

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

AP/EN 4000 3.0A (F)	<i>Studies in Literary Theory: Cultural Studies</i>												
Course Director:	Ila Goody Email: igoody@yorku.ca												
Time:	Wednesdays, 11:30am – 2:30pm												
Delivery Format:	REMOTE – (synchronous delivery) – There are scheduled meeting times for this course (see above). Students should plan to be available for course-related activities during the appointed times. For more information, see the Description and/or Requirements below.												
Description:	<p>This course explores theoretical and practical approaches to reading texts, images, and representations of popular culture/media studies. Topics to be examined will include: parables of the post-human, including ideas and stories of cyborgs/hybrids; monsters, zombies and doubles; simulacra and social media; contemporary Gothic; the society of the spectacle; and the culture of affect. We will consider these topics as they relate to broader issues of social identity, politics and aesthetics in the age of globalization as well as to the Internet/virtual reality and the viral economy. We will also consider contemporary revisions and re-inscriptions of popular culture forms, such as techno-thrillers, fairy tales and Vampire stories, as well as examining anime, graphic novel, and film. Films/anime will also be considered in the visual context of Japanese manga and its influence on Western graphic novel. Literary texts will include: William Gibson's <u>Pattern Recognition</u>, Angela Carter's <u>The Bloody Chamber</u>, Anne Rice's <u>Interview with the Vampire</u>, and Olivia Sudjic's <u>Sympathy</u> (a quest for the double via Instagram). Films/anime and graphic novel will include <u>Akira</u>, <u>The Matrix</u>, and <u>The Walking Dead</u>. There will be short theoretical readings by Roland Barthes, Rosi Braidotti, Guy Debord, Donna Haraway, as well as theoretical and cultural articles critiquing social media and the data revolution by contemporary writers, such as Shoshana Zuboff (online TBA), and Yuval Noah Harari.</p> <p>The objectives of the course will be to enable students to engage with texts in the field of popular culture/media studies, and to acquire the skills both to theorize and to interpret those texts practically.</p>												
Category:	A												
Historical Requirement:	N/A												
Requirements:	<table> <tr> <td>1 Bibliographic Assignment (750 – 1000 words):</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Major Essay (2000 – 2500 words):</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Test (take-home):</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Seminar Presentation (in class):</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Class Participation (zoom):</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	1 Bibliographic Assignment (750 – 1000 words):	20%	1 Major Essay (2000 – 2500 words):	30%	1 Test (take-home):	20%	1 Seminar Presentation (in class):	20%	Class Participation (zoom):	10%	Total:	100%
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Reading List:	Roland Barthes, <u>The Empire of Signs</u> Rosi Braidotti, <u>The Posthuman</u> Angela Carter, <u>The Bloody Chamber</u> Guy Debord, <u>Comments on the Society of the Spectacle</u> William Gibson, <u>Pattern Recognition</u> Robert Kirkman, <u>The Walking Dead, Vol 1: Days Gone Bye</u> Anne Rice, <u>Interview with the Vampire</u> Olivia Sudjic, <u>Sympathy</u> Yuval Noah Harari, <u>Homo Deus</u> First 3 texts to be read: Carter, Braidotti and Debord Any unabridged edition of these works in English is acceptable, and many texts are available either online or in used copies
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