Beattie, D.Schneider and E.Gellner debating the 'nature of kinship' in the 1964/65 issues of the journal *Man* (predecessor of JRAI)

Key reading:

- *Bodenhorn, B., 2000, 'He Used to be my Relative': Exploring the Bases of Relatedness among Inupiat of Northern Alaska. In J.Carsten ed., *Cultures of Relatedness*
- *Simpson, B., 1994, 'Bringing the 'unclear' family in focus: divorce and remarrying in contemporary Britain. *Man*, 29, 4
- Carsten, Janet (1995) The substance of kinship and the heat of the hearth: feeding, personhood and relatedness among Malays in Pulau Langkawi, *American Ethnologist* 22 (2).
- Schneider, D. 1984, *A Critique of the Study of Kinship*.
- *Weston, Kath (2001) Kinship, Controversy, and the Sharing of Substance: The Race/Class Politics of Blood Transfusion. In: *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies*, S. Franklin and S. McKinnon (eds). Chapel Hill: Duke.

Essential Monographs:

- Schneider, D., 1968, *American Kinship*
- Hutchinson, S., 1996. *Nuer Dilemmas: coping with money, war and the state*
- Stack, C., 1974, *All Our Kin: Strategies for Survival in a Black Community*
- Edwards, J., 2001, *Born and Bred*
- Simpson, B., 1998. *Changing Families: An Ethnographic Approach to Divorce and Separation*
- Wade, P. (2002) *Race, nature and culture: an anthropological perspective*. London: Pluto Press.

Additional reading:

- Hutchinson, Sharon (2000) Identity and Substance: the Broadening Bases of Relatedness among the Nuer of Southern Sudan. In J. Carsten (ed) *Cultures of Relatedness*, Cambridge:CUP.
- Good, A., 2000. Power and Fertility: Divine Kinship in South India. In M.Bock and A. Rao eds., *Culture, Creation and Procreation: concepts of kinship in South Asian practice*

- Baumann, G., 1995. Managing a Polyethnic Mileau: Kinship and Interaction in a London suburb. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (4)
- Bouquet, M. 1993, *Reclaiming English Kinship*
- Collier, J & S. Yanagisako, 1987, *Gender and Kinship: Essays towards a United Analysis* (intro, chps 1 and by Lindenbaum)
- Shaw, A., 2000, *Kinship and Continuity: Pakistani Families in Britain*
- Lambert, H., 2000. Sentiment and Substance in North Indian Forms of Relatedness. In J. Carsten ed. *Cultures of Relatedness*.
- Bock, M., and Rao, A., 2000. Indigenous Models and Kinship Theory: an introduction to a South Asian perspective. In M. Bock and A. Rao eds., *Culture, Creation and Procreation*
- Strathern, M. 1992, *After Nature: English Kinship in the late 20th century* (chap. 1)
- Strathern, M. 1981, *Kinship at the Core: An Anthropology of Elmdon, a Village in NW Essex*
- Anderson-Levy, Lisa M. (2000) Colliding/ Colluding Identities: Race, Class, and Gender in Jamaican Family Systems. In L. Stone, *New Directions in Anthropological Kinship*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield.

Week 3: Reproducing Society: Gender, Birth and Power

This week we see how childbirth can be a highly politicised event both at the local level of the household and community and more globally, at the national level, for example. We learn how the different conceptualisations of birth and birthing processes are often linked to the structures of power and principles of social ordering in society, especially reflected in gender ideologies and relations. We also see that power does not always flow from an association with childbirth, even if you have intimate or expert knowledge of such processes. At a wider level, women's bodies are seen to serve as powerful symbols of nation-hood and national identity and the control over their childbearing becomes highly politicised accordingly. In highly populated countries especially, a control over women's reproductive power becomes connected with ideas of economic development, modernity and progress. In times of conflict: class, ethnic, racial, caste, the quality and quantity of children becomes an area of intense familial and national control and controversy.

