HYBRID moments

March 15th, 2008
An interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

UNIVERSITÉ **Concordia** UNIVERSITY

sasu

Sociology & Anthropology
Graduate Students
Association

If you seek simply the sententious or the exegetical, you will not grasp the hybrid moment outside the sentence—not quite experience, not yet concept; part dream, part analysis; neither signifier nor signified. This intermediate space between theory and practice disrupts the disciplinary semioligcal demand to enumerate all the languages within earshot.

- Homi Bhabha, The Location of Culture

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'Hybrid Moments': An Interdisciplinary Academic Conference
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Session 2: *"American Nightmare"*: Canada in Context (Room # 763)

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(Lunch provided for discussants, presenters and volunteers)

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5:00-6:30
Introducing the Keynote: Dr. Frances Shaver
Keynote Speech: Satoshi Ikeda
Closing Statement: SAGSA

Concordia's Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU) is pleased to welcome all presenters and participants to *Hybrid Moments*, SAGSA's 2008 instalment of its annual interdisciplinary student conference. Our sincere thanks to SAGSA for inviting us to collaborate in the organization and hosting of this outstanding event, and for its ongoing support of undergraduate endeavours within the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

SASU is a member of the Arts and Science Federation of Associations, and represents and serves the over-1600 undergraduate sociology and anthropology students at Concordia University. Currently wrapping up our second year of the association's latest incarnation, SASU has made its mark within the university community as an active and implicated group that strives to enrich student life on the personal, social and academic levels. Throughout the school year, SASU organizes an array of events and services, such as library skills workshops, student research presentations, out-of-town field trips, our annual Wine & Cheese reception, and offering healthy breakfasts and snacks to students during the mid-term crunches. Our weekly e-newsletters keep every undergraduate informed about events and opportunities relevant to our disciplines happening within our department, at Concordia, and beyond. Moreover, SASU sponsors and promotes major student-initiated projects by sociology and anthropology undergraduates, such as the Concordia segment of the *Festival International du Film Ethnographique du Québec*, and the publication of *Stories from Montreal* volumes. SASU also extends its support to the ventures of other groups at Concordia through sponsoring guest-speakers, colloquiums, and cultural events, with the goal of fostering awareness, dialog and collaboration between our students and the wider university community.

SASU is proud to play a part in bringing you the *Hybrid Moments* conference, a forum for young scholars from various academic disciplines, tertiary levels, and universities to come together to celebrate and explore student research pursuits. For undergraduates in particular, this conference is an invaluable and rare opportunity for us to showcase and receive feedback on our work in a professional setting before our peers, faculty, and the public. Conducting and presenting original research not only strengthens the quality of undergraduate students' education, it also motivates other undergraduates to follow in our footsteps. Indeed, undergraduate presence and involvement in this year's conference will be stronger than ever, as you will find us presenting on panels, attending panels and workshops, and volunteering throughout the venue.

SASU would like to wish all conference presenters, participants, organizers and volunteers a successful, inspiring and enjoyable day at *Hybrid Moments*.

Sincerely,

The SASU Concordia Team (2007-08)

Hello, and welcome to Hybrid Moments: an Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, the seventh annual conference of SAGSA, Concordia University's Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Students' Association.

Far too often the conference experience is limited in terms of discipline or topic. While certainly there are benefits for these types of specialized conferences, the recent trend towards more interdisciplinary work has forced many researchers to consider the methods and approaches of other disciplines. To this end, 'Hybrid Moments' hopes to encourage this developing academic hybridity by bringing together graduate researchers from all walks of scholarly life to participate in this conference. Moreover, this conference will serve as a meeting ground for graduate students from the social sciences and humanities to discuss their ideas and find out more about research being conducted 'over in that department.' In this way we hope to learn more from one another through engaging in constructive and progressive discussion and debate about our research, with the ultimate goal of challenging the disciplinary boundaries that have been constructed.

Two main goals of our association are to develop and encourage a connected graduate student community through academic and social events. This conference aims to do both as we endeavor to reflect the variety of interests and range of topics not only in our two disciplines, but in academia in general. The conference theme is deliberately broad so that everyone feels welcome and encouraged to share their work—many for the first time.

We would like to thank everybody for attending the event and issue as special thanks to the organizers and faculty and university for their ongoing support.

SAGSA

Keynote Address:
How to Survive in the Age of Hybrid Research

Presented by:
Dr. Satoshi Ikeda, Concordia University

Abstract:

Academic research today involves disciplinary poaching. We appropriate research done in the disciplines that are not of our 'own' for inspiration, theory, and data. Sociologist borrow information and insights from anthropologists, literature people tap into sociological theorizing for inspiration and direction, historians borrow the images of general historical transformation from sociological imaginations. The academic endeavors became more interesting and vibrant because of these inter-disciplinary and cross-field interactions. The key to be successful in the age of hybrid research is to 'open' our study to heretofore-untapped research done in 'other' disciplines. But in order to succeed in hybridity, is it necessary for us to maintain 'home' discipline? Is there sufficient institutional support for hybrid research both at the level of graduate schools and granting agencies? This talk intends to initiate discussions on how to transform our existence into fluid but fun and effective researchers in the age of hybrid research.

Biography:

Dr. Satoshi Ikeda obtained both of his doctorate degrees in the United States, beginning with a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan and later a Ph.D. in Sociology from the State University of New York at Binghamton. He is currently the Chair of the East Asia Council of the Canadian Asian Studies Association as well as the Association's Vice-President. Dr. Ikeda was an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta before joining Concordia in 2007, where he now holds the Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Political Sociology of Global Futures. His current research tackles the political sociology of global futures, sustainable agriculture, and Japan and East Asia using the method of Polanyi-Hopkins historical sociology informed by the 'world-system perspective.' His research projects have looked specifically at the trajectories of 150 countries under neoliberal globalization, as well as sustainable agriculture in rural Alberta, masculinity and 'masculinism' under globalization, Japan's neo-feudal tendencies under globalization, and Canadian perspectives on peace construction in East Asia. Dr. Ikeda has also specialized in economic development, international trade, and finance.

 He recently received a SSHRC Standard Research Grant for his project titled "Trajectories of 150 Countries under Neoliberal Globalization" (2004-2008) and was awarded the Japan Foundation Fellowship in 2004/05. His recent book is *Trifurcating Miracle: Corporations, Workers, Bureaucrats, and the Erosion of Japan's National Economy*, published by Routledge in 2002.

