

Anthro 331
Guest, Enemy, Neighbor:
(Xenophobia and the Other in Europe today)
Fall 2020

Department of Anthropology, Rutgers UniversityInstructor: Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi (parvis@anthropology.rutgers.edu)Class time: **Thurs. 2:15 - 5: 55** (3rd period) with a break of 15 minutes

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-3:00 virtual

Phone: 480-815-0417

Location of course: The course will be offered by remote instruction. SR, Sakai. AJ, AK, AL, 60

Semester: Fall 2020

Credits: 3

Pre-requisites: none

Societies are characterized by the way they enforce boundaries, how the “internal” or “external” relate to its cultural and social self-understanding. This course examines the anthropology and socio-psychology of this self-understanding focusing on both xenophilia (welcoming the foreign) and xenophobia (fear of the foreign) in Europe with particular focus on Germany. In politically pregnant categories such as *friend* or *foe*, and in ambiguous categories such as *guests* that come unannounced, *migrants* that hail from afar, *neighbors* that can't be trusted, and *strangers* that do not leave, we will confront European notions of internality and externality, belonging and estrangement in a globalizing world. Theoretical focus will be on the process of identification and the practices of belonging and disavowed solidarity with particular emphasis on the modification of projections and the changing nature of the fear of the other e.g. in Anti-Semitism, racism, or Islamophobia. The course will also include forays into contemporary French reactions to the foreign and consider the larger picture of transformation gripping the continent at this troubling time. What constitutes the “foreign” and the “domestic” and how do these influence notions of mutual belonging in local communities, at the level of national country or transnational institutions such as the European Union? While we will engage mainly European materials, students need no prior knowledge of anything German, French or European.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

You will need a computer with a webcam and microphone and an internet connection for class. Please visit the [Rutgers Student Tech Guide](#) page for resources available to all students. If you do not have the appropriate technology for financial reasons, please email Dean of Students deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu for assistance.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

If you are facing other financial hardships, please visit the Office of Financial Aid at <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/>.

Course Objectives

To provide undergraduate-level competency in a comparative and global perspective on the phenomena of xenophobia, xenophilia, migration, and forms of identification of, and with, an Other.

To introduce students to culturally diverse conceptions of the idea of the guest (notions of hospitality), the friend (notions of intimacy), the enemy (notions of adversity), neighbors (notions of proximity), and cultural alterity.

To teach students how to appraise diverse theoretical approaches to society, culture, history, in light of question of migration, while practicing critical discussion, disputation, and argumentative skills.

To introduce students to how xenophobia, xenophilia, migration and othering unfold differently in various countries within and outside of Europe.

To help students gain proficiency in the use of critical thinking skills in their assessment of analytic and scholarly texts, anthropological theory, and ethnographic writing; also history, literature, visual media (film and photography), social psychology and psychoanalysis.

To provide students with the training of reading and presentation skills, the use of central concepts, and a comparative approach to politically salient issues, as well as to attune them to cultural and social difference.

Absence:

"Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> <<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me." Students found cheating on exams, handing in exams containing plagiarized passages, or otherwise violating academic integrity policies will be turned in to the appropriate Dean for punishment. Please familiarize yourself, therefore, with the Rutgers academic integrity policy, posted online at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>.

Course requirements:

The seminar will be discussion driven. Hence it is **vitaly** important that you come to class prepared. This includes reading texts/books assigned as well as having screened **all** other class materials (movies, youtube videos or music) relevant to the week. If you miss a class, please do consult student colleagues or the instructor for adequate information about what was missed.

Books for Purchase:

Max Frisch. 1961. *Andorra*. London, U.K.: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama; (Modern Plays, First edition, October 18, 2001). ISBN-10: 0413305104; ISBN-13: 978-0413305107. [112 pages]

Michel Houellebecq. 2015. *Submission: A Novel*. N.Y. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. ISBN-10: 1250097347; ISBN-13: 978-1250097347. [256 pages]

There are used paper copies of both Max Frisch or Michel Houellebecq available on Amazon.com, which are affordable, beginning at \$2-3 dollars. The edited volume *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration 1995-2005* (ed. by Deniz Göktürk, David Gramling, and Anton Kaes) does **not** have to be purchased. Relevant sections of the books will be available in pdf. format on Sakai

Moving Images:

