

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF ORATORY AND RHETORIC

Anthropology 298
Ethnicity Race and Migration 298
Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies 298

Spring 2010 WORKING

M/W 2:30-3:45
HGS 217a

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Teaching Fellow: Devika Bordia <devika.bordia@yale.edu>
10 Sachem St, Rm. 214
Off.Hrs: Mon, 4:00-5:00 PM; Thurs: 3:00-4:30 PM
Off.Ph.: 432-3689

Course Description:

This course will explore the relationship between language and political practice in ethnographic literature and in rhetorical analyses of classic and contemporary oratory. In theoretical, linguistic, and ethnographic readings and lectures – and a weekly experimental workshop on contemporary American rhetoric and oratory – we will examine how language use, as both mode of social practice and object of ideology and political organization, can be understood as constitutive of political relations and social organization generally.

The course will be divided into two concurrent and, hopefully, congruent sets of inquiries taken up each week in a series of lectures and workshops:

1. **The first series of inquiries**, presented in readings and lectures, will develop a theoretical and ethnographic orientation to oratorical practice and rhetoric based on

- fine-grained analysis of oratorical performance in cultural and historical context by anthropologists and linguists in the North and South America, in a number of African societies (i.e. Senegal, Gambia, and Madagascar), in India, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines;
- traditional rhetorical/tropological analysis (e.g. metaphor, metonym, synecdoche, irony, etc.) as developed in traditional rhetorical study; and
- tropological analysis offered by anthropologists who promoted a rhetorical approach to cultural analysis.

In general, the course will consider language's relationship to broader political economies and the performance of self and social organization (including gendered and political hierarchies and meanings). We will also examine oratory in a wide range of societies and its relationship to the constitution of the social field as an integral element of political praxis.

2. **The second series of inquiries** will be constituted as a weekly workshop examining classic and contemporary oratorical performances – i.e. we will listen to and analyze speeches. Taken mostly from American political oratory, we will begin with close readings of Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream' and 'I've Been to the Mountaintop' speeches, Lincoln's 'Dedicatory Remarks' at Gettysburg, the Declaration of Independence (which was written to be declared). As this course is scheduled during a primary season,

the speeches of the major candidates and the analysis of them will provide fresh and lively texts. As the seminar progresses, participants will be asked to circulate and be prepared to offer in-class analyses of current speeches and their contexts in contemporary American politics.

Ultimately, the workshop will be a work in progress, a space of experimentation. The hope is that we transcend American folk understandings of language and politics and apply a theoretically sophisticated and ethnographically informed orientation to oratory to an understanding of current political praxis in the US and beyond.

Course Structure and Requirements:

A. *Lecture Attendance and Sections* (10%): Following the disorder of shopping period, this course will have a weekly lecture every Monday during which I will provide detailed presentations on a series of topics on the anthropology of oratory and rhetoric. Participants will read all materials assigned prior to the lecture; I will either assume knowledge of the readings or, occasionally, ask questions about them.

NB: Following the shopping period we will also begin discussion section meetings with the TF who will set the agenda, in consultation with the participants, based on already assigned materials.

B. *Short Paper assignments* (40%): Participants will write 2 short (c.1,500 word) critical responses to assigned readings and seminar discussions. Assignment topics for these responses will be distributed one week prior to their due date. Please meet the deadlines for paper assignments noted on the syllabus. All papers will be due 4:30 PM on the due dates as hard copy in my box (10 Sachem St.) and/or as email attachments. For attachments please provide the following title to your paper: LASTNAME_OR-S08_Paper#.

C. *Workshop Participation* (10%) and *Presentation* (10%). After the shopping period, we will convene a series of workshops every Wednesday. The success of workshop sessions will be a function of the preparation and participation of each member of the class. Everyone will come prepared to discuss the materials assigned and the speeches indicated in the syllabus and/or agreed upon the previous week or via email.

