Description: True Lies: Communication, Media and Culture

SYNOPSIS
This course studies forms of mass communication, as elements of cultural and social processes. It offers strategies for understanding mass communication and its relationship to cultural products and to the institutions and social practices that sustain and propagate those products. The course prioritises still image content in mass media and provides a sound foundation for students interested in a career in one or more of the "knowledge industries" of Journalism, Radio, Television, Film, Advertising, Multimedia, Public Relations, Teaching, Consulting, Librarianship, Professional Communication and the Public Service.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course, students should:

1. have a demonstrable understanding of a range of social issues in mass communication;
2. have a demonstrable understanding of how media audiences are analysed;
3. have a demonstrable understanding of the alleged effects of mass media;
4. be able to complete textual analyses of a still image media products.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social issues in mass communication</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiences and Effects</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Media Images and Narratives</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

CMS1010 Communication Media and Society Course Booklets (Study Package purchased from USQ Bookshop).


REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>14.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>28.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NLP EXERCISE</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>14 Mar 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSAY 1</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>18 Apr 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSAY 2</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>23 May 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3HR CLOSED EXAMINATION</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>END S1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the student's responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities
   (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to
   study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise
   their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related
   activities and administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least
   50% of the marks available for each assessment item.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty
   of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first
   FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative
   assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation
   to the objectives of the course by submitting and passing all of the summative assessment
   items. NOTE: Provided that the student's tutorial attendance is satisfactory, failed
   assessment may be resubmitted with the approval of the examiner but in such cases the
   maximum grade that can be awarded is a "B".

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate
   of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the
   course.

6 Examination information:
   The exam for this course is a CLOSED EXAMINATION, and candidates are allowed
   to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the
   next examination period.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10
   Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might
   contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL
   http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ
   Handbook.
ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM Incomplete-Make-up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (e) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Failed assignments may be resubmitted with the approval of the examiner but in such cases the maximum grade that can be awarded is a "B".