

## Course Code MDIA 407

## Course Title Media, Subjectivity & Identity

**Trimester 1 2010**

**1 March to 4 July 2010**

**30 Points**

### TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 1 March to 4 June

Study week: 7 June to 11 June

Last piece of assessment due: 4 June

### WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

### NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff Tony Schirato

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Phone 463 7445

Room 42-44 KP Room 204

Office Hours TBA

### CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

#### Lectures

10-12 Wednesday Room Number 42-44 KP Room 101

### COURSE DELIVERY

There are ten (10) seminars. See the schedule for details.

## COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on Blackboard.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

- Techniques of scholarship and textual analysis appropriate to future postgraduate studies. These literacies will be introduced & dealt with in lectures, workshopped in tutorials, and assessed in all three pieces of assessment.
- An ability to analyse and articulate the relation between everyday practices and media texts and genres. These literacies will be introduced & dealt with in lectures, workshopped in tutorials, and assessed in all three pieces of assessment.
- An ability to analyse and articulate the relation between categories of subjectivity and wider socio-cultural and historical contexts. These literacies will be introduced & dealt with in lectures, workshopped in tutorials, and assessed in all three pieces of assessment.

## EXPECTED WORKLOAD

This course is worth 30 points, & expectations are that one point equates to 20 hours of work, spread over the trimester.

## READINGS

A Reader will be available on Blackboard.

Additional Reading

Althusser L (1977) Lenin & Philosophy

Anderson B (1983) Imagined Communities

Appadurai A (1996) Modernity at Large

Baudrillard J (2003) The Consumer Society

Bhabha H (1994) The Location of Culture

Bourdieu P (1991) Language & Symbolic Power

Bourdieu P (2000) Pascalian Meditations

Butler J (1990) Gender Trouble

Butler J (1993) Bodies that Matter

Butler J (1997) The Psychic Life of Power

Crary J (1990) Techniques of the Observer

Debord G (1977) Society of the Spectacle

Foucault M (1980) The History of Sexuality

Foucault M (1980) Power/Knowledge

Foucault M (1986) The Use of Pleasure

Foucault M (1988) The Care of the Self

Foucault M (1995) Discipline & Punish

Keith M & Pile S (eds) (1993) Place & the Politics of Identity

Mansfield N (2000) Subjectivity

Zizek S (1997) A Plague of Fantasies

## ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

First Essay: covers material dealt with in weeks 2-4 (inclusive)

Value: 30%

Length: 1500 words

**Due 1.00pm Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March (Drop Box at Media Studies Office)**

Second Essay: covers material dealt with in weeks 5 & 8

Value: 30%

Length: 1500 words

**Due 1.00pm Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April (Drop Box at Media Studies Office)**

Take Home Assignment: covers material dealt with in weeks 9-12 (inclusive)

Value: 40%

Length: 2 x 1500 word essays

**Due 1.00 pm, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June (Drop Box at Media Studies Office)**

### **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**

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day or part work day, starting from the hour the work is due. This means late work will drop one 'grade-step' every second day—i.e. from C+ to C, or A- to B+. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

#### **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. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

### **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

To gain a pass in this course you must: submit the written 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. Work submitted in the final examination will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

### **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**

*The following text must be included in all course outlines.*

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/avcademic/Publications.aspx>

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### **Week 1:** Introduction

Reading: None

### **Week 2:** Imagined Identities

Reading: Appadurai A *Modernity at Large* (pp 27-43)

### **Week 3:** Subjectivity, Identity & Desire

Reading: Schirato T (2010) 'Subjectivity, Identity and Desire' (pp 1-42)

### **Week 4:** Disciplinarity, Normativity & Bio-power

Reading: Ransom J (1997) *Foucault's Discipline* (26-58)

### **Week 5:** Habitus & the Body

Reading: Bourdieu P (2000) *Pascalian Meditations* (pp 128-63)

### **Weeks 6 & 7:** Break

### **Week 8:** Performativity and Gender

Reading: Brady A (2010) 'Gender'

### **Week 9:** Capitalism & Commodity Culture

Brady A (2007) *Constituting Queer: Performativity and Commodity Culture* (pp 68-96)

### **Week 10:** Subjects of Spectacle

Baudrillard J (2003) *Consumer Society* (pp 129-50)

### **Week 11:** Cyborgs & the Posthuman

Gray C (2001) *Cyborg Citizen* (pp 1-20)

### **Week 12:** Virtual Subjects

Readings: Levy P (1998) *Becoming Virtual* (35-44)

### **Weeks 13-14:** Take Home Assignment: one-to-one consultation