As we will be examining current political speeches, participants must monitor specific news sources over the course of the semester and be familiar with the debates of the day. (I will suggest *The News Hour* on PBS, *The/A Daily Show* and *The/A Colbert Report* on Comedy Central, *The O'Reilly Factor* and *Hannity and Combs* on the Fox News Channel, *Countdown with Keith Olbermann* on MSNBC, Lou Dobbs and Anderson Cooper on CNN, speeches on C-Span, YouTube, etc.)

Following the initial weeks, selected participant will be responsible for discussing one speech or set of speeches. S/he will come prepared to discuss one or more speeches in detail taken from contemporary sources, preferably (though not necessarily) political. Additionally, all participants will be asked to come prepared to discuss specific speeches having conducted short analytical assignments prior to the workshop session.

*NB: As the workshop will involve discussion and analysis of current political practice, participants – including the instructors and all students – must work to foster an atmosphere of **open debate, analysis and discussion**. This does not mean that political positions must remain hidden; indeed, differences of opinion are welcome. However, **courtesy in debate and respect** for those who offer positions you do not share are mandatory. Furthermore, while political opinions may vary, we will avoid using class time to air strictly partisan positions. Indeed, one the partisanship of rhetorical*

analysis will also be fair game in analysis. So, we want to avoid becoming fodder for our own mill!

D. *Individual Term Papers* (30%): Each participant will complete a 3,500-4,000 word term paper based on a topic to be agreed upon in consultation with the instructors. **Participants are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the instructor and/or teaching fellow to discuss topics and goals.** Though you may use outside materials, the paper topic may be drawn largely from the readings assigned and covered in class. The idea is to expand upon one or more of the issues that are raised in the seminar.

Participants are also encouraged to use workshop presentations as a way of working up materials and analyses and elicit critical engagement from your classmates. If you wish, you may submit a rough draft and/or bibliography and research prospectus for feedback prior to Spring Break.

NB: *The amount of preparation for the rough draft/prospectus is entirely up to you, but bear in mind that this is an opportunity to receive detailed feedback from me prior to receiving a grade. The more you do initially, the more feedback I can give and the less you will have to do at the end of the semester. I will set aside time during the week following the break to review your work and discuss it in detail, if you wish.*



'Interior of a Church,' Emanuel de Witte, Holland, c. 1668

Books to Purchase (Labyrinth Books, York Street)

- Fliegelman, Jay. 1993. *Declaring Independence: Jefferson, Natural Language and the Culture of Performance*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. [ISBN: ISBN:0804720762, ppr; CCL E332.2 F55X 1993 (LC)]
- Johnson, James Weldon 1990. *God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse*. Penguin Group (USA) ISBN 0140184031, Paper
- Lakoff, George 2004. *don't think of an elephant: know your values and frame the debate*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green, pp. ix-xvi, 1-78.
- Quinn, Arthur 1982. *Figures of Speech: 60 ways to turn a phrase*. Salt Lake City, UT: Gibbs M Smith.

To Consider:

Yankah, Kweisi 1995. *Speaking for the Chief: Okyeame and the Politics of Akan Royal Oratory*.
Apter, Andrew 2007. *Beyond Words: Discourse and Critical Agency in Africa*. Chicago:
University of Chicago Press.

On-Line Resources:

There are many, many on-line resources for acquiring, reading and *listening* to speeches. Of these, particularly useful sites are:

<http://humanities.byu.edu/rhetoric/silva.htm>

Silva Rhetoricae. This very useful and interesting guide by Dr. Gideon Burton of Brigham Young University provides a rather thorough outline of classical and renaissance rhetoric. It is particularly useful for a searchable database of tropes and figures. Contains hundreds of Greek, Latin and renaissance tropes and figures of speech. For a stripped down, straight-up overview of rhetoric, it's hard to beat.

