

# Classics in Theories of Space and Place

(National Ph. D. course, Fall Term - 2023)

## Course Organizers

Mekonnen Tesfahuney, Professor, Karlstads University ([mete@kau.se](mailto:mete@kau.se))

Richard Ek, Professor, Professor, Karlstads University ([richard.ek@kau.se](mailto:richard.ek@kau.se))

Carina Listerborn, Professor, Malmö University ([carina.listerborn@mau.se](mailto:carina.listerborn@mau.se))

## Syllabus

Classics in Theories of Space and Place is an advanced course on that engages the disciplinary canon on space and place. This is done by careful readings of key/classical texts on space and place. The course is broadly structured along three major themes: (1) *Spatial Science*, (2) *Humanistic*, and (3) *Relational* conceptions of space and place. The course provides an (philosophical) excursus of disciplinary conceptions of space and place as laid out by key protagonists for each of the themes. As such, the course is not only a journey through canonical notions of space and place but also a mapping of the geographies of the disciplinary canon as well.

The course will be examined by submission and presentation of a final paper (6,000-8,000 words). The paper may preferably relate to the candidate's Ph.D. project, with the *proviso* that it shows initiated grasp of the course literature. Moreover, the course will be examined by submitting short summaries of thematic and specified readings of the course literature. Active seminar participation is mandatory.

## Schedule

### Module 1: August 31-September 1, 2023 - Theme: *Spatial Science*

#### Venue: Karlstad University

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 10-12

Lecture: "Positivism" Richard Ek

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 13-16

Literature Seminar: William Bunge (2011/1971) *Fitzgerald, Geography of a Revolution* (ca 250 pp)  
Gould "Geography 1957-1977: The Augean Period" *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* Vol. 69, No. 1, Special Issue: Seventy-Five Years of American Geography (Mar., 1979), pp. 139-151.

1<sup>st</sup> of September, 10-12

Seminar: Schaefer, Fred K. (1953) "Exceptionalism in Geography." *AAG*, Vol. 43, pp.226-249  
Hartshorne, Richard (1955) "Exceptionalism in Geography Re-Examined" *AAG*, Vol XLV, nr 3, 205-244; Buttimer, Ann (1982) "Musing on Helicon. Root Metaphors in Human Geography" (8 pages);

**Module 2: 28-29 September 2023 - Theme: Humanistic Conceptions of Space and Place**  
**Venue: Karlstad University**

- 28<sup>th</sup> of September, 10-12 Lecture: *Out of Place* Duet with Mekonnen & Richard (with Edward Said as guide)
- 28<sup>th</sup> of September, 13-16 Literature Seminar: Text: Tuan, Yu-Fi (2001/1977) *Space and Place. The Perspective of Experience* (235 pp)
- 29<sup>th</sup> of September 10-12 Seamon, D *A Geography of the Life World* (ca 160 pages)

**Module 3: 25-27 October 2023, Theme: Relational Conceptions of Space**  
**Venue: Malmö University**

- 25th of October 13-16 Lecture “Feminist geocriticism” Carina Listerborn
- 26th of October, 9-12 Literature seminar: Gillian Rose (1993) *Feminism and Geography: The Limits of Geographical Knowledge* (160 pp)
- 26<sup>th</sup> of October, 13-15 Lecture: “Space” Aina Tollefsen
- 27<sup>th</sup> of October 9-12 Literature Seminar: Text: Lefebvre, H (1991) *The Production of Space* (ca 450 pages)
- 27<sup>th</sup> October 13-15 *Presentation & Discussion of Synopsis for the Course Paper*

**Course Literature**

- Bunge, William (2011/1971). *Fitzgerald: geography of a revolution*. University of Georgia Press. (253 pp.)
- Buttimer, Ann (1982). Musing on Helicon. Root metaphors in Human Geography. *Geografiska Annaler B: Human Geography*, 64(2), 89-96. (8 pp.)
- Gould, Peter (1979). Geography 1957-1977: The Augean Period. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 69(1), 139–151. (13 pp.)
- Hartshorne, Richard (1955). Exceptionalism in geography re-examined. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 45(3), 205–244. (40 pp.)
- Lefebvre, Henri (1991/1974) *The Production of Space*. London: Blackwell (ca 360 pages)
- Massey, D (2005) *For Space*. New Delhi. Sage.
- Rose, G (1993) *Feminism and Geography: The Limits of Geographical Knowledge*. Polity Press. Cambridge

Schaefer, Fred K. (1953). Exceptionalism in Geography. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 43(3), 226–249. (24 pp.)

