HUMAN RIGHTS, BORDERLANDS, AND THE POETICS OF APPLIED SOCIAL THEORY:
Engaging with Gloria Anzaldúa in Self and Global Transformations
April 5-6, 2006 • The Ryan Lounge • McCormack Bldg. 
University of Massachusetts Boston

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2006

8:30-9:00 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00-9:30 WELCOMING AND OPENING STATEMENTS

• Donna Kuizenga, Dean, College of Liberal Arts, UMass Boston
• Winston Langley, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, and Professor of Political Science and International Relations, UMass Boston

9:30-11:15 PANEL 1: Borderlands of Language and Culture

• Tereza Kynclová, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
  “Language’s Liberating Potentials and Literary Techniques in Gloria Anzaldúa’s Borderlands/La Frontera – The New Mestiza”

• Paola Zaccaria, Dept. of Linguistica, letteratura e filologia Università di Bari
  “Translating Borders, Performing Transnationalism”

• Kelly C. MacDonald, Graduate Student, American Studies, UMass Boston
  “Growing Up Hyphenated: The Newest Generation of Cuban-Americans”

• Panayota Gounari, Assistant Professor, Applied Linguistics, UMass Boston
  “How to Tame a Wild Tongue: Language Rights in the U.S.”

• Glenn Jacobs, Associate Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston
  “Finding the Center: Anzaldúa’s Development of a Transculturative Master Narrative”

• Jorge Capetillo-Ponce (panel chair), Assistant Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston
  “On Gloria Anzaldúa’s Methodology in Borderlands/La Frontera – The New Mestiza”

11:30-1:00 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

• AnaLouise Keating, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies, Texas Woman’s University
  “From Borderlands and New Mestizas to Nepantla and Nepantleras: Anzalduan Theories for Social Change”

• Gloria González-López, Assistant Professor, Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin
  “Transnational Feminisms and Epistemologies: Anzalduan Theories and Sociological Research with Sexual Abuse Survivors in Mexico”

1:00-2:00 LUNCH

2:00-3:15 PANEL 2A (Concurrent Breakout Session): Borderlands in Education

• Haroldo Fontaine, Doctoral Student, Education Leadership and Policy Studies, Florida State University
  “... y no se lo tragó la tierra: a bilingual analysis in terms of Mikhail Bakhtin’s Discourse in the Novel”

• Ruth Nicole Brown, 2005-2006 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  “Crossing Borders and Creating Connections: Stories of Mentoring African American Girls”

• Estelle Disch (panel chair), Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston
  “Gloria Anzaldúa in the Classroom: Exploring Borderlands Within”
2:00-3:15  PANEL 2B (Concurrent Breakout Session): Borderlands of Civil and Human Rights

- **Tony Van Der Meer**, Adjunct Professor of Africana Studies, UMass Boston
- **Jemadari Kamara**, Associate Professor of Africana Studies, UMass Boston
  “Post-Katrina: Civil Rights, Human Rights, and the Challenge of Economic Inequality”

- **Hormoz Shahdadi**, Ph.D., Adjunct Faculty, Political Science Department, UMass Boston
  “The Crisis of Definition in Human Rights Praxis”

- **Jennifer Shea**, (panel chair), Doctoral Student, McCormack School of Policy Studies, UMass Boston
  “Citizenship Rights, Contracts and Four Spheres of the American Welfare State: A Post-Structural Analysis”

3:30-5:00  PANEL 3: This Bridge We Are Building: “Inner Work, Public Acts”

- **Tim Sieber** (panel co-organizer), Professor and Chair, Anthropology, UMass Boston
  “The Classroom as Borderland”

- **Chris Bobel**, Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies, UMass Boston
  “Take This Class If You Like to be Brainwashed”: Walking the Knife’s Edge Between Education and Indoctrination”

- **Ann Torke**, Assistant Professor, Art, UMass Boston
  “Inner work, public Acts: Subversive Practices in Contemporary Art”

- **Karen Suyemoto**, Assistant Professor, Asian American Studies and Psychology, UMass Boston

- **Shirley Tang** (panel chair and co-organizer), Assistant Professor, Asian American Studies and American Studies, UMass Boston
  “Community-Centered Research As Knowledge/Capacity Building in Immigrant and Refugee Communities”