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/>

This site contains over 5000 speeches in a speech bank, a wonderful lesson on tropes and figures of speech, and a list of the 100 greatest speeches in American oratory (many with mp3 files attached)

<http://www.presidentialrhetoric.com>

Presidential Rhetoric.com contains speech banks, press reactions, and links to a wide range of resources available for all the presidents of the United States.

<http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/sayitplain/index.html>

'Say It Plain: A Century of Great African American Speeches,' edited by Kate Ellis and Stephen Smith, American Radio Works. A fine compilation of major speeches and commentaries on them. There is also an hour-long radio documentary (and transcript) on the history of African American oratory.

All other materials will be placed on-line on the Classes V2 server.



The only known photo of Abraham Lincoln at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on November 19, 1863 (Source: Wikipedia)

CALENDAR OF READINGS, SPEECHES, & WORKSHOPS

I. Prolog: Who Speaks? Gender, Oratory and the Invention of the Political
(Weeks 1, 2)

Monday, January 14 and Wednesday, January 16: Introducing the Course and some rhetorical analysis:

- (Mon) 'The First Meta-President,' Jon Stewart (The Daily Show, 9 October 2007)
 - <http://www.thedailyshow.com/video/index.jhtml?videoId=111129&title=loud-and-clear>
- (Wed) Structural Transformations of Oratory and Religion in America, 1960 and 2007:
 - (JFK 1960) <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=16920600>
 - (Mitt Romney 2007) http://www.mittromney.com/News/Speeches/Faith_In_America

Lecture 1

Friday, January 18: Who Speaks?

Readings:

Campbell, Karlyn Kohrs 1995. "Gender and Genre: Loci of Invention and Contradiction in the Earliest Speeches by U.S. Women." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 81 (4): 479-495.

Johnson, Nan 2000. "Reigning in the Court of Silence: Women and Rhetorical Space in Postbellum America." *Philosophy & Rhetoric* 33 (4): 221-242.

Background:

Habermas, Jürgen 1974 [1964]. 'The Public Sphere: An Encyclopedia Article (1964).' *New German Critique*, No. 3. (Autumn, 1974), pp. 49-55.

Ryan, Mary 1992. 'Gender and Public Access: Women's Politics in Nineteenth-Century America,' In Calhoun, Craig, ed., *Habermas and the Public Sphere*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, pp. 259-88.

Taylor, Charles 2004. 'The Public Sphere,' Chapter 6 in *Modern Social Imaginaries*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, pp. 83-99.

Oratory:

Priscilla Mason, "The Salutatory Oration, Delivered by Miss Mason," in *The Rise and Progress of the Young Ladies' Academy of Philadelphia: Containing an Account of a Number of Public Examinations & Commencements; The Charter and Bye-Laws; Likewise, a Number of Orations Delivered by the Young Ladies; and Several by the Trustees of the Said Institution* (Philadelphia, Stewart & Cochran, 1794), pp. 90-95.

[Document 18C, Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1600-2000, <http://www.alexanderstreet6.com/WASM/wasmrestricted/DP79/doc18c.htm>]

Lecture 2

Wednesday, January 23: Oratory, Mourning, and the Invention of the Political

Readings:

Ch'ien, Karsten 2007. 'Gendering of the Public Sphere through Mourning.' Unpublished course paper for 'Language and Gender in Cultural Anthropology,' 11 December 2007, Yale University (6 pages, used with permission of the author).

- Faludi, Susan 2007. 'We're at War, Sweetheart' and 'Perfect Virgins of Grief,' Chapters 1 and 4 in *The Terror Dream: Fear and Fantasy in Post 9/11 America*. New York: Metropolitan Books, pp. 19-45, 89-115.
- Loraux, Nicole 1998 [1990]. 'Forward' (by Gregory Nagy) and Chaps 1, 2 in *Mothers in Mourning*. Trans. by Corinne Pache. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. ix-xii, 1-27.
- Seremetakis, C. Nadia 1991. Chap. 1 in *The Last Word: Women, Death, and Divination in Inner Mani*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 1-15.
- Sufrin, Hanna 2007. 'The Female Presidential Candidate Mourns.' Unpublished course paper for 'Language and Gender in Cultural Anthropology,' 12 December 2007, Yale University (6 pages, used with permission of the author).
- Tompkins, Daniel P. 1988 'Review of 'The Invention of Athens' by Nicole Loraux.' *History and Theory* 27(3):306-312.

