

## Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2021  
*Previous Value* Spring 2014

## Course Change Information

**What change is being proposed? (If more than one, what changes are being proposed?)**

Allow course to be taught as Distance Learning.

**What is the rationale for the proposed change(s)?**

More students will have access to this course if there exists an online version.

**What are the programmatic implications of the proposed change(s)?**

**(e.g. program requirements to be added or removed, changes to be made in available resources, effect on other programs that use the course)?**

none

**Is approval of the request contingent upon the approval of other course or curricular program request? No**

**Is this a request to withdraw the course? No**

## General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Sociology
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	Sociology - D0777
College/Academic Group	Arts and Sciences
Level/Career	Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog	2300
Course Title	Sociology of Culture and Popular Culture
Transcript Abbreviation	Soc of Culture
Course Description	Provides a sociological understanding of culture including the influence of culture on inequality and social change and sociological interpretations of popular culture. The course will examine how sociologists define and empirically study culture; theoretical approaches; aspects of culture including media, consumer goods, etc; prevalence of cultural patterns in all societies.
Semester Credit Hours/Units	Fixed: 3

## Offering Information

Length Of Course	14 Week, 12 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	Yes
Is any section of the course offered	100% at a distance
<i>Previous Value</i>	<i>No</i>
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	No
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus

## Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Exclusions

Electronically Enforced No

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

## Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 45.1101  
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course  
Intended Rank Sophomore, Junior

## Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Students will understand sociological definitions of culture and theoretical and empirical approaches to studying culture from a sociological perspective.
- Students will understand the role of culture in contributing to social inequality and social change.
- Students will be familiar with three dominant theoretical approaches to understanding culture and use these approaches to analyze key aspects of culture including media, consumer goods, food, clothing, etc.

Content Topic List

- Definitions and Theoretical Understandings of Culture
- Repertoires and the Meaning of Culture
- Culture, Popular Culture and Status / Power
- The Production of Culture and Popular Culture
- Cultural Frameworks and Identities
- Culture, Social Change and Challenge

Sought Concurrence

No

**Attachments**

- 2300 DL Syllabus.docx: DL syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Downey,Douglas B)*
- 2300 Face-to-face syllabus.docx: Face-to-face syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Downey,Douglas B)*
- 2300 technical review.docx: technical review  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Downey,Douglas B)*
- 2300 DL Syllabus Revision.docx: DL syllabus revision  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Downey,Douglas B)*
- 2300 DL Syllabus Revision 2.docx: DL syllabus revision 2  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Downey,Douglas B)*

**Comments**

- This revised syllabus provides the proper course title and makes clear the amount of time students are expected to allocate to the course. *(by Downey,Douglas B on 10/06/2020 08:52 AM)*
- See 7-15-20 email to D. Downey *(by Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn on 07/15/2020 04:50 PM)*

**Workflow Information**

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	06/12/2020 12:13 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	06/12/2020 12:35 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	06/12/2020 12:54 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn	07/15/2020 04:50 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	08/31/2020 09:32 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	08/31/2020 09:33 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	08/31/2020 12:01 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn	09/23/2020 02:58 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	10/06/2020 08:53 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	King,Ryan David	10/06/2020 09:07 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	10/06/2020 09:10 AM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin,Deborah Kay Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	10/06/2020 09:10 AM	ASCCAO Approval

## **Sociology 2300: Sociology of Culture and Popular Culture**

**The Ohio State University**

**Online, Autumn 2020**

**Meeting days/time:** Online

**Professor:** Dr. Amy Ng

**Office:** 102 Townshend Hall

**Phone:** 614-688-4326 (office); 614-859-5335 (cell)

**Email:** [Ng.364@osu.edu](mailto:Ng.364@osu.edu)

**Office hours:** By appointment Wed and Friday 12:45-2:00pm via Zoom\*Additional appointment times upon request.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Provides a sociological understanding of culture including the influence of culture on inequality and social change and sociological interpretations of popular culture. The course will examine how sociologists define and empirically study culture; theoretical approaches; aspects of culture including media, consumer goods, etc; prevalence of cultural patterns in all societies. This is an online course for three credit hours. Students are expected to allocate three hours a week in class and six hours a week outside of class.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

When students complete this course, they should be able to:

Describe and understand the basic theoretical approaches applied to popular culture.

Identify how society interacts with popular culture and offer analysis on the core issues and debates.

Explain the difference between the scientific analysis of pop culture and the consumption of Pop Culture.

Understand how popular culture and its processes interacts with, and can maintain, social inequalities and power structures in society.

Understand the differences between taste and public culture.

Identify the historical factors that shape pop culture and how pop culture shapes society.

Explain how pop culture changes in relation to social institutions.

Identify the diverse origins of American popular culture.

Explain how Pop Culture impacts different groups in the United States.

## REQUIRED READINGS

Pop Culture and High Culture: Author: Herbert J. Gans: ISBN-13 978-0-465-02609-8

\* All other materials will be provided to you on Carmen during each unit. Please see the units below for citations.

## COURSE TECHNOLOGY

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at <https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours,and> support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- Self-Service and Chat support: <http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice>;
- Phone:614-688-HELP (4357)
- [Email:8help@osu.edu](mailto:8help@osu.edu);TDD:614-688-8743

## Baseline technical skills necessary for online courses, including this course:

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen Necessary equipment
- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection  
Necessary software
- No software is required for this course. You will take all quizzes and exams online in the Carmen course page and also post answers to discussion questions in the Carmen course page.
- You are required to have a web cam and microphone for course.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Grades are determined based on your performance on three exams, one course paper, a series of assignments, and weekly discussion posts. All assignments, exams, quizzes, and the paper will be due on Sundays @ 11:59pm est. Discussion boards must be at least 150 words in length and you are required to respond to at least two peers. APA is required for all discussions and papers.

**Zoom Meetings:** Weekly Zoom lectures will be required. You are not required to attend the live session, but you must listen to the recording. All Zoom meetings will be held every Wed. @ 12:30pm.

**Discussion Posts:** Discussion board posts must be at least 150 words in-length and you are required to create an initial response and respond to at least two peers. APA citations are required for all discussions. There are no word length requirements on the peer responses, but you must post substantive peer responses. That includes providing additional research to examples to support your response. All discussion topics are located under both the discussion and weekly tabs in Carmen. \* YOU MUST RESPOND ON AT LEAST TWO DIFFERENT DAYS OF THE WEEK. Discussion posts will make up 10% of your final grade.

- Writing style: While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Informality (including an occasional emoticon) is fine for non-academic topics.
- Tone and civility: Let's maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn't always come across online.
- Citing your sources: When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. (For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.)
- Backing up your work: Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, where you can save your work, and then copying into the Carmen discussion.

**Assignments:** All assignments must be submitted to the dropbox or Carmen. This can be located in both the assignment and weekly tabs. The requirements for each assignment vary, so you must read all directions located on Carmen. Assignments will make up 10 percent of your final grade. There will be several worksheets that are considered assignments. These are fill in's and directly related to your readings and video clips. All worksheets area available on Carmen.

**Exams:** All exams will be located on Carmen and are provided by Proctorio. You are required to have a web cam to take the exam. All exams will be multiple choice, T/F, fill ins, as well as two essay questions. The exams will make up 65% of your final grade. You will have two hours to complete the exams.

**Final Paper:** For the final paper you will conduct research on a topic related to pop culture of your choice. For example, the influence of social media on relationships, feminism in cartoons, or how modern TV shows portray America. In 4-5 pages not including the cover page or reference list provide an evaluation of your research findings focusing on how the topic you chose influences society. Be sure to adhere to APA format. A rubric will be provided in Carmen, and your final paper will make up 15 percent of your total grade.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS AND DUE DATES**

Assignment Percent Date:

Exam #1 20%: Due Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm est.

Exam #2 20%: Due Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> by 11:59pm est.

Exam #3 (Final Exam) 25%: Due Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm est.

Weekly Discussion Boards 10%: Due every Sunday by 11:59pm est

Weekly Assignments: 10%: Due every Sunday by 11:59pm est. (when applicable)

Final Paper: 15%: Due Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm est.

## **GRADES**

A 93-100

A- 90-92.9  
B+ 87-89.9  
B 83-86.9  
B- 80-82.9  
C+ 77-79.9  
C 73-76.9  
C- 70-72.9  
D+ 67-69.9  
D 60-66.9  
E <60

## **COURSE POLICIES**

I reserve the right to make minor changes to the Syllabus and deadlines stated therein but will discuss them with you in advance so you may prepare accordingly. I will only make such changes when necessary due to intervening circumstances

**Student Support Services:** Student support services offered on the OSU main campus.

<http://ssc.osu.edu>.

**Late Work/ Missed Class/ Incompletes:** Students will not be penalized for late work or absences if they show documentation of a reasonable excuse for missing the class (e.g., funeral; surgery; jury duty). Documentation can be shown directly to the professor via email. I realize that sometimes students get sick but do not require a trip to the doctor's office (e.g., a bad cold or minor case of the flu). In these situations, documentation is not required, but it is important to let me know of your impending absence by phone or email prior to the lecture or exam. Taking an exam or submitting a paper late will result in a 10 percent deduction for each business day late. If you miss a lecture, get the notes from a fellow student and then see the instructor for clarification.

**Logging In:** You must log into Carmen at least once per week to be considered as present for attendance verification.

**Contact Method and Response Time:** The best way to contact me is via email or cell phone. I will respond back to you within 24 hours. If you need a Zoom meeting those will be by appointment only during regularly scheduled office hours.

**Feedback:** All assignments, quizzes, exams, and discussions will be graded within 7 days of the due date.

**Academic Integrity.** Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic

and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's *Code of Student Conduct* and this syllabus may constitute "Academic Misconduct."

The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html](http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html))

*Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity*

([oaa.osu.edu/coam/ten-suggestions.html](http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/ten-suggestions.html))

*Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html))

#### **Academic Policies for This Online Course:**

Quizzes and exams: You must complete the weekly quizzes, and midterm and final exams yourself, without any external help or communication.

Written assignments: Your discussion posts should be your own original work. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in--but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.

**Copywrite Disclaimer:** The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

**Note on Email.** Try to work on professional etiquette when writing emails. That is, please write your name at the end of your email messages, identify the course in the subject line, and use proper capitalization and grammar. In short, do not write like a text message. These are good habits to develop as you prepare for the job market, and in the absence of a good faith effort to follow these guidelines I



will politely reply and ask that you rewrite and resend the message using proper grammar. I appreciate your attention to these details.

**Statement Regarding Disability.** Some students require modifications in the learning environment. Ohio State strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your differing ability(ies) (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options, which may include providing more time to answer quiz/exam questions. You may also register with Student Life Disability Services, which will establish reasonable accommodations appropriate for you. After registration, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely manner. Student Life Disability Services may be contacted at [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu), (614) 292-3307, 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone 614-292-3307, [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu)

**Student Academic Services:** Student academic services are offered on the OSU main campus. In general, these include academic advising, tutoring, learning support, and career counseling and support, and tips for online learning. You can access student academic services through this link:

<http://advising.osu.edu/welcome.shtml>.

**Statement on Sexual Misconduct/Relationship Violence:** Title IX makes clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu).

**Mental Health Statement:** As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting [ccs.osu.edu](http://ccs.osu.edu) or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

**Statement on Diversity:** The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

### **Week 1 – Introductory material**

Due August. 30th – Course introduction

- Reading: Pages 1-22 in Gans
- Reading: Generational Theory provided in Carmen- Strauss William, and Howe (1997). *The Fourth Turning: What the cycles of History Tell us about America's Next Rendezvous with Destiny*. Broadway Books, NY.
- Complete Discussion Question 1: Generational Theory and pop culture
- Review the video clips under unit 1: American Frontier Spirit: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the Week 1 Assignment: Study questions for Generation Theory worksheet provided on Carmen

### **Week 2 – Post War America and a Critique of Mass Culture**

Due Sept. 6th

- Reading: Pages 27-41 in Gans
- Reading- Pop Dreams by Archie (CH. 2 via Carmen): Loss, Archie (1999). *Pop Dreams: Music, Movies, and the Media in the Sixties*. Wadsworth. US.
- Complete Discussion Question 2- High culture and main stream pop culture
- Review video clips under unit 2- The Apartment clips available in Carmen.
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the Week 2 Assignment after reviewing the video clips – Worksheet on pop culture and the nuclear family. Worksheet is provided in Carmen.

### **Week 3 – Civil Rights and the Antiwar Movement and a Critique of Mass Culture**

Due Sept. 13th

- Reading: Pages 41-77 in Gans
- Reading: Chapters 3 and 4 in Pop Dreams (on Carmen) *Pop Dreams: Music, Movies, and the Media in the Sixties*. Wadsworth. US.
- Complete Discussion Question 3- Understanding Marshall McLuhan's view that the content of the media is less important than the media itself.
- Review the video clips under week 3- FBI vs MLK, Bull Connor, and the Bombing on 16<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the Week 3 Assignment after reviewing the video clips: Worksheet on MLK and the Principle of Non Violence.