Seminar questions:

1. How is childbirth linked to modernity?
2. To what extent are women more culturally associated with their physiology than men?
3. Are men powerless in the domain of childbearing?
4. Do all birth experts: midwives and obstetricians, exercise equal authority ?
5. What is the role of childbirth in symbolising economic development, and in the politics of social conflict?

Key reading:

- *Jordan, B., 1997, Authoritative Knowledge and its Construction. In, In Davis-Floyd, R.E. and C.F Sargent eds., 1997, *Childbirth and Authoritative Knowledge*
- Jeffrey, R. and Jeffrey, P. 1993, Traditional Birth Attendants in Rural North India: The Social Organisation of Childbearing. In, Lindenbaum, S., and Lock, M., *Knowledge, Power and Practice: The Anthropology of medicine and Everyday Life*
- Browner, C., Press, N., 1997. The Production of Authoritative Knowledge in American prenatal care. In Davis-Floyd, R.E. and C.F Sargent eds., 1997, *Childbirth and Authoritative Knowledge*
- Unnithan-Kumar, M., 2002, Midwives among Others: Knowledges of Healing and the Politics of Emotions in Rajasthan, Northwest India. In, Rozario, S., and Samuel, G., *Daughters of Hariti*
- *Greenhalgh, S., 2005. Globalisation and Population Governance in China. In A.Ong and S.Collier eds., *Global Assemblages*

Monographs/ edited volumes:

- Kanaanah, R. 2002. *Birthing the Nation: Strategies of Palestinian Women in Israel*
- Van Hollen, C., 2003 *Birth on the Threshold: Modernity and Birth in South India*
- Moore, H., 1988. *Space, Text and Gender*
- Martin, E., 1987, *The Woman in the Body: A Cultural Analysis of Reproduction*
- Ram, K., and M.Jolly eds., 1998. *Maternities and Modernities*

Additional Reading:

- Anagost, A, 1995. A Surfeit of Bodies: Population and the Rationality of the State. In Ginsburg, F., and Rapp, R., *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*
- Unnithan-Kumar, M., 2004. Conception Technologies, Local Healers and Negotiations around Childbearing in Rajasthan. In M.Unnithan-Kumar ed.,

- Reproductive Agency, Medicine and the State*
- Van Hollen, C., 2002. In, Rozario, S., and Samuel, G., *Daughters of Hariti*
- Das, V., National Honour and Practical Kinship: unwanted women and children. In
Ginsburg, F., and Rapp, R., eds., *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global
Politics of Reproduction*.
- Fraser, G., 1995, Modern Bodies, Modern Minds: Midwifery and Reproductive
Change in an African American Community. In Ginsburg, F. & Rapp, R.
Conceiving the New World Order
- Hewlett, B., 1991, *Intimate Fathers: The Nature and Context of Aka Pygmy Paternal
Infant Care*
- Jeffrey, R.P. .Jeffrey and A.Lyon, 1989 *Labour Pains and Labour Power: Women and
Childbearing in India*
- Patel, T., 1994. *Fertility Behaviour: Population and Society in Rajasthan*.
- Jordan, B., 1983, *Childbirth in Four Cultures*
- Ortner, S., 1974. Female is to Male as Nature is to Culture. In Rosaldo and
L.Lamphere ed., *Women, Culture and Society*
- MacCormack C. & M.Strathern, 1980, *Nature, Culture and Gender* (esp. articles by
Goodale, Strathern)
- Laderman, C., 1983, *Wives and Midwives: Childbirth and Nutrition in Rural
Malaysia*
- Nourse, J., 1999 *Conceiving Spirits: Birth rituals and Contested Identities among
Lauje of Indonesia*
- Penn Handwerker, W. ed., 1990, *Birth and Power: Social Change and the Politics of
Reproduction*
- Rozario, S., 2002, The Healer on the Margins: The Dai in Rural Bangladesh. In.,
Rozario, S., and Samuel, G., *Daughters of Hariti: Childbirth and Female Healers
in South and Southeast Asia*
- Stivens, M., 1998, Modernising the Malay Mother. In, Ram, K. M. Jolly, 1998.
Maternities and Modernities