Background:

- Bloch, Ruth H. 1978. 'American Feminine Ideals in Transition: The Rise of the Moral Mother,' 1785-1815. *Feminist Studies* 4(2):100-126.
- Loraux, Nicole 2006[1981]. 'Introduction,' Chapter 1 in *The Invention of Athens: The Funeral Oration in the Classical City*. New York: Zone Books, pp. 25-117.
- Scott, Joan 1999. 'Gender: A useful category of historical analysis.' In her *Gender and the Politics of History*. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 28-50 [C.f. pp. 41-50].
- Seremetakis, C. Nadia 1991. Chaps. 7, 8 in *The Last Word: Women, Death, and Divination in Inner Mani*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp.126-76.
- Sherzer, Joel 1987. 'A Diversity of Voices: Men's and Women's Speech in Ethnographic Perspective.' In Susan U. Philips, Susan Steele, and Christine Tanz, eds., *Language, Gender, and Sex in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 95-120.

Workshop:

Scour the web for materials on **Cindy Sheehan**. Who was she? What did she do? And why are people so upset with her?

II. The Anthropology of Oratory
(Weeks 3 – 5)

Lecture 3

Monday, January 28: Language and political economy: a materialist view

Readings:

- Bourdieu, Pierre 1977. 'Economics of Linguistic Exchange.' *Social Science Information* 16(6): 645-68.
- Friedrich, Paul 1989. 'Language, Ideology, and Political Economy.' *American Anthropologist* 91(4):295-312.
- Irvine, Judy 1989. 'When Talk Isn't Cheap: language and political economy.' *American Ethnologist* 16(2):248-67.

Background:

- Volosinov, M.L. 1973. Part II, Chapters 1-4, *Marxism and the Philosophy of Language*. Austin: University of Texas Press, pp. 9-106.

Workshop:

NB: Reading For the Workshop: Johnson, James Weldon 1990. *God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse*. Read 'Introduction,' the prayer, and all seven sermons (pp.1-56). (**Available on ClassesV2**)

Martin Luther King, Jr. . 'I have been to the mountaintop.' 3 April 1968, Memphis, TN.

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkivebeentothemountaintop.htm>

Susan Stamberg interview with Rev. Samuel Billy Kyles, a close friend of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., who describes the events surrounding King's last public address to a crowd in Memphis, TN (NPR, 2005)

http://www.npr.org/templates/dmg/dmg.php?mediaURL=/wesun/19880403_wesun_speech&NPRMediaPref=WM

Lecture 4

Monday, February 4: Oratory as Material Practice

Readings:

Bloch, Maurice 1975. 'Introduction.' In *Political Language and Oratory in Traditional Society*. London, New York, San Francisco: Academic Press, pp. 1-28.

Goffman, Irving 1981. 'The Lecture.' In *Forms of Talk*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 162-95.

Kuipers, Joel 2000. 'Oratory.' *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 9: 173-76.

Workshop:

NB: Reading For the Workshop: Deborah Tannen 2007. 'Involvement strategies in consort: literary nonfiction and political oratory.' In Deborah Tannen, *Talking Voices: Repetition, dialogue, and imagery in conversational discourse* (Second Edition) Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 161-86.

