

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CMNS-112-Popular Culture and Media

CLASS SECTION: D01

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Synchronous online

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Lois Fernyhough (she/her)

EMAIL: fernyhol@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Y315C

HOURS: Wednesday & Thursday, 11:30 am-1 pm; or by arrangement

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Popular culture is all around us. This course opens our eyes to its existence and explores its influence, particularly in media. The impact of media on culture, and vice versa, is critically assessed and the emerging discipline of cultural theory is used to examine popular culture. Examples of topics include the relationship of popular culture with power, class, race, gender and sexuality, identity, postmodernism and globalization, and how these are represented in media.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C+ in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S): n/a

EQUIVALENCIES: n/a

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe the concepts, both historical and contemporary, that shape the study of popular culture, especially within the media/cultural studies tradition.
 - Explain the history of the study of popular culture;
 - Describe popular culture and discuss its relationship with power, class, cultural imperialism, race, gender and sexuality, identity, post-modernism and globalization;
 - Discuss how culture influences different forms of popular culture.
2. Explain the core theoretical concepts of popular culture.
 - Explain how media such as music, TV programs, films and magazines can reflect popular culture in society;
 - Describe the different theoretical approaches used to understand popular culture.
3. Demonstrate the relationship between concepts and practice in the media studies field.
 - Examine a popular culture artifact and/or event and explain its cultural context.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Textbook:

Storey, J. (2021). *Cultural theory and popular culture. 9th edition.* Routledge.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK / DATE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC / DUE DATES	OTHER NOTES
Week 1 Sept. 3	Popular Culture overview: Introduction to the course Introduce yourself (D2L) by Friday Sept. 6, 11:59 pm	
Week 2 Sept. 10	Why study popular culture? Discussion 1 (D2L) high vs. low culture by Mon. Sept. 9, 11:59 pm	Ch. 1 & 2
Week 3 Sept. 17	Culturalism Popular object overview (D2L) by Tues. Sept. 17, 5 pm	Ch. 3
Week 4 Sept. 24	Marxism part 1 (pp. 61-74) Popular object concept map (D2L) by Fri. Sept. 27, 5 pm	Ch. 4
Week 5 Oct. 1	Marxism part 2 (pp. 74-93) Discussion 2 (D2L) Marxism by Mon. Sept. 30, 11:59 pm	Ch. 4

WEEK / DATE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC / DUE DATES	OTHER NOTES
Week 6 Oct. 8	Psychoanalysis Popular object analysis (D2L) by Tues. Oct. 8, 5 pm	Ch. 5
Week 7 Oct. 15	Structuralism Discussion 3 (D2L) structuralism by Mon. Oct. 14, 11:59 pm	Ch. 6
Week 8 Oct. 22	Gender part 1 (pp. 150-155 & pp. 175-185)	Ch. 8
Week 9 Oct. 29	Gender part 2 (pp. 155-175) Annotated bibliography for term paper (D2L) by Tues. Oct. 29, 5 pm	Ch. 8
Week 10 Nov. 5	Race & racism Discussion 4 (D2L) using media by Mon. Nov. 4, 11:59 pm	Ch. 9
Week 11 Nov. 12	Postmodernism Outline for term paper (D2L) by Tues. Nov. 12, 5 pm	Ch. 10
Week 12 Nov. 19	Materiality & Politics of the popular Discussion 5 (D2L) you be the fan by Mon. Nov. 18, 11:59 pm	Ch. 11 & 12
Week 13 Nov. 26	Class & class struggle	Ch. 7
Week 14 Dec. 3	Course reflection Course reflection (D2L) by Sun. Dec. 1, 11:59 pm Final term essay (D2L) by Sunday Dec. 8, 11:59 pm	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams).

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE	WEIGHTING
Popular object overview	Sept. 17, 5 pm	5%
Popular object concept map	Sept. 27, 5 pm	5%
Popular object analysis	Oct. 8, 5 pm	10%
Term paper annotated bibliography	Oct. 29, 5 pm	7%
Term paper outline	Nov. 12, 5 pm	8%
Final term paper	Dec. 8, 11:59 pm	20%
Discussions (5 x 5%)	various	25%

DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE	WEIGHTING
Course reflection	Dec. 2, 11:59 pm	10%
Participation / attendance		10%
	TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Commitment to your learning is a collaboration between yourself, your instructor, and your peers. Your full participation is expected.

You can expect your instructor to:

- begin classes on time
- be prepared for class each day
- treat every member of the class with respect and dignity
- return evaluated materials in a timely manner
- give assignments and engage in activities that will benefit students' learning
- foster an open and supportive environment in which to learn

Your instructor expects of the learner that you will:

- be on time for every class
- be prepared for class each day
- treat every member of the class with respect and dignity
- submit assignments or other materials when they are due
- take an active part in your own learning
- be supportive and accepting of the views of others

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.