Week 4: The Politics of Descent and Marriage: Group membership, individual identity and social control

Kinship in most societies is tangibly experienced in the form of rules of descent wherein individual and group identity, political affiliation and rights to property are passed down over generations. Both descent and marriage have each been regarded within classic anthropology as providing the means for social cohesion especially in pre-state or stateless societies. This week we look at some of the classic debates around descent and marriage as a means of understanding how early anthropologists understood the ways in which societies functioned and maintained social equilibrium. We will question whether we need to consider these two institutions separately. We will also consider lineage and marriage based communities as part of global systems (rather than the isolated groups as presented in the early studies) and reflect on the implications of global processes for how kinship is locally constructed. Contrary to the previous studies we will focus on what it means to be an individual living in such kin based groups.

Seminar Questions:

1. What is the meaning of descent group membership for individual men and women and how does it change?
2. Is marriage exchange the basis of human society? In what ways does it 'structure' society?
3. What do marriage payments such as dowry tell us about the nature of gender relations?

Key reading:

- Astuti, R., 2000, Kindreds and Descent Groups: new perspectives from Madagascar. In, J.Carsten ed., *Cultures of Relatedness*
- *Hutchinson, S., 2000. The Broadening Bases of Relatedness among the Nuer of Southern Sudan. In J. Carsten ed., *Cultures of Relatedness*
- Menon, S. 1996. Male Authority and Female Autonomy: A Study of the Matrilineal Nayars of Kerala, S.India, in M.J Maynes, A. Waltner, B.Soland, U.Strasser (eds.), *Gender, Kinship and Power*
- * Raheja, G. 1996. Kinship, Gender and Women's Speech Practices in Rural North India, in M.J Maynes, A.Waltner, B.Soland, U.Strasser (eds.), *Gender, Kinship and Power*
- *Unnithan-Kumar, M., 1997, Girasia Brideprice and the Politics of Marriage Payments, chap.7, *Identity, Gender and Poverty*

Monographs:

- Hutchinson, S., 1996. *Nuer Dilemmas: coping with money, war and the state*
- Abu-Lughod, L. 1986, *Veiled Sentiments*
- Lan, D. 1985, *Guns and Rain*
- Raheja, G. & G.Gold, 1994. *Listen to the Heron's Words*
- Unnithan-Kumar, M., 1997. *Identity, Gender and Poverty*

Additional reading:

- Sharma, U. 1984, Dowry in India: Its Consequences for Women, in R. Hirschon (ed.), *Women and Property, Women as Property*
- Fruzzetti, L., 1982. *The Gift of the Virgin*
- Parry, J. 1979, *Caste and Kinship in Kangra*

Basu, S ed., 2005. *Dowry and Inheritance in India* (Issues in Contemporary Indian Feminism). London: Zed

- Borneman, John. 1996. Until Death Do Us Part: Marriage/Death in Anthropological Discourse, *American Ethnologist* 23.2, see also in the same issue: Yanagisako and Collier, 'Comments on "Until Death Do Us Part"; John Borneman, Reply.
- Cordell, L & S.Beckerman (eds), 1980, *The Versatility of Kinship* (articles by Poewe and Colson on Matriliney)
- Comaroff, J. 1980, *The Meaning of Marriage Payments* (intro and chapter by Parkin)
- Goddard, V. 1987. Honour and Shame: the control of women's sexuality and group identity in Naples in P.Caplan ed., *The Cultural Construction of Sexuality*
- Goody, J., 1973, Bridewealth and Dowry in Africa and Eurasia. In, Goody, J. & S.Tambiah, *Bridewealth and Dowry*
- Goody, J., 1990, *The Oriental, The Ancient and the Primitive: Systems of Marriage and the Family in Pre-industrial Societies of Eurasia.*
- Levi Strauss, C. 1969, *The Elementary Structures of Kinship* (selected bits on alliance in sections1, part 1,2)
- Schneider, D., 1962, Introduction, Schneider, D and K.Gough eds., *Matrilineal Kinship*
- Strathern, M. 1984, Subject or Object: Women and the Circulation of Valuables, in R. Hirschon (ed.), *Women and Property, Women as Property*

Week 5: Place-making and belonging: kinship, territory and ancestral landscapes.