- Jesse Jackson's 'I am somebody' speech, 18 July 1983
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jessejackson1984dnc.htm>
- Barack Obama, 'Iowa Caucus Victory Speech,' 3 January 2008 (13:40)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNZaq-YKcNE>
- Barak Obama, 'New Hampshire Speech, 8 January 2008 (13:09)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe751kMBwms>
- **Bonus!!!!** will.i.am (of the Black Eyed Peas) powerful remix of the New Hampshire Speech: <http://www.dipdive.com/>

Lecture 5

Monday, February 11: Oratory, Voice and Participation Framework

Readings:

Finnegan, Ruth 1970. 'Oratory, Formal Speaking, and Other Stylized Forms.' Chapter 16 (Section I, excerpt), *Oral Literature in Africa*. Nairobi and Dar es Salaam: Oxford University Press, pp.444-56.

Irvine, Judith T. 1992. 'Insult and Responsibility: Verbal Abuse in a Wolof Village,' in Irvine, Judith T. and Jane Hill, eds., *Responsibility and Evidence in Oral Discourse*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 105-34.

Irvine, Judith T. 1996. 'Shadow Conversations: The Indeterminacy of Participation Roles.' In Silverstein, Michael and Gregory Urban, eds., *National Histories of Discourse*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, pp. 131-59.

Yankah, Kwesi 1995. 'Introduction' and 'Okyeame: A Theoretical Framework,' in *Speaking for the Chief: Okyeame and the Politics of Akan Royal Oratory*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, pp. 1-24.

Background:

- Albert, Ethel 1964. 'Rhetoric,' 'Logic,' and 'Poetics' in Burundi: Culture Patterning of Speech Behavior.' *American Anthropologist* 66: 35-54.
- Irvine, Judith T. 1979. 'Formality and Informality in Communicative Events.' *American Anthropologist* 81(4):773-90.
- Myers, Fred R. 1998. 'Reflections on a Meeting: Structure, Language, and the Polity in a Small Scale Society.' In Donald Brenneis and Ronald Macaulay, eds., *The Matrix of Language: Contemporary Linguistic Anthropology*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, pp. 234-257.

Workshop:

NB: Reading For the Workshop: Silverstein, Michael 2004. *Talking Politics: The Substance of Style from Abe to "W."* Chicago, IL: Prickly Paradigm Press. **Pp. 1-67 only** (please avoid the materials on GWBush which are somewhat silly.) (**Available on ClassesV2**)

Abraham Lincoln's 'Dedicatory Remarks' at Gettysburg, PA, 19 November 1863.

- (Sam Waterson)
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/mp3clips/politicalspeeches/gettysburgaddresssamwaterston.mp3>
- (Jeff Daniels)
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/mp3clips/politicalspeeches/gettysburgaddressjeffdaniels.mp3>
- (Johnny Cash)
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/mp3clips/politicalspeeches/gettysburgaddressjohnnycash.mp3>

III. The Anthropology of Rhetoric
(Weeks 6 – 10)

Lecture 6

Monday, February 18: Provincializing Rhetoric – I: Oratory and the Embodiment of Person, Self and Social Order

Readings:

- Rosaldo, Michele Z. 1973. 'I Have Nothing to Hide: The Language of Ilongot Oratory.' *Language in Society* 2:193-223.
- Rosaldo, Michele Z. 1984. 'Words that are Moving: The Social Meanings of Ilongot Verbal Art.' In Donald Brenneis and Fred R. Myers, eds., *Dangerous Words: Language and Politics in the Pacific*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, pp. 131-160.

Background:

- Crocker, J. Christopher 1977. 'The Social Functions of Rhetorical Forms.' In J. David Sapir and J.C. Crocker, eds., pp. 33-66.
- Duranti, Alessandro 1992. 'Intensions, Self, and Responsibility: An Essay in Samoan Ethnopragmatics.' In Hill, Jane and Judith Irvine, eds., *Responsibility and evidence in oral discourse*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 24-47.
- Rosaldo, Michelle Z. 1982 "The Things We Do with Words: Ilongot Speech Acts and Speech Act Theory in Philosophy," in *Language and Society* 11: 203-235.

