

Sociology of the Body
SOC 275
Professor Bryan S. Turner
Spring 2009

Course Requirements

Students are required to attend all lectures and do all required readings. Grades will be based on two short papers, a mid-term examination, and a final ‘take home’ examination at the end of the course.

Text available in bookshop

Bryan S. Turner (2008) *The Body and Society*. London: Sage.

Course Outline and Readings

We will proceed according to the following outline. All readings listed are available on e-reserve. Supplementary readings are indicated as (S). They are not required, but are useful if you want to get a deeper understanding of the material.

1.Introduction: body, self and society

Bryan S. Turner (2008) *The Body and Society*. London: Sage, pp. 1-16

Bryan S. Turner (ed) (2006) ‘Body’ *Theory Culture & Society* 23 (2-3):223-36.

Chris Shilling (ed) (2007) *Embodying Sociology* Oxford:Blackwell, ch.1.

2.Discipline Sexuality and the Body

Michel Foucault (1997) *The Essential Works 1.Ethics* London: Allen Lane, pp.185-205, 223-251.

Michel Foucault (1997) *The Essential Works 3.Power* London: Allen Lane, pp.134-156; 201-222.

3. Diet and the government of the body

Bryan S. Turner (1982) 'The government of the body' *British Journal of Sociology* 33:254-69.

Bryan S. Turner (2008) *The Body and Society*. London: Sage, ch. 8.

4. Social Constructionism : what is a body, what is sickness?

Darin Weinberg (2008) 'Social constructionism' in Bryan S. Turner (ed) (2008) *The New Blackwell Companion to Social Theory*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 281-299.

Bryan S. Turner (2008) 'The constructed body' in James A. Holstein and Jaber F. Gubrium (eds) *Handbook of Constructionist Research* New York: The Guilford Press, ch. 25.

(S) Bryan S. Turner (2004) *The New Medical Sociology* New York: W.W.Norton, chs 2,3

5. Gender and feminist theories of the body

Anne Witz (2000) 'Whose body matters? feminist sociology and the corporeal turn in sociology and feminism' *Body&Society* 6(2):1-24.

Alex Hughes and Anne Witz (1997) 'Feminism and the Matter of the body: from de Beauvoir to Butler' *Body&Society* 3(1):47-60.

(S) Anthony Elliott and Bryan Turner (eds) (2001) *Profiles in Contemporary Social Theory* London :Sage ch. 15 (Julia Kristeva) and 16 (Luce Irigaray).

6. The Consumer Body and Postmodernism

Mike Featherstone and Roger Burrows (1995) *Cyberspace/Cyberbodies/Cyberpunk* – special issue of *Body&Society* 1(3-4).

7. Anthropology of the Body: tattoos, pork and pollution

Mary Douglas (1966) *Purity and Danger* London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, chs. 1,2,7,8

Jane Caplan (ed) (2000) *Written on the Body. The Tattoo in European and American History*, London : Reaktion, chs. 12,13,14.

(S) Mary Douglas (1973) *Natural Symbols* , London: Penguin, chs. 4,5

(S) Special Issue on 'Body Modification' *Body&Society* vol.5(2-3).

8. Queer Bodies: lesbian and gay studies

Rosalind Gill, Karen Henwood and Carl McLean (2005) 'Body projects and the regulation of normative masculinity' *Body & Society* 11(1): 37-62.

(S) Steve Seidman, Nancy Fischer and Chet Meeks (eds) (2006) *Handbook of New Sexuality Studies* London: Routledge, chs. 12, 18, 23

9. Body Commodification: Organs for sale and cosmetic surgery

Anthony Elliott (2008) *Making the Cut. How cosmetic surgery is transforming our lives* London: Reaktion Press, chs 3,4.

Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Loic Wacquant (2001) 'Bodies for sale' in special issue of *Body&Society* 7(2-3)

10. Bodily Practices

Shusterman, Richard (2008) *Body Consciousness. A Philosophy of Mindfulness and Somaesthetics* . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, ch.1,4,5.

(S) Pierre Bourdieu (1984) *Distinction. A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste* London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, chs. 3, conclusion.

11.Can we live forever? Technological Utopia

Tiago Moreira and Paolo Palladino (2008) 'Squaring the Curve: the anatomo-politics of ageing, life and death' *Body & Society* 14(3):21-47.

Bryan S. Turner (2008) *The Body and Society* .London: Sage, chs. 12,13

Shusterman, Richard (2008) *Body Consciousness. A Philosophy of Mindfulness and Somaesthetics* . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,ch.3.

(S) Guy Brown (2008) *The Living End. The Future of Death, Aging and Immortality* London:Macmillan, chs,2,3,4,9.

12.The Asian Body

Chikako Ozawa-de Silva (2002) ' Beyond the body/mind? Japanese contemporary thinkers on alternative sociologies of the body' *Body&Society* 8(2):21-38.

Tomie Hahn (2007) *Sensational Knowledge. Embodying Culture through Japanese Dance* Middleton, Conn: Wesleyen University Press, ch.3

Jane Marie Law (ed) (1995) *Religious Reflections on the Human Body* Bloomington: Indiana University Press, part 3.

Kakuzo Okakura (2001) *The Book of Tea* , Boston and London: Shambhala Publications ,pp.28-87.

Jennifer Robertson (2001) 'Japan's first Cyborg' *Body&Society* 7(1):1-34.

13.Politics and the Racial Body: fascism and communism

Peter Roubal (2003) 'Politics of gymnastics: mass gymnastic displays under communism in central and eastern Europe' *Body&Society* 9(2):1-25.

Ayca Alemdaoglu (2005) 'Politics of the body and eugenic discourse in early Republican Turkey' *Body&Society* 11(3):61-76.

John Horne (2000) 'Understanding Sport and Body Culture in Japan' *Body&Society* 6(2):73-86

Marla Susan Stone (1998) *The Patron State. Culture & Politics in Fascist Italy* Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, chs,5,6.

14.Religion and the Body

Bryan S. Turner (1991) *Religion and Social Theory* London: Sage, ch.5.

Jane Marie Law (ed) (1995) *Religious Reflections on the Human Body* Bloomington: Indiana University Press, part 1.

Agostino Paravicini-Bagliani (2000) *The Pope's Body*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, ch.1,9

15.Dance and the Body

Bryan S. Turner (2008) *The Body and Society* .London: Sage, ch. 11.

(S) Special Issue 'Dancing Bodies' *Body& Society* vol. 11 (4)

16. Posthumanism and the Monstrous Body

Sander L. Gilman (1993) *The Case of Sigmund Freud.Medicine and Identity at the Fin de Siecle* Baltimore:Johns Hopkins University Press, chs. 1,2,3.

Margrit Shildrick (2002) *Embodying the Monster* London:Sage, chs.1,4,5,7