Evans-Pritchard discusses kinship amongst the Nuer as a 'socio-spatial' phenomenon. This week we examine the often neglected 'spatial' aspect of kinship, drawing on a wide range of ethnographic contexts. Far from being the backdrop to human activity, we will consider how places are socially constructed to 'root' ties of relatedness. Covering ancestral landscapes, homelands and memory we will explore how kinship and belonging is expressed and created through narratives of place. We will end by considering the significance of these issues in relation to contemporary debates over land rights.

Seminar Questions

1. To what extent are identities and bonds of relatedness formed within landscapes?
2. How are spaces transformed into places that tie communities together?
3. How does Ingold's proposed switch from a 'geneological' to 'relational' model affect our understanding of kinship, memory and territory?
4. Why might understanding the relationship between land and identity be important for contemporary social debates?

Key Readings.

- Basu, P 2007. *Highland Homecoming: Genealogy and Heritage-Tourism in the Scottish Diaspora*. London: Routledge. Ch8.
- *Riaño-Alcalá, P. 2002. 'Remembering Place: memory and Violence in Medellín, Colombia.'. *Journal of Latin American Anthropology*. 7 (1). p276-309.
- Ingold, T 2000. Ch 8: Ancestry, Generation, Substance, Memory, Land. In *The perception of the Environment: Essays on livelihood, Dwelling and Skill*. London: Routledge.
- *Morphy, H 1995. 'Landscape and the Reproduction of the Ancestral Past'. In *The Anthropology of landscape: Perspectives on place and space*. E. Hirsch and M.O'Hanion (ed). Oxford: Oxford Uni Press.

Monographs.

- Basso, K, H. 1996 *Wisdom sits in places: landscape and language among the Western Apache*.
- Bloch, M 1971. Placing the dead: Tombs, Ancestral Villages, and Kinship Organization in Madagascar. London: Seminar Press. (Ch 2 and Ch4).
- Evans-Pritchard, E.E. 1940. *The Nuer: A description of the Modes of livelihood and the Political Institutions of a Nilotic People*. Oxford: Clarendon. (Ch3 and Ch4).
- Myers, F. 1986. *Pintupi Country, Pintupi Self: Sentiment, Place and Politics among the Western Desert Aboriginies*. Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press.

Further Reading.

- Alonso, A, M. 1994. 'The politics of Space, Time and Substance: State formation, nationalism and ethnicity'. In *Annual Review of Anthropology*. Vol 23.
- Anderson, B 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of nationalism*, Revised Edition. London: Verso.
- Ben-Ari. 1995. 'Contested Identities and Models of action in Japanese Discourses of Place-making'. *Anthropological Quarterly*. 68 (4).