Panel Abstracts

Session 1
Room: 767
"Earth A.D.": Gender and Sexuality
Chaired by: Dr. Alan Brown

The Problem and Solution to Development: Scrutinizing the Construction and Interpretation of African Women
Merertu Mogga Frissa & Augusta Acquah
Globalization and International Development, University of Ottawa

African women, represent a multiplicity of identities and experiences which differ and overlap according to factors not limited to history, race, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and location. The first part of our paper will analyze how African women are constructed in development discourses by feminist researchers as the problem and the solution to development. We will argue that African woman continue to be constructed in stereotypical and stagnant ways in development discourses written by feminist researchers which reinforce rather than challenge the status quo and universalize and essentialize their experiences. In development discourses produced by feminist academics, the African women is perceived as a development client for whom programs and services organizing her life are manufactured to better manage her actions and choices. In second part of the paper, we argue that addressing female circumcision as a human rights issue in the context of Western social thought, which focuses on examining individualistic values, makes it difficult to comprehend the socio-cultural aspect of the practice. Attempts to end the practice of female circumcision began in the early 20th century. In the West, the practice is considered a violation against women and children rights. Feminists and other international actors challenge it on human rights grounds. The practice is a complex group norm where it is set to fulfill group symbolic but not individual intentions. It is a collective practice involving the participation of a community which human rights principles are unable to accommodate. It is problematic to address it on the basis of foreign values such as 'human rights'.

Women, Children and the Playgrounds of Montreal
Martha A. Elvir Prieto
Anthropology, Concordia University

This field research is an ethnographic study of mothers with their children in the playground area of public parks in the central Montreal region. I will specifically target Westmount Park. The pursuit of motherhood is a personal one. From the view of those who have, I will attempt to situate this phase within the context of a stage in cultural and biological evolution. Following the "Rites of Passage" notion that Arnold Van Gennep had put forth and that Victor Turner developed. I will argue that Mothers who visit the local playground area with their young children are in a "liminal" phase in their lives. Furthermore, a mother settles into her acquired role through the frequent outings and the relationships developed during these outings. Based on the symbolic approach, that meanings are embedded in the dynamic process. I will focus on the socialization process. Identifying common elements of social interaction, emphasis will be on the intercultural exchange. The ritual process of becoming a mother in a multicultural milieu. From a life story approach and supporting findings with what has been written on the subject, informant's accounts and personal observations. I will argue that an internal process of growth happens from these outings. I will present the argument that these outings are not a requirement into a settled parenthood. There are people who are not familiar with the local playground. The conclusion is that from a tedious thing to do, it becomes an enriching passage to settle into parenthood. Motherhood has a different face in Montreal for those who have spent time at the playground with their children. I will approach this ethnographic study with elements of both methodologies: the Malinowskian and Boasian ways of conducting ethnography. In addition, I will attempt to give a cultural interpretation of this dynamic process by inviting other Anthropologists to challenge and expand my findings.

Queer Eye for the Private Eye: Gay Detective Fiction on the Canadian Prairie

Peter Balogh
Canadian Studies, Carleton University

"Enter Russell Quant --- cute, gay and a rookie private detective." In 2003, readers were thus introduced to Anthony Bidulka's new gay detective series: Finally, Canada's gay private eye had come out…and he is a first-generation Canadian with Ukrainian and Irish heritage living in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, of course. Now, with five novels published in his series, Anthony Bidulka has established himself firmly in the genre, and is the first Canadian to win the Lambda Literary Award for mystery fiction. With Russell Quant, Bidulka has shifted the originally well-defined, straightforward, stolidly masculine identity of the hardboiled urban crime-fighting hero to a marginal landscape, where subversion, introspection, and humour reign: a landscape where the only straight line is the horizon. Accordingly, it can be argued that the Russell Quant mystery series queers not only the detective fiction genre, but also the regional landscape that Bidulka's imagined communities inhabit. At the same time, Bidulka's writing is sensitive to the preoccupations of the gay community, which constitutes the author's primary audience, and as such, his portrayal of gay identities reflects the mainstream gay community in Canada today. Therefore, it has its silences. In this paper, I use queer theory to examine gay subjectivities and stereotypes in Bidulka's work and to elucidate the tensions his texts create in their particular representation and interrogation of the gay community. Moreover, I explore how the Russell Quant mystery series can be read as both questioning heteronormative power relations and supporting what has been termed the "new homonormativity."

'Coming Out' to Quebec: Binational Lesbian Couples on Partnership and Immigration

Christina Olivieri
Anthropology, Concordia University

Over the last decade, faced-paced, monumental shifts in the Quebec Civil Code concerning recognized partnerships and filiation, as well as in Canadian immigration and family legislation, have granted unprecedented rights and protections to lesbian and gay persons as partners, parents, citizens and permanent residents. This research draws on the findings of in-depth interviews with five binational lesbian couples, of which one partner has typically immigrated to Quebec through family-class sponsorship by her same-sex Quebecer/Canadian partner, in order for the couple to settle together in Montreal. The sample covers the gamut of same-sex couple statuses (common-law, "civilly united", married, divorced), presenting an array of "couple history trajectories" within and across Canadian borders, through the law, love and life generally, as marked by the particular provincial and federal legislative regimes of the last decade. Structural changes and processes are understood through the histories, aspirations, and tactical negotiations of the research participants as binational lesbian couples, as well as unique lesbian persons and women. Assumptions that "settling" in "progressive" Quebec/Canada is an "obvious" or "easy" life-step for the individual or couple are put into question, along with the "necessity" and "permanence" of such a situation. Also revealed are novel discourses and experiences of the "normalization" of the existence/place of lesbians as recognized partners, parents, residents and citizens in Quebec and Canadian society, as new meanings are imposed on and extracted from social relations, and these women find themselves "coming out" in ever new ways.

Session 2
Room: 763
"American Nightmare": Canada in Context
Chaired by: Dr. Sima Aprahamian

Building Bridges, Knowledge Exchange: Academics and Interfaith Initiatives in Canada
Laurie Lamoureux Scholes
History and Philosophy of Religion, Concordia University

We live in a world where we encounter different religions and spiritual paths in our workplaces, our neighbour-hoods and leisure activities. We are confronted with different worldviews, ethics and value systems when we watch the daily news, or engage in political debates in our city and country. Increasingly, there have been many interfaith initiatives that have formed to demonstrate an alternative approach to difference, one grounded in the desire to make religious pluralism work for the various religious traditions themselves and for our societies at large. Within the academy there are also scholars from many disciplines whose research examines relations in and amongst religious communities and offers insight into a range of issues related to interfaith encounters. This paper will examine various contributions academics have made to interfaith initiatives within Canadian urban centres (including Montreal, Halifax and Vancouver), and discuss strategies for greater involvement and exchange.

