

MDIA 413 Advanced Studies in New Media

Trimester 2 2009

30 Points



TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2009

Study week: 19 to 23 October 2009

Last piece of assessment due: Tuesday 27 October 2009

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Coordinator and lecturer: Dr Thierry Jutel

Email: thierry.jutel@vuw.ac.nz

Phone : 463 9737

Room KP 42-44 Room 109

Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-3 and by appointment

Guest Lecturers: Dr Jo Smith jo.smith@vuw.ac.nz and Dr Leon Gurevitch
leon.gurevitch@vuw.ac.nz

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Seminars

Days: Tuesdays Time: 10-11:50 Room Number: 42 KP 101

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will be delivered as a weekly seminar and will involve formal presentations and extensive discussions. Students are to complete reading assigned for each week before the seminar.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information and resources about the course are available on Blackboard.

COURSE CONTENT

This course is an advanced study of a selected form of new media technologies in relation to broader issues of historical, social and aesthetic significance.

In 2009 the course will specifically look at the interrelation between digital technologies, critical theory, discourses and practices of cultural transformation, and moving image culture. The central focus of the seminar will be the modalities of societal, cultural and individual changes and digital technologies. After an introduction, the course will be divided in three key segments. The first two segments will concentrate on the transformation of images and identity. The third segment of the course will be organized around the students development of research projects.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should be able to demonstrate:

1. techniques of scholarship and critical analysis appropriate to future postgraduate studies. These include critically engaging with the academic literature; developing research questions and research projects; and present research outcomes in written and oral forms.
2. an ability to analyse and articulate the relation between the scholarship in the field of digital media studies and specific media examples.
3. an ability to analyse and contextualise discourses of individual, societal and technological transformations in the context of digital media.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

This course is worth 30 points, & expectations are that one point equates to 10 hours of work, spread over the trimester.

GROUP WORK

Presentations will be performed in groups of two students. Topics and schedules will be negotiated at the beginning of the trimester. Presentations will last 15 minutes and will involve both students. A 1,000 words summary will be handed by the group at the same time as the presentation is delivered. A single mark for the group will be awarded. The course coordinator will have a meeting with each group no later than one week before the date of presentation of review the progress of the group, offer advise and directions, and discuss any issues relating to the workings of the group.

READINGS

Essential texts:

Compulsory and recommended readings will be available on Closed Electronic Reserve or on Blackboard.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment is 100% internal.

1. Oral Presentation 20% including a summary of 1,000 words, no later than Friday 21 Aug, 2pm. An assignment sheet will be handed out in the course. (Learning objectives 1, 2, 3)
2. Critical analysis 30%: 2000 words. (Learning objectives 1, 2, 3) This assignment will cover weeks 1 to 8 and will engage with a combination of the assigned and recommended readings. All essays will be due Thursday 17 September, no later than 2pm.
3. Research Essay 50%, 3,000 words due. (Learning objectives 1, 2, 3). In the last part of the course, students will devise a research project for which they will perform a literature search and identify a research question. The final research essay is due Tuesday 27 October, no later than 2pm.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

Penalties

Assignments submitted after the deadline without a written extension will be penalised at a rate of 2% (out of a total of 100) per working day. In other words, if you get 50% for an assignment, after one day your grade will drop to 48%, then 46% the following day etc. Late assignments are likely to receive limited feedback. The weekend counts for one day (i.e. an assignment due on Friday that is submitted on Monday will receive a 2% penalty). Please ensure that you are aware of the time that your assignment is due, as well as the date, as this is the cut-off time utilised in calculating lateness penalties.

Extensions

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Extension requests must be submitted to the Course Co-ordinator.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

You should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

COURSE PROGRAMME

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| Week 1 | 14-07 | No lecture. A make-up session will be organised in the first part of the course and will include student presentations |
| Week 2 | 21-07 | Introduction: Digital/New media and the discourse of transformations Reading: Screening (A/V Centre): Marker, Chris (1982) <i>Sunless</i> . 100 min. (Vis 1925). To be screened by students before the lecture on their own time. |
| Week 3 | 28-07 | Part 1: The Transformation of Moving Images Reading: Manovich, Lev. "What is New Media". The Language of New Media. 43-74 www.manovich.net/LNM/Manovich.pdf Virilio, Paul (1994). "The Vision Machine". <i>The Vision Machine</i> . Bloomington: Indiana U. P.: 59-77 |
| Week 4 | 4-08 | Guest lecturer: Dr Leon Gurevitch Reading: TBA |
| Week 5 | 11-08 | Guest lecturer: Dr Jo Smith Reading: Smith, Jo (2008) "DVD Technologies and the Art of Control". <i>Film and Television after DVD</i> . James Bennett and Tom Brown, eds. Routledge: New York and Oxon: 129-148 |
| Week 6 | 19-08 | Part 2: The Transformation of the Body, Self and Identity Reading: Hayles, N. Katherine (1993). "Virtual Bodies and Flickering Signifiers". <i>October 66</i> , Fall: 69-91 Presentations 1, 2 |
| Make-up | TBA | Presentations 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| Mid Trimester Break: Monday 24 August– Friday 4 September 2009 | | |
| Week 7 | 8-09 | Reading: Jutel, Thierry (2007). "Societies of Control, Compulsory Ecstasy and the Neo-Liberal Subject". <i>Junctures 8</i> (June 2007): 27-38 www.junctures.org Screening: <i>Fight Club</i> |
| Week 8 | 15-09 | Reading: Cubitt, Sean (1998). "Turbulence: Network Morphology and the Corporate Cyborg". <i>Digital Aesthetics</i> . London, Thousand Oaks, New Delhi: Sage: 122-151 |
| Week 9 | 22-09 | Part 3: Transformations The topics and readings for the rest of the trimester will be discussed and negotiated in relation to the research projects students will pursue. Reading: TBA |
| Week 10 | 29-09 | Reading: TBA |

Week 6-10 Reading: TBA
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Week 13-10 Reading: TBA
12

Study Period: Monday 19 to Friday 23 October 2009

Examination Period: Tuesday 27 October – Sunday 15 November 2009