- Bender, B. 2001. *Contested Landscapes: Movement, Exile and Place*.
- Bird, E 2002. "It makes sense to us: cultural identity in local legends of place". In *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. 31:5
- Boyarin, D and Boyarin, J. 1993. Diaspora: Generation and the Ground of Jewish Identity'. *Critical Inquiry* 19. (Summer): 693-725.
- Brah, A. 1996. *Cartographies of Diaspora: Contesting Identities*. London, Routledge.
- Clifford, J. 1988. Ch12: 'Identity in Mashpee'. In *The Predicament of Culture: twentieth Century Ethnography, literature and Art*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Connor, W 1993. 'Beyond Reason: The Nature of the Ethnonational Bond'. *Ethnic and Racial studies* 16: 373-89
- Eriksen, T.H. 2004. 'Place, Kinship and the Case for non-ethnic nations'. *Nations and Nationalism*. Vol 10 (1-2) p49-62.
- Feld, S and Basso, K (ed). 1998. *Senses of Place*. (Ch: Where do you stay at?)
- Fleras, A. 1999. Politicising Indigeneity: Ethno-Politics in White Settler Dominions'. In *Indigenous Peoples' Rights in Australia, Canada, and new Zealand*. Havemann, P,(Ed). Oxford: Oxford Uni Press.
- Gupta, A and Ferguson, J. 1992. 'Beyond 'culture': space, identity and the politics of difference. *Cultural Anthropology* 7 (1) p6-23.
- Joyce, R and Gillespie, S. 2000. *Beyond Kinship: social and material reproduction in house societies*. (Ch by Gillespi).
- Kahn, M. 2000. 'Tahiti Intertwined: Ancestral land, Tourist Postcard, and the nuclear test site.' *American Anthropologist*. 102:1.
- Lovell, N. 1998. *Locality and Belonging* (ed). (Ch 1: The Rootedness of trees: place as cultural and natural texture in rural southwest Congo. And Ch7. The politics of locality: memories of District Six in Cape Town.)
- Malkki, L. 1992. 'National Geographic: The rooting of peoples and the territorialization of national identity among scholars and refugees.' *Cultural Anthropology*. 7 (1) p24-44.
- O'Hanlon, M and Frankland, L. 2003. 'Co-present landscapes: Routes and Rootedness as sources of identity in Highland New Guinea'. In *Landscape, Memory and History: Anthropological Perspectives*. Stewart, P, J. and Strathern, A.(ed). London: Pluto.
- Pine, F. 1996. 'Naming the house and naming the land: kinship and social groups in the Polish highlands.' *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. Vol 2: 3.
- Reynolds, H 1996. *Aboriginal Sovereignty: reflections on Race, State and Nation*. St Leonards, NSW: Allen and Unwin.
- Smith, A.D. 1991. *National Identity*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
- Van Hessell, M. 1998. 'Names of Hate, names of Love: Contested space and the formation of identity on Manhattan's Lower East Side'. In *Dialectical Anthropology*. 23: 4 Dec.

Week 6: Reproductive Technologies and Relatedness: reshaping ideas of 'natural' conception

The last two decades have witnessed dramatic developments in the area of artificial conception. It is now possible to make fundamental changes to what was considered previously to be biologically given. This week we focus on the extent to which the emerging reproductive technologies are reshaping our ideas of the 'natural' and redefining our notions of procreation, parenthood and kinship. What underlies the intense quest for conception by infertile couples? To what extent is personhood being created through technological means?

Seminar questions:

1. Is conception through technological means 'unnatural'? What are the social consequences of becoming a parent or child through technological means?
2. Is baby making through 'artificial' means inevitable in a consumerist society?
3. How does surrogacy challenge/ reinvent the significance of genetic parenthood?
4. What are the social implications of an increasingly routine use of foetal ultra sound scanning techniques?

Key reading:

Edwards, J., 1993, Explicit Connections: ethnographic enquiry in Northwest England. In, Edwards, J. et.al eds, *Technologies of Procreation: Kinship in the Age of Assisted Conception*

*Ragone, H., 1999, The Gift of Life: Surrogate Motherhood, Gamete Donation and Constructions of Altruism. In, Layne, L., ed. *Transformative Motherhood*

Thompson, C., Strategic Naturalising: Kinship in an Infertility Clinic. In. S.Franklin and S.McKinnon ed., *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies*

Lock, M., 1998, Perfecting Society: Reproductive Technologies, Genetic Testing and the Planned Family in Japan. In, Lock, M. & Kaufert eds.1998. *Pragmatic Women and Body Politics*

Inhorn, M., 2006. 'He won't be my son': Middle Eastern Muslim Men's Discourses of Adoption and Gamete Donation. In *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, vol.20, no.1