5:15-6:00  KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- **Lilia I. Bartolome**, Associate Professor, Applied Linguistics, UMass Boston
  “The Struggle for Language Rights: Naming and Interrogating the Colonial Legacy of English-only”

6:15-7:00  MUSIC PERFORMANCE by “ACHÉ OTÁN”

“Aché Otán” is an ensemble devoted to playing the sacred music of the Afro-Cuban religion, Santería. More than entertainment, this music is used to evoke the spiritual pantheon—the orishas—of the religion at celebrations, ritual events and drum-dance ceremonies. This music thus acts as a means of bringing the gods down (or up) among the celebrants. Consisting of five members, Aché Otán has been playing in the Boston and Providence areas for eight years. All of its members both sing and play percussion. The group consists of Leonor Rodriguez (chekere), Deborah García (bell, drum), Nurudafina Pilí Abena (drum, chekere), Julio Santos (chekere, bell, drum), and Glenn Jacobs (chekere, drum).

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006

8:30-9:00  REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00-10:15  PANEL 4: Globalization, Human Rights, and Border Social Movements

- **Pamela Irving Jackson**, Director of the Justice Studies Program, and Professor of Sociology, Rhode Island College
- **Roderick Parkes**, Researcher, Center for European Integration (ZEI), Bonn, Germany
  “Globalization and the Securitization of Immigration Policy: Competing Influences on Anti-Racism in Germany, France, Britain and the United States”

- **Kavita Koshy**, Doctoral Student, Sociology, Texas Woman’s University
  “Nepantlera-Activism in the Transnational Moment: In Dialogue with Gloria Anzaldúa’s Theorizing of Nepantla”

- **Steve Martinot**, Center for Interdisciplinary Programs, San Francisco State University
  “Social Justice Movements as Forms of Border Thinking”

- **Linda Dittmar** (panel chair), Professor, English, UMass Boston
  “At the Borderland of Vengeance and Conciliation in Israel/Palestine: Yuli Cohen Gerstel’s film ‘My Terrorist’”
10:30-11:45  PANEL 5: Border Wounds and Writing Queer

- **Miguel Malagreca**, Researcher, Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/University of Buenos Aires
  “Writing Queer Across the Borders of Geography, Desire, and Power”

- **Kevin Allred**, Graduate Student, American Studies, UMass Boston
  “Grieving the Ungrievable Life: Unearthing Borders, Surveillance, & Violence Against the Queer Body of Color”

- **Gabriela Sandoval**, Assistant Professor, Sociology, U.C. Santa Cruz
  “Wounds on the Border: Women of Color and Self-Injury”

- **Hilton Bertalan**, Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, York University
  “From Walls to Thresholds: Paying Homage to the Nepantlera of Global Justice Movements and Social Theory”

- **Luis Aponte-Parés** (panel chair and moderator), Associate Professor, College of Community and Public Service, UMass Boston

12:00-12:45  KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- **Cynthia Enloe**, Research Professor, Clark University
  “What International Feminist Activists Have Contributed to Anti-Militarist Social Theorizing”

12:45-1:45  LUNCH

1:45-3:30  PANEL 6: Spiritual and Disciplinary Borderlands

- **Samuel Zalanga**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Bethel University, St. Paul, Minnesota
  “The Spiritual and Cultural: Critical Interrogation of the Borderland of Evangelical Christianity and American Identity”

- **Sharon Kim**, Assistant Professor, Sociology, California State University at Fullerton
  “Hybrid Spiritualities: Second Generation Korean American Religion”

- **Michelle Corbin**, Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, University of Maryland at College Park
  “Facing our Dragons: Spiritual Activism, Psychedelic Mysticism and the Pursuit of Opposition”

- **Karen M. Gagne**, Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, Binghamton University
  “Fighting Amnesia as a Guerilla Activity: Poetics for a New Mode of Being Human”

- **Mohammad H. (Behrooz) Tamdgidi**, Assistant Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston
  “Middle Eastern Insights into Anzaldúa’s Utopystic and Quantal Sociological Imagination: Toward New Agenda”

- **Rajini Srikanth** (panel chair and moderator), Honors Program Director and Associate Professor, English, UMass Boston

