Feminist cultural literacy: translating differences, cannibal options

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Abstract

The essay analyzes the role and future of Women’s Studies as a subject in relation to feminism and feminist approaches. It addresses the issue of interdisciplinarity in the field and the task of translations between the disciplines, pointing to the need to rethink the curriculum in the area. It also discusses the way Women’s Studies has been concerned about the differences within and among feminists and the danger of identity politics. Considering the concept of “faithless translation” and the trope of cannibalism, the article analyzes how feminism and Women’s Studies are related.

Keywords

translation – feminism – Women’s Studies

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Cannibal metaphysics. For a post-structural anthropology, Eduardo viveiros de castro. Where this second option is concerned, the idea that non human agents perceive themselves and their behavior under a human form plays a crucial role. The translation of “culture” in the worlds of extrahuman subjectivities has for its corollary the redefinition of several natural objects and events as indexes from which social agency can be inferred. To translate is to presume that an equivocation always exists; it is to communicate through differences, in lieu of keeping the Other under gag by presuming an original univocality and an ultimate redundancy-an essential similarity-between what the Other and we are saying.