*Taylor, J., 1998. Image of Contradiction: Obstetrical Ultrasound in American Culture. In S.Franklin and H.Ragone, *Reproducing Reproduction: Kinship, Power and Technological Innovation*

Monographs/ edited volumes:

Becker, G., 2001, *The Elusive Embryo: How Women and Men Approach New Reproductive Technologies*

R.Davis-Floyd and Dumit, J., eds., 1998. *Cyborg babies: From Techno-sex to Techno-tots*

Ragone, H. 1995. *Surrogate Motherhood: Conception in the Heart*

Inhorn, M., 1994, *Quest for Conception: Gender, Infertility and Egyptian Medical Traditions*

Edwards, J. et.al eds, 1993. *Technologies of Procreation: Kinship in the Age of Assisted Conception*

Rapp, R., 2000. *Testing Women, Testing the Fetus: The social impact of amniocentesis in America*

Patel, T.,2007. *Sex Selective abortion in India: Gender, Society and New Reproductive Technologies*

Kahn, S., 2000. *Reproducing Jews: A Cultural Account of Assisted Conception in Israel*

Additional reading:

Strathern, M., 1995. Displacing Knowledge: Technology and the Consequences for

- Kinship. In F.Ginsburg and R.Rapp eds., *Conceiving the New World Order: The global politics of reproduction*
- Cannell, F. 1990, 'Concepts of Parenthood: the Warnock report, the Gillick debate and modern myths', *American Ethnologist*, Nov., vol 17, no.4
- Edwards, J. 1992, 'Local Perspectives on New Reproductive Technologies', in *Anthropology in Action*, no.11, spring
- Franklin, S., 1995, Postmodern Procreation: A Cultural Account of Assisted Reproduction. In, Ginsburg, F & R.Rapp, 1995_ *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*
- Franklin, S. 1997, *Embodied Progress: a cultural account of assisted conception*
- Haimes, E. 1990, 'Recreating the Family: Policy Considerations Relating to 'New' Reproductive Technologies', in M.MacNeil ed., *The New Reproductive Technologies*
- Martin, E. 1987. *The Woman in the Body*
- Ragone, H., 2000, How Race is being Transfigured by Gestational Surrogacy. In, Ragone, H., and Winddance Twine, F., eds., *Ideologies and Technologies of Motherhood*
- Stanworth, M. 1987. *Reproductive Technologies: Gender, Motherhood and Medicine*
- Strathern, M. 1992. *Reproducing the Future: Anthropology, Kinship and the New Reproductive Technologies*

Week 7: Kinship, Family and the New Genetics

The increasing 'traffic' between science and culture and its implications for kinship is the subject of this week's discussion. We especially consider how people mobilise the emerging understandings of genetics in the creation of new kinship formations (Finkler, Rapp, Lock, Featherstone et.al), as well as how ideas of kinship organise the relations and production of scientific knowledge itself (Marks). We learn of new concepts and terminology, such as biosociality (Rabinow, Lock, Rapp, Gibbon and Novas) which have emerged within contemporary kinship studies. We explore the extent to which ideas associated with genetic risk shape family relations and communication.

Seminar questions:

In what diverse ways do families experience the new genetics?

What do we understand by the anthropological concept of 'biosociality'?

How do controversial genetic technologies and related notions of risk effect kinship relations?

In what ways is genetic science shaped by kinship ideologies?

