

**MA IN AMERICAN STUDIES/MA IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

**Autumn 2006**

**Unit Organiser: Dr Malcolm McLaughlin**

**AMSAM015 Race and Resistance**

This unit compares theories of race and strategies of resistance within the Americas. Interdisciplinary and team-taught, this unit begins with the premise that the ideology of white racial dominance continues to subordinate American peoples of colour. A range of resistances will be examined, from covert forms evident within the slave system and Indian education system, towards more overt forms evident within the American Civil Rights movement. The unit will conclude with a consideration of two specific forms of revolution: the Haitian Slave Revolt and the Mexican Zapatista Rebellion.

**RACE AND RESISTANCE**

**Required reading:**

James Scott, *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts* (1992).

Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1998).

Frantz Fanon, *Wretched of the Earth* (2001 (originally published 1963)).

**1. Preliminary Meeting**

**2. Introduction: Theoretical Frameworks**

a. James Scott, *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts* (1992), Chapters 1-4.

b. Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1* (1979), Chapter 2.

c. Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (1977), Chapter 1 & 3.

**Dr. Rebecca Griffin: Slavery**

**3. The Politics of the Body: Enslaved Women and Gynaecological Resistance**

a. Toni Morrison, *Beloved*, (1988).

b. Deborah Gray White, *Ar'n't I a Woman? Female Slaves in the Plantation South*, (1985), Chapter Four, "The Female Slave Network."

c. Liese Perrin, "Resisting Reproduction: Reconsidering Slave Contraception in the Old South", 35, *Journal of American History*, (2001), 2, 255-274.

d. Stephanie Camp, *Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance*. (2005). Chapter Three, The Intoxication of Pleasurable Amusement: Secret Parties and the Politics of the Body.”

#### **4. Telling Tales: Slave Folklore as a way of Speaking Back?**

a. Lawrence W. Levine, *Black Culture and Black Consciousness: Afro-American Folk Thought from Slavery to Freedom*. (1977), Chapter Two, “The meaning of Slave Tales.” Or Lawrence W. Levine, “Some Go Up and Some Go Down: The Meaning of the Slave Trickster.” In Lawrence Levine (ed.), *The Unpredictable Past: Explorations in American Cultural History* (1993).

b. Rebecca Griffin, “Courtship Contests and the Meaning of Conflict in the Folklore of the Enslaved”, LXXI, *Journal of Southern History*, (November 2005), no. 4, 769-802.

c. Stephanie Camp, *Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance*. (2005). Chapter Four, “Amalgamation Prints Stick up in her Cabin: Print Culture, the Home, and the Roots of Resistance.”

d. Extract from Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1988), p210-213.

e. Extracts from Joel Chandler Harris, *Uncle Remus Series*.

#### **Dr. Jacqueline Fear-Segal: American Indian School Children**

James Scott, *Domination and the Arts of Resistance*, is essential reading for wks 5-6.

#### **5. Education for Extinction**

a. Jorge Noriega, "American Indian Education in the United States: Indoctrination for Subordination to Colonialism," chapter 13, M. Annette Jaimes (ed.), *The State of Native America: Genocide, Colonization and Resistance* (1992), 371-402.

b. David Wallace Adams, "Resistance," chapter 7, *Education for Extinction: American Indians and the Boarding School Experience, 1875-1928* (1995), 207-238.

c. Richard A. Grounds, "Yuchi Travels: Up and Down the Academic "Road to Disappearance," chapter 12, Richard A. Grounds, George E. Tinker, & David E. Wilkins (eds), *Native Voices: American Indian Identity and Resistance* (2003), 290-317.

d. Carol Devens, "If We Get the Girls, We Get the Race," chapter 8, Hoxie, Mancall and Merrell (eds.), *American Nations: Encounters in Indian Country, 1850-Present*, (2001), 156-171.

#### **6. Education for Survival**

a. K. Tsianina Lomawaima, "You're a Woman , You're Going to Be a Wife," chapter 4, and "You Dizzy Bastard, Get in Step," chapter 5, *They Called it Prairie Light: the Story of Chilocco Indian School* (1995), 65-128.

b. Robert Warrior, "The Work of Indian Pupils: Narratives of Learning in Native American Literature," chapter 3, *The People and the Word: Reading Native Nonfiction* (2005), 95-142.

c. Ruth Spack, "Zitkala-Sa's 'American Indian Stories'," chapter 5, *America's Second Tongue* (2002), 143-170.

#### **7. Reading Week**

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, Jean-Paul Sartre’s Preface and Chapter 1, “Concerning Violence” is essential reading for weeks 8-11.

## **Dr. Malcolm McLaughlin: Self-Defence and Ghetto Revolt**

### **8. White Violence and Black Self-Defence**

- a. William M. Tuttle, Jr., *Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919* (1970).
- b. Extracts from the writings of Ida B. Wells-Barnett.
- c. Timothy B. Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams and the Roots of Black Power* (1999).
- d. Robert F. Williams, *Negroes With Guns* (1998 (originally published 1962)).
- e. Lance Hill, *The Deacons for Defense: Armed Resistance and the Civil Rights Movement* (2004).

### **9. From Riot to Insurrection: Ghetto Revolt in Comparative Perspective**

- a. George M. Fredrickson, *White Supremacy: A Comparative Study of American and South African History* (1982), Chapter VI, "Two Strange Careers: Segregation in South Africa and the South".
- b. Robert M. Price, *The Apartheid State in Crisis: Political Transformation of South Africa, 1975-1990* (1991).
- c. Claude M. Lightfoot, *Ghetto Rebellion to Black Liberation* (1968).
- d. Tom Hayden, *Rebellion in Newark* (1967).
- e. Extracts from Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

## **Dr. Rebecca Tillett: Revolutions in the Americas**

### **10. Black Revolution in Haiti, 1791-1804**

- a. CLR James, *The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution* (1938).
- b. Carolyn E Fick, *The Making of Haiti: The Saint Domingue Revolution from Below* (1990).
- c. David P Geggus (ed), *The Impact of the Haitian Revolution in the Atlantic World* (2001).
- d. excerpts from MLE Moreau de Saint-Méry, (1797-8) *A Civilization That Perished: the Last Years of White Colonial Rule in Haiti* (1985)

### **11. The Zapatistas and Chiapas, 1994-Present**

- a. George A Collier and Elizabeth Lowery Quaratiello, *Basta! Land and the Zapatista Rebellion in Chiapas* (1999).
- b. Mihalis Mentinis, *Zapatistas: Revolutionary Subjectivities and the Chiapas Revolt* (2006).
- c. Thomas Olesen, *International Zapatismo: the Construction of Solidarity in the Age of Globalization* (2004).
- d. excerpts from Subcomandante Insurgente Marcos, *Our Word is Our Weapon, Selected Writings* (2001).

### **12. Conclusion**