Workshop:

Assignments TBA. We will begin working intensively on trope and figure identification and analysis. Participants will come prepared to discuss specific tropes and present them to each other. The object of this exercise will be to begin to identify as many as 60 specific figures and analyze them in terms of their social and cultural contexts. You will find the short, clear and clever readings in Quinn 1982 particularly useful.

Lecture 7

Monday, February 25: Provincializing Rhetoric – II: Malagasy Kabary and Non-Denotative Functions of Oratorical Performance

Readings:

Harmon, Danna 2002. 'In Kabary the point is to avoid the Point.' *Christian Science Monitor*, 9 May 2002.

Keenan (Ochs), Eleanor 1973. 'A Sliding Sense of Obligatoriness: The Polystructure of Malagasy Oratory.' *Language and Society* 2:225-43.

Myers, Fred and Donald Brenneis 1984. 'Introduction' (**excerpt**), in Myers, Myers, Fred and Donald Brenneis. eds., *Dangerous Words: Language and Politics in the Pacific*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, pp. 1-11.

Ochs, Eleanor 1998 [1989]. 'Norm Makers, Norm-Breakers: Uses of Speech by Men and Women in a Malagasy Community. In Brenneis, Donald, and Ronald Macaulay, eds., *The Matrix of Language: Contemporary Linguistic Anthropology*. Boulder, CO: Westview, pp. 99-115.

Background:

Jackson, Jennifer 2006. 'To Be a Developed Nation is to Speak as a Developed Nation: Constructing Tropes of Transparency and Development Through Syntax, Register, and Context in the Political Oratory of Imerina, Madagascar.' *Texas Linguistic Forum* 49: 72-83.

Website devoted to Kabary: http://www.tranofalafa.com/culture/kabary/kabary_overview.html

Workshop:

Open

Lecture 8

Monday, 3 March: Declaring Independence: Oratory and the Culture of Performance in 18th Century US

Reading:

Fliegelman, Jay. 1993. *Declaring Independence: Jefferson, Natural Language and the Culture of Performance*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. [ISBN: ISBN:0804720762, ppr; CCL E332.2 F55X 1993 (LC)]

Jefferson, Thomas, et.al. 1776. *The Declaration of Independence*

Workshop:

Open

I SHORT PAPER DUE: Friday, 7 March, 4:30 PM (as attachment to the instructor and in your Drop Box on ClassesV2)

SPRING BREAK!!

8 – 23 March

Lecture 9

Monday, 24 March: The Play of Tropes in Culture – I

Readings:

Burke, Kenneth 1969[1945]. 'The Four Master Tropes.' Appendix D in *A Grammar of Motives*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 503-17.

Fernandez, James 1986. Chapters 1 & 2. *Persuasions and Performances: The Play of Tropes in Culture*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, pp. 3-70.

Workshop:

Open

Lecture 10

Monday, 31 March: The Play of Tropes in Culture – I

Readings:

Friedrich, Paul 1979a. 'Poetic Language and the Imagination: A Reformulation of the Sapir Hypothesis.' In his *Language, Context and the Imagination*. Edited by Anwar S. Dil. Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp. 441-512.

1991. 'Polytropy.' In Fernandez, James, ed., *Beyond Metaphor*. Austin: University of Texas Press, pp. 17-55.

Workshop:

Open

**IV. Oratory, Linguistic Modernity and
the Invention of the Tamil People (Weeks 11, 12)**

Lecture 11

Monday, 7 April: The Protestant Sermon, Linguistic Modernity, and the Formation of Tamil Oratory



Missionary Encampment in the Tamil speaking area of the Madras Presidency, c. 1840. Source: *Memoir of the Rev. Thomas Gajetan Ragland : fellow of the Corpus Christi college, Cambridge, and itinerating missionary of the church missionary society in north Tinnevelly, South India*, by Thomas Thomason Perowne, 1861.

