DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
national university of singapore

Departmental Seminar

TITLE

Sparta’s Helots and Subaltern History

SPEAKER

Mr Daniel Jew
PhD Candidate
Trinity College, Cambridge University

Day, Date, Time, Venue

Wednesday, 26 March 2008, 3 pm
HY/PS Lounge, AS1-0401

Abstract

What role does dominant ideology play in structuring the public relationship between elites and subordinates, and how can we write the history of groups who appear to be under hegemonic domination? This paper will attempt to apply James C. Scott's concept of 'public theater' to the behaviour of helots and their Spartan masters, in order to explore the relationship between ideology, agency, dominance & subordination, and historiography (Scott, J.C., 1990, Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts, New Haven & London: Yale University Press).

About the Speaker

Daniel works on the social and economic history of ancient Greece, as a third year PhD candidate at Trinity College, Cambridge. Working under Prof. Paul Cartledge, his thesis is provisionally entitled 'Hegemony in Athens and Sparta'. He was previously a Senior Tutor with the University Scholars Programme at the NUS. His Cambridge M.Phil thesis, 'Food, Silver, Trade and Liturgies: Modelling the Athenian Economy', has been cited in a number of publications and working papers (e.g. Morris, I. and Manning, J.G., eds. 2005, The Ancient Economy: Evidence and Models, Stanford, Stanford University Press, and Atkins, M. and Osborne, R., eds. 2006, Poverty in the Roman World, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press).