

**Fall 2018**  
**TRANSNATIONAL FEMINIST THEORY**  
(LIT 6856 Cultural Studies: Interventions and GET 6901 Special Studies German Literature)

Associate Professor Barbara Mennel  
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**Course Objectives:**

The graduate proseminar has two objectives. One, it serves as an introduction to academic research processes, scholarly writing, and professionalization. Two, it covers transnational feminist theory with a focus on the oeuvre of scholar Inderpal Grewal. In our discussions of her publications from the early 1990s to the contemporary moment, we will pay particular attention to the development of arguments within individual and across multiple texts. We will situate her work in the context of feminist theory, postmodernity, postcolonialism, transnational and security studies. Finally, we will pay close attention to methodology and the formation of key terms. We will host Professor Grewal on November 1, 2018 for a public lecture and a seminar discussion of her scholarship, as well as her feminist approach to academia. In its practical dimension, the seminar addresses research and writing for graduate school, conference presentation, and publication. Guest speakers will address library research and the academic job-market. Members of the seminar will have ample time and opportunity to apply materials to their research areas.

**Required Reading:**

Inderpal Grewal. *Home and Harem: Nation, Gender, Empire, and the Cultures of Travel* (1996).  
Inderpal Grewal. *Scattered Hegemonies: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices* (2004, co-edited with Caren Kaplan).  
Inderpal Grewal. *Transnational America: Feminisms, Diasporas, Neoliberalisms* (2005).  
Inderpal Grewal. *Theorizing NGOs: States, Feminism, and Neoliberalism* (2014, co-edited with Victoria Bernal).  
Inderpal Grewal. *Saving the Security State: Exceptional Citizens in Twenty-First Century America* (2017).  
Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say/I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2017.

**Selections from:**

Sidonie Smith. *Manifesto for the Humanities: Transforming Doctoral Education in Good Enough Times*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2016.

Gregory Colón Semenza. *Graduate Study for the 21st Century*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, 2010. (Second edition)

Eric Hayot. *The Elements of Academic Style: Writing for the Humanities*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2014.

Karen Kelsky. *The Professor Is In: The Essential Guide to Turning Your PhD into a Job*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2015.

Helen Sword. *Stylish Academic Writing*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2012.

Additional articles and weblinks are available through Canvas.

### **Grading:**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Oral participation and attendance                 | 10% |
| Annotated Bibliography                            | 10% |
| Abstract for article or conference talk           | 20% |
| Review of fellow student paper or conference talk | 10% |
| Revision of paper or conference talk              | 20% |
| Grant or fellowship proposal                      | 30% |

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

#### **Attendance**

You need to attend all class meetings and submit all assignments on time. You are required to provide documentation for absences or late submissions because of sickness or extenuating circumstances, which will not affect your grade negatively. In such cases, you should try to reach me before class meeting and communicate with the student with whom you are collaborating.

#### **Oral participation**

Participation in scholarly conversation is part of the professionalization process as a graduate student. Contributions should reflect preparation of the material and advance the dialogic conversation. I call on graduate students who do not volunteer contributions to seminar discussion.

#### **Annotated Bibliography:**

Librarians Hélène Huet (European Studies, including German Studies) and Jeanne Carol Ewert (English, American Studies, Folklore, Film Studies) will introduce you to research and management systems for references in a library session. The annotated bibliography assembles titles for your area of scholarship. It is the basis for two assignments: one, the abstract and two, the grant or fellowship proposal. The annotations of the bibliographic entries serve to familiarize you with the scholarship to complete the assignments. Annotated bibliographies are single-spaced. You may submit an annotated bibliography, in which not all your titles are yet annotated, since we often use annotated bibliographies as a work-in-progress, which we are undertaking a scholarly project.

**Abstract:**

You will submit an abstract for a conference paper, book chapter, seminar paper, or chapter of a MA-thesis or dissertation. The word limit is 250 words. Abstracts are single-spaced. The abstract has to include the following:

- 1) Tentative title
- 2) A brief description of your topic, including research question(s), methodology, and the objects of your inquiry (novels, film, theory, etc.)
- 3) Three key titles
- 4) Five key words

You will submit abstract to me and three other students. You will receive feedback from me in written form and from your fellow students in a small-group discussion. Please keep in mind that good questions are often very helpful in clarifying research projects.

