

Political Science/Government and International Affairs 5574
Professor Luke
Hours: TTh 1:45-3:00
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Virginia Tech
Fall 2006

Arts, Culture, and Civil Society

This course will examine the arts, culture, and civil society in the U.S.A. within a global context as important theoretical concerns for contemporary social criticism, political theory, and cultural policy-making. Ranging from the nature of current-day urban formations, nation-states, and local communities to the analysis of power, modernity, and discourse as tied to the arts, a key concern in this class is familiarizing one with a range of approaches analytical to politics, culture, and the arts in contemporary global society. The goals of the course are to provide:

- 1) Introduce ideas and practices of critical cultural analysis with regard to art, civil society, and contemporary culture.
- 2) Provide an overview of arts and culture practices in the USA and other nation-states with regard to their impact on civil society, political community, and economic growth.
- 3) Develop a basic sense of the major theoretical debates and conceptual problems in arts and culture analysis.
- 4) Outline the complex relationships between the local, regional, national, and global economy that the arts and culture organizations play in maintaining the working of civil society as well as the processes of economic growth.
- 5) Build a practical sense of how culture and arts organizations operate as nonprofit entities and build contacts between local organizations and the cultural community.
- 6) Position the politics of the arts, culture, and civil society during global economic change, including the neo-liberal local, national, and transnational structuring of space, class, and exchange.

The seminar format of the course will emphasize class discussion and critical writing. All members of the class will be expected to participate actively in the course by doing the assigned readings and contributing to class discussion. Parts of the course might be conducted online during times that the instructor is traveling to meetings or for lectures.

Student grades will be based upon the following guidelines:

- (1) An analytical study of a specific arts, culture, and civil society project in action (for example, more locally, the new Art Museum of Western Virginia in Roanoke, the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, the Highway 58 "Crooked Trail" for heritage music in Southside, or the new O. Winston Link Museum by the Hotel Roanoke as well as more nationally, for

example, the new World Trade Center rebuilding process, the deliberations over how to revive New Orleans, the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement, or any of the new museums and memorials in Washington, DC around the Mall), or a more interpretive theoretical essay (focused on some theorist, aesthetic-political event, or cultural studies topic) of 15-20 typed pages (40%). The paper topic must be discussed with me in advance to approve the topic; otherwise the paper will not be accepted. This assignment is an opportunity for you to do some additional research on a subject or theme in political or social theory that interests you, and it will be due near the end of the semester. It also is an opportunity to do groundwork for writing one's MA thesis or PhD dissertation.

- (2) A short book critique of 6-8 typed pages (20%). This critique is intended to sharpen your critical faculties by thoroughly reviewing, criticizing, and discussing a work of political or social theory.
- (3) Weekly reading journals on the assigned texts of 1-3 typed pages (20%). These essays are meant for you to clarify your thoughts on the reading, develop ideas for class discussion, and maintain a dialogue with the instructor.
- (4) Seminar participation during the semester (20%). This exercise is aimed at familiarizing you with the presentation of careful theoretical arguments and criticisms in an audience of your peers. This requirement is directed at encouraging active involvement in the course's assigned readings and on-going discussion.

REQUIRED READINGS

1. Arjun Appadurai, Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization
2. Michael de Certeau, The Practice of Everyday Life
3. Tyler Cowen, In Praise of Commercial Culture
4. John Ehrenberg, Civil Society: The Critical History of an Idea
5. Richard Florida, The Rise of the Creative Class
6. Hugh Genoways, Museum Philosophy for the Twenty-first Century
7. David Harvey, Spaces of Global Capitalism: A Theory of Uneven Geographical Development
8. Joli Jensen, Is Art Good for US?: Beliefs about High Culture in American Life
9. Friedrich A. Kittler, Gramophone, Film, Typewriter
10. Henri Lefebvre, Everyday Life in the Modern World
11. Herbert Marcuse, The Aesthetic Dimension: Toward a Critique of Marxist Aesthetics
12. Richard A. Peterson, Creating Country Music: Fabricating Authenticity