3:45-5:15  PANEL 7: Feminist Futures / Global Struggles

- **Elora H. Chowdhury** (panel chair), Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies, UMass Boston
  “Global Feminism: Feminist Theory’s Cul-de-sac”

- **Amy Den Ouden**, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, UMass Boston
  “Quandaries of Silence: Agency and History in the Lives of Colonized Women”

- **Rhonda Frederick**, Associate Professor, English Department, Boston College
  “Migrating Fictions: Jamaican Culture and Globalization”

- **Daniella Boucher**, Undergraduate Student, Sociology, UMass Boston
  “Harriet Martineau: An Examination of her Travels to America”

- **C. Heike Schotten**, Assistant Professor, Political Science, UMass Boston
  “The Problem of Paradox: Becoming / Loving What One Is”

5:30-6:15  KEYNOTE SPEAKER: REFLECTIONS

- **AnaLouise Keating**, Associate Professor, Women’s Studies, Texas Woman’s University

6:15-7:00  MUSIC PERFORMANCE by Corey Dolgon

Corey Dolgon is an Associate Professor and Chair of Sociology at Worcester State College. He is also a folksinger and organizer who has appeared at political rallies and demonstrations around the United States. Recently, he has performed a singing lecture on the role of song in the United States Labor Movement entitled, “The Commonwealth of Toil.” His most recent book, The End of the Hamptons: Scenes From the Class Struggle in America’s Paradise (NYU Press, 2005), looks at the cultural politics of contemporary shifts in local and global economies, political identities, and land-use practices. His current projects include a service learning text book on social problems and a multi-media presentation on the life and times of Phil Ochs.
Ruth Nicole Brown, 2005-2006 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Ruth Nicole Brown is an African American Studies & Research Program postdoctoral fellow. Currently, she is revising her dissertation research on African American girls’ political socialization for publication and working on a short documentary film on the same subject. More broadly, her research/teaching interests include Black Politics, Women’s and Girls’ Studies, Performance Studies, and Qualitative Methodology. She received her BA in Political Science from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Brown earned her MA and Ph.D. in Political Science as well as a certificate in Women’s Studies from the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. mbrown@uiuc.edu

Jorge Capetillo-Ponce, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UMass Boston

Professor Capetillo’s Research specializations include social theory, race and ethnic relations, media studies, Latino studies, US-Latin America relations, and U.S. media coverage of Islamic societies. His current research is focused on majority-minority identity politics in Massachusetts, US mainstream media representations of Latinos and influences on US-Mexico relations, media and violence, and the influence of Georg Simmel on Octavio Paz’s The Labyrinth of Solitude. His recent publications include Images of Mexico in the U.S. News Media (editor, 2000), and "The Vote on Bilingual Education and Latino identity Politics in Massachusetts" (2003). Jorge.capetillo@umb.edu

Elora Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Women’s Studies, UMass Boston

Professor Chowdhury’s fields of interest include critical development studies, Third World/transnational feminisms, and feminist ethnography. Her work has appeared in various journals including Meridians: Feminism Race & Transnationalism and the International Feminist Journal of Politics. Currently, she is working on a book project tentatively entitled, “Transnationalism Reversed: Development and Women’s Activism in Bangladesh.” elora.chowdhury@umb.edu

Michelle Corbin, Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, University of Maryland at College Park

Corbin is currently a 5th year dissertating PhD student at University of Maryland. Her dissertation is looking at practices of psychodelic mysticism and the pursuit of oppositional consciousness and counterhegemonenic academic/scientific knowledges. My current areas of interest are in social critical theory especially feminist theory, post colonial theory and critical theories of race and racism as well as the broad area of critiscal science studies. mccorbin@socy.umd.edu

Amy Den Ouden, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, UMass Boston

Professor Den Ouden’s research areas include Native North America; indigenous land rights; colonial Indian policy; gender and power in cross cultural contexts; colonialism and racial discourse. Her recent publications include her book Beyond Conquest: Native Peoples and the Struggle for History in New England, published by the University of Nebraska Press as a part of their Fourth World Rising series. amy.denouden@umb.edu