The Machine in the Garden
Andrew Gibson
Sociology, Concordia University

Montreal of the late 19th century was a modern industrial city with social problems in common with other large North America cities. The root cause of these problems was identified by upper class and middle class reformers as stemming from overcrowding among the people of the industrial class. The insecurities of influential figures over crime, disease, moral decay and the consequential bad reputation Montreal was developing internationally, initiated calls for architecture that allowed for more privacy in the design of homes, the development of residential areas at a distance from the city, and the preservation of green space. In the twentieth century the private automobile emerge as a commodity that would supercede the vision of the nineteenth century reformers. The technology eclipsed all other modes of transportation by providing mobility that allowed workers to relocate their families in the 'pastoral' surroundings adjacent to the city, while still being members of the city's labor force. Currently the volume of private automobiles entering the city of Montreal from the surrounding area is viewed by the city's administration as having a negative effect of the quality of life of its citizens. In this paper I discuss whether initiatives to restrict the use of the automobile in Montreal are a reversal of the dream of the nineteenth century reformers, or a reiteration of the dream based upon new challenges.

Contradictions in Multiculturalism: A Discourse Analysis of the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Games
Patrick Shorey
Sociology, Concordia University

My work is centered around contesting narratives of the upcoming Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. I argue that the tensions found within the Games are similar to more general contradictions within the Canadian nation and its discourse of multiculturalism. The argument is made through discourse analysis of official Games material and three case studies of organizations critical of the Games; the Vancouver Anti-Poverty Committee, No One is Illegal Vancouver and the Native Youth Movement. These critiques are contextualized within contemporary anti-racist and anti-colonial critical theory on multiculturalism. The relationship between multiculturalism and commodification within these theories are tied together using

Deleuzeand Guattari's notion of capture. The critique being developed necessarily addresses state power in its productive (Foucauldian), rather than repressive, sense. I argue that my research supports claims that dominant narratives of nationhood, like the Olympic Games, function to produce a certain type of subject who is both gendered and raced. The tensions around the games are indicative of the resistance to, and flight from, these processes. The implications for critical whiteness studies and the practice of decolonization are discussed.

Bringing in the Heartbeats: The Use of Aboriginal Healing and Curing Traditions in Urban Medical Facilities
Elena Papadakis
Anthropology, Concordia University

The 2006 Census shows Canada's aboriginal population has surpassed the one million mark (1.2 million) with more than half (54%) of aboriginal people living in Canadian cities and towns --- an increase of 45% in the last decade (Statistic Canada 2006). In response to this trend, medical scholars and anthropologists have suggested that aboriginal healing and curing traditions should be made available at urban medical facilities in an attempt to provide Canada's urban-based Aboriginal population with culturally appropriate care (Hunter, Logan, Goulet, & Barton 2006). The task of bringing aboriginal healing and curing traditions (AHCT) into urban medical facilities is complex and by no means resolved. In an attempt to address this issue, this thesis investigates the ways in which health administrators, practitioners of AHCT, and people who use AHCT conceptualize the integration of the two systems, and effectively answers the question: *Should aboriginal healing and curing traditions be* integrated into urban medical facilities, and if so, to what extent, and if not, then why not? Analysis of participants' perspectives on the matter reveals that the task of bringing AHCT into urban medical facilities is more likely to be extinguished in connection to peoples' personal beliefs and assumptions about health care delivery than because of practical and philosophical incongruities between the two systems. In effect, this thesis brings practical insight to what has been an otherwise theoretical project, and offers some suggestions on how AHCT may be delivered within urban medical facilities at this point in time.

Remembering the Past: Social Memory and Nostalgia among members of a Presbyterian Church in Montréal
Phillip Gingras
Anthropology, Concordia University

This project is dedicated to understanding the nature of social memory, as expressed through the community at Knox Crescent Kensington First Church in Montréal's west end borough of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. The Church, which has existed in various forms since 1863, is predominantly Anglophone of Anglo-Saxon origin, an ethnic community which has had a considerable drop in numbers since the late 1960s. The bulk of this paper will analyze how the historical events of the 1960s, and 1970s, particularly the 1976 election of René Levesque and his Parti Québécois have indelibly marked the social dynamic of the community and how this is expressed through memory. Initial findings are that these memories are snapshots of events that come to represent an entire time and place. These memories are expressed as *1976*, but link up to shifting demographics, historical events and social and political evolution. This will be discussed at length at the conference and in the paper. One of the more unfortunate aspects is that social memory is not a well developed field in anthropology, which narrows and limits the theoretical repertoire available; however, that is not to say there are no theorists. This paper will use Maurice Halbwachs, Paul Ricoeur, Pierre Nora, Jacques Derrida, St. Augustine, and other philosophers to reify and conceptualize the anthropological fieldwork conducted by people such as Jason James, Gediminas Lankauskas, Erika Bourguignon, David Howes, as well as Jacob Climo and Maria Cattell.

Session 3
Room: 767
"Brain Eaters": Theory and Practice
Chaired by: Dr. Shelley Reuter

Tree planting and Learning to Love It: Instrumentality and Acceptance among Silviculture Workers in British Columbia
Charles Plante
Sociology, Concordia Univeristy

I spent this past summer participating in and observing the work of treeplanters for a small planting firm in central British Columbia. I was immediately struck by the fact that regardless of how willing treeplanters were to plant, few to none approved of the work itself or the industry which it sustained. In this paper I argue that this conflict between the planters' general values and the work they do is never really resolved, only that some planters are able to assume a certain ends oriented disposition which incites them regardless. This strategy is motivated by both a culture of instrumentality which is propagated among the workers, by and for themselves, and is developed in response to the second motivation: the work itself. Treeplanting is lucrative, but it is also brutally mind-numbing, backbreaking, and involves little room for worker control and or mobility. Those who are unable to adapt this strategy are, quite simply, by and large, unable to carry on. The end re-sult is an industry wide culture and discourse, which emphasizes personal monetary reward through the planting of "more trees", to the benefit of industry, and at the expense of the planters' physical well being. Nonetheless, I did not meet a single planter who did not participate in this "game" knowingly. My research corroborates the findings of Michael Burawoy that worker consent is produced at the point of production, that is to say, through the act of working itself (1978); and lends considerable support to the analytic distinction made by Michael Mann between normative and pragmatic acceptance (1970).

