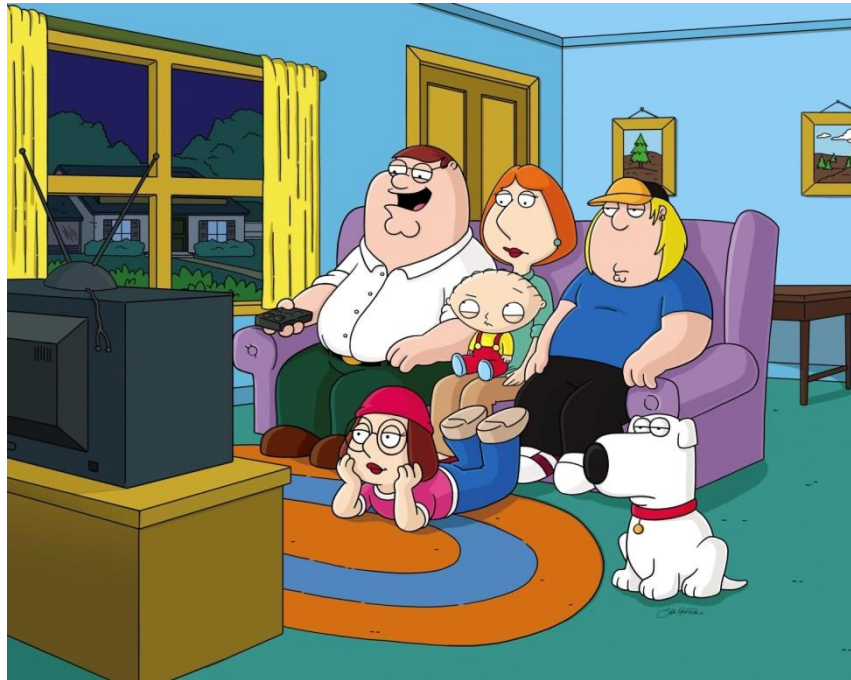


## MDIA 202 Television Studies

**Trimester 1 2016**

29 February to 29 June 2016

**20 Points**



*Family Guy* (Twentieth Century Fox)

### IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24 to 30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Study period: 6 to 9 June 2016

Examination/Assessment period: 10 June to 29 June 2016

Note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

## CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

### Lectures

Thursday                      1.10pm-3.00pm                      Memorial Theatre SUMT228

### Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the MDIA 202 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial instructions” and then follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and room for future reference. Tutorial rooms will be listed on myAllocator, Blackboard and on the noticeboard outside the administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace.

## NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

### Course Coordinator

Dr. Trisha Dunleavy                      Office: Room 203, 81 Fairlie Tce, Tel.: 04 463 6843

Email: [trisha.dunleavy@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:trisha.dunleavy@vuw.ac.nz)      Office Hours: Thursday 3.30-5pm or by appointment

## COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information will be communicated to students using the MDIA 202 Blackboard site. If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## PRESCRIPTION

MDIA 202 offers a critical introduction to the study of television, using American, British and New Zealand contexts. The course divides into two interconnected parts. The first examines the evolution and cultural influence of television, whereas the second explores the functions and conventions of primetime TV forms, including 'high-end' drama, sitcom, soap opera, and popular factual programming.

## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Recognise and apply a range of critical concepts for the analysis of the television medium and its programming. Examples are: 'broadcast', 'post-broadcast', 'institution', 'public service', 'commercialism', 'genre', and 'format';
2. Explain key phases and developments in the evolution of television from the initial 'broadcast' to the so-called 'post-broadcast' eras, with reference to either American, British or New Zealand paradigms;
3. Identify the mix of institutional, cultural and technological factors shaping television's forms, aesthetics and programmes in relation to two different TV genre; and

4. Understand television's function and influence within today's digital, multi-platform media environment.

NB. Assessment and examination questions for this course are cumulatively designed to test student learning and understandings of all of the above aims and objectives. This coverage is ensured by the prohibition of any duplication of topics or material between assignment and examination questions.