**Response to Previous Seminar Paper or Conference Paper:**

You will read and respond to an existing paper or conference paper by one of your classmates. Your response should point out strengths and areas of possible improvements and be as specific as possible. Your response should also take into account the advice on writing that we have consulted throughout the semester. The response should be approximately 1-2 pages single-spaced. I will create pairs and you will submit one copy of your response to your fellow student and one to me.

**Revision of paper or conference talk**

In order to practice revision, you will revise one paper or conference paper that you have written in a previous class. The grade is based solely on the process of revision, not on the quality of the original paper. The revision should take into account the feedback by your fellow student and by me, as well as the writing advice that we have covered throughout the seminar.

**Grant or fellowship proposal**

For your final assignment, you will write up a grant proposal for one of the following: Library Enhancement Grant, Tedder Family Fellowship, Support for Workshop or Speaker Series, or Public Humanities Grant. You find descriptions of these grants at the following website: <http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/proposals.html> Should you find another grant, e.g. a travel or research grant for which you are eligible and you prefer to write for that opportunity, please feel free to do so. Please include the Call for Proposals with your assignment.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:**

Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of the intellectual works of others, including websources, friends' papers, published and unpublished work. I prosecute plagiarism and cheating to the fullest extent possible at UF. If I find that you plagiarized,

you will fail this class and I will submit your name, an account of the incident, and documentation to the graduate coordinator of your major.

**Disability accommodation:**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Student evaluations:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>. I will set aside time for student evaluations in our last meeting.

**Classroom behavior and cell phone, iPad, and laptop use:**

I also expect that graduate students have completed assigned readings and viewings and participate actively, regularly, and voluntarily in discussion. It should go without saying that in a graduate seminar texting and surfing the web is absolutely inappropriate and unacceptable. During class time, you should use cell phones, iPads, or laptops only for course materials.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

Week 1 Introduction

Thursday, August 23

Introduction: No reading

Week 2 *Scattered Hegemonies* and Introduction to Graduate School, Part I

Thursday, August 30

Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan, eds. *Scattered Hegemonies: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices*: Chapters 1 ("Introduction"), 6, 7, 8, and 11.

Gregory Colón Semenza. *Graduate Study for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*: Chapters 1 and 2.

Week 3 *Home and Harem*, Part I and Introduction to Graduate School, Part II

Thursday, September 6

Inderpal Grewal. *Home and Harem: Nation, Gender, and the Cultures of Travel: "I English Imperial Culture."*

Gregory Colón Semenza. *Graduate Study for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*: Chapters 4 and 5.

Week 4 *Home and Harem*, Part II and Introduction to Graduate School, Part III

Thursday, September 13

Inderpal Grewal. *Home and Harem: Nation, Gender, and the Cultures of Travel: "II Euroimperial travel and Indian Women."*

Gregory Colón Semenza. *Graduate Study for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*: Chapter 6.

Week 5 Articles and Entering a Scholarly Debate through Writing

Thursday, September 20

Inderpal Grewal. "Gender, Culture, and Empire: Postcolonial U.S. Feminist Scholarship." *Feminist Studies* 32.2 (2006): 380-394. (Book review)

\_\_\_\_\_. "Outsourcing Patriarchy: Feminist Encounters, Transnational Mediations and the Crime of 'Honour Killing'." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 15.1 (2013): 1-19.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Transnational America: Race, Gender and Citizenship after 9/11." *Social Identities* 9.4 (2003): 1350-4630.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Caren Kaplan. "Global Identities: Theorizing Transnational Studies of Sexuality." *GLQ* 7:4 (2001): 663-679.

Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*: Part 1 and 2.

Week 6 *Theorizing NGOs* and Entering a Scholarly Debate through Writing

Thursday, September 27

Inderpal Grewal and Victoria Bernal, eds. *Theorizing NGOs: States, Feminism, and Neoliberalism: "Introduction,"* Chapter 1, 4, 7, 8, and "Conclusion."

Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*: Part 3 and 4.

Week 7 *Transnational America* and Conferences, Grants, and Publishing

Thursday, October 4

Inderpal Grewal. *Transnational America: Feminism, Diasporas, Neoliberalism: "Introduction,"* and Chapters 1 and 2.

PowerPoint on Grants and Fellowships

Robyn Warhol-Down. "Academics Anonymous: A Meditation on Anonymity, Power, and Powerlessness." *Simplokē* 16, 1-2 (2008): 51-59.