Perceptions of Food Politics and Labeling: Implications for the Social Self
Kyle Zelmer
Sociology, Concordia University

Consumption of foods labeled in certain ways entails an array of social, economic, political, and ethical con-siderations which go beyond the simple provision of sustenance. The extent of the relationship between food politics and the social construction of the self is analyzed in this presentation. Subsequently, there is a dis-cussion of perceptions of risk regarding genetically modified foods and the recent explosion of interest in the significance of the organic food market. Canadian food labeling regulations are compared with respondents' awareness thereof through semi-structured interviews. Respondents' rationalities for consumption of organic, free range, and fair trade foods are discussed as well as their pensions for consumption of genetically modi-fied foods. Corporate strategies for the expansion of organic, free range and fair trade markets are deline-ated. An exploration of linkages between food aesthetics, Weber's conception of the Protestant Ethic, and Marxist notions of class consciousness forms the theoretical framework of this presentation.

Accounting for the Existence of a Sociology of Suicide
Justin Gagnon
Sociology, Concordia University

"There is but one truly serious philosophical problem and that is suicide" (Camus). Suicide has been a topic of debate since the Antiquity, but only within the past two centuries has it emerged as an object of study. This is primarily due of the value placed on individual lives by Christianity, which eventually resulted in a need to understand this "problem" from a scientific perspective. Over the past few decades, the suicide rates for young Quebec males have tripled, which suggests that an adequate understanding of suicide has not yet been reached. I will be presenting my theoretical research on suicide from various disciplines in an attempt to

elucidate the trends of suicide research and some of their points of convergence, and explore possible avenues for future research.

Participation, Adaptability and "The Spirit of Capitalism"
Michael Stein
Political Science, New School for Social Research

In *The New Spirit of Capitalism* by Boltanski and Chiapello (henceforth B&C), a highly complex version of a "spirit of capitalism" is presented. B&C draw on concepts developed by Max Weber and Albert Hirschman in the construction of their "spirit of capitalism." B&C combine the idea that people need individual moral reasons to engage in capitalism (which they attribute to Weber) with notions of an appeal to a common good (which they attribute to Hirschman). In total this spirit represents "the ideology that justifies the engagement in capitalism."[1] Furthermore, this spirit serves as a necessary motivational tool for key actors in the accumulation process. This approach is designed to operate in the space between historical materialism and notions of sociality that sharply deny material concerns. Their hope is that by recognizing the relative value of both interpretations they could develop a space for human action in the tension between these views. In doing so, however, B&C seem to lose the value of each of these socio-historical interpretations. In this essay I will engage with the following questions: Do certain individuals living and working in capitalist societies have or need personal moral reasons that appeal to the common good to motivate their participation? Is capitalism reliant upon these individual motivations for its survival and adaptability? What other explanations for human participation in capitalism can be offered?

"More than Meets the Eye": Theorizing Graffiti as a Tactical Rupture in the Practices of Everyday
Kris Murray
Sociology, Concordia University

Using the theoretical positions of Certeau, Deleuze and Guttari, and Bakhtin this paper examines the theoretical implications of hip hop graffiti in Montreal as reshaping epistemological understandings of the self in relation to place, space, and society. Moving away from the popular study of the practice of graffiti this paper aims to investigate graffiti as an act through sociological and philosophical terms. As an act, hip hop graffiti presents itself as a unique and answerable deed that invokes larger ethical and moral debates in society as to the rights that all individuals have in public and private places. As a discourse of individuality, aesthetic creativity, and the claim to rights graffiti stands opposed to the authoritative discourse of public and private institutions that aim to enforce social, economic, and political boundaries in the practices of everyday life. These institutions design place and space as 'smoothed and striated', ordered and designed, to serve the purposes of a technical socio-economic order in which the creative spirit cannot be sustained and must either be absorbed, utilized, or destroyed. This is a strategic process that contains and controls the activities of individuals both spatially and temporally through cultured practices; however, do they not do so absolutely. Graffiti is not just a reaction to these strategies, as an act it is also a tactic employed by active individuals in the citizenry to subvert imposed linguistic and cultural models, to rupture normative practices, and to re territorialize place and space in the city.

Session 4
Room: 763
"Where Eagles Dare": Aesthetics, Communication and Seduction
Chaired by: Dr. Beverly Best

Seduction and Power: Dynamics Between Customers and Servers in Bars
Mary Polychronis
Sociology, Concordia University

In contemporary North American society, most jobs involve dealing with people rather than with things (Hochschild, 1983). The bar is a unique environment in which to study social interactions among individuals; it represents a important element of North American society, and embodies a more playful, permissive and intensified atmosphere of social activity. In addition, there exists a significant incentive for servers to perform well because their earnings are mostly generated from tips (i.e., gratuities) given by customers. Individuals invest a significant degree of emotional labor in addition to the physical and mental requirements of the job. Females and males experience the social world in alternate ways and therefore social situations in a bar context pose differential expectations, consequences and benefits for males and females. This study will explore the ways men and women experience and are affected by this type of interaction. The purpose of this research is to examine dynamics of seduction and power that are negotiated between the server and the customer in a bar setting, as well as implications gender differences has on this type of interaction. Participant observation, self-reflection and semi-structured interviews will be utilized to compliment, extend or contradict research from literature and theory. Approximately 10-15 women and men, varying in age and years of experience will be interviewed. I will explore both female and male perspectives for the purpose of a generating a more comprehensive view into the dynamics of server customer relations.

The Social Construction of 'Ao Dai'
Anna Vu
Sociology, Concordia University

The traditional Vietnamese dress for women, *ao-dai* (pronounced: ow-yai), is one of the most recognized and distinguished features of Vietnamese people and culture. It was reported that during the Vietnam War, amid the ravages and ruins, American soldiers could still remembered fondly the sights of *ao-dai* and used words such as grace and beauty to describe Vietnamese women wearing such dress. The aim of this paper is to examine the process by which a particular piece of garment is elevated to become a cultural icon that embodies the Vietnamese-ness in Vietnamese people and how it resonates so strongly not only with the people of Vietnam but with the worldwide audience as well. The paper further attempts to draw out the social significance of *ao-dai* and how it functions as a uniting force by erasing the differences in social class, demography, and generational gap in Vietnamese people.

Body-Mind Contortions: A Visual Discourse on Dance Expression
Susan-Blanche Chato
Sociology, Concordia University

Dance is an embodiment of a multi-faceted discourse that not only contextualises the historical and cultural period of specific societies, but represents the current discourse on the body. Symbolically, the body has been understood and constructed as a tool, a machine, a divine temple, as well as impure or pleasurable. Dance translates these representations through the body of the dancer, who must recognise and reconcile their own physical and emotional corporeality in conjunction with the outwardly, intentional expression of movement. The dancer, therefore, encounters an internal discourse on the duality of mind-body dynamic found in the physical process of freedom, pleasure, restraint, discipline and skill. This visual sociology presentation will attempt to expose the dualism discourse that dancers encounter when performing for an intended or unintended audience. The spectacle of their non-verbal expression, presents their corporeality and how

they have negotiated and actualised their present discourse. Through the use of photos, I will explore how different dancers presented themselves in various public and private spaces and how these presentations embodied the dualisms at play. Photo locations will include a church, a social dance ballroom, a dance studio and a restaurant which provide diverse contexts for the discourse of dance.