1. **Fuocoammare** (2016) [**Fire at Sea**]. Director: Gianfranco Rosi. Call Number Media Center (Douglass) - DVD 10-6899 (with English subtitles). *This movie is not available at Rutgers and the library will not acquire it [n/a]*
2. **Angst essen Seele auf** [**Ali: Fear Eats the Soul**]. (1974). Director: Rainer Werner Fassbinder. Call Number Media Center (Douglass) - DVD 10-1803 (with English subtitles)
3. **Die Fremde** [**When we leave**]. (2010). Director: Feo Aladag. Call Number Media Center (Douglass) - DVD 10-6975 (with English subtitles). *This movie is not available at Rutgers and the library will not acquire it [n/a]*
4. **Dogville**. (2004) Director: Lars von Tier. Call Number Media Center (Douglass) - DVD10-2979

Movies **2.** (**Ali: Fear Eats the Soul**) and **4.** (**Dogville**) are available for your private viewing at home from Rutgers Library. Enter my name (Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi) or the course name: *Xenophobia and the other in Europe today* (number 16:070:532:01). Use QuickSearch and Course Reserves as the search option to navigate to the movies. Call a librarian for help if you can't get prompt access. Movie materials might also be available on *youtube* or other sites in one way or another, but in varying degrees of quality, completeness, and, unfortunately, sometimes without English subtitles. Movies **1.** (**Fire at Sea**) is available to rent or buy on youtube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbTcre_Sbno. I am still working on getting access to Movie **3.** (**When We Leave** —or **Die Fremde**). I am not sure if I will be

successful.

Exams and Grading:

Seminar participation 40%; mid-term 30%; final essay 30%. The mid term and final exam will be in form of a question posed to the class that each participants will have to answer in a written paper within a few days.

Course Outline:

WEEK 1. Introduction: Refugees, Borders, Pandemic (Thurs. September 3rd)

1. **Zygmunt Bauman**. 2016. "Migration Panic and Its (Mis)uses" and "Anthropological vs. Time bound Roots of Hatred," Chapters 1 and 6, pp. 1-22 and 98-117 in *Strangers At Our Door*.
[26 pages]
2. **Navid Kermani**. 2017[2016]. Upheaval: The Refugee Trek Through Europe [orig. *Der Einbruch der Wirklichkeit*]. Translated by Tony Crawford, with photographs by Moises Saman, pp. 1-27
[27 pages]
3. **Vivian Wang** and **Amy Qin**. 2020. "As Coronavirus Fades in China, Nationalism and Xenophobia Flare." New York Times, 4/17/2020
[3 pages]
4. **Jagat Sohail**. 2020. "Accepting Germans: An Ethnographic Exploration of Refugee Integration in Berlin." In *Digesting Difference: Migrant Incorporation and Mutual Belonging in Europe*, Kelly McKowen and John Borneman, pp. 1-24
[24 pages]
5. **Jim Tankersley**. 2020. "Where Will the New Jobs Come From? Look Here." New York Times, 8/6/2020
[2 pages]

Recommendation: If you can find free or paid access view *Fuocoammare* ("Fire at Sea"), Director: Gianfranco Rosi (Italian with English subtitles), 2016; Hannah Arendt. 1945 [1943]. "We Refugees." In *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers on Exile*. Edited by Marc Robinson. Boston: Faber and Faber, pp. 110-119 [9 pages]; Byung-Chul Han. 2016. The Expulsion of the other: Society, Perception and Communication today [orig. *Die Austreibung des Fremden*]. Translated by Wieland Hoban

WEEK 2. Being Strange (Thurs. Sept. 10th)

1. **Aleksander Hemon**. 2001. "Door to Door," The New Yorker, Oct. 15, p. 170 [1 page]
2. **Georg Simmel**. 1950 [1908]. "The Stranger." *The Sociology of Georg Simmel*. New York: Free Press, 402-408
[6 pages]
3. **James Baldwin**. 1980 [1953]. "Stranger in a Village," in William Smart (ed.), Eight Modern Essayists, pp. 296-308. (Originally from *Notes of a Native Son*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1955, pp. 159-75, [16 pages])
[12 pages]
4. **Fritz W. Kramer**. 1986. "The Otherness of the European." *Culture and History* 6:107-123
[16 pages]

Home Assignment for this Thursday:

Listen to **The Doors**, "People are Strange" (1967); **Georges Moustaki**, "Le Métèque" (1969); **Joni Mitchell**, "A Freeman in Paris" (1974); **Sting** (Gordon Sumners), "Englishman in New York" (1987); **Advanced Chemistry**, "Fremd im Eigenen Land" [*Foreign in my own country*] (1992); **Die Ärzte**, "Schrei nach Liebe" (1993). The lyrics of these songs as well as youtube links are given on Sakai (under 'Materials: Songs, Proverbs, Poems') inclusive of English translations.