Estelle Disch, Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston

A certified Clinical Sociologist, Professor Disch serves as coordinator of the first year seminar program at UMass Boston. Her recent research has focused on sexual abuse by professionals, and is the editor of Reconstructing Gender: A Multicultural Anthology (McGraw Hill, Fourth edition, 2006). Disch leads faculty development workshops on General Education teaching and other pedagogical issues and has provided consultations to many campuses on diversity and campus climate issues. estelle.disch@umb.edu

Linda Dittmar, Professor, English, UMass Boston

Professor Dittmar, recipient of Distinguished Teaching Award at UMass Boston, teaches Film Studies, Twentieth-Century Fiction & Drama, Multicultural Literature, Literary & Film Theory, and Women and Gender. Her research and writing interests are Film, Cultural Studies, Narrative Theory, Gender, including independent and global cinemas, minority representations, and mixed genres. A pioneer in film criticism, Dittmar has edited two major works: Multiple Voices in Feminist Film Criticism (Minnesota 1994) and From Hanoi to Hollywood: The Vietnam War in American Film (Rutgers 1990). She has also written more than 30 book chapters and journal articles and has edited two special issues (titled “Teaching in Time of War”) in film, video, and media and teaching globalization for the journal Radical Teacher. An academic known for her foresight, Dittmar worked to expand curriculums to represent newly emerging literature and brought new courses to UMass Boston, most notably her development of offerings in film studies. A nationally and internally recognized expert in the field, Dittmar pioneered the teaching of film ten years before the Modern Language Association (MLA) acknowledged it as a field of study. She has also played an active role in the Center for the Improvement of Teaching and has previously received a Fulbright Senior Teaching Fellowship in India. lindadittmar@aol.com

Haroldo Fontaine, Doctoral Student, Education Leadership and Policy Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee

Fontaine’s specialization in Education Leadership and Policy Studies is the History and Philosophy of Education. His current work includes explaining successful political revolutions in Peru and Cuba in terms of John Dewey’s theory of experience and recognizing cultural imperialism through film and literature and resisting it by means of education policy. Fontaine’s publications include a translation of Dr. Maricarmen Martinez’s “Requiem for a Virgin Muse” and an essay entitled “The Power of Patriarchy: A Comparative Analysis of Jorge Isaacs’s Maria and Albert Camus’ The Stranger; both may be found in G. Brackins, H. Fontaine, M. Martinez, J. Pautz and P. Predmore (Eds.), Cultural Imperialism Essays. Boston, MA: Pearson. His conference presentations include the 29th Annual Conference on Literature and Film in 2004 and the American Educational Studies Association Annual Conference in 2005. haroldoabraam@earthlink.net

Rhonda Frederick, Associate Professor, English Department, Boston College

Professor Frederick specializes in Caribbean and African American literatures. Her scholarly interests include literatures of the Americas, particularly 20th century women’s popular fiction, mystery/detective, and futuristic fiction/fantasy writing. She is currently interested in the detective and/or futuristic fiction of Nalo Hopkinson, Walter Mosley, BarbaraNeeley, and Colson Whitehead. Her first manuscript, “Colón Man A Come”: Mythographies of Panamá Canal Migration, examines the recurrent figure of the Panama Canal worker in Caribbean literature, song, and memoir. frederir@bc.edu

Karen M. Gagne, Doctoral Candidate, Sociology, Binghamton University


Panagiota Gounari, Assistant Professor, Applied Linguistics, UMass Boston

Professor Gounari holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies in Education from Pennsylvania State University. She specializes in bilingualism, multicultural education, literacy and technology in language education. Her primary areas of interest include language policy and linguistic hegemony, critical discourse analysis, language and the politics of difference, the role of language in social change and the construction of human agency and democratic spaces as well as its implications for critical pedagogy. She co-authored The Hegemony of English with Donaldo Macedo and Bessie Dendrinos (Paradigm Press, 2003) and The Globalization of Racism with Donaldo Macedo (Paradigm Press, 2005). panagiota.gounari@umb.edu
Pamela Irving Jackson, Director, Justice Studies Program, Professor of Sociology, Rhode Island College, Providence