Marked: An Exploration of the Multi-Layer Nature of Tattoos Through Individuality, Relationships, and the Tattooing Experience
Vanessa McCance
Anthropology, Concordia University

The tattoo subculture has grown during the past 10 years, and more expediently in the past several years both in membership and in acceptance in the mainstream culture. With this in mind, I want to investigate the influences and meanings of tattoos. The title of my thesis will be "Marked: An exploration of the multi-layer nature of tattoos through individuality, relationships, and the tattooing experience". I would like to investigate how tattoos are a part of and affect a person's individuality, their relationships, or membership – primarily with friends and family members– as well as how the tattooing experience has affected their tattooed identity. Tattoos are often labeled as either a sign of individuality or uniqueness. It is a way for a person to separate themselves from the larger population, a way to be different. However, tattoos are also used as a means of affiliation; they have the power to bring people together or bond them, i.e. friends being tattooed together or getting the same tattoo. Does or can a tattoo be both a sign of individuality and of attachment? I would like to investigate this dual nature of tattoos using interviews and social theory from such writers as Bourdieu and Sweetnam, and the studies on the tattoo community such as those by DeMello and Sanders. How does this dual nature form their identity as a tattooed person? This, I believe, can be answered through interviews with those who have been tattooed as a step in the healing process. I believe that the actual process of being tattooed helps to form the new identity of a tattooed person, and will show how this affects the meaning of tattoos. Motivations and personal meanings behind tattoos can help to explain these two sidedness of tattoos. Using social theory, secondhand research and interviews with three to four tattooed people, I hope to understand and explain the complicated use of tattoos as a marker of non/affiliation. During my research, I hope to uncover this by answering the following questions: Is there an increasing need to mark oneself as an individual? Are people finding they need a new way to feel like a part of a group? How does this define their identity as a tattooed person? Is there something they are not getting from life/society that they feel they need to tattoo to mark their status (individual/group)?

Food Porn: Sensory Exploitation for Fun, Profit and Social Progress
Valérie Bourdeau
Sociology, Concordia University

North Americans have a dysfunctional – even abusive – relationship with food. We seem to have forgotten how to feed ourselves, yet paradoxically we have never been so fascinated by the art of cooking. The explosion in food media has been paralleled by a certain shift in food iconography, away from utilitarian illustrations to a more stylized, almost abstracted imagery that can now be consumed as an artistic product in its own right. This visual sociology project explores the dominant aesthetic mode in food media, and theorizes possible ramifications on the way we eat.

Session 5
Room: 767
"Walk Among Us": Migration and Global Movement
Chaired by: Malene Bodington

'Mi no Whiteman, I mean': Thwarted Bilingualism in a Pacific University
Johanne Angeli
Anthropology, Concordia University

In many ways, the campus of the University of the South Pacific in Honiara, Solomon Islands, can be viewed as presenting typical characteristics of diglossia as described by Ferguson (1964). English is the official and only written language of the university campus, while Solomon Pijin is the daily spoken language, used in all social interactions. However, Solomon students are enmeshed in divergent ideologies which lead them to thwart all attempts from their professors to make them speak English. Based on 4 months of fieldwork at the Solomon USP campus, this paper will examine the social meanings attached to Pijin and English which prevent students from practicing bilingualism in the social context of the university – a bilingualism which is yet within their reach, and to which they heartily aspire.

Restrictive Migrating Measures of Globalized Nations and Human Trafficking in the Post 9/11 Era
Maja Muftic
Globalization and International Development, University of Ottawa

Trafficking human beings is a global phenomenon that has been subject to increasing international attention in recent years. Although it has only captured the International Community's attention in the past decade, this phenomenon is not a new practice. Every year worldwide, an estimated four million women and children are affected by this modern form of slavery. Present day victims are abducted or recruited with false job offers, sold on the hope of a better life elsewhere through the promise of more money. In today's world, this search for a new life can take a victim halfway across the globe. Globalization gave an opportunity to citizens to be aware of other countries' better socio-economic situations, encouraging them to use various methods to migrate. In addition, due to the facilitation of mobility of capital, the openness of political borders, and the deregulation of trade, this has facilitated organized crime groups to become involved in human trafficking activities. Though globalization has impacted irregular migration and more specifically, human trafficking, other global issues have had a profound effect on the movement of people across international borders. Most recently and importantly, the global war on terrorism and the issues of national security in consequence of this war have caused serious implications on the issue of human trafficking. In this paper, I will argue that while globalization encourages human trafficking, the nature of the world in the post 9/11 era has made human trafficking more lucrative to organized crime groups and led to an increase in the number of victims. The very effect of countries having increased the protectiveness of their borders has lead to an increase in the profits of those who traffic human beings, and thus, work against the very objectives of the strict measures.

Filipina Live-in Domestic Help in Canada: Home Care, Nation Building and Global Capitalism
Robert Parungao
Sociology, Concordia University

This presentation will look at the growing trend of Filipina Live-in Domestic help in Canada and consider the relationship of this work not just to home care, but to issues of nation building and global capitalism. The analysis will look primarily at two key themes 1) that this phenomenon is yet another 'nation building project' of the Canadian government; and 2) this is an unexpected consequence of the 'emancipation' of white middle class women in Canada that necessitated 'subordinated' other. As well it will problematize the commodification of domestic work and consider how issues of 'flex' time', contractual opacity, and the lack of citizenship protection play into this exploitative structure and can be formulated into the world-system perspective.

A Statistical Analysis of the Immigration and Visible Minority Experience in Canada's Cities: Understanding the Factors that Impact Social Cohesion

Paul Radford
Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University

Over the last three decades Canadian society has become increasingly diverse welcoming immigrant and visible minority populations from around the world. With this, many communities, in particular those found in Canada's three largest cities, have witnessed an incredible demographic and cultural transformation. In response to this phenomenon, the Canadian government has, since 1968, encouraged the establishment of policies and initiatives aimed at recognizing the benefits of diversity and multiculturalism. With this, Canada has been labeled a model country with respect to honoring and promoting the values of multiculturalism. Nevertheless, in spite of this reality, researchers have found that immigrant and visible minority populations tend to encounter greater hardship, reporting lower incomes and higher perceptions of inequality. Indeed, some such as Jeffrey Reitz and Rupa Banerjee, have gone on to suggest that perceptions and experiences of inequality play a fundamental role in undermining social cohesion within Canadian society at large. This research attempts to further explore this contention, focusing on the perceptions and experiences of immigrant and visible minority respondents according to the communities in which they live. More specifically, we look at economic experience, perceptions of discrimination and vulnerability, as well as indicators of social integration as general measures of social cohesion. Results suggest that in cities where there is greater immigrant and visible minority heterogeneity, minority populations are more prone to report negative experiences and report greater hardship. We follow the results with a discussion on heterogeneity within the context of existing governmental policies.