13. Allen J. Scott, The Cultural Economy of Cities

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Arjun Appadurai, Modernity at Large Minneapolis
Jean Baudrillard, For a Critique of the Political Economy of the Sign
Walter Benjamin, The Arcades Project
William Connolly, The Ethos of Pluralization
Tyler Cowen, Good & Plenty-The Creative Successes of American Arts Funding
Ronald J. Deibert, Parchment, Printing and Hypermedia
Klaus Eder, The New Politics of Class
Amitava Kumar and Michael Ryan, The Politics of Culture.
Timothy W. Luke, Museum Politics: Power Plays at the Exhibition
Robert B. Putnam, Bowling Alone
J. Mark Schuster, Informing Cultural Policy: The Research and Information Infrastructure
Bruce A. Seaman, National Investment in the Arts
Elizabeth Strom, Strengthening Communities through Culture

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READINGS

Theodor W. Adorno, Negative Dialectics
Ben Agger, Fast Capitalism
Richard Bernstein, The Restructuring of Social and Political Theory
Manuel Castells, The Information Age, Vol. I-III.
John Forester, ed., Critical Theory and Public Life
Raymond Geuss, The Idea of a Critical Theory
Anthony Giddens, Central Problems in Social Theory
Juergen Habermas, The Theory of Communicative Action
Max Horkheimer, The Eclipse of Reason
Andreas Huysen, After the Great Divide
Martin Jay, Marxism and Totality
Timothy W. Luke, Screens of Power
Herbert Marcuse, One-Dimensional Man
James O'Connor, Accumulation Crisis
Claus Offe, Disorganized Capitalism
Mark Poster, Foucault, Marxism and History
Mark Poster, The Mode of Information
Eugene Rochberg-Halton, Meaning and Modernity
Michael Sandel, Liberalism and the Limits of Justice

PROJECTED COURSE OUTLINE OF COURSE THEMES

- I. Introduction: Art, Culture, and Civil Society
- II. Politics, Power, and Prestige

- III. **The Neoliberal Present**
- IV. **Civil Society**
- V. **Culture**
- VI. **The Arts**
- VII. **The Society of Bureaucratically-Controlled Consumption**
- VIII. **Mediations/Remediations**
- IX. **Culture and the City**
- X. **Book Critique**
- XI. **Country and Culture**
- XII. **Urbanity/Creativity as Culture Industries**
- XIII. **Commercial Culture**
- XIV. **Globalization/Cosmopolitanism**
- XV. **Museums: Managers, Moralities, Monies, and Monuments**
- XVI. **Conclusion**
- XVII. **Final Paper**

READING ASSIGNMENTS

I. 8.22.06 **Introduction: Art, Culture, and Civil Society**

Required: Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/ge/benjamin.htm>

Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture" <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~drbr/geertz2.txt>

Stuart Hall, "Cultural Studies: Two Paradigms"

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~drbr/hall.html>

Raymond Williams, Moving from High Culture to Ordinary Culture

<http://ww.wsu.edu.8001/vcwsu/commons/topic/culture/culture-definitions/raymond-williams.html>

Recommended: Walter Benjamin, Illuminations: Essays and Reflections

Theodor Adorno, The Culture Industry

Perry Anderson, A Zone of Engagement

Martin Calinesco, The Five Faces of Modernity

Frederic Jameson, A Singular Modernity: Essay on the Ontology of the Present

Henri Lefebvre, Introduction to Modernity

II. 8.29.06 **Politics, Power, and Prestige**

Required: Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, "The Culture Industry"
<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/adorno/1944/culture-industry.htm>

Pierre Bourdieu, "Classes and Classifications," Distinction: A Social Critique of Taste

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/fr/bourdieu.html>

Michel Foucault, "Omnes et Singulatim: Toward a Criticism of 'Political Reason'," Tanner Lectures on Human Values, archived at "Foucault Resources" as a PDF file <http://www.michel-foucault.com/links-html>

Max Weber: "Politics as a Vocation":

<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/Weber/polvoc.html>

Recommended: Michel Foucault, "Abnormal," Lectures at the Collège de France 1974-1975

Michel Foucault, "Society Must Be Defended," Lecture at the Collège de France 1975-1976