Pamela Irving Jackson is professor of Sociology and Director of the Justice Studies Program at Rhode Island College. Her research has focused on issues of social control and minority status, resulting in articles published in major journals, and her book, Minority Group Threat, Crime and Policing: Social Context and Social Control. Professor Jackson's book was included by Choice in the short list of "Outstanding Academic Books" published in 1989. Malcolm Holms cited her book in the May, 2000 issue of Criminology to make his point that "it has become increasingly clear that the roots of police-minority hostility are deeply embedded into the social structure." In the 1990s Dr. Jackson turned her attention to testing the impact of minority threat on crime control in different political and cultural contexts. She received a Fulbright for the summer, 2002, German Studies Seminar, "International Migration and National Identity," and she was later invited to collaborate, as a visiting fellow, with researchers at the Center for European Integration Studies in Bonn. Professor Jackson served on the editorial board of the American Sociological Review and is currently a reviewer for Criminology. Her 1991 article in Justice Quarterly, "Crime, Youth Gangs and Urban Transition: The Social Dislocations of Postindustrial Economic Development," has been reprinted in three edited collections, including Ashgate Publishing's International Library of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Penology. In 1997 she received the American Society of Criminology's Mentor of the Year Award. Her research is closely related to her activities as a teacher in the areas of criminal justice, deviance, and social control. She was the 2000 recipient of the Paul Maixner Distinguished Teaching Award at Rhode Island College. In 2003 she received the Mary Tucker Thorp Professorship for Distinguished Research in Arts and Sciences. p.jackson@ric.edu

Glenn Jacobs, Associate Professor of Sociology, UMass Boston

Professor Jacobs’ research includes the social contexts of the Afro-Cuban religion, santeria, in Cuba and the United States. Jacobs’ forthcoming book, Charles Horton Cooley: Imagining Social Reality (University of Massachusetts Press, March 2006) is an in-depth study of the life and works of Charles Horton Cooley as a belletrist, i.e., a sociologist whose inspiration came from literature. Other recent writing has been on Latino students and retention. glenn.jacobs@umb.edu

Jemadari Kamara, Associate Professor of Africana Studies, UMass Boston

Dr. Kamara, Director of the Center for African, Caribbean and Community Development, and Senior Fellow at the Center for Democracy and Development, is a specialist in community planning. He has extensive living and working experience in Africa. He is a former Fulbright Professor at the Universite Nationale du Benin Contonou and former Dean of the College of Public and Community Service of UMass Boston. adjarra@yahoo.com

Sharon Kim, Assistant Professor, Sociology, California State University at Fullerton

Dr. Kim’s areas of specialization are the sociology of religion, race and ethnicity, and immigration. She has conducted research and has published reports on the role of the Protestant church in Korean American communities. Her current research focuses on the role of religion in immigrant adaptation. sharonkim@exchange.fullerton.edu

Kavita Koshy, Doctoral Student, Sociology, Texas Woman’s University

Koshy is currently working on a Ph.D. in Sociology. She completed a MA in Women’s Studies (2005) from Texas Woman’s University. She previously completed an MA in Social Work degree in India from Tata Institute of Social Sciences. She has worked in Karnataka Sanghatana (India), an indigenous people’s organization, from 1997-98 and in Virmochana (India), a forum for women’s rights, from 1999-2003 as an activist. kavikoshy@yahoo.co.uk

Tereza Kynclova, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Mgr. Tereza Kynclova (1978) received a Masters Degree in Political Science and English and American Studies at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Charles University, Prague in January 2005. Currently she is enrolled in another Masters program at the Department of Gender Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, Prague. She specializes on contemporary American women writers, literary theory and feminist theory. terezka@gebbeth.cz

Kelly C. MacDonald, Graduate Student, American Studies, UMass Boston

MacDonald is currently in her second year in the American Studies Master’s program at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Her research interests include Marriage and Family Studies, Cuban American and Latino Studies and Popular Culture Studies. She is currently developing a case study of rock concert culture and community building, investigating the ever-evolving way in which fans interact in the rock ‘n’ roll community and exploring how internet technology has helped to expand rock bands’ fan communities. dncnnnacc@yahoo.com

Miguel Malagreca, Researcher, Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/University of Buenos Aires