Assimilation of Mexican Immigrants to Montreal through Language and Culture

Raquel Arguelles
Anthropology, Concordia University

The North American migration system includes some of the world's major emigration and immigration destinations. Mexico is a major source of migrants, sending 200,000 to 300,000 legal settlers abroad and at least as many unauthorized settlers, while Canada aims to increase its population by one percent a year via immigration. Canada has relatively high levels of immigration, which can be attributed to its generous social welfare programs, and to the significant public satisfaction with its immigration policies. International migrations are an essential element of globalization, where immigrants are the most visible symbol of the process. Migrants break the myths of homogenous societies and produce significant changes in sending and receiving nations. These changes can be identified in the labour market, economy, social relationships, culture, national politics, and international relations. This work explores the assimilation process of Mexican immigrants who moved to Montreal five or more years ago; six individuals were interviewed, three women and three men, today all of them have either citizenship or permanent residence. The main push factor for their decision to immigrate to a country with more developed economy was the desire for a better "quality of life" where the labour market offers higher salaries. In addition to access public services concerned with health and education. Through the project I will describe how does the assimilation process begins, how do they perceive Canadian culture in relation to their own, and the role that language and culture have played or are playing in their experience.

Session 6
Room: 763
"Static Age": Media in the 21st Century
Chaired by: Dr. Greg Nielsen

Post Modern Men in Comics
Rita Yu
Sociology, Concordia University

Being a man in one culture can be a difficult experience as each culture values a particular man's ideal. In North American, men should be 'self-made' in which had the ability to innovate, develop, and create. In the post-modern time, with the rise of feminism, the notion of ideal men and the categories of men became more complex and even blur. Men's traditional role as breadwinners and their characteristics are now shared with women, so do women's roles and women's characteristics are also applied to men. Moreover, men can be classified into a graph where 'ultra-masculine' and 'feminine masculine' on the horizontal axe with the positive characteristic and the negative characteristic in the vertical axe (Synnott, 2007). To research the notion of masculinity in the post-modern time, I am analyzing the current popular culture's perception of masculinity. Newspaper comic is the object of study because it reflects wild range of social reality in an exaggerate manner. This is a case study on the comic section of the Gazette newspaper for one month period from 15th January to 15th February, 2008. Comic is selected base on if it represents any elements related to men and masculinity. The presentation will be the work in progress of this project.

Surfing the Abject, Surfacing: YouTube Reaction Videos and the Implosion of Sexuality
Claire Ashton
Sociology, Concordia University

This paper addresses new technology, specifically new communication mediums and their role in society, as pertinent to sexuality. Feminists have often focused on literary analyses as sites of theoretical extrapolation. I prefer to locate our whereabouts and the meanings of it through tangible material examples in social life, and to consider the body, feminism, post-modernity and technology through any apparently surreal, too horrifying to be true event or practice. We have newer forms of media at our fingertips which offer valid entry points into analyzing current social conditions. These mediums (YouTube, blogs, Facebook, MySpace, Wikipedia) act like data banks on the actions of contemporary embodied subjects and are left largely unexamined outside of popular culture. The medium on which this paper will focus is YouTube, which is fit to become a burgeoning hotbed in cultural theory. YouTube reaction videos (You Tube users who film themselves watching and reacting to a particular bit of media) to fetish pornography videos will serve as an entry point into the theorizing technology, abjection, sexuality and pornography in 2008. This paper will address how we may view these videos as cultural landmarks fit for exploration- to have their banality and melancholy uselessness become some fodder for creativity.

Critical Research of Advertising: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach
Erik Chevrier & Jean-Roch Laurence
Department of Psychology & Special Individualized Programs, Concordia University

Marketing is a major academic institution. Most university business departments research advertising phenomena. However, many of them investigate factors that encourage purchase intention and consumption leaving out other avenues of analysis. Studying advertising through a business perspective is problematic for many reasons. These reasons include non-critical bias, focus on selling, not publishing results paid for by corporations to implement in their ads, and not evaluating the impact of the clutter of advertising messages. As long as advertising has existed, it has been evaluated critically but research and publications critical of advertising practices have been uneven and compartmentalized. The current project will attempt to bridge the gap in this research by providing a multi-disciplinary model linking critical advertising research. The proposed

model was originally developed by Johnson (1987) for evaluating elements of cultural studies. This model will be applied to provide cohesion from the fragmented areas of critical advertising research and will bridge a multitude of disciplines. It encompasses four main starting points: production, texts, audience, and culture/ social relations. Production elements include analyses of political economy and power relations. Texts are advertising messages studied through semiotics, and previous marketing focus groups. Audience research focuses on psychological interpretations. Culture/social relations take into account history, political science, anthropology and sociology. Because these four areas are influenced by personal bias and cultural trends, among other things, pre-existing factors will also be part of the proposed model. This model should provide a more comprehensive approach to evaluating advertising critically.

Balance or Bias: A Critical Examination of the Role of 'Balance' in U.S. Mass Media Coverage of Climate Change
Martina Kunovic
Sociology, McGill University

Regardless of potentially devastating consequences, and in spite of a scientific consensus on the anthropogenic contributions of climate change, U.S. mass media coverage on climate change has diverged significantly from scientific discourse over the past two decades, breeding uncertainty among the public and inhibiting action to mitigate climate change. In this paper, I will examine how the journalistic norm of 'balanced' reporting—presenting conflicting viewpoints side by side and attributing roughly equal attention to each—creates an aura of uncertainty regarding climate change in particular, but also scientific issues more generally. Exploring areas of overlap and tension between journalism and science, I will argue that journalism's balancing norm has no corollary in the world of science, and, furthermore, that a critical disjuncture exists between the specialized lexicon employed by scientists and the colloquial language used by journalists. The scientific community has a tendency to speak in a cautious language of uncertainty and probability, a propensity that poses a significant challenge to journalists who are trained to report on issues in a clear and crisp way. While 'balanced' reporting may seem like an appropriate response to dealing with seemingly uncertain findings, in the case of climate change it has perpetuated uncertainty and passivity among the public. That I see the balancing norm as distorting news by obscuring the scientific consensus on climate change should be evident from the ensuing discussion, but my goal is hopefully more constructive: to identify some limitations in applying the balancing norm to science-related issues and to provide an impetus to revise the approach to climate change reporting.