Seamon, David (1979/2015). *A geography of the life world*. Routledge. (227 pp.)

Tuan, Yu-Fi (2001/1977). *Space and place. The perspective of experience*. University of Minnesota Press. (235 pp.)

### **Background Reading**

Buttimer Anne (1993). *Geography and the Human Spirit*. John Hopkins University Press.

Cresswell, Tim (2013). *Geographic thought. A critical introduction*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Johnston, R. J., & Sidaway, J. (2017). *Geography and geographers: Anglo-American Human Geography since 1945*. Edward Arnold. 7th edition.

Said, Edward (1999). *Out of place. A memoir*. Granta.

### **Reference Literature**

Bachelard, Gaston (2014/1958) *The Poetics of Space*. New Edition. London: Penguin Books (ca 150 pages)

Burton, Ian (1963) “The Quantitative Revolution and Human Geography” *Canadian Geographer*, VII, 4 (12 pages)

Blunt, A. & Rose, G. eds. (1994) *Writing Women & Space. Colonial & Postcolonial Geographies*. New York: Guilford Press

Casey, Edward (2013) *The Fate of Place. A Philosophical History*. Berkley: University of California Press (ca 400 pages)

Crampton, Jeremy & Elden, Stuart eds. (2007) *Space, Knowledge & Power*. Aldershot: Ashgate (250 pages)

Crang, Michael & Thrift Nigel ed. (2000) *Thinking Space*. London: Routledge (ca 100 pages)

de Certeau, Michel (1984) *The Practice of Everyday Life*. Berkeley: University of California Press (ca 250 pages)

Deleuze, Gilles & Guattari, Felix (1987) *A Thousand Plateaus. Capitalism & Schizophrenia*. (chapters 1, 3, 7, 12, 14)

Elden, Stuart ed. (2012) *Sloterdijk Now*. Cambridge: Polity

Foucault, Michel (1986/1967) “Of Other Spaces” *Diacritics* Spring, (6 pages)

Harvey, David (1969) *Explanation in Geography*. London: Arnold (ca 250 pages)

Harvey, David (2004) *SPACE AS A KEY WORD* Paper for Marx and Philosophy Conference, 29 May 2004, Institute of Education, London

- Malpas, Jeff (2006) *Heidegger & The Thinking of Place. Explorations in the Topology of Being*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press
- Massey, Doreen (1994) *A Global sense of Place* (ca 200 pages)
- Massey, Doreen (1999) *Power Geometries of Space-Time*. Heidelberg (ca 80 pages)
- Olwig, Kenneth R. (2002): The Duplicity of Space: Germanic 'Raum' and Swedish 'Rum' in English Language Geographical Discourse. *Geografiska Annaler* 84B (1): 29-45.
- Olwig, Kenneth (2002): *Landscape, Nature and the Body Politic: From Britain's Renaissance to America's New World*. Madison, University of Wisconsin Press.
- Ord & Bild* (1998) *På Plats*. Nr. 3 [*Special Issues on Place*]
- Ponty, Merleau (2002/1962) *Phenomenology of Perception* New York: Routledge
- Pred, Allan (1984): Place as historically contingent process: structuration and the time-geography of becoming places. *Annals Ass. Am. Geogr.*, vol. 74, s. 279-297.
- Teveson, A & Upstone, S (2011) *Postcolonial Space. The Politics of Place in Contemporary Culture*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan
- Res Publica* (1999) *Farlig Geografi*. Nr. 41-42
- Tuan, Yi-Fu (1990) *Topophilia*. New York: Columbia University Press