



**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME  
PHIL 310: SPECIAL TOPIC: Art and Popular Culture**

**TRIMESTER 1 2012  
5 March to 4 July 2012**

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012  
Mid-trimester break: 6–22 April 2012  
Last piece of assessment due: 10 June 2012  
Study week: 11–15 June 2012

**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**

**Course Coordinator:** Dr Sondra Bacharach  
**Room:** Murphy Building, MY711  
**Phone:** 463 5178  
**Email:** [sondra.bacharach@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:sondra.bacharach@vuw.ac.nz)  
**Office Hours:** Thurs 1-2, and by apt

**Lecturer:** Dr Thomas Wartenberg  
**Room:** Murphy Building, MY702  
**Phone:** 463 8508  
**Email:** [thomas.wartenberg@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:thomas.wartenberg@vuw.ac.nz)  
**Office Hours:** Tues 11-12

**Class times and locations**

**Lectures/Venue:** Tues: Murphy 101 (MY101), 9-10.50am  
Thurs: Murphy 101 (MY101), 9-10.50am

**Additional Information:** Any additional information or notices about this course will be posted on Blackboard.

**Course Prescription**

Topics include problems arising from genres such as horror and romance and questions like: Are films realistic? Is it appropriate to colourise black and white movies? How are stories told in graphic novels? What is wrong with sentimental art? Is popular culture dangerous? Is it immoral to enjoy movies about violence and suffering?

## **Course content**

A lecture outline will be distributed separately

## **Course delivery**

Students are expected to attend lectures and participate in the discussions. There are no tutorials.

## **Communication of additional information**

The course is available on Blackboard. Additional information and announcements will be given out in lectures and put on Blackboard.

## **Learning objectives**

Students who pass this course should have acquired an understanding that will enable them to explain the issues clearly and to support an evaluation of them with reasoned argument. The course should provide a solid foundation for further work in the discipline. Students will be expected to attend lectures, take part in the discussion and keep up with the reading. Those who pass the course should have an enhanced capacity for critical analysis and a deeper understanding of philosophy of popular art and culture. They should be able to explain and evaluate the theories and the controversies to which they have been introduced.

## **Expected workload**

Over the course of the trimester students are expected to devote 200 hours to this course, including class contact hours, readings, and the completion of assignments.

## **Readings**

**Essential texts:** PHIL 210-310 Coursebook.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 13 February to 16 March 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus.

After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

## **Assessment requirements**

Two essays of 2000-2500 words, each worth 50%.

**Essay 1** is due on 23 April at 5pm.

**Essay 2** is due on 10 June at 5pm.

**Essay topics** will be posted on Blackboard later in the term.

## **Penalties**

Essays will be penalised 10 points per week late.

No first essays will be accepted after 28 May.  
No second essays will be accepted after 1 July.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is recommended but not required. If students miss a lecture it is their responsibility to catch up on the material presented in it.

**Mandatory course requirements:** To gain a pass in this course each student 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)

### **Class Representative**

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator, tutors and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

### **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>

### **Use of Turnitin**

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted

material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

#### **WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic).