

2012 THEORY WORKSHOPS

The Theory Workshop aims to support master's and doctoral level students in their efforts to engage with theory through research and conceptual/theoretical endeavors. Presenters will show students how they have applied a theoretical framework or set of theoretical presuppositions to a particular question of interest to them. We'll see you there!

THE MANY MOODS OF PAUL GILROY:

NOSTALGIA, MELANCHOLIA, AND OTHER FASCISMS

Presenter: **P. Taylor Webb**, Associate Professor, Educational Studies

Thursday, March 8, 4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

Ponderosa Annex G Lounge

Light refreshments will be served.



Pondering the nature of fascism and its recurrent appeal is not just a matter of clarifying what those of us who oppose racism are against. It obliges us to scrutinize our own political philosophies, practices, and cultural predilections where they stray close to the dangers involved in becoming enamored of power. – Gilroy (2000:146)

This workshop is an introduction to Paul Gilroy and his thoughts about a cosmopolitan humanism. The workshop considers Gilroy's discussion of fascism and its affective embodiments, whereas Gilroy (2000:302) described "fascism's technologies of the self" as a signal, perhaps symptom, of an affective turn in politics. Part lecture, part reading, part discussion, this workshop will examine Gilroy's *affective fascisms* in relation to the ongoing politics of race and post-colonialism. I situate "fascism's technologies of the self" within historical memories of liberal and neo-liberal racisms, and I conclude by discussing the contemporary "compulsory racialities" of proto-fascism (Gilroy, 1999).

SPEAKER BIO: Dr. Webb's research uses continental philosophy to analyze educational policy and practice. He is interested in critical policy studies, micropolitics, education markets (governmentality, neo-liberalism, post-liberalism), and subjectivization (relation of oneself to oneself). He studies the ways educators negotiate, adopt, mediate, and resist policy, curriculum, and/or curriculum policy. He also studies and teaches research methodologies, including fieldwork in philosophy, epistemological politics, and issues of research representation and aesthetics.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Bell, V. (1999). Historical memory, global movements and violence: Paul Gilroy and Arjun Appadurai in conversation. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 16(2), 21–40. (online at library)
- Gilroy, P. (1999). Paul Gilroy: Race and culture in postmodernity. *Economy and Society*, 28(2), 183–197. (online at library)
- Gilroy, P. (2001). Joined-up politics and postcolonial melancholia. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 18(2-3), 151–167. (online at library)
- Gilroy, P. (2006). Colonial crimes and convivial cultures. Presented at *Rethinking Nordic Colonialism* conference in Greenland. (contact Autumn)

FURTHER READING:

- Gilroy, P. (2000). *Against race: Imagining political culture beyond the color line*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Gilroy, P. (2005). *Postcolonial melancholia*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Contact Autumn at alk1959@interchange.ubc.ca to RSVP.

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