

394M New Ethnographic Writing

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Office EPS 1.138 office hours T, Th 1-2.

This is a writing workshop. We will read one another's bi-weekly writings (2-3 single spaces pages), keep a freewriting journal, do writing exercises, 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? Why does writing matter in ethnography? What can ethnography do? How do you want to write? About what? What questions do forms of writing raise about subjects and objects? How do forms of writing change cultural theory? Can description be theory?

Books

Kathleen Stewart. *Ordinary Affects*.

Hugh Raffles. *Insectopedia*.

D. J. Waldie. *Where We Are Now*.

Philippe Bourgois. *Righteous Dopefiend*.

Joao Biehl. *Vita*.

All course packs and the Elbow book are posted on blackboard.

Aug 25 – introductions. Writing exercises.

Sept 1

Elbow. *Writing Without Teachers*. (on blackboard)

Sept 8

Writing Creative Nonfiction. (on blackboard)

Daniela Gandolfo. *The City at its Limits*. (selections) (on blackboard)

Sept 15

Eve Sedgwick (ed). *Novel Gazing*. (on blackboard)

Stephen Muecke. *Joe in the Andamans (selections)*. (on blackboard)

Julie Taylor. *Paper Tangos (selections)*. (on blackboard)

Leslie Stern. *The Smoking Book*. (selections). (on blackboard)

Sept 22

Kathleen Stewart. *Ordinary Affects*.

Sept 29

Norton Reader 1 (on blackboard)

October 6

Norton Reader 2 (on blackboard)

October 13

Hugh Raffles. *Insectopedia* (1st half)

October 20
Hugh Raffles. *Insectopedia* (1st half)

October 27
Philippe Bourgois. *Righteous Dopefiend*.

November 3
Joao Biehl. *Vita*. (1st half)

November 10
Joao Biehl. *Vita*. (2nd half)

November 17
Readings to be announced

November 24 (day before thanksgiving)

December 1
D. J. Waldie. *Where We Are Now*.