CULT3230 - Technology, Media, Culture
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Assoc Prof Marjorie Kibby
Room: GP2-29
Ph: 49216604
Email: marj.kibby@newcastle.edu.au
Blackboard: http://blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/
Consultation hours: Use Bb for general questions, or email me for a f2f appointment.
Semester Semester 2 - 2008
Unit Weighting 10

Teaching Methods
Blackboard Discussion, Problem Based Learning, F2F or Online Seminar

Brief Course Description
The course explores the interaction of technology, media and culture using a range of theoretical approaches drawn from cultural studies traditions. It investigates information technology and its role in contemporary work, leisure and family spheres, examines technologically induced shifts in social and cultural identity, and explores current and future impacts of new media technologies.

Contact Hours
Seminar for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Blackboard Discussion for 0.5 Hours per Week for the Full Term
Problem Based Learning for 0.5 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Note: While the contact hours will balance out this way, in practice some weeks will consist solely of a seminar and others will be just PBL activities and/or Blackboard Discussion.

The week by week program is given on the course Blackboard site.
Course Objectives
On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Describe the impact of technology on specific aspects of media and culture;
- Critically discuss the mutual influences of technology, culture and society;
- Reflect productively on the effects of new communication and media technologies on traditional socio-cultural concepts and values.

The assessment items are designed to allow you to demonstrate that you have met the course objectives. They form the basis of the assessment criteria for each assignment.

Course Content
In semester 2, 2008 the course will cover the following topics:
- Technologies of information, communication, community and commerce.
- The impact of the internet on everyday life.

Assessment Items
- 2 Essays / Written Assignments 35% each, 2,000 words each
- Group/tutorial participation and contribution 30%
- Online Discussions 1,000 words

Full details of the assessment items, including supporting material, assessment criteria and grading standards, are given on the course Bb site.

Assumed Knowledge
60 units at 1000 level.

While CULT3230 does not require any subject-specific knowledge it does require a level of self-motivation, critical thinking and research skills that may make it difficult for first year students.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
CULT3230 TECHNOLOGY, MEDIA, CULTURE
Semester 2 - 2008
Seminar Thursday 9:00 - 11:00 [CT109]
or Thursday 12:00 - 2:00 [CT304]

Online Tutorial Registration:
Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm
NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Written Assessment Items
Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.
In CULT3230 all assignments are in electronic form. Paper copies are not required.

Marks and Grades Released During Term
All marks and grades released during the term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School on the recommendation of the School Assessment body.

In CULT3230 marks will appear in ‘My Grades’ in Blackboard the moment the assignment is graded. These marks are an indication of progress, but are provisional until formally approved by the Head of School and published by the Examinations Section.
Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard extensively, and depends on studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Bb discussion forum. This course has a 3b4me policy for general information – students must try three information sources before emailing me. If your query is personal or specific to you, then email me directly using the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site several times a week.

Plagiarism

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs. Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty. For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641. Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks. Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Requests for Special Consideration must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.

Requests for Rescheduling Exams must be received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. In the first instance, students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

Changing your Enrolment

The census dates below are the last dates to withdraw without academic penalty. For onshore students, withdrawal on or before the census date means no financial penalty.

- For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2008

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students

https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

Student Hubs

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia.

The four Student Hubs are located at:
- Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building Callaghan campus
- Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of Callaghan campus
- City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct
- Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building Ourimbah campus

Faculty website

Faculty of Education and Arts
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/

Contact details

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au
The Dean of Students
Resolution Precinct
Phone: 02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)
Phone: 02 4348 4123
Fax: 02 4348 4145
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator. Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer to:
www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students

Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards