

# Dongseo University

**Instructor(s):** Thomas Humpal  
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**Classroom:**  
**Class Time:**  
**Office Hours:**

## Course Description:

- Mass media is essentially about communication and control. No mediums do this better than film and television. Film and TV effect how we view the world and how we operate within in. This course will closely examine the roles that film and television play in propagating ideologies, as well as the elements of each, their power, and their limits.

## Course Goals & Objectives:

- The goal is that by the end of the semester you will no longer be a passive viewer. You will have the skills and terminology necessary to recognize the 'hows' and 'whys' of media are more important than the stories themselves.

## Course Outline:

Week 1: Hour 1: Class Introduction: Rules, orientation, and goals

Hour 2: General discussion: What do you watch, and why?

Week 2: Hour 1: Terminology and History: How to talk about media in an academic way

Hour 2: Building a foundational vocabulary and understanding of viewership.

Week 3: Hour 1: Elements of Visual Storytelling: Shots, mise en scene, and direction

Hour 2: Viewing: Silent Era to Talkies

Week 4: Hour 1: Why we watch TV and film... Pleasure: trends in popular culture

Hour 2: Student led discussion over reading.

Week 5: Hour 1: Function of Genre: Expectation and allegory

Hour 2: Discussion: Genres reading.

Week 6: Hour 1: Realism/Non-Realism/Reality: The dangers of passive culture

Hour 2: Viewing/Discussion

Week 7: Hour 1: Midterm Viewing and Analysis

Hour 2: Midterm guidelines, essay formatting

Week 8: Hour 1: Exam Due:

Hour 2: Exam discussion

Week 9: Hour 1: High Culture vs. Low Culture: Education, class, and race.

- Hour 2: Viewing: Shakespeare as teen drama
- Week 10: Hour 1: Hyperreality and Postmodernism: Life imitates art.  
Hour 2: Philosophy of Baudrillard
- Week 11: Hour 1: News as Propaganda/Discourse: Framing ideology with talking heads.  
Hour 2: Same story, different spins viewing.
- Week 12: Hour 1: Experimental TV and Film: Is it truly a dead art form?  
Hour 2: Where have all the art-houses gone? Reading discussion
- Week 13: Hour 1: Youtube, Hulu, Netflix, Media Glut: Anyone can be a star  
Hour 2: Student led discussion.
- Week 14: Hour 1: Begin Final Project: Viewing and overview of expectations.  
Hour 2: troubleshooting approaches to media.
- Week 15: Hour 1: Class Wrap Up: You are now a critical viewer... what now?  
Hour 2: How viewers enact change, and dangers of critical viewership.
- Week 16: Hour 1: Final Project  
Hour 2: Viewing wrap-up

#### **Textbook(s)**

- Required: weekly articles provided by professor.
- Recommended: N/A

#### **Class Website:** e-Class

- **Course Assignments & Grading:**  
*Exams:* Midterm Essay 40%, Final Essay 40%
- *Quizzes:* Potential weekly quiz over weekly readings. Attendance Score.
- *Course Projects:*
- *Assignments:*
- *Bonus Credit:*
- *Grading:*

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F < 60%    60% ≤ D < 70%    70% ≤ C < 80%    80% ≤ B < 90%    A ≥ 90%

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#### **Grading Policies:**

- Make-Ups: There will be given no make-up to any of the assignments of this course.
- Contesting: Grades can be contested during a two-week period from the time that

they

were announced. After such period is elapsed, grades may not be contested.

**Course Policies:**

- Attendance: 10% of final grade. 11 absences equals a final grade of F.  
Two tardies are the equivalent of an absence.
- Academic Misconduct Policy: Plagiarism or cheating will result in an F score for the assignment and possible further consequences including a final grade of F.