

Adam T. Smith
Office Hours: M 1-3:30

Winter Quarter 2006
Anthropology 569
Wednesday 9:30-12:30

Landscape: Theory and Interpretation

In the last two decades, space has come to be seen increasingly as an active element in social, political, and cultural processes, shaping actions and constraining possibilities. Consequent with this shift in the epistemological status of space, landscape has emerged as a unifying concept for the interpretation of "social space". This course will consider some of the varying interpretive approaches to landscape by considering works both within and outside anthropology. The goal of the course is to provide students with both a strong foundation in current spatial theory drawn from geography, social theory, architecture, socio-cultural anthropology, and archaeology, as well as the tools for operationalizing theoretical perspectives in reference to spatial data. We will attempt to critically assess the utility to anthropological analysis of a wide variety of perspectives and analytical techniques.

Course Requirements

- A. In-class presentation of a case-study to be assigned in class.
- B. Term Paper: Operationalize theoretical discussions in reference to a data set (can be original material related to your own research or drawn from a related literature). Paper topics must be cleared with me before week 7. Maximum length: 20 pages.
- C. Participation in class discussions.

Texts and Readings

We will be reading significant portions of the following texts, making them more economical to purchase than to copy. They have been ordered from the Seminary Co-Op. All other readings are available on the CHALK web site.

- Casey, E. S.
1997 *The Fate of Place*. University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Cosgrove, D. E.
1984 *Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape*. Croom Helm, London.
- Schama, S.
1996 *Landscape and Memory*. Vintage Books, New York.
- Smith, A. T.
2003 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Schedule of Readings and Discussions

January 4. Landscape in the Social Sciences

January 11. Spatial Ontologies

- Casey, E. S.
1997 *The Fate of Place*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 6, 8, 9, 10.
- Lefebvre, H.
1991 *The Production of Space*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford. Ch. 1.

January 18. Spatial Epistemologies

- Cosgrove, D. E.
1984 *Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape*. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison. Ch. 1-2, 6.

- Glacken, C.
 1967 *Traces on the Rhodian Shore: Nature and Culture in Western Thought from Ancient Times to the End of the Eighteenth Century*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 2, 8.
- Harvey, D.
 1989 *The Condition of Postmodernity*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford. Pp. 201-239.
- Smith, A. T.
 2003 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 1.

January 25. Landscape, Nature, and the Vernacular

- Bradley, R.
 1998 *The Significance of Monuments: On the Shaping of Human Experience in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe*. Routledge, London ; New York. Ch. 2-3.
- Glacken, C.
 1967 *Traces on the Rhodian Shore: Nature and Culture in Western Thought from Ancient Times to the End of the Eighteenth Century*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 14
- Jackson, J. B.
 1984 *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape*. Yale University Press, New Haven. Pp. 1-55.
- Scott, J. C.
 1998 *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. Yale agrarian studies. Yale University Press, New Haven. Ch. 1, 6.

February 1. Urban Landscapes

- Alcock, S.
 1993 *Graecia Capta*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Ch. 3.
- Eisenstadt, S. N. and A. Schachar
 1987 *Society, Culture, and Urbanism*. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, CA. Ch. 1-2.
- Castells, M.
 1983 *The City and the Grassroots*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 28-34.
- Soja, E.
 2002 [1986] *Taking Los Angeles Apart: Towards a Postmodern Geography*. In *The Spaces of Postmodernity*, edited by M. J. Dear and S. Flusty, pp. 150-161. Blackwell, Oxford.

February 8. No Class

February 15. Architecture and the Built Environment

- Bourdieu, P.
 1973 *The Berber House*. In *Rules and Meanings*, edited by M. Douglas, pp. 98-110. Penguin Books, Middlesex.
- Jameson, F.
 1985 *Architecture and the Critique of Ideology*. In *Architecture, Criticism, Ideology*, edited by J. Ockman. Princeton Architectural Press, Princeton.
- Smith, A. T.
 2003 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 6.
- Venturi, R., D. Scott Brown and S. Izenour
 1972 *Learning from Las Vegas*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA. Pp. 128-163

February 22. Body, Performance, and Memory

- Basso, K. H.
 1996 *Wisdom Sits in Places: landscape and language among the Western Apache*. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. Ch. 1.

Bradley, R.

- 1998 *The Significance of Monuments: On the Shaping of Human Experience in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe*. Routledge, London ; New York. Ch. 8.
- Munn, N. D.
1996 Excluded Spaces: The Figure in the Australian Aboriginal Landscape. *Critical Inquiry* 22:446-465.
- Schama, S.
1996 *Landscape and Memory*. Vintage Books, New York. Pp. 100-120, 245-255, 385-399, 560-578.

March 1. Landscape Aesthetics

- Bermingham, A.
1986 *Landscape and Ideology: The English Rustic Tradition, 1740-1860*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 1.
- Brotton, J.
1999 Terrestrial Globalism: Mapping the Globe in Early Modern Europe. In *Mappings*, edited by D. Cosgrove, pp. 71-89. Reaktion Books, London.
- Cosgrove, D. E.
1993 *The Palladian Landscape: Geographical Change and Its Cultural Representations in Sixteenth-Century Italy*. Leicester University Press, Leicester. Ch. 2.
- Davis, M.
1998 *Ecology of Fear : Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster*. Metropolitan Books, New York. Ch. 6, 7.

March 8. Unifying the Landscape

- Cosgrove, D. E.
1984 *Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape*. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison. Ch. 8-9.
- Smith, A. T.
2003 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 4.
- Zukin, S.
1991 *Landscapes of Power: From Detroit to Disney World*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 8.