Readings:

Hudson, D. 1992a. 'Arumuga Navalar and the Hindu Renaissance among Tamils,' in Kenneth W. Jones, ed., *Religious Controversy in British India: Dialogues in Asian Languages*. Albany: SUNY Press, pp. 27-51.

1992b. 'Winning Souls for Siva: Arumuga Navalar's Transmission of Saiva Religion,' in Raymond B. Williams and John B. Carmen, eds., *A Sacred Thread: Transmission of Hindu Traditions in Times of Rapid Change*, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, , pp.23-51.

Sivathamby, K. 1979 'Hindu Reaction to Christian Proselytization and Westernization in the Nineteenth Century Sri Lanka.' *Social Science Review* (Colombo), Vol I(1), , pp.41-75.

Background:

Bate, Bernard 2005. 'Arumuga Navlar, Saivite sermons, and the delimitation of religion, c. 1850.' In Language, Genre, and the Historical Imagination in South India, a special issue of the *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 42(4):467-82.

Young, R.F. and S. Jebanesan 1995. *The Bible Trembled: The Hindu-Christian Controversies of Nineteenth-Century Ceylon*. Vienna:Sammlung

Workshop:
Open

Lecture 12
Monday, 14 April: Pure Tamil, Democracy, and an Elocutionary Revolution

Readings:

- Pandian, M.S.S. 1996. 'Towards National-Popular: Notes on Self-Respecters' Tamil.' *Economic and Political Weekly XXXI(51):3323-29.*
- Ramaswamy, Sumathi 1993. 'En/gendering Language: The Poetics of Tamil Identity.' *Comparative Studies of Society and History 35: 683-725.*
- Sivathamby, K. 1978. 'The Politics of a Literary Style.' *Social Scientist 68:16-34.*
- Venkatachalapathy, A.R. 1995b. 'Coining Words: Language and Politics in Late Colonial Tamilnadu.' *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East 15(2):120-29.*

Background:

- Bate, Bernard 2004. 'Shifting subjects: elocutionary revolution in 18th Century America and 20th Century India.' *Language and Communication 24 (4): 337-352.*
- Kailasapathy, K. 1986. 'The Tamil Purist Movement: A Reevaluation.' In *On Art and Literature.* Madras: New Century Bookhouse, pp. 1-37.

Workshop:
Open

V. Coda: Thinking Again about American Political Oratory
(Weeks 13, 14)

Lecture 13
Monday, 21 April: 'Native' Language Ideology: Rhetoric, Framing, and the Structure of American Political Discourse

Reading:

- Bai, Matt 2005. 'The Framing Wars.' *New York Times*, 17 July 2005.
- Cohen, Adam 2004. 'Why the Democrats Need to Stop Thinking About Elephants.' *New York Times*, 15 November 2004.
- Lakoff, George 2004. 'Preface,' 'Forward,' and Chapters 1-6, *don't think of an elephant: know your values and frame the debate.* White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green, pp. ix-xvi, 1-78.
- Scheiber, Noam 2005. 'Wooden Frame. Is George Lakoff Misleading Democrats?' *The New Republic*:14-21.
- Dean discusses Alito, abortion, Libby and Iraq - Hardball with Chris Matthews, MSNBC <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/9883824/>

Background:

- Iyengar, Shanto 2005. 'Speaking of Values: The Framing of American Politics.' *The Forum* 3(3.07):1-7.
- Johnson, Dennis 2005. 'Democrats' Lament, Lakoff's Cure.' *The Forum* 3(3.10):1-3.
- Pitney, John J. 2005. 'Word Games: A Review Essay of *Don't Think of an Elephant!*' *The Forum* 3(3.08):1-7.

Shaw, Greg M. 2005. 'Review of George Lakoff's *Don't Think of an Elephant!*' *The Forum* 3(3.09):1-4.

