This is a writing workshop. We will each read aloud our weekly writings (500 words or less), develop forms of attention and analysis by learning to describe things with texture, density and voice. How do you describe a scene, a character, an event, a situation, a collective sensibility, a difference, a world? How do forms of writing become forms of thinking, describing, theory?

On most weeks, if this works for everyone’s schedules, we will meet as a workshop from 10-12 and then continue through the seminar 12-1:00.

Grades will be based on weekly writings (75%) and class participation including active discussion of readings and presented writings (25%). Attendance is expected every week; all readings must be completed.

Books
Kathleen Stewart. *Ordinary Affects* and *A Space on the Side of the Road*
Mark Doty. *The Art of Description*
Michael Taussig. *I Swear I Saw This*
Steven Feld. *Cosmopolitan Jazz*

Other readings are posted on blackboard.
Muecke. *Joe in the Andamans*
Lopate. *The Art of the Personal Essay*
Lepselter. *The License*
Orlean. *Little Wing*
Pine. *The Art of Making Do* (selections from Chs 1 and 5).
Pine. *The Demiurge of the Methamphetamine Economy.*
Stern. *Wormy Words, My Garden Bed, Gardening, Prelude, Bella Ross*
Bilger. *The Egg Men*

Jan 14 Introductions. Writing exercises and discussion of writing projects.

Jan 28 Mark Doty. *The Art of Description*
Kim Tallbear lecturing

Feb 4 Steven Feld. *Cosmopolitan Jazz*
Steven Feld visiting the class and then showing a film at noon
Feb 11  Jason Pine. The Art of Making Do (selections from Chs 1 and 5).
Pine. The Demiurge of the Methamphetamine Economy.
Jason Pine visiting class and then lecturing

Feb 18  Susan Lepselter. The License
Renato Rosaldo lecturing

Steven Muecke. Joe in the Andamans
Jim Clifford lecturing

Mar 4  Kathleen Stewart. A Space on the Side of the Road

Mar 18  Michael Taussig. I Swear I Saw This
Visual forms: a discussion with Craig Campbell

Mar 25  Maria Wade lecturing

Apr 1  Kathleen Stewart. Ordinary Affects
Lauren Berlant lecturing

Apr 8  David Stuart lecturing

Apr 15  Lesley Stern. Wormy Words, My Garden Bed, Gardening, Prelude, Bella Ross
Kaushik Ghosh lecturing

Apr 22  (Katie out of town. Workshop will meet without).

Apr 29  Bilger. The Egg Men
Susan Orlean Little Wing