

COURSE SYLLABUS

Roma Identity and Leadership in Europe 2 – Winter Term 2024

January 26, 2024 (13:30-18:30) & March 1, 2024 (13:30-18:30)

Instructor:

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Course Requirements

1. Attendance and participation – 40%

Students are expected to attend both sessions, read the required readings, and actively participate in the class discussions. The recommended readings are not mandatory, yet useful for a deeper understanding of the topics that will be elaborated on by the instructor in the sessions.

2. Final Project – Poster – 60%

At the end of the last session (March 1) students will present their posters. The posters should depict students' visual imagination and portray one of the suggested themes: (1) Romani identity, (2) oppression and violence against Roma, (3) Romani empowerment and movement, (4) intersectional Romani identity, and (5) the future of the Roma in Europe.

First Session – January 26, 2024 (13:30-18:30) - *Theoretical base for (re)thinking Romani identity*

Topics:

1. From India to Europe – short historical overview of Roma history
2. Edward Said – Orientalism
3. Frantz Fanon – experiencing Blackness and self-perceptions
4. Homi K. Bhabha – Colonial binaries of self-other and liminalities
5. Judith Butler – performative Identity and intersectional identity

Readings:

***Required:**

- Fanon, Frantz. “The Lived Experience of the Black Man”. In *Black Skin, White Masks*. Grove, 1952.

Recommended:

- Said, Edward. “Knowing the Oriental”. In *Orientalism*, 31-49. Vintage Books, 1978.
- Bhabha, Hommi K. “The Other Question: Stereotype, Discrimination, and the Discourse of Colonialism”. In *The Location of Culture*, 94- 120. Routledge, 2004.
- Bhabha, Hommi K. “Of Mimicry and Man: The Ambivalence of Colonial Discourse”. In *The Location of Culture*, 121- 131. Routledge, 2004.
- Xavier Inda, Jonathan. “Performativity, Materiality, and the Racial Body”. *Latino Studies Journal* 11, no. 3 (2000): 74-99.

Discussion: What happens when Roma identity principles/norms clash with other identity intersections of Romani individuals?

Second Session – March 1, 2024 (13:30-18:30) - *Historical overview of the political circumstances and the place of Roma in 20th-Century Europe*

Topics:

1. Hannah Arendt – imperialism-nationalism-totalitarianism, statelessness, and ‘right to have rights’
2. Michael Foucault, Giorgio Agamben, Judith Butler – ‘bare body’ of no-body – biopolitical and necropolitical violence against the Roma
3. Extreme Extermination of Roma – WW2 and Holocaust

Readings:

***Required:**

- Arendt, Hannah. “Totalitarianism in Power “. In *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, 437-459. Harcourt Brace & Company, 1976.

Recommended:

- Arendt, Hannah. “The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Man“. In *The Origins of Totalitarianism*, 268-302. Harcourt Brace & Company, 1976.
- Foucault, Michel. “Right of Death and Power over Life“. In *History of Sexuality*, 133-147. Vintage Books, 1980.
- Agamben, Giorgio. “Homo Sacer“. In *Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life*, 71-103. Stanford University Press, 1998.
- Butler, Judith. “Precarious Life“. In *Precarious Life: The Power of Mourning and Violence*, 128-151. Verso, 2004.

Discussion: Did the Genocide against the Roma end with the end of the Holocaust and WW2?

Presentation of Posters