Michel Foucault, "The Hermeneutics of the Subject," Lectures at the Collège de France 1981-1982

Pierre Bourdieu, The Field of Cultural Production

Max Weber, The Methodology of the Social Sciences

III. 9.5.06 The Neoliberal Present

Required: David Harvey, Spaces of Capitalism

Recommended: David Harvey, The New Imperialism

Aihwa Ong, Neoliberalism as Exception: Mutations in Citizenship and Sovereignty

Richard Sennett, The Culture of the New Capitalism

Alain Touraine, Beyond Neoliberalism

IV. 9.12.06 Civil Society

Required: John Ehrenberg, Civil Society, ix-250

Recommended: Michael Edwards, Civil Society

Adam Ferguson, An Essay on the History of Civil Society

<http://socserv2.socsci.mcmaster.ca/~econ/ugcm/3113/ferguson/civil.html>

G.W.F., The Philosophy of Right

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/works/pr/prcivils.htm>

David Hume, "Of the Original Contract"

<http://www.constitution.org/dh/origcont.htm>

Frederick Jameson, "The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism"

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/us/jameson.htm>

John Locke, Second Treatise on Civil Government

<http://www.constitution.org/jl/2ndtreat.htm>

Karl Marx, Capital, Vols I-III

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1867-cl/index.htm>

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, A Dissertation On the Origin and Foundation of The Inequality of Mankind and is it Authorized by Natural Law?

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/economics/rousseau/inequality/iddex.htm>

Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations
<http://www.econlib.org/LIBRARY/Smith/smWN.html>

V. 9.19.06 Culture

Required: Michel De Certeau, The Practice of Everyday Life, ix-203

Recommended: Immanuel Kant, The Critique of Judgement

<http://philosophy.eserver.org/kant/critique-of-judgment.txt>

Immanuel Kant, An Answer to the Question: "What is Enlightenment?"

<http://philosophy.eserver.org/kant/what-is-enlightenment.txt>

Edmund Burke, Sublime and Beautiful

http://www.publicbookshelf.com/public_html/Outline_of_Great_Books_Volume_I/edmundbur_bhi.html

Friedrich Schiller, On the Sublime

<http://www.studiocleo.com/librarie/schiller/essay.html>

Fredrich Schiller, On the Aesthetic Education of Man

<http://www.studiocleo.com/librarie/schiller/excerpts.html>

VI. 9.26.06 The Arts

Required: Herbert Marcuse, The Aesthetic Dimension, ix-82

Recommended: Matthew Arnold, Culture Is "High Culture"

<http://www.wsu.edu:8001/vcwsu/commons/topics/culture/culture-defintions/arnold-text.html>

Leo Lowenthal, Sociology of Literature

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/lowenthal/1948/literature.htm>

Georg Lukács, The Theory of the Novel

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lukacs/works/theory-novel/index.htm>

Georg Lukács, The Moral Mission of the Communist Party

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lukacs/works/1920/moral-mission.htm>

Georg Lukács, History & Class Consciousness

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lukacs/works/history/index.htm>

Leo Tolstoy, What Is Art? <http://www.csulb.edu/~jvancamp/361r14.html>
Leon Trotsky, Literature and Art
<http://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/works/art/index.htm>

VII. 10.3.06 **The Society of Bureaucratically-Controlled Consumption**

Required: Henri Lefebvre, Everyday Life in the Modern World, vii-206

Recommended: Reyner Banham, Theory and Design in the First Machine Age
Jean Baudrillard, The Consumer Society
Jean Baudrillard, For A Critique of the Political Economy of the Sign
Virginia Postrel, The Substance of Style
Sigfried Giedion, Space, Time, and Architecture

VIII. 10.10.06 **Mediations/Remediations**

Required: Friedrich Kittler, Gramophone, Film, Typewriter, xi-263

Recommended: Friedrich Kittler, Discourse Networks 1800/1900
Matthew Fuller, Media Ecologies
Fredric Jameson, Archaeologies of the Future: The Desire Called Utopia and Other Science Fictions
Manuel De Landa, A Thousand Years of Nonlinear History
Jacques Derrida, Paper Machine

