Culture is inscribed on the body. Our beliefs about the body, our perceptions of it and the properties we attribute to it, both symbolic and literal, are socially constructed. The body is being invented. The way we hold our bodies, the way we move them, the way we accouter them, display our membership in a culture. The folklore of the body reveals cultural assumptions about what it is to be a person.

Course Work

Body Language Project.
Collection due Thursday, 7th February;
Analysis due Tuesday, 4th March.
30% of Grade.

Mid-term Examination. Thursday, 20th March.
Focus on the Mind/Body Problem.
30% of Grade.

Field Research and Final Paper.
Ethnographic Description due Tuesday, 22nd April.
Theoretical Paper due Thursday 8th May.
40% of Grade.

Required Texts


Knoxville, Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press and

Course Reader
Available at Instant Copying & Laser Printing, 2138 University Ave.
(Telephone: 510-704-9700; Email: iclp@pacbell.net)

INVENTING THE BODY

January 22 Lecture 1 The Body

January 24 Lecture 2. From the Medieval to the Modern Body I
Read:
Young, 1993. Preface and Introduction,
Bodylore, vii-xxiv.

January 29 Lecture 3. From the Medieval to the Modern Body II
Read:
Grosz, Chapter 5, “Nietzsche and the Choreography of Knowledge.”
Volatile Bodies, 115-137.

THE INSCRIBED BODY

January 31 Lecture 4. From the Outside In
Read:
Grosz, Chapter 6, “The Body as Inscriptive Surface.”
Volatile Bodies, 138-159.

February 5 Class Cancelled

February 7 Lecture 5. Surface Inscription
Film:
New York: Women Make Movies.

Due: The Body Language Collection

BODY LANGUAGE

February 12 Lecture 6. Body Language
Read:

BOUNDARIES OF SELF

February 14 Lecture 7. Body Boundaries
Read:

February 19 Lecture 8. Spatial and Temporal Boundaries
Read:

BODY IMAGE

February 21 Lecture 9. From the Inside Out
Read:
February 26 Lecture 10. **The Phantom Body**
Read:

**THE MIND/BODY PROBLEM**

February 28 Lecture 13. **Cartesian Dualism**
Read:

March 4 Lecture 14. **Body as Object; Body as Subject**
Read:

March 6 Lecture 15 **Disembodiment**
Read:

**THE CARNIVALESQUE BODY**

March 11 Lecture 11. **Imaginary Anatomies**
Read:

March 13 Lecture 12. **From the Grotesque to the Ethereal**
Read:
**Due:** The Body Language Analysis

March 18  Lecture 16: Review

March 20  Lecture 17: Mid-Term EXAMINATION
  
  **Spring Break**

**THE ANIMATE BODY**

April 1  Lecture 18: The Tactile Kinaesthetic Body

April 3  Lecture 19: Body Movement

April 8  Lecture 20: Facial Expression

April 10  Lecture 21: Gestures

**THE SENSATIONAL BODY**

April 15  Lecture 22: The Sensational Body

April 17  Lecture 23: The Problem of Pain

April 22  Lecture 24: Sensory Modalities
Due: The Ethnographic Description

BODILY KNOWLEDGE

April 24  Lecture 25: Somatic Perception
Read:
Cultural Anthropology 8:2, 135-156.

April 29  Lecture 26: Knowing Bodies
Read:
Sault, ed. Many Mirrors: Body Image and Social Relations.

May 1  Lecture 27: Body Writing
Read:
Choreographing History, ed. Susan Leigh Foster.
Young, ed. Bodylore, 205-224.
Barbie Zelizer. 1994. "From the Body as Evidence to the Body of Evidence."
Young, ed. Bodylore, 225-244.

METAMORPHOSIS

May 6  Lecture 28: Signs and Flows
Read:
Body and Society 12: 2, 57-82.

May 8  Lecture 29: Virtual Bodies
Read:

Due: THE THEORETICAL PAPER

Fini