Description: Couch Culture: Understanding Television

Subject | Cat-nbr | Class | Term | Mode | Units | Campus
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
CMS | 1011 | 44851 | 2, 2005 | ONC | 1.00 | Toowoomba

Academic group: FOART
Academic org: FOA004
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 100700

STAFFING
Examiner: Andrew Mason
Moderator: Julianne Stewart

SYNOPSIS
The narratives and images of mass media contribute to the repertoire of cultural meanings and practices of everyday life. This course surveys the cultural functions and institutional structures of television. Examples of televisual genres will be selected for detailed analysis and criticism.

OBJECTIVES
On completion of this course students will be able to:
1. a knowledge of selected televisual forms and institutions and their relation to contemporary Australian culture and society;
2. an understanding of the commodification of culture and its effects upon the construction, circulation and reception of texts;
3. an ability to analyse texts as sites of meaning constituted through various competing discourses;
4. an understanding of the significance of textual pleasure in reading and criticising televisual texts.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction: The emergence of the media as an institution</td>
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<td>Ideology</td>
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<td>Audience</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Narrative forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study of selected genre</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The future of television</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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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).

USQ Study Package

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.

Buxton, D 1990, From the Avengers to Miami Vice: form and ideology in television series, Manchester University Press, Manchester & New York.
Corner, J 1995, Chapter 5 Adworlds, Television form and public address, Edward Arnold, London, pp105-134.
Fiske, J 1989, Reading the popular, Unwin Hyman, Boston.
Freadman, A & Macdonald, A 1992, What is this thing called genre?: four essays in the semiotics of genre, Boombana Publications, Mount Nebo, Qld.


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<td>Tutorials</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>TUTORIAL PRESENTATION &amp;</td>
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<td>PAPER</td>
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<td>ASSIGNMENT 1</td>
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<td>CMA TEST 1</td>
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<td>ASSIGNMENT 2</td>
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<td>CMA TEST 2</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
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**NOTES**

1. STUDENTS WILL BE ADVISED OF ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES
IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' 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, a student must achieve at least 50% of the
   available weighted marks for the three main summative assessment items (worth 30% each).
   Please note that a student does not have to pass the CMA tests to pass the course.

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:
   There is no exam for this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However,
   if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by
   the examiner.

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-Makeup). 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 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should
be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The
course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this
information.)