Key Readings

- *Rapp, R., et. al. 2001. Genealogical Dis-Ease: Where Hereditary Abnormality, Biomedical Explanation and Family Responsibility Meet. In: *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies*, ed. by S. Franklin and S. McKinnon. Chapel Hill: Duke University Press.
- Lock, Margaret, Biosociality and Susceptibility Genes: a cautionary tale. In, S.Gibbon and C.Novas ed. *Biosocialities, Genetics and the Social Sciences: Making Biologies and Identities*.
- Marks, Jonathan (2001) "We're Going to Tell These People Who They Really Are": Science and Relatedness. In: *Relative Values: Reconfiguring Kinship Studies*, ed. by S. Franklin and S. McKinnon. Chapel Hill: Duke University Press.
- Featherstone et. al 2006. Accomplishing Kinship. Chapter 2 in Featherstone, K., Atkinson, P., Bharadwaj, A., and Clarke, A., ed. *Risky Relations: Family, Kinship and the New Genetics*. Oxford: Berg

Essential Monographs

- Finkler, K., 2000. *Experiencing the New Genetics: Family and Kinship on the Medical Frontier*. Philadelphia: University of Penn Press
- Featherstone, K., et.al. 2006. *Risky Relations: Family, Kinship and the New Genetics*. Oxford: Berg
- Clarke, A., and Parsons, E., 1997. *Culture, Kinship and Genes: Towards Cross-Cultural Genetics*. London: MacMillan

Additional Readings

- Rabinow, P., 2008. Concept Work. In, S.Gibbon and C.Novas ed. *Biosocialities, Genetics and the Social Sciences: Making Biologies and Identities*.
- Goodman, Alan H., Deborah Heath and M. Susan Lindee (2003) Anthropology in an Age of Genetics: Practice, Discourse, and Critique, in Goodman, A., D. Heath and M. Susan Lindee (eds) *Genetic Nature/Culture: Anthropology and Science: Beyond the Two-Culture Divide*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Lock, M., 2005. Eclipse of the Gene and the return of Divination. In *Current Anthropology*, Vol 46, Dec.
- Palmie, S. 2007. Genomics, divination, "racecraft", *American Ethnologist* 34 (2). 205-222. See responses by Abu El-Haj, Goodman, Marks, Shaw, Mevorach, Weiss in same issue.

Franklin, Sarah, and Margaret M. Lock (eds) (2003) *Remaking Life & Death: toward an anthropology of the biosciences*. Oxford School of American Research Press.
Nash, C. 2004 'Genetic Kinship' *Cultural Studies* 18(1): 1-34.

Week 8: **Adoption and Interpretations of Kinship**
Working against 'biology' and technology?

A focus on adoption practices provides crucial insights into the ways in which kinship relations are conceptualised and created in diverse contexts. In this session we discuss anthropological approaches to adoption in relation to Euro- American ideologies of 'gift' (Layne, Modell) and parenthood. We also consider the issues of race and ethnicity within Europe as well as their relevance to 'transnational' adoption, and parents' and children's responses to it (Gailey, Modell, Howell).

Seminar Questions

1. Is adoption similarly experienced in all social groupings?
2. Why is it important to understand Euro-American adoption in terms of ideas about gifting?
3. What does the importance of 'knowing where you have come from' tell us about kinship relations in a specific context?

Key Readings

- Modell, J., 1999. Freely Given: Open Adoption and the Rhetoric of the Gift. In, L.Layne ed., *Transformative Motherhood*
- Gailey, C. (2000) Ideologies of Motherhood in U.S. Adoption, in H. Ragoné and F. W. Twine (eds.) *Ideologies and Technologies of Motherhood: Race, Class, Sexuality, Nationalism*. New York: Routledge.
- *Carsten, Janet (2000) 'Knowing where you've come from': Ruptures and continuities of time and kinship in narratives of adoption reunions', in *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 6 (4).
- *Howell, S and Marre, D., 2006. To Kin a Transnationally Adopted Child in Norway and Spain: The achievement of resemblances and belonging. *Ethnos*, vol. 71:3

Monographs

- Modell, Judith (1994) *Kinship with strangers: adoption and interpretations of kinship in American culture*. Berkeley; London: University of California Press.
- Howell, S. 2006. *The Kinning of Foreigners: Transnational Adoption in a Global Perspective*, Oxford: Berghahn.
- Bowie, Fiona (ed) (2004) *Cross-Cultural Approaches to Adoption*. London: Routledge. (choose from chapters 1,3,7 ,8, 11)

