

Introduction to Cultural Studies			
Registration Code	0055421	Credits	2.0
Course Category	Arts Liberal		
Term (Semester) / Day / Period	G-II (1st year, Spring Semester) / Fri. / 4 (14:45~16:15)		
Instructor	MC GEE Dylan Patrick		
Target Schools (Programs)	Hu(J)·La(S)·Ec(S)·Sc(P·C·B)·En(P·C·Au)·Ag(B)		
<p>●Goals and Objectives of the Course This course is designed to introduce students to basic concepts in the study of culture. Our discussions will be guided by two fundamental questions—namely, what is culture? And secondly, how can the study of culture enhance our understanding of human society, both present and past? Working within this framework, students will be challenged to think critically and analytically about issues in the study of culture. All readings and viewings for this course will be in English translation. No proficiency in Japanese or previous background in the humanities is required.</p>			
<p>●Course Prerequisites</p> <p>None</p>			
<p>●Course Contents/Plan Week 1: Course Overview Week 2: Psychoanalysis and Cultural Theory Week 3: Marxist Cultural Theory Week 4: Marxist Cultural Theory Week 5: Post-Structuralism Week 6: Semiotics Week 7: Postmodernism Week 8: Postmodernism Week 9: Gender and Sexuality Week 10: Contemporary Subcultures Week 11: Contemporary Subcultures Week 12: New Media and Convergence Culture Week 13: Contemporary Visual Culture Week 14: Culture and Soft Power Week 15: Conclusions</p>			
<p>●Course Evaluation Methods The final grade for the course will be determined according to five categories of assessment, outlined below. Participation (25%) will be assessed on perceived mastery of the course material, as demonstrated in class discussions and in-class exercises. Quizzes (25%) based on readings and covered in class will be administered six times over the course of the material semester, as indicated on the schedule. Of these six, the top five quiz grades will be calculated towards the final quiz grade. Students will have the first ten minutes of class to work on quizzes; students who arrive ten or more minutes late to class will forfeit their grade for that quiz. There will be no make-up quizzes. The Final Exam (30%), to be held on the final day of class, will be comprised of ten questions, to be chosen from a pool of twelve. A study guide for the exam will be posted in early July. Lastly, students will compose a brief Final Essay (20%), roughly 1200-1500 words in length, based on a topic related to the course material. Paper topics and assignment description will be posted in late May; essays will be due in hard copy on the final day of class.</p>			

	% of grade
Class Participation	25%
Quizzes	25%
Final Essay	20%
Final Exam	30%

Letter Grade Conversions	
90-100	S
80-89	A
70-79	B
60-69	C
<60	F

●**Notice for Students**

- 1) I am committed to making this course a rewarding academic experience for you, and not simply another “required” course. Please feel free to approach me after class or during my scheduled office hours (TBA) if you have questions about the material, assigned projects, or other, related concerns. If you contact me by e-mail, please allow 24 hours for a reply.
- 2) This course will be taught in the manner of an interactive lecture, with a high level of student participation. You are encouraged to ask questions, debate meanings, and offer your own insights as we engage in lively discussion about the study of culture.
- 3) Attendance and punctuality are critical to your success in this course. Please arrive to class on time, and prepared to engage in class discussions and other in-class exercises. Excessive absenteeism and tardiness will result in a reduction of your final grade.
- 4) Courtesy: In order to create a comfortable learning environment for all, students are expected to observe a few rules of common courtesy in class. Please do not hold private conversations with neighbors during class discussions or lectures. Please turn off mobile phones, portable video game players, and other electronic devices before entering the classroom. If you need to use a computer for note-taking, accessing online readings or viewing of presentations, please be discrete. Students found using computers inappropriately during class will be prohibited from using them for the remainder of the semester.
- 5) Academic Integrity: Students in this course are expected to abide by basic tenets of academic integrity. Specific guidelines will be given before exams, written reports, and other exercises to clarify what this entails in concrete terms. Additionally, a detailed rubric describing standards for citation and other aspects of academic writing will be provided to students on the first day of class. Students with questions about what constitutes plagiarism, for example, are welcome to discuss them with me at any point before or during the writing process. Any student found guilty of cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty will be held accountable for their actions. Particularly serious breaches of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the entire course, and in some cases, all courses taken in a given semester.
- 6) Permission to Enroll in the Course: Students who would like to enroll in the course after the semester has begun should contact me no later than April 27th to express their interest. Permission will be granted to students who have attended at least one of the first three class meetings.
- 7) Notification of Course Withdrawal: Students who choose to withdraw from the course must submit the required “Course Withdrawal Request Form” by the designated deadline. Failure to submit this form may result in a final grade of “F” for the course.

Textbook	No required textbooks to purchase. All readings will be made available on the first day of class.
Reference Book	List of relevant reference materials will be made available on the first day of class.
Reference website	
Message	