Dr. Malagreca, Psy.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist, trained psychoanalyst and holds an MA and Ph.D. in Communications. He has been a part time researcher for the Queens University (Canada), University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) and the Tel Aviv University (Israel) on ethics and human rights. He also holds a diploma on Social Sciences from the Ecole Des Hautes Etudes En Sciences Sociales, Paris (France). A Fulbright grantee at the ICR, UIUC, he is working on transnational and migrant queer subjectivities in Italy. Malagreca is the editor of Aesthetika and has published dozens of articles in journals, books and specialized magazines. malagrecc@express.cites.uiuc.edu

Steve Martinot, Center for Interdisciplinary Programs, San Francisco State University

Steve Martinot has been an anti-war activist, human rights activist, and union organizer. He has taught Philosophy and Cultural Studies in Colorado and California. He has written extensively on Sartre and contemporary continental philosophy. He translated Albert Memmli’s last book, called “Racism”, from French (Univ. of Minnesota Press). His last book is entitled “The Rule of Racialization” (Temple University Press), an historical critique of the structures of racialization and white supremacy in the US. He is currently working on a series of articles on social justice movements. marto@ccf.berkeley.edu

Roderick Parkes, Researcher, Centre for European Integration Studies (ZEI)

Parkes is research assistant and doctoral candidate at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik in Berlin. He focuses on the development of justice and home affairs integration in the EU. Recent articles by Parkes on issues of migration and security have appeared in the The Discourse of Sociological Practice and the Journal of Social and Ecological Boundaries. He received an M.Phil in European Studies from Cambridge University in 2002. Rodenck.Parkes@swp-berlin.org

Gabriela Sandoval, Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of California at Santa Cruz

Dr. Sandoval teaches Latina/o and Urban Sociology. Her work has focused on the presence of race voting in city council elections and the logic of addressing voting rights through case law. Dr. Sandoval’s 2006 book, Voting Rights: The New进军-of-District Election Systems, has been reprinted in three edited collections, including Ashgate Publishing’s International Library of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Policing. Dr. Sandoval is presently in residence at the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at the University of Illinois, Chicago where she is a Rockefeller Postdoctoral Fellow. During her tenure in Chicago, she is expanding her work on race voting-which has up to now focused on divisiveness among African American and white populations-to include Puerto Rican and African American voting behavior. At the University of California, Santa Cruz, Professor Sandoval also teaches Latino/as in the Global American City and Research Methods. She examines the intersection of race, class, and gender in voting patterns as well as among women of color who self-injure. sandoval@ucsc.edu

C. Heike Schotten, Assistant Professor, Political Science, UMass Boston

Professor Schotten's teaching and research interests include Political Theory, Feminist Theory, and Queer Theory. She is currently at work completing her first book on Nietzsche and Revolution. Heike.Schotten@umb.edu
Participants (cont’d)

Hormoz Shahdadi, Adjunct Faculty, Political Science Department, UMass Boston
Dr. Shahdadi is an Iranian born writer and political scientist. He has widely published in Iran and currently is associated with both departments of political science and sociology at UMass Boston. hormoz.shahdadi@umb.edu

Jennifer Shea, Doctoral Student, McCormack School of Policy Studies, UMass Boston
Shea is a Ph.D. candidate at the McCormack School of Policy Studies at UMASS Boston and holds an M.A. in International Studies from the Graduate School of International Studies at the University of Denver. Her current research, which focuses on the links between theory, ideology and policy outcomes in areas related to social welfare policy, stems from her previous academic and programmatic experience in democracy, human rights, and social justice. jennifer.shea@worldnet.att.net

Tim Sieber, Professor and Chair, Anthropology, UMass Boston
Tim Sieber is a social anthropologist with long-term interests in critical urban cultural and educational studies, and has worked in the US, Venezuela, and Port-au-Prince. Among other publications on education, Tim is co-editor of Achieving Against the Odds: How Academics Become Teachers of Diverse Students (2001). His “Popular Music and Cultural Identity in the Cape Verdean Post-Colonial Diaspora” appeared in Etnographica in 2005. tim.sieber@umb.edu