### TEACHING FORMAT

MDIA 202 has one two-hour lecture each week plus a weekly one-hour tutorial. Attendance at lectures and tutorials is vital to successful progress on this course. Tutorials will examine the topic discussed in each week's lecture. Students must attend the same tutorial right through the trimester. Tutorials are as important as lectures because in tutorials you will find out how to prepare for and complete your assignments. Tutorials start in Week 2 and there are 9 tutorials through the trimester (see pages 6 and 7 of this document for more information).

### MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There is a mandatory lecture attendance requirement in place for MDIA 202 and the reason for this is that regular attendance at lectures is vital to successful student progress and performance in both in-course assessments and end-of-course examination. This means that in addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% from your assessment items, MDIA 202 students must:

- Attend a minimum of 7 two-hour lectures out of 12 in total
- Attend a minimum of 6 tutorials out of 9 in total

Accordingly, records of attendance are kept for each lecture as well as for each tutorial. At the lecture you must place **your full signature** next to your name on one of the 9-10 paper copies of student names that are handed around at each lecture. Attendance will be taken **by your tutor** at the beginning of each tutorial. Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of these mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

### WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

### ASSESSMENT

This course's assessment involves a combination of essays and examination work. You must complete **BOTH** pieces of coursework **PLUS** the examination in order to qualify for a final grade. Assessment criteria for Media Studies courses can be found on the MDIA 202 Blackboard site.

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies  
**MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE MDIA 202**

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	<b>Essay One</b> 1,600-1800 words on an institutional topic. The assignment questions will be given to you in Week 2.	30%	1, 2, 3 and 4	Monday April 11 by 5pm
2	<b>Essay Two</b> 1,600-1800 words on a genre topic.	25%	1,2, 3, and 4	Monday 16 May by 5pm
3	<b>Examination</b> Two-hour duration, two essays to be written. Both essays require a different topic than those attempted above. One of the essays will answer an institutional question and one essay on a genre question. Exam date to be advised. It is generally not possible to miss the exam day and still receive a grade for this course.	45%	1, 2, 3 and 4	To be advised

### Assessment Topics

Assignment content and research approaches will be introduced and explained at tutorials. Every MDIA 202 student will write on four different lecture topics. Of these topics, two must be ‘institutional’ (I) and two must be ‘genre’ (G) questions. You must include one of each (institution and genre) among your two essays and one of each in your exam paper.

Essays must be delivered not later than 5pm on the due date. Please read carefully (on later pages of this document) the instructions about plagiarism and avoid under-referencing any content that is included in written, oral or examination work. If inappropriate referencing is found in your work, you can expect to be penalised. If you are a student for whom English is not your first language, then you are strongly advised to book time (ideally well in advance) with Victoria’s Learning Support Service for assistance with your writing.

### SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the instructions provided in the “Assignments and Turnitin” section of Blackboard.

Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office: 83 Fairlie Terrace. Attach an assignment cover sheet found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor’s name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching.

Assignments will be held in the administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the administration office.

## EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

### Extensions

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, email your Course Coordinator before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date. Tutors cannot grant extensions. No assignment with or without an extension will be accepted after Friday 10 June 2016.

### Penalties

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

## SET TEXTS AND ADDITIONAL READINGS

### MDIA 202 Student Notes 2016

You can order 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).

### Weekly Readings:

The conceptual groundings that readings for each topic provide will help you to succeed on this course by informing your understanding of lectures, your contributions to tutorial discussions and research for written work. The weekly readings are designed to extend your knowledge of this field, so aim to complement rather than reiterate what is covered in lectures. A list of **priority weekly readings** for MDIA 202 tutorials will be handed to you (and also posted to Blackboard) in the first lecture. These readings will be found in the 2016 Student Notes edition which you are expected to purchase before the first lecture. Although more readings will be provided and you are encouraged to read as much as possible, this priority weekly readings document will identify **ONE reading for each lecture topic**. It is important to read this one item EVERY week (as the minimum) so that you are prepared to give and also to get maximum value from what is taught in lectures, what is discussed in tutorials and what is required in terms of assessment. Plan to complete the weekly reading BEFORE going to your tutorial each week.