IX. 10.17.06 **Culture and the City**

Required: Allen J. Scott, The Cultural Economy of Cities, ix-246

Recommended: James A. Clapp, This Urban Life: Writing about Cities for Multiple Media
Mike Davis, Planet of Slums
Richard Florida, Cities and the Creative Class

X. 10.20.06 **BOOK CRITIQUE DUE**

XI. 10.24.06 **Country and Culture**

Required: Richard A. Peterson, Creating Country Music, ix-233

Recommended: Benjamin Filene, Romancing the Folk: Public Memory & American Roots Music
Aaron A. Fox, Real Country: Music and Language in Working-Class Culture
Barney Hoskyns, Hotel California
Michael Kossler, How Nashville Became Music City U.S.A.: 50 Years of

Music Row

XII. 10.31.06 **Urbanity/Creativity as Culture Industries**

Required: Richard Florida, The Rise of the Creative Class, xiii-382

Recommended: Chris Rojek, Celebrity

Tracy C. Davis and Thomas Postlewait, Theatricality

Joseph Roach, Cities of the Dead

Franco Moretti, Signs Taken for Wonders: On the Sociology of Literary Forms

XIII. 11.7.06 **Commercial Culture**

Required: Tyler Cowen, In Praise of Commercial Culture, 1-210

Recommended:

State Links:

<http://arts.state.wi.us/static/study/pr072402.htm>

http://www.nmarts.org/org_resources.html

<http://www.massculturalcouncil.org/issues/economicdevelopment.html>

<http://www.window.state.tx.us/comptrol/fnotes/fn0107/fn.html>

<http://www.capp-wsu.org/>

<http://www.vaforarts.org/>

<http://www.flca.net/index2.html>

<http://www.state.sc.us/arts/economic/index.html>

National Links:

http://www.artsusa.org/information_resources/research_information/services/economic_impact/default.asp

<http://www.nea.gov/pub/ResearchReports.html>

http://www.pps.org/info/pub_art/art_impact

<http://www.americansforthearts.org/>

<http://www.bls.gov/>

<http://www.arts.endow.gov/>

International Links:

<http://www.creativecity.ca/cecc/bibliographies/creative-cities.html>

<http://www.cac.ca.gov/?id=203>

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/01/15950/15148/Q/Zoom/80>

<http://arts-conference.com/>

XIV. 11.14.06 **Globalization/Cosmopolitanism: Transnational or Global Civil Society**

Required: Arjun Appadurai, Modernity at Large, 1-204

Recommended: David Cannadine, Ornamentalism: How the British Saw Their Empire
Sylvère Lotringer and Paul Virilio, The Accident of Art
Arjun Appadurai, Fear of Small Numbers: An Essay on the Geography of Anger
Tyler Cowen, Creative Destruction: How Globalization is Changing the World's Cultures
Jacques Rancière, Short Voyages to the Land of the People
Frederick Cooper, Colonialism in Question: Theory, Knowledge, History
Rey Chow, The Age of the World Target
Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities

XV. 11.28.06 **Museums: Managers, Moralities, Monies, and Monuments**

Required: Hugh Genoways, Museum Philosophy, vii-274

Recommended: Tony Bennett, The Birth of the Museum
Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Destination Culture
Eilean Hooper-Greenhill, Museums and the Interpretation of Visual Culture
Matthew Bogdanos, Thieves of Baghdad

XVI. 12.5.06 **Conclusion**

Required: Joli Jensen, Is Art Good for US?: Beliefs about High Culture in American Life

Recommended: Daniel Bell, The Cultural Contradictions of Capitalism
John Dewey, Art as Experience
John Dewey, The Public and Its Problems
Herbert Gans, Popular Culture and High Culture
Walter Lippmann, Public Opinion
Lewis Mumford, Art and Technics
Lewis Mumford, The Conduct of Life
Richard Rorty, Philosophy and Social Hope
Paul Virilio, Art and Fear
Eric L. Jones, Cultures Merging: A Historical and Economic Critique of Culture
James Clifford, Routes: Travel and Translation in the Late Twentieth Century

XVII. 12.14.06 **FINAL PAPER DUE**