Jeffrey R. Di Leo. "Anonymity, Dialogue, and the Academy." *Symplokē* 16.1-2 (2008): 61-73.

Boellstorff, Tom. "How to Get an Article Accepted at *American Anthropologist* (or Anywhere)." *American Anthropologist* 110. 3 (2008): 281-283.

COPE-Committee on Publication Ethics "COPE Ethical Guidelines for Peer Reviewers"

Barbara Young Welke. "The Art of Manuscript Reviewing: 10 Guidelines from Peggy Pascoe, a Master of the Art." *Perspectives on History* (September 2011): 38-41.

PDF on Canvas with samples of anonymous review and journal criteria

**Submit** a seminar paper or conference paper that you have previously written to exchange with another student and submit to me as the basis of revision.

Week 8 *Transnational America*, Part II, and How to Conduct Research

Thursday, October 11

4:00-5:30pm Library Session with H  l  ne Huet and Jeanne Carol Ewert

Introduction to research and reference managers.

Inderpal Grewal. *Transnational America: Feminism, Diasporas, Neoliberalism*: Chapters 3, 4, and 5.

**Due:** Response to a fellow student's paper in writing.

Week 9 *The Security State*, Part I, and the Art of the Abstract

Thursday, October 18

Inderpal Grewal. *Saving the Security State: Exceptional Citizens in Twenty-First-Century America*: "Introduction" and Chapters 1 and 2.

**Due:** Bibliography of 5-10 titles (Endnote, Refwork, or Zotero)

**Due:** Identify a conference or call for contributions to an edited volume for you to submit an abstract for a talk or a chapter. You may also write an abstract for a chapter of a MA-thesis or dissertation but you should go through the exercise of looking of a conference or call for proposal in your area of research.

Week 10 *The Security State*, Part II and Conferencing

Thursday, October 25

Inderpal Grewal. *Saving the Security State: Exceptional Citizens in Twenty-First-Century America*: Chapters 3, 4, 5, and "Coda."

Gregory Col  n Semenza. *Graduate Study for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*: Chapter 9.

Karen Kelsky. *The Professor is in: The Essential Guide to Turning your Ph.D. into a Job*: Chapters 19 and 20.

**Due:** Abstract for conference or book chapter and discussion of abstracts

Week 11 Lecture and Discussion with Guest Speaker Inderpal Grewal

Thursday, November 1 @ 4:00pm in Smathers 100

Public Lecture: Inderpal Grewal Title TBA

6:00 pm Seminar discussion

7:00 pm Dinner

Week 12 Reviewing and Revising

Thursday, November 8

Eric Hayot. *The Elements of Academic Style*: Chapters 2 and 3.

Helen Sword. *Stylish Academic Writing*: Chapter 5.

**Due:** Revised paper

Week 13 Job-market and Alt-Ac

Thursday, November 15

Guest speaker on “Managing the Job-Market”

Karen Kelsky. *The Professor is in: The Essential Guide to Turning your Ph.D. into a Job*: Chapters 1,2,3 and 24-28.

Brenda Bethman and Donna Bickford. “Staging Women’s Lives on the ‘Altac’ Track.” *Staging Women’s Lives in Academia: Gendered Life Stages in Language and Literature Workplaces*. Eds. Michelle A. Massé and Nan Bauer-Maglin. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2017: 219-232. (Ebook)

Brenda Bethman and C. Shaun Longstreet. “The Alt-Ac Track.” *Inside Higher Ed* (January 14, 2013)

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2013/01/14/essay-preparing-academic-or-alt-ac-careers>

Ashley Sander. “Going Alt-Ac: How to Begin.” *Inside Higher Ed*

<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/gradhacker/going-alt-ac-how-begin>

Please also visit the following websites:

<http://altac.web.unc.edu/>

<https://chroniclevitae.com/news/366-what-s-your-favorite-alt-ac-resource>

<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/alt-ac/>

Week 14 Cancelled

Thursday, November 22 Cancelled: Thanksgiving

Week 15 The Crisis and the Future of the Humanities

Thursday, November 29

Doris Sommer. “Prologue: Welcome Back.” *The Work of Art in the World: Civic Agency and Public Humanities*: 1-15. [Canvas]

Sidonie Smith. “A Twenty-first Century Doctoral Education.” *Manifesto for the Humanities: Transforming Doctoral Education in Good Enough Times*: 155-164.

**Due:** Grant or fellowship application