Special Background Material:

NB: George Lakoff's notion of framing is derived from the work of Charles J. Fillmore, a linguist who specialized in lexical semantics. It might also be argued, as Fillmore himself does, that the concept is quite old (c.f. Fillmore 1985:224-30). Below are two works by Fillmore which interested readers may consult.

Fillmore, Charles J. 1971. *Santa Cruz Lectures on Deixis*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Linguistics Club (87 pages, typescript).

Fillmore, Charles J. 1985. 'Frames and the Semantics of Understanding.' *Quaderni di Semantica* 6(2):222-54.

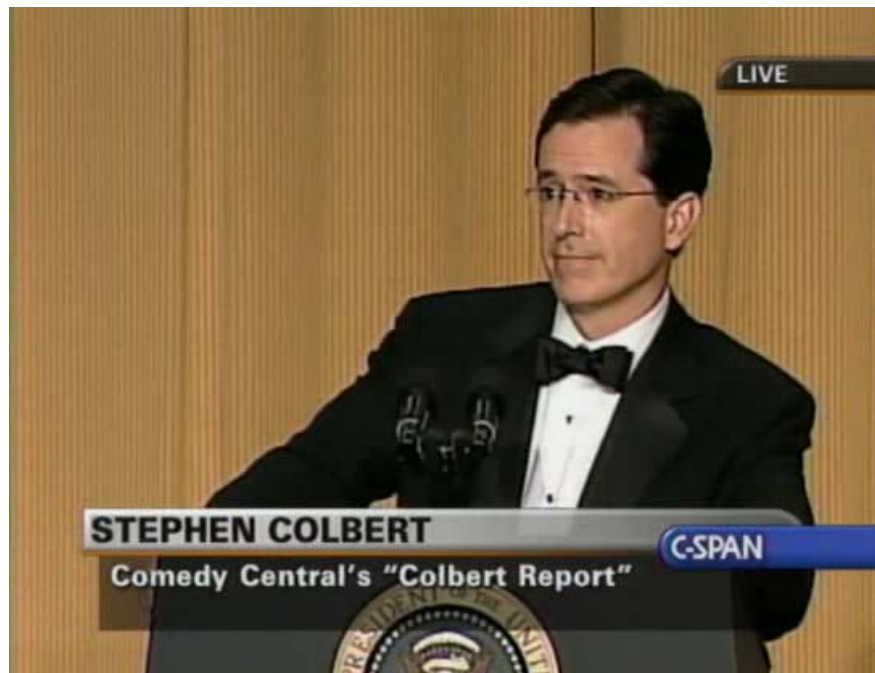
Workshop:

Open

II SHORT PAPER DUE: Friday, 25 April, 4:30 PM (as attachment to the instructor and in your Drop Box on ClassesV2)

Lecture 14

Wednesday, 30 April: Satire and Transcendence: Stephen Colbert and the Embodiment of Outrage



Stephen Colbert at the 2006 White House Correspondents' Association Dinner (29 April 2006. Source: Wikipedia)

Readings:

Bateson, Gregory 1972[1955]. 'A Theory of Play and Fantasy.' In *Steps to an Ecology of Mind*. New York: Ballantine Books, pp. 177-93.

'Truthiness,' Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Truthiness>

Background:

On-Line Materials:

Colbert, Stephen, 2005. 'Truthiness.' The Word, Colbert Report, Comedy Central, 17 October 2005.

http://www.comedycentral.com/motherload/player.jhtml?ml_video=24039&ml_collection=&ml_gateway=&ml_gateway_id=&ml_comedian=&ml_runtime=&ml_context=show&ml_origin_url=/shows/the_colbert_report/videos/the_word/index.jhtml%3Fstart%3D151&ml_playlist=&lnk=&is_large=true

O'Reilly, Bill 2007 'Honoring an American Hero,' Talking Points Commentary, 22 October 2007.

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