Animality / Humanity & Bio-politics

1st Session - Introduction. The End of the Human Exception.
- Ecological consciousness - Human animality & animal humanity
- Common fate. – The specular relationship - Nietzsche - Bataille -
- bio-power: Foucault– Agamben
- Narratives of animality : myths, fables, folklore
- The current shift in human history.

A - PHILOSOPHICAL AND CULTURAL APPROACH

2nd Session - Human Populations: Control & Security: Foucault & Agamben
M. Foucault: Biopower: excerpts from History of Sexuality Vol. 1 & Lecture on “The political technology of individuals” [the governance of large populations vs. sovereignty];
New State scopes : disciplining, controlling, excluding, securizing
G. Agamben : animality and biopolitics: excerpts from The Open & Homo Sacer.
Sovereignty, exclusion, and exception. The human animal and the concentration camp

3rd Session - Becoming Animal: Deleuze
- G. Deleuze : Excerpts from 1000 Plateaus & Kafka.
- Becoming animal; Assemblages – Rhizomes - Being and Becoming - Figures of Otherness.
- Kafka and animality - Metamorphosis - Deleuze on Kafka.

4th Session - to be discussed - Movies
Ex. Willard - King Kong – The Island of Dr. Moreau - Planet of the Apes - The Wild Child (Truffaut) -- Human Nature (Gondry) -- The Fly (Cronenberg). Jurassic Park

5th Session - The Subjectivation of human/animal relationships: Derrida & Haraway
- J. Derrida : The Animal That Therefore I Am; The Beast and the Sovereign-- beyond the difference between animals and humans.
- D. Haraway: Simians, Cyborgs and Women -- When Species Meet.
Closely related aliens. – The gender gap - Immune power - Hybrid communities.
B- BIO-PALEONTOLOGY/ ETHOLOGY/ ANTHROPOLOGY

6th Session - Darwin’s Heritage: The Evolution and Global History of Living Beings
- Paleontology/Biology: Darwin: excerpts from Descent of Man & Expression of Emotions in Animals. - Animal roots of humanity - Other texts by S. Jay Gould, etc.
- Other approaches: T. H. Huxley, E. Westermark, D. Morris; M.D. Hauser

7th Session - Anthropology: Hunter-Gatherers & the Animal World
- Descola – Theory of the 4 fundamental ontologies: animism, totemism, analogism, and naturalism in Beyond Nature and Culture; In the Society of Nature; Spears of Twilight; Life and Death in the Amazonian Jungle.
- The world of the hunter-gatherers: Animal and plant worlds as humanlike societies.
- The alliance between humans and non-humans. - Means of communication.

8th Session - Anthropology: Agro-Pastoral Societies: Domestication and Sacrifice
- The agricultural revolution: the emergence of domesticated animals - a new alliance.
- The Emergence of sacrifice; ex. Middle East, India, Asia, Greece, Africa, etc.
- Texts by M. Detienne & J.P. Vernant [Ancient Greece], Ch. Malamoud [Vedic India].
  Vegetarianism and Orphism vs. Dionysism in ancient Greece.
- Cannibalism [various types]; animal-human hybrids [werewolves; vampires]

C – ETHICAL AND LEGAL PERSPECTIVES –RETURNING TO BIOPOLITICS

9th Session - animals rights – Hybrid Communities
- New philosophical questions:
- R. Wright – The Moral Animal - P. Singer: How Are We to Live?

10th Session - Post-Modern Visions – Non-Humans et Post-Humans
- The ecological paradox and the new state of emergency.
- Returning to bio-politics; the end of the human exception or a complete humanity?
- Globalization and our fate as a living species.