Session 7
Room: 767
"In the Doorway": Interdisciplinary Methods
Chaired by: Dr. David Howes

Wrongful Conviction: An Interdisciplinary Approach
Amanda Dies
Anthropology, Concordia University

The tendency of scholars to overlook the methods and work of other disciplines to diversify, and enrich, their own has severely limited the quality of data that can be gained in the pursuit of knowledge. While some scholars have acknowledged this and managed to successfully incorporate elements of external disciplines, the extent to which this is not done in generally in academia is somewhat disheartening to those interested in interdisciplinary studies. As such, it is important to acknowledge the possibilities in conducting this type of research while illustrating the benefits and/or advantages of projects which implement this particular style. One example of work that seeks to incorporate theories and methods from a multitude of disciplines can be seen in my own research on wrongful convictions; more specifically on those individuals and organizations that have helped to overturn them. Using social psychological, anthropological and social justice theories to frame

my discussion(s), I have implemented a social science (characteristic of both anthropology and sociology) method of interviewing to collect data from informants in and around Toronto. In doing so, I hope to be able to contribute to the discussion of such a highly contested subject across multiple disciplines and in multiple discourses. As my work is both informed and approached from an interdisciplinary perspective, it is useful to exemplify the vast possibilities in regards to potential knowledge – which would otherwise be limited in adopting a theory, method and approach from a single discipline.

A Hermeneutical, Rational, Ethic-Based Process: Rethinking Design Under Interdisciplinary Discourse

Yi Zhang
Special Individualized Programs (SIP), Concordia University

This paper examines the principles of design, as a newly developed discipline, under interdisciplinary discourse. Through brief literature review, the author summarizes its unique theories, methodology and process. Design is a hermeneutical, rational and ethic-based process, which includes defining ill-defined problems, adopting a solution-focus strategy and reaching an acceptable solution. Since design is argumentative and

hermeneutical, the final solution will never be an ending, but a satisfying alternative to the wicked problems. This paper further demonstrates the characteristics of design discipline through the project of diaper pail design. The author uses this case study to illustrate that design involves studying social and cultural significance of objects, especially in the domain of anthropology and cultural studies. It also requires the knowledge of technology development and marketing. At the conclusion of the paper, the author suggests that design is a discipline with a blurry boundary, which studies the human subject, the man-made world and the relationship between these two parties. It is pertinent for designers and design researchers to go beyond the discipline's border and see the design and research subject from different perspectives. Design is a discipline that is not merely studying in a professional workshop, but requires to be considered within a large interdisciplinary context.

Community, Civil Society, and Canada's National Roundtables on Mining

Christina Campisi
Anthropology, Université de Montréal

The following research brings together perspectives from anthropology and political science, with a transnational orientation. Based on field research within the "National Roundtables on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and the Canadian Extractive Sector in Developing Countries," organized by the Canadian government in 2006, I examine this forum of discussion that brought together industry, government, civil society actors, and local leaders from mining communities around the world with a view to establish mechanisms to regulate the practices of the Canadian mining industry overseas. I explore the dynamics that emerge in civil society's efforts in representing the "local community." While the boundaries and roles of the mining company and related government agencies were already in place before preparations for the project began, the "local community" is only summoned into being due to the potential presence of mining projects. "Civil society" depends on the "community" because the formation of a community as a localized political subject is necessary for civil society to be able speak in the name of "community," and thus to create difference with the discourses and strategies of other actors. At the same time, the community itself is engaged in a complex process of articulating their interests to state agencies and mining companies, that lead to competing claims of representing the "local community." I bring special attention to the case of the Pascua Lama mining project in Chile, led by a Canadian gold mining firm, that has received attention from civil society actors in Canada and Chile.

Anthropology and Political Economy: the Bi-Focal Advantage
Lyndal Neelin
Canadian Studies/Politcal Economy, Carleton University

My paper explores the possibilities for fresh insights and strengthened understanding offered by combining anthropology and political economy as a sort of bi-focal lens. The truism that we construct ourselves and our contexts using materials that are not of our choosing is elegantly accommodated in the double vision of anthropology and political economy. There is some danger when we begin to examine ideologies and identities as the constructions of 'sedimented truths' that we lose track of the real constraints within which these constructions must operate. My study of language use in Shawville, Quebec illustrates the efficacy of combining these two disciplines. Shawville's location and particular history make it an interesting case study in an exploration of the effects and affects of bilingual practices in Canada. How and why has Shawville remained a majority Anglophone community within the context of an officially Francophone province, and an officially bilingual nation? What does it mean to Shawville's Anglophone community to remain English-speaking, socially, economically, and politically? This paper discusses the ways in which doing ethnographic research within the more "materialist" framework of political economy might prove valuable in keeping the research grounded in lived experience while articulating the ways in which that experience is given meaning within a community of people.

Session 8
Room: 763
"We Bite": *Risk and Othering*
Chaired by: Dr. Frances Shaver

The Construction of Female Delinquency: Historical Conceptions and Present Realities
Rebecca Brodkin
Sociology, Concordia University

Female delinquency and gang membership is not a new and recent phenomenon over the past decade, as the mass media has lead society to believe. The construction of the 'new' female delinquent specifically in relation to gang activities is tied to society's construction of delinquency. The historical focus on male delinquency while disregarding the small amount of females' engagement in criminal activity, produced social definitions of delinquency; being male and masculine behaviours. The social construction of gender created notions of female delinquency as any behaviour that was not 'feminine' and related to crimes of 'immorality' and status offences, which created society's ideologies and stereotypical perceptions of female delinquency. With the focus on a female's sexuality, and not on their participation or engagement of traditionally viewed 'male' crimes, social researchers focused their attention and inquiry on male behaviours when examining the social problem of delinquency. The lack of awareness and attention on females, who were engaging in traditionally viewed 'masculine' delinquent behaviours, has resulted in the construction of the 'new' female delinquent within society today. Within North American cities, research within sociology in relation to female committing traditionally view male crimes, emerged within the 1970's specifically by feminist researchers. The production of knowledge since then on female delinquency and gang membership illustrates that the 'new' female delinquent is not in fact new, and as the stereotypical notions of delinquency breaks down, females' engagement in delinquent behaviours and more specifically gang membership will become more evident and present within our society.

