

SPRING 2016
EDU 6973 Special Problems
By Instructor Permission*
JOURNEYS THROUGH **CRITICAL** SOCIAL THEORY
Mondays, 6:00-8:45
Downtown Campus

I don't feel that it is necessary to know exactly what I am. The main interest in life and work is to become someone else that you were not in the beginning.

–Michel Foucault

The word “theory” often evokes fear in the minds of many students as one of the difficult obstacles of a graduate education. However, theory illuminates society and leaves us with profound questions, forcing us to directly engage with our social world. In other words, theory cannot be separated from praxis. Unfortunately, little time is often spent discussing its full repercussions. This course seeks to address this by offering Graduate students an introduction to critical social theory and its implications for research and practice that can be utilized towards publication or work towards a dissertation or advanced research project. Possible topics to be covered:

- power/knowledge and regimes of truth
- deconstruction
- race and postcolonialism
- affect
- social class
- the multitudes
- space and place
- disability and the body
- gender and feminism
- subjectivity and identity politics
- cultural studies
- the borders of the human
- the imagination
- utopian literature

You will engage seminar readings along with “specializing” in an aspect of critical social theory of your choice that will provide an opportunity for a self-reflective, personalized and in-depth academic exploration. A variety of creative, research and scholarly activities will complete this intellectually rigorous experience.

Curious interlocutors contact:
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*If you are a student in ELPS, this course can be used as a cognate but please see your advisor before registering.