

York University – Division of Humanities
AS HUMANITIES 2920 9.0A - 2005-2006
Spreading the Word: Knowledge, Culture and Technology
<http://www.yorku.ca/gita/huma2920>

COURSE SCHEDULE – WINTER TERM

MODULE 4: FROM COERCION TO SUBVERSION

January 06: Tactics and Strategies

DeCerteau, Michel. “Making Do.” Excerpt from The Practice of Everyday Life. Rendall, Steven, Translator. University of California Press, 1984. (course kit)

January 13: Panopticon and Counter-measures

Foucault, Michel. “Panopticism.” Excerpts from Discipline and Punish. New York: Vintage Books, 2nd edition, 1995. Pp 200-228. (course kit)

Mini Assignment 3 due (at the beginning of lecture)

January 20: Art, Media and Social Spaces

Deutsche, Rosalyn. “Agoraphobia.” In Evictions: Art and Spatial Politics. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1998. Pp. 267-327. (course kit)

January 27: Tactical Media and Politics

Lovink, Geert and Florian Schneider. Virtual world is possible: from tactical media to digital multitudes. Journal de l’Archipel des Revues, November 2003. (linked to from website)

Module 4 Response due (post on the web forum by 8 a.m.)

MODULE 5: FROM TEXT TO MEANING

February 03: Reading as Active Practice

Hall, Stuart. “Encoding, Decoding.” In the Cultural Studies Reader. New York: Routledge, 1999. Pp. 507-517. (course kit)

Research proposal due (at the beginning of lecture)

February 10: Performing Resistance

Balliger, Robin. “Sounds of Resistance.” Sounding Off: Music as Subversion/Resistance/Revolution. New York: Autonomedia. pp. 13-26. (course kit)

February 17: READING WEEK. NO CLASSES.

February 24: The Power of Utopias and Dystopias

Jordan, Tim. “The Virtual Imaginary.” In Cyberpower: The Culture and Politics of Cyberspace and the Internet. New York: Routledge, 1999. Pp 179-207, 226-228. (course kit)

Annotated bibliography due (at the beginning of lecture)

March 03: The Aesthetics of Technology

Viewing/Reading TBA

Module 5 Response due (post on the web forum by 8 a.m.)

MODULE 6: TECHNOLOGY, PERCEPTION AND POSSIBILITIES

March 10: The Trap of Technological Determinism

Wilson, Louise. "Cyberwar, God and Television: An interview with Paul Virilio." In Kroker, Arthur and Marilouise Kroker, eds. Digital Delirium. Montreal: New World Perspectives, 1997. Pp 41-48. (course kit)

Winner, Langdon. "Techne and Politea." The Whale and the Reactor. A search for limits in an age of high technology. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1986. pp. 40-58. (course kit)

March 17: Technology, Perception and Culture I

Crary, Jonathan. "Modernity and the Problem of the Observer". Techniques of the Observer: On Vision and Modernity in the Nineteenth Century. Cambridge and London: MIT Press, 1990. pp. 1-24. (course kit)

March 24: Technology, Perception and Culture II

Burnett, Ron. "Computer Games and the Aesthetics of Human and Nonhuman Interaction." How Images Think. Cambridge and London: MIT Press, 2004. pp 167-197. (course kit)

Module 6 Response due (post on the web forum by 8 a.m.)

March 31: Final Thoughts and Review

Final paper due (hand in hard copy at the beginning of lecture)

Final exam date and location TBA.