Recommendation: Deniz Göktürk, David Gramling, and Anton Kaes (eds.). 2007. "Is the Boat Full? Xenophobia, Racism, and Violence," In *Germany in Transit*, pp. 105-148 [43 pages]

WEEK 3. Friend, Neighbor, Guest (Thurs. September 17)

1. **Julian Pitt-Rivers**. 2016[1983]. "The paradox of friendship." *Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 6 (3): 433-452
[19 pages]

2. **Michael Herzfeld**. 1987. "As in your own house: Hospitality, Ethnography, and the Stereotype of Mediterranean Society," In *Honor and Shame and the Unity of the Mediterranean*, David Gilmore, ed. Washington, D.C.: American Anthropological Association, pp. 75-89 **[14 pages]**
3. **Synnøve Bendixsen** and **Hilde Danielsen**. 2020. "Hierarchical Forms of Belonging in an Egalitarian Society." In *Digesting Difference: Migrant Incorporation and Mutual Belonging in Europe*, pp. 129-144 **[15 pages]**

Recommendation: Émile Benveniste. 2016 [1969]. "Hospitality." Dictionary of Indo-European Concepts and Society. Translated by Elizabeth Palmer. Chicago: Hau Books, Section II (Giving and Taking), pp. 61-74 [13 pages]; Marilyn Yalom and Theresa Donovan Brown. 2015. *The Social Sex: A History of Female Friendship*, Harper Collins, New York; Amit Desai. 2010. "A Matter of Affection: Ritual Friendship in Central India." In *The Ways of Friendship: Anthropological Perspectives*. Amit Desai and Evan Killick (eds.), pp. 114-132 [18 pages]; Deniz Göktürk, David Gramling, and Anton Kaes (eds.). 2007. "Our Socialist Friends: Foreigners in East Germany," In *Germany in Transit*, pp. 65-103

WEEK 4. Boundaries, Exclusion, Enemies (Thurs. September 24th)

1. **Mary Douglas**. 1966. "Secular Defilement" and "External Boundaries." In *Purity and Danger: An Analysis of the concept of pollution and taboo*, Chap. 2, pp. 36-50, and Chap. 7, pp. 141-159 (esp. 152-9) **[32 pages]**
2. **Aleida Assman** and **Anja Schwartz**. 2013. Memory, Migration, and Guilt. *Crossings: Journal of Migration and Culture* 4 (1): 51-65 **[14 pages]**
3. **Sarah Stillman**. 2018. When Deportation is a Death Sentence. *The New Yorker*, January 15, (<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/01/15/when-deportation-is-a-death-sentence>) **[25 pages]**
4. **Tomaz Mastnak**. 2010. Western Hostility towards Muslims: A History of the Present. In *Islamophobia/Islamophilia: Beyond the politics of Enemy and Friend*. ed. by Andrew Shyrock, 29-52. Bloomington: Indiana University Press **[23 pages]**

Recommendation: Roy P. Mottahedeh. 2003. "The Clash of Civilizations: An Islamicists' Critique," 131-151. In Emran Qureshi and Michale A. Sells, ed. *The New Crusades: Constructing the Muslim Enemy*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press. [20 pages]; Georg Simmel. 2008[1907]. "Der Mensch als Feind. Zwei Fragmente aus einer Soziologie." *Individualismus der modernen Zeit und andere soziologische Abhandlungen*. Hrsg. von Otthein Rammstedt. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp Taschenbuch, pp. 194-201 [7 pages]; Claude Lefort. 1986. Image of the Body and Totalitarianism, pp. 292-306, In *The Political Forms of Modern Society*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press [14 pages]

WEEK 5. Erotic Conflict (Thursday October 1)

1. **Marlies Menge**. 1973. "In the GDR, they're called friends". In *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration* (Deniz Göktürk, David Gramling, Anton Kaes(eds.), 2007) **[3 pages]**
2. **Heath Cabot**. 2019. "She Goes with the Refugees: Desire and Power Amid the Politics of Asylum in Greece." In *Sex: Ethnographic Encounters*. Richard Joseph Martin and Dieter Haller (eds.), pp. 27-43 **[16 pages]**
3. **Kamel Daoud**. 2016. The Sexual Misery of the Arab World. *The New York Times* **[2 pages]**
4. **Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi**. 2020. "The Erotic in Foreigner Incorporation: First Encounters Between Germans and Syrians," In *Digesting Difference: Migrant Incorporation and Mutual Belonging in Europe*, eds. Kelly McKowen and John Borneman, 75-102 **[27 pages]**

