

Why do we obey?: Ideology in Daily Life

a CILAS course proposal by

Ahmed Diaa Dardir and Cassidy Crawford

Preliminary Schedule (subject to change according to the flow of class discussions):

Week	Topic	Texts/Lenses	Questions
1	Identification	<p>Lacan, J. (2006). The mirror-stage as formative of the I function as revealed in psychoanalytic experience. In B. Fink (Trans.), <i>Écrits</i>. (pp 75-81). New York & London: W.W Norton.</p> <p>Althusser. "Freud and Lacan"</p>	<p>How do we come to see ourselves as subjects?</p> <p>What is the Lacanian mirror stage in developmental terms?</p> <p>What is the ego in relation to the subject?</p>
2	Authority	<p>Althusser, L. (1971). Ideology and ideological state apparatuses. In L. Althusser (Ed.), <i>Lenin and philosophy and other essays</i>. New York: Monthly Review Press.</p> <p>Zero Dark Thirty (2012), film</p> <p>Laclau. On Populist Reason</p>	<p>How does authority call upon us?</p> <p>How does Ideology pervade our daily lives and our conceptions of ourselves?</p> <p>What was Althusser's contribution to ideology critique?</p> <p>What is identification in Lacanian terms and how does this relate to the function of ideology?</p> <p>Why do we obey?</p>
3	"the Sublime Object"	<p>Zizek, S (1989). The Sublime Object of Ideology.</p> <p>Film Screening (TBA)</p>	<p>In what way does Zizek depart from the Althusserian notion of ideology?</p> <p>How is ideology tied to desire and fantasy?</p> <p>What is the relationship between desire and the Other?</p> <p>How is the subject an answer to the Real?</p>

4	Desire	<p>McGowan, Todd. Capitalism and Desire: The Psychic Cost of Free Markets. 2016.</p> <p>Laclau. On Populist Reason (cont'd).</p> <p>Zizek, S (1989). The Sublime Object of Ideology. (cont'd)</p>	<p>In what way is desire constructed?</p> <p>What does capitalism get right about our desire?</p> <p>In what ways is desire a political phenomenon?</p> <p>Does desire escape power? Or does it become part of power's relay network?</p>
5	Race and Colonialism	<p>Hook, D (2008). A Critical Psychology of the Postcolonial.</p> <p>Fanon, F (1967). Black Skin, White Masks.</p>	<p>What is the psychology of colonization?</p> <p>How does the colonial experience shape the psyche of the colonizer and the colonized?</p> <p>What is the role of identification in colonial domination?</p>
6	Patriarchy and Feminism	<p>Rose, J and Mitchell, J (1985). Feminine Sexuality.</p> <p>Mitchell. Psychoanalysis and Feminism</p>	<p>How does patriarchy become normalized?</p> <p>What is the political function of feminist critique?</p> <p>How does patriarchy and other modes of authority lend support to each other?</p>
7	Naming	<p>Carroll. Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There.</p> <p>Althusser, L. (1971). Ideology and ideological state apparatuses. In L. Althusser (Ed.), Lenin and philosophy and other essays. New York: Monthly Review Press. (cont'd)</p>	<p>How is naming political?</p> <p>What role does naming play in placing us within social and political structures?</p> <p>What if we had no names?</p>

8	<p>Medical Power, Biopower, and the Power over Life and Death</p>	<p>Foucault, M. <i>History of Sexuality</i>, v.1.</p> <p>Foucault. <i>Abnormal</i></p>	<p>What is the productive side of power?</p> <p>How does power produce pleasures, goods, and life?</p> <p>How does power ostracize the deviant and the abnormal?</p> <p>How did Foucault and the anti-psychiatry movement oppose psychology and psychoanalysis? Is there a way to reconcile Foucault's theories with a psychoanalytical framework?</p>
9	<p>The Seduction of Technology</p>	<p>"To Be Continued: An Interview on Seriality"</p> <p>Deleuze and Guattari. <i>A Thousand Plateaus</i>. (excerpts)</p> <p>Richard Barbrook and Andy Cameron, "The Californian Ideology."</p> <p>"Yes, There Are More Facebook Papers. Yes, It's a Lot."</p> <p>Obama. <i>A Promised Land</i>. (excerpts)</p>	<p>To what extent have technology and cybernetics become part of our consciousness? What revisions can this technological turn offer to extant theories of subjectivity, identification, and desire?</p> <p>How does technology make us complicit with power? What modes of domination and violence are being sanitized and/or hidden behind shiny screens and slick keyboards?</p> <p>Why do we trust the algorithm?</p>