### Additional Readings:

For more specialised reading suggestions for each topic, please see the list of readings included at the end of the powerpoint slides for each lecture. This list is designed to give you a topic by topic reading list and working through it will be invaluable preparation for your assignment and exam essays. When preparing for assignments you will need to read and deploy the relevant student notes items PLUS additional readings identified in lectures notes, which you will find either in print or online through the library.

## RECOMMENDED READING

NB. These books are not to be purchased but are available in the Kelburn Library and are listed here because they provide support for a range of topics covered on this course, some of which you will be writing about in your assignments and/or exam. See the library's e-book and/or 3-Day Loan collections, in the first instance, for copies of these books:

- Amanda D. Lotz (2007) *The Television Will Be Revolutionized*, New York University Press: New York and London.
- Robert C. Allen and Annette Hill eds. (2004) *The Television Studies Reader*, Routledge: New York and London.
- James Bennett and Niki Strange ed. (2011) *Television as Digital Media*, Duke University Press: Durham
- Glen Creeber ed. (2008) *The Television Genre Book*, British Film Institute: London, Second Edition.
- Glen Creeber ed. (2005) *Tele-Visions: Methods and Concepts in Television Studies*, British Film Institute: London.
- Trisha Dunleavy and Hester Joyce (2011) *New Zealand Film and Television: Institution, Industry, and Cultural Change*, Intellect: Bristol and Chicago.
- Todd Gitlin (1994) *Inside Prime Time*, Revised Edition, Routledge: New York and London.
- Michele Hilmes, *Only Connect: A Cultural History of Broadcasting in the United States*, Second edition, Thomson Wadsworth, 2007.
- Michele Hilmes ed. (2003) *The Television History Book*, British Film Institute: London.
- Roger Horrocks and Nick Perry eds. (2004) *Television in New Zealand: Programming the Nation*, Oxford University Press: Melbourne.
- Marc Leverette, Brian L. Ott and Cara Louise Buckley (2008) *It's Not TV: Watching HBO in the Post-Network Era*, Routledge: New York and London.
- Lynn Spigel and Jan Olsson eds. (2004) *Television After TV: Essays on a Medium in Transition*, Duke University Press: Durham.
- Janet Wasko ed. (2005) *A Companion to Television*, Blackwell Publishing: Malden.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)

- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## • COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	3 March	<b>Introducing Television</b> No Tutorials
Week 2	10 March	<b>Television in the Broadcast Era (I)</b> Tutorial One
Week 3	17 March	<b>Television and Post-Broadcast Cultures (I)</b> Tutorial Two
Week 4	24 March	No Lecture
<b>Easter Break:</b> Thursday 24 to Wednesday 30 March 2016		
Week 5	31 March	<b>New Zealand TV in the Digital Era (I)</b> No Tutorials
Week 6	7 April	<b>TV Forms and Genres</b> Tutorial Three
Week 7	14 April	<b>Soap Opera (G)</b> Tutorial Four
Week 8	21 April	<b>Scripted Series Comedy (G)</b>

Tutorial Five

**Mid-trimester Break:** Monday 25 April to Sunday 1 May

Week 9      5 May      **High-End Drama (G)**  
Tutorial Six

Week 10     12 May     **Local TV Content and the Role of New Zealand On Air (I)**  
Tutorial Seven

Week 11     19 May     **'Reality' Television (G)**  
Tutorial Eight

Week 12     26 May     **The International Format Trade (I)**  
Tutorial Nine

Week 13     2 June      **Pre-Exam Session**  
No Tutorials

**Study Period:**              Monday 6 to Thursday 9 June 2016

**Examination Period:**    Thursday 10 June to Wednesday 29 June 2016

**CLASS REPRESENTATIVE**

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

**STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Student evaluation data on MDIA 202 (gathered from end-of-course evaluation surveys conducted in 2015) may be found at: [http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php)

The most recent student feedback survey on MDIA 202 was very positive and did not indicate a need for adjustments to the course. However, MDIA 202 is modified each year based on new developments in this field and feedback from students or teaching staff. In Week 6 or 7 of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In Week 5 your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.