WEEK 6. Transference and Projection (Thurs. October 8)

1. **Georges Devereux**. 1967. "Elicited Countertransference: The complementary role." In *From Anxiety to Method in the Behavioral Sciences*, Vol. 3: 234-251. The Hague: Mouton & Co. **[17 pages]**
2. **André Green**. 1997 [1981]. "Projection," in *On Private Madness*. London: Karnac Books (pp. 84-103) with emphasis on only the first four pages, i.e. pp. 84-88 **[19 pages]**
3. **Claude Lévi-Strauss**. 1963 [1949]. "The Sorcerer and His Magic," In *Structural Anthropology*, translated from the French by Claire Jacobson and Brooke Grandest Schoepf. New York: Basic Books, pp. 167-185, with emphasis on pp. 172- 175 **[18 pages]**

Recommendation: Ira Bashkow. 2006. The Foods of Whitemen. In *The Meaning of Whitemen: Race & Modernity in the Orokaiva Cultural World*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 145-208 [63 pages]

WEEK 7. Neighbors: Fabricating the Jew (Thurs. October 15)

Max Frisch. 1961. *Andorra*. London, U.K.: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama; (Modern Plays, First edition, October 18, 2001) ISBN-13: 978-0413305107 / ISBN-10: 0413305104 **[90 pages]**

MID TERM TAKE HOME EXAM (due Thursday October 29)

WEEK 8. *Gastarbeiter* in Germany (October 22)

No readings assigned.

VIEW:

Angst essen Seele auf ["Ali: Fear Eats the Soul"]. Director: Rainer Werner Fassbinder, 1974

Recommendation: Judith Mayne. Fassbinder and Spectatorship. *New German Critique* 12 (1977): 61-74; Brigitte Peucker. "Introduction," *A Companion to Rainer Werner Fassbinder* (2012), 1-3 [3 pages]

WEEK 9. Thinking and Projective Identification (October 29)

1. **Sándor Ferenczi**. 1926. The Problem of Acceptance of Unpleasant Ideas—Advances in Knowledge of the Sense of Reality. In *Further Contributions to the Theory and Technique of Psycho-Analysis*, pp. 366-379 **[13 pages]**
2. **W. R. Bion**. 1962. "The Psycho-Analytic Study of Thinking," *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 43: 306-310 **[4 pages]**
3. **Thomas Ogden**. 1979. "On projective identification," *The International Journal of Psychoanalysis* 60 (Jan. 1): 357-371, esp. 357-362 **[14 pages]**

WEEK 10. Germany and Immigration (Thurs. November 5)

1. **Simon Green**. 2013. "Germany A Changing Country of Immigration." *German Politics* 22 (3): 333-351 **[18 pages]**
2. **Thilo Sarrazin**. 2010. "Einleitung. In *Deutschland schafft sich ab: Wie wir unser Land aufs Spiel setzen*," 1-12. München, Germany: Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt (translated by John Benjamin: "Germany destroys itself." **[8 pages]**)
3. **Deniz Göktürk, David Gramling, and Anton Kaes (eds.)**. 2007. Chapter 3. *Is the boat Full? Xenophobia, Racism, and Violence*. # 18 by *Republikanische Partei Deutschlands* (pp. 142-144), # 19 by *Republikanische Partei Deutschlands* (pp. 144-145). Chapter 7. *An Immigration Culture? The Limits of Culture*. # 7 by *Der Spiegel* (pp. 299-303),

8 by Günther Beckstein (pp. 303-305). **# 12** by Friedrich Merz (pp. 313-314), **# 14** by Mark Terkessidis (pp. 316-319)
Chapter 8. Living in Two Worlds? Domestic Space, Family, and Community. # 3 by *Der Spiegel* (pp. 339-340), **# 5** by *Der Tagesspiegel* (pp. 341-342), **# 8** by Dilek Zaptçioğlu (pp. 345-348), **# 15** by K. Berger (pp. 362-365), **# 19** by Andreas Rosenfelder (pp. 376-379)
 In *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration 1995-2005*. Berkeley: University of California Press

[24 pages]

VIEW:

Die Fremde ["When we leave"]. Director: Feo Aladag, 2010

Recommendation: Sander Gilman. 2012. Thilo Sarrazin and the politics of race in the twenty-first century. *New German Critique*, 39(3) 47-59. [12 pages]; Benedict Anderson. 1991. "Introduction" and "Cultural Roots," in *Imagined Communities*. London: Verso, 1-36; Martin Schain. 2012. "Review Essay: The Comparative Politics of Immigration." *Comparative Politics* 44 (4). 481-497. [16 pages]; Colin Crouch, Donatella della Porta & Wolfgang Streeck. 2016. Democracy in neoliberalism? *Anthropological Theory*. Vol. 16(4) pp. 497-512. [15 pages]; For a brief history of immigration in Germany see "A German Dream?," in *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration 1995-2005*. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 2-17. [16 pages]; Jan Palmowski. 2008. "In Search of the German Nation": Citizenship and the Challenge of Immigration. *Citizenship Studies* 12 (6): 547-563. [16 pages].

WEEK 11. Culture and Incorporation (Thurs. November 12)

1. **A. L. Kroeber**. 1923. "The Nature of Culture," In *Culture, Patterns & Processes*, Chapter 7, N.Y.: Harcourt, Brace & World, pp. 60-80 [20 pages]
2. **Raymond Williams**. 1976. "Culture," in *Keywords*, pp. 86-93 [7 pages]
3. **Elif Batuman**. 2016. "Cover Story: The head scarf, secularism, and modern Turkey," *New Yorker*, Feb. 8/15, 2016: 42-48 [6 pages]
4. **Kelly McKowen** and **John Borneman**. 2020. "Digesting Difference: Migrants, Refugees, and Incorporation in Europe." In *Digesting Difference: Migrant Incorporation and Mutual Belonging in Europe*, eds. Kelly McKowen and John Borneman, 1-27. New York: Palgrave [27 pages]

Recommendation: Alfred L. Kroeber & Clyde Kluckhohn. 1952. "Introduction" & "General History of the Word Culture." *Culture: A Critical Review of Concepts and Definitions*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 3-5 & 9-38. [31 pages]; Émile Benveniste. 1971[1966]. "Civilization: A Contribution to the History of the Word. *Problems of General Linguistics*, Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, pp. 289-296. [7 pages]; Verena Stolcke. 1995. "Talking Culture: New Boundaries, New Rhetorics of Exclusion in Europe," *Current Anthropology* 36 (1): 1-24. [24 pages]; Jeffrey C. Alexander. 2013. "Struggling over the mode of incorporation: backlash against multiculturalism in Europe." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 36 (4): 531-556 [25 pages]

WEEK 12. Dreams, Moods, Imaginations (Thurs. November 19)

1. **John W. Borneman** and **Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi**. 2017. "On the concept of *Stimmung*: From Indifference to Xenophobia in Germany's Refugee Crisis." *Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 7 (3): 105-135 [30 pages]
2. **Christopher Bollas**. 1987. "The transformational object," pp. 13-30 and "Moods and the conservative process," pp. 99-117. *The Shadow of the Object: Psychoanalysis of the Unthought Known*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press [36 pages]

Home Assignment for next week: View movie *Dogville*. Director: Lars von Tier, 2004

Recommendation: Douglass Price-Williams. 1987. The Waking Dream in Ethnographic Perspective. In *Dreaming: Anthropological and Psychological Interpretations*. Barbara Tedlock ed. pp. 246-262. Cambridge: Cambridge University

Press [16 pages]; John W. Borneman. 2011. "Daydreaming, Intimacy, and the Intersubjective Third in Fieldwork Encounters in Syria," *American Ethnologist* 38 (2): 234-248 [14 pages]; Sigmund Freud. 1966 [1916]. "Wish Fulfillment." *Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis*. Part II (Dreams), 14th Lecture, pp. 264-282. Translated and ed. by James Strachey. New York: Norton, W. W. & Company [18 pages]

THANKSGIVING FROM NOVEMBER 26th TO NOVEMBER 29th!

WEEK 13. Intimacy and Hierarchy (Thurs December 3)

No reading assigned.

Detailed Discussion of the movie *Dogville*

WEEK 14. Fantasy of Islamization in France (Thurs December 10 and last class)

1. **Michel Houellebecq.** 2015. *Submission*. Translated by Lorin Stein. N.Y. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. **[256 pages]**
2. **Pierre Manent.** 2016. "Does French Culture have a future? First Things" **[1 page]**

Recommendation: Judith Surkis. 2015. "A Muslim Future to Come?" <http://www.publicbooks.org/a-muslim-future-to-come/>; French TV Discussion and interview with author Michel Houellebecq ("L'athéisme est une position douloureuse" — 'atheism is a painful position') about this novel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8E-lkVp8oHY> and a radio discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5ttzXGKbSY>.

FINAL TAKE HOME EXAM (due Thursday December 17)