Changing the Canadian Sex Industry: Language and its Influence on Law Reform

Catherine Zangger
Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University

Canadian lawmakers have regulated activities surrounding sex work for over 200 years (Shaver, 1994). With the formation of the House of Commons Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws (SSLR) in 2002, the issue of sex work in Canada once again came to the forefront within the political realm. The tabling of the SSLR report in the fall of 2006 represents the federal government's latest attempt to invoke future legal reforms to sex work related offences in Canada. There is a great need for research that addresses the social process that shape the social-legal environments affecting people working in the sex industry, their accessibility to key resources, and their access to protection and health-care services. Using critical discourse analysis (Fairclough, 1993) this paper will analyze the discourses of power and agency contained in the SSLR report with an aim of highlighting instances of promising change and continued subjugation of sex-workers contained within it.

"Bum Proofing" the City

Marianne Quirouette
Sociology and Anthropology, Concordia University

The issue of "bum proofing" is evidence of the divide between public and private spaces, which is increasingly being blurred. Parks, shopping centres and even streets are regulated by private security agents and cater to select groups of the population, namely consumers. Bathrooms are for customers only, benches are designed to make sleeping impossible, and parks are closed overnight to prevent 'camping'. While consumers are welcomed in most spaces, the urban poor experience the city as a place filled with boundaries. Harsh policies concerning the use of what is usually understood as public space (such as parks) are being marketed as 'for the good of citizens'. Clearly a certain kind of citizen is being protected from the other. As discussed by various scholars, the homeless citizen is increasingly pushed out of public spaces. Indeed, doorways are

equipped with automatic sprinklers, alleys are blocked off, and loitering and panhandling laws are enforced. This photo essay will use pictures taken in downtown Montreal to reflect the realities homeless individuals face, particularly in relation to the use of urban design as well as assist in developing an argument about their status as citizens.

Searching for Social Cohesion in "God's Country": A Study of Religions Diversity Using Demography, Theology and Anthropology

Paul Gareau
History and Philosophy of Religion, Concordia University

This research seeks to understand the role of *religious diversity* with a focus on the *rural Canadian context*. My goal is to see how religious diversity functions in terms of interdenominational relations primarily connected to theological and demographical differences. Canada has a long history of cultural diversity. Social cohesion in the face of cultural diversity is therefore one of the key issues facing Canada. Religion and religious diversity are central to this since religion is a significant component of culture and cultural differences. Furthermore, rural areas are especially important in this discussion since they often reflect settlements of religious homogeneity within a society of religious heterogeneity. Describing this diversity is the first step in understanding its dynamics and impacts. In this presentation, I will outline the demographics of religious diversity in rural Canada and initiate a theological discourse on the subject of religious exclusivism in relation to this diversity and the impact on social cohesion. Ultimately, this presentation brings insight into how religious diversity operates in managing conflict in rural Canada through a macro level of inquiry using statistics and different theological definitions of one's attitude towards the 'Other'. However, I will also be outlining its methodological shortcomings. This presentation is a theoretical examination of the quantitative research that offers a framework for a larger qualitative research investigating the subjective aspects of religious worldviews with regards to the self and the 'Other'.

Accommodating Affect or 'Others'?: Logics of Fear in the Bouchard-Taylor Hearings
Ainsley Jenicek
Communication, Concordia University

This paper examines one of the dominant sentiments expressed over the course of the Bouchard-Taylor hearings: fear. Who was constructed as the Other and what about 'them' was perceived as menacing? How should 'they' be dealt with? Through a critical discursive analysis of a portion of briefs submitted for the Quebec City hearing by predominantly Quebecois 'de souche' organizations and individuals, this paper maps out what Sara Ahmed calls the 'affective politics' of fear. It traces the Manichaean logic of fear through issues of gender (in)equality, Catholicism versus Other religions as well as border anxiety articulated as invasion and displacement. Throughout this analysis, it is argued that these briefs exemplify what Etienne Balibar calls 'cultural' or 'differentialist racism.' The last portion of this analysis compares these fear-filled perspectives and prescriptions with a sample of those presented by minority individuals and organizations, constrasting the views of present-day Quebec and its future.

Workshops

Workshop 1
Time: 10:45-12:00
Room: 760
"Horror Business": Getting Grants, Scholarships, and other Forms of Funding

Workshop Organizer and Moderator: Nathalie Reid (Sociology MA Thesis)

Panel:
Dr. Sylvia Kairouz, Concordia University
Sandra Smele Concordia University (Sociology MA Thesis)
Catherine Zangger (Sociology MA Thesis)

Researchers who have successfully received funding in the past will discuss the granting agencies that provide funding, how to organize and develop a competitive proposal, mentoring and departmental support for your research project, the importance of having your work funded, how your application will be evaluated, and the criteria upon which your application will be evaluated. This workshop benefits university students at all levels from first-time proposal writers to more experienced grantees. Participation and questions are encouraged.

Workshop 2
Time: 1:45-3:00
Room: 760
"I Turned into a Martian": Transitioning from Undergraduate to Graduate School

Workshop Organizer and Moderator: Kris Murray (Sociology MA Thesis)

Panel:
Dr. Sally Cole
Dr. Anthony Synnott
Rebecca Brodkin (Sociology MA Thesis)
Amanda Dies (Anthropology MA Thesis)

This panel will discuss issues in respect to the transition for undergraduate to graduate school. Specifically it will speak to the changes in workload and responsibilities, time and stress management, thesis preparation,

letter of reference for MA application, and selecting the right program for you. As well it will look at selecting your graduate school, applying to grad schools, talking to advisors and professors, finding a suitable environment for your research interests and meeting application deadlines.

Workshop 3
Time: 3:15-4:30
Room: 760
"Night of the Living Dead": Surviving Grad School

Workshop Organizer and Moderator: Kris Murray (Sociology MA Thesis)

Panel:
Joan Donovan (Sociology MA Thesis)
Erik Chevrier (Psychology MA)
Shireen Kashmeri (Anthropology MA Thesis)
Justin Gagnon (Sociology MA Thesis)

This panel will discuss life as a graduate student. It will speak to issues of academic workload, doing readings, paying fro graduate school. academic expectations at the graduate level, surviving anxiety and stress, making time for what needs to get done, serving as a research assistant or teaching assistant, and completing final assignments. Specifically, it will provide tips and insight from current graduate students in their second year for potential MA students.

Conference Organizers:

Joan Donovan
Robert Parungao
Amanda Dies
Kris Murray
Justin Gagnon
Christina Olivieri
Dimitrios Koulis
Courtney Dutchak

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