

Short Syllabus



Course Title

What's New in New Media?

Lecturer

Dr. Carmel L. Vaisman

Contact details

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Semester

Fall

Short Description

The course addresses the question: can digital technologies be studied with the same theoretical frameworks we used for industrial age technologies or "older" media? For this purpose, students are introduced to the key tropes of digital cultural research, and a selection of contemporary genres & phenomena, from a historic perspective. Some aspects of the digital may seem novel and transformative, however, they fall easily into ancient patterns, and have surprising older precedents; while true novelty might go unnoticed, requiring a keen eye and different or new theories to detect it. Upon completion of this course, students will have a clear grasp on the phenomenon of the digital, and the nature of its newness.

Final grade components

Midterm:

A short paper (4-5 pages) OR video essay/podcast - 30% of the grade.

Final

A final paper (10-12 pages, 2500-3000 words double spaced) - 60% of the grade.

Participation:

Classes include discussions and minor in-class assignments in small groups - 10% of the grade.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unauthorized absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.*

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.*



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Final assignment

Exam dates and submission deadlines are published on the Liberal Arts website. Courses with a final exam also have a second make-up exam. Students requiring an extension for a final paper must submit an Academic Committee Request Form to the Liberal Arts office in advance of the deadline. Late papers will be subject to a point deduction.*

Additional requirements

* See Liberal Arts academic handbook for further details