

COURSE DETAIL

THINKING ABOUT OBJECTS AND MATERIALITY BEYOND REPRESENTATION

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)

Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

107

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

THINKING ABOUT OBJECTS AND MATERIALITY BEYOND REPRESENTATION

UCEAP Transcript Title

OBJECTS&MATERIALITY

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

The course focuses on the conceptual work that terms like aura and mimesis, totem and animism, taboo and the sacred, have encompassed in the past and in the present. The works of key figures such as Benjamin, Freud, and Adorno, early anthropological texts, and more recent reinterpretations or re-adaptations are all covered in the course. The goal is to gain an overview of the different histories and approaches towards thinking about the power of objects and materials. By doing so, the course also opens up the question of how useful these terms are in thinking about how we relate to the objects and materials around us, whether in museum collections, as consumer items, or as the waste and ruins of capitalist landscapes; and for understanding dynamics of attraction, attachment, and seduction that are central to contemporary political dynamics.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

51712

Host Institution Course Title

THINKING ABOUT OBJECTS AND MATERIALITY BEYOND REPRESENTATION

Host Institution Campus

PHILOSOPHISCHE FAKULTÄT

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Europäische Ethnologie

[Print](#)