Rajini Srikanth, Honors Program Director and Associate Professor, English, UMass Boston
Professor Srikanth specializes in literature of the American South, Asian American Literature, Native American Writing, Gender Issues, South Asian Diaspora; Race; and Pedagogy. Her research & writing Interests include Asian American Studies, Race and Literature, Pedagogy and Multiculturalism, Native American Literature. She is the author of The World Next Door: South Asian American Literature and the Idea of America (Temple UP, 2004); White Women in Racialized Spaces: Imaginative Transformation and Ethical Action in Literature (SUNY Press, 2002); and Bold Words: A Century of Asian American Writing (Rutgers, 2001). She has co-edited A Part, Yet Apart: South Asians in Asian America (Temple U.P., 1998) and Contours of the Heart; South Asians Map North America (Asian American Writers’ Workshop, 1996). Her articles have appeared in Mississippi Quarterly, Amerasia Journal, Critical Mass: A Journal of Asian American Cultural Criticism; Asian Pacific American Journal; and The Subcontinental. rajini.srikanth@umb.edu

Karen Suyemoto, Assistant Professor, Asian American Studies and Psychology, UMass Boston
Dr. Suyemoto’s area specialization is Clinical Psychology: Asian American Studies; Mental Health and Identity in Asian Americans; Multiracial Identities; Identity Development Issues of Diverse Identity Groups. In particular she focuses on Asian American psychology and issues related to social justice and anti-racist therapy practice/education. Dr. Suyemoto’s particular personal research interest lies in the social/individual construction of identities, particularly racial and ethnic identities and other variables that are related to oppressed status (race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation) or experiences of oppression (e.g. the WWII Japanese American internment). karen.suyemoto@umb.edu

Mohammad H. (Behrooz) Tamdgidi, Assistant Professor, Sociology, UMass Boston
Tamdgidi teaches social theory at UMass Boston. He holds a PhD and MA in sociology (in conjunction with a graduate certificate in Middle Eastern studies) from SUNY-Binghamton and a BA in architecture from U.C. Berkeley. His fields of theoretical specialization include self and society, world-historical sociology, sociology of knowledge, social movements, and utopias. Tamdgidi’s research and teaching are framed by an interest in understanding how personal self-knowledges and world-historical social structures constitute one another. His continuing research on liberating social theory in self and world-historical contexts is pursued via critical comparative/integrative explorations of utopian, mystical, and scientific discourses and practices. Tamdgidi’s publications include “Toward a Dialectical Concepi of Imperiality: The Transitory (Heuristic) Nature of the Primacy of Economies in World Historical Social Science,” (forthcoming, Review: Journal of the Fernand Braudel Center), “Open Antisystemic Movements: The Book, The Concept and The Reality” (2001, Review: Journal of the Fernand Braudel Center), “Rethinking Sociology: Self, Knowledge, Practice, and Dialectics in Transitions to Quantum Social Science” (2004, The Discourse of Sociological Practice), and “Mysticism and Utopia: Toward the Sociology of Self-Knowledge and Human Architecture (A Study in Marx, Gurdjeeff, and Mannheim)” (2002, PhD Dissertation). Tamdgidi is the founding editor of Human Architecture: Journal of the Sociology of Self-Knowledge. mohammad.tamdgidi@umb.edu

Shirley Tang, Assistant Professor, Asian American Studies and American Studies, UMass Boston
Shirley Tang’s teaching/research interests are: comparative race/ethnicity/culture; Asian immigrant/refugee community studies; urban cultural history; youth activist art; and HIV/AIDS risks in immigrant communities. Her recent publications include: “Learning to Build a Healthy Community: Youth Development for Street-Involved Cambodian American Women in Revere, Massachusetts.” “Community Development as Public Health/Public Health as Community Development: A Report on the HIV/AIDS Needs assessment in Lowell, Massachusetts.” and “An Assessment of Khmer American Community Needs in Lynn, Massachusetts.” She has co-written the first national report on HIV/AIDS risks among Asian and Pacific Islander women, and is currently working on a book manuscript on the development of the Cambodian American community in Revere, Massachusetts, focusing on the role of and relationship between urban community development efforts, cultural practices and historical memory. shirley.tang@umb.edu