Further Readings

- Howell, Signe (2003). Kinning: The Creation of Life Trajectories in Transnational Adoptive Families, *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 9 (3)
- Bargach, Jamila (2001) Personalizing it: Adoption, Bastardy, Kinship, and Family, in James D. Faubion, *The Ethics of Kinship: Ethnographic Inquiries*. Oxford: Rowan & Littlefield.
- Kirton, Derek (2000) 'Race', ethnicity and adoption in Britain: a historical overview, in 'Race', *Ethnicity and Adoption*. Buckingham: Open University Press.
- Modell, Judith (2002) *A sealed and secret kinship: the culture of policies and practices in American adoption*. New York; Oxford: Berghahn Books.
- Shore, Bradd (1976) Adoption, Alliance, and Political Mobility in Samoa, in Ivan Brady (ed) *Transaction in kinship: adoption and fosterage in Oceania*. University of Hawaii Press.

- Wegar, Katarina. (1997). *Adoption, identity, and kinship: the debate over sealed birth records*. New Haven; London: Yale University Press.
- Weismantel, Mary: Making Kin: Kinship Theory and Zumbagua Adoptions, *American Ethnologist*, 22 (4) 1995

Week 9: **Lesbian/Gay Kinship**
Challenging the assumptions of kinship ideologies?

Following on from Kath Weston's work on gay and lesbian kinship in the San Francisco Bay area, we explore these kinship forms, and the social and political circumstances under which they are constructed. This includes debates on gay parenting and its social and legal implications, and also the extent to which biology matters in relation to lesbian mothering.

Seminar Questions

- 1 How do notions of lesbian/gay kinship challenge the assumptions of heterosexual kinship ideologies?
- 2 What role does biological relatedness play in the construction of gay/lesbian forms of kinship?
- 3 In the context of the material discussed in this course, do you think biologically based concepts of 'kinship' are outdated?

Key Readings

- *Hayden, Corinne P. (1995). Gender, Genetics, and Generation: Reformulating Biology in Lesbian Kinship. *Cultural Anthropology* 10 (1).
- Lewin, E. (1995) On the Outside Looking In: The Politics of Lesbian Motherhood. In F. Ginsburg and R. Rapp (eds) *Conceiving the New World Order: the global politics of reproduction*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press.
- *Nardi, P. 2001. "The Politics of Friendship and Gay Social Movements, Communities, and Neighborhoods" in *The Masculinities Reader*, Edited by Stephen Whitehead & Frank Barrett, Polity Press.
- Weston, Kath (1995) Forever is a long time: romancing the real in gay kinship ideologies. In C. Delaney and S. Yanagisako (eds) *Naturalizing Power: Essays in feminist cultural analysis*. London; New York, N.Y.: Routledge.

Monographs

- Weston, Kath (1991) *Families we choose : lesbians, gays, kinship*. New York: Columbia U.P.

Further Readings

- Butler, J. .2002. Is Kinship Always Already Heterosexual? *Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 13 (1), 14-44.
- Collier, J., Rosaldo, M and S. Yanagisako. 1997. Is there a family? New Anthropological Views, in R. Lancaster and de Leonardo (eds.) *The Gender/Sexuality Reader*. London: Routledge.
- Kelley J. Hall, Gay C. (2000) Lesbian Stepfamilies: An Even More 'Incomplete Institution'. *Journal of Lesbian Studies* 4 (3).
- Nardi, P. and D. Sherrod (1994) Friends in the Lives of Gay Men and Lesbians, *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 11 (2).
- Nardi, P. M. (1999). A Chance to Choose my Siblings: Friendship as Kinship, in *Gay men's friendships: Invincible communities*. Chicago: Univ of Chicago Press.
- Patterson, C. J. (2000). Family relationships of lesbians and gay men. *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 62, 1052-1069.
- Pollack, J. 1995. *Lesbian and Gay Families: Redefining Parenting in America*. NY Franklin Watts.