Ann Torke, Assistant Professor, Art, UMass Boston
Professor Torke is a painter and MFA from the University of California San Diego and participated in the Whitney Independent Studies Program. She is an interdisciplinary artist working in installation, video and sculpture. Her work has been exhibited internationally at venues like Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, Buffalo New York, Art in General, NYCD and de Balie, Amsterdam. Recent solo shows include the Bancroft Collaborative, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, The Newport Art Museum, Newport Rhode Island, and the Boston Sculptors Gallery this spring. Ann.Torke@umb.edu

Tony Van Der Meer, Adjunct Professor of Africana Studies, UMass Boston. tony.vandermeer@umb.edu
Courses Prof. Van Der Meer has taught at UMass Boston include “African American Consciousness,” “Martin & Malcolm X,” and “Civil Rights Movements.” He has long had a history as a community organizer and activist in the Roxbury and Dorchester areas of Boston.

Paola Zaccaria, Dept. of Linguistica, letteratura e filologia, Università di Bari
Professor Zaccaria, former President of the Italian Society of Literary Women (SIL), teaches 20th-century American and English avant-gardes, Poetry, Anglo-American Feminist Criticism, Latin Writers and African American Literature, Border and Diaspora Studies, Literary and Film Theory. She has introduced Visual Studies in Bari University where she has started a Master Course in Visual Studies. Her research and teaching are focused on visual studies and transcodifications. Her most recent books are: A lettere scarlate. Poesia come stregoneria (FrancoAngeli, Milano 1995); Mappe senza frontiere. Cartografie letterarie dal modernismo al transnazionalismo (Palomar, Bari 1993); La lingua che esita. Poetica, politica, traduzione (Meltemi, Roma, 2005). Zaccaria is the Italian translator and editor of Borderlands/La frontiera (Palomar, Bari 2001). She met and interviewed Anzúdza in 1998 and has been teaching her work in her classes since then. mestiza@bero.it

Samuel Zalanga, Associate Professor of Sociology, Bethel University, St. Paul, Minnesota
The Social Theory Forum (STF) is a series of conference-workshops organized jointly by the sociology and other interested faculty and students at UMB in order to creatively explore, develop, promote, and publish cross-disciplinary social theory in an applied and liberating (critical) framework. STF will offer the faculty and students of UMass Boston and other area colleges and universities an interactive medium to discuss various aspects of the way in which particular theoretical traditions can be relevant to present everyday issues, the current state of social theory, and the future of social theory—recognizing that it is caught between its past successes and a situation that threatens to make its achievements less relevant if it does not deal successfully with the prospects of continuity and change.

STF’s goals are:

- To critically engage with and evaluate classical and contemporary social theories in a cross-disciplinary and comparative cross-cultural framework in order to develop new integrative theoretical structures and practices;
- To foster individual and collective self-reflexivity in exploring social theories in global and world-historical contexts to aid people effectively address social problems and engage in liberatory social struggles;
- To foster interactive and dialogical learning experience and research in theory within and across faculty, students, and community divides on and off-campus, characterized by respect for the dignity and empowerment of ordinary individual lives and opinions in everyday life;
- To foster dialectical exchange of ideas open to constructive and integrative exploration of diverse and conflicting viewpoints, modes of thinking, and world-views;
- To foster theoretical education and research within a praxis-oriented and applied sociological framework capable of addressing concrete issues arising in intrapersonal, interpersonal and global contexts;
- To foster theoretical education and research as practices of freedom in favor of transformative and emancipatory personal and global social experience.

Please submit questions and inquiries to organizers:

Mohammad Tamdgidi, Assistant Professor, Sociology: mohammad.tamdgidi@umb.edu
Jorge Capetillo-Ponce, Assistant Professor, Sociology: jorge.capetillo@umb.edu
Panayota Gounari, Assistant Professor, Applied Linguistics: panagiota.gounari@umb.edu
Glenn Jacobs, Associate Professor, Sociology: glenn.jacobs@umb.edu
Estelle DISCH, Professor, Sociology: estelle.disch@umb.edu

Or by writing to
Attn.: Social Theory Forum
Department of Sociology • University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Boulevard • Boston, MA 02125

Partial List of Cosponsors at UMass Boston:
Department of Anthropology • Women’s Studies • Honors Program
William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black Culture / Africana Studies

Event and Program Poster Designs: Thanasis Gounaris, Athens, Greece
www.thanasisgounaris.com