### **Week 4 – Exam 1**

Due Sept. 20th

- Review the study guide posted
- Take the exam using Proctorio by Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> @11:59pm est.
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete Discussion Board 4 (Questions regarding the review)

### **Week 5 – Sixties Counterculture and Conservative Resurgence**

Due Sept. 27th

- Reading: Chapters 5 & 6 in Pop Dreams by Archie Loss (Carmen): *Pop Dreams: Music, Movies, and the Media in the Sixties*. Woodsworth. US.
- Complete Discussion Board 5- Pop culture and messaging
- Review the video clips posted under week 5- Yippies, Beatles Piggies, and the Graduate trailer.
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the week 5 assignment after reviewing the video clips- Worksheet on Counter culture and the issues with various stances. Worksheet available in Carmen.

## **Week 6 – Identity Politics and Adding it All Up**

Due Oct. 4th

- Reading: Chapters 7 & 8 in Pop Dreams (Carmen): *Pop Dreams: Music, Movies, and the Media in the Sixties*. Woodsworth. US.
- Complete Discussion Board 6- Homosexuality in the awakening era
- Review the video clips posted under week 6- Stonewall Riots, Pie in Anita Bryant's Face
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the week 6 assignment after reviewing the video clips- Worksheet on gays and lesbians in the main stream culture. Worksheet is available in Carmen.

## **Week 7 – A Comparative Analysis of High and Popular Culture**

Due Oct. 11th

- Reading: pages 89-130 in Gans
- Complete discussion board 7- High, low, and middle-class culture
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm

## **Week 8 – Current Popular Culture**

Due Oct. 18th

- Reading: Systematic and Scientific Methods of Data Collection and Social Science & Popular Culture by Adam Moskowitz available in Carmen.
- Complete discussion board 8- News media and the culture industry
- Review the video clips on Carmen- Dove and Sewell videos
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the week 8 assignment after reviewing the video clips- Worksheet on social science and pop culture.

## **Week 9 – The Evaluation of Taste Cultures and Publics**

Due Oct. 25th

- Reading: 161-200 in Gans
- Review the video clips in Carmen- Taste culture, public culture videos

-Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm

- Complete discussion board 9- What is good, socially desirable taste culture and what is good, socially desirable taste public

### **Week 10- Exam 2**

Due Nov. 1st

- Review for the exam

- Take the Exam using Proctorio by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> @11:59pm est.

-Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm

- Complete discussion board 10 (Questions regarding the review and exam)

### **Week 11 – Pop Culture in Television**

Due Nov. 8th

- Readings: “Television Addiction is No Mere a Metaphore” by Robert Kubey, et al., Common Culture, p. 149. Available in Carmen.

- Complete discussion board 11- Conscious conspiracy and oppression

-Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm

- Complete the week 11 assignment after completing your readings- Television Addiction study questions worksheet. Available in Carmen.

### **Week 12- Pop Culture in Advertising**

Due Nov. 15th

- Readings: Material from Common Culture in Carmen- "Sex, Lies & Advertising” by Gloria Steinem.” Common Culture p.91. Also available at <http://www1.udel.edu/comm245/readings/advertising.pdf>

- Complete discussion board 12- Adorno and Horkheimer's idea of a culture industry

-Watch Beauty Myth by Noemi Wolf

-Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm

- Complete the week 12 assignment after reviewing the video and readings- Complete the Sex, Lies, and Advertising worksheet available in Carmen.

### **Week 13 - Pop Music**

Due Nov. 22nd

- Reading: Material from Common Culture in Carmen: "Pop Goes the Rapper" by Vincent Stephens, Common Culture. And "The Miseducation of Hip Hop" by Evelyn Jamilah, Common Culture.
- Review the video in Carmen- Hip Hop Beyond Beats Documentary (1 hour long)
- Complete discussion board 13- Systemic Definitions of Hip Hop
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Complete the week 13 assignment after reviewing the video and readings- Worksheet over the Miseducation of Hip Hop. Worksheet available on Carmen.
- Submit your course paper- See instructions above.

### **Week 14 – Pop Culture and Technology**

Due Nov. 29th

- Reading: Readings from Common Culture provided in Carmen: "Our Cell Phones, Ourselves" By Christine Rosen, Common Culture, p. 343. Also available: <https://www.thenewatlantis.com/publications/our-cell-phones-ourselves>
- Review the video in Carmen- South Park Episode
- Complete discussion board 14- Technology and Daily Interactions
- Complete the week 14 assignment – Worksheet over our Cell Phones, Ourselves. Available on Carmen.
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Final paper due by Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> @11:59pm est.

### **Week 15/16- Final Exam Review and Final**

Due Dec. 13th

- Review the study guide for the final exam
- Complete discussion Board 15- Review for Final
- Attend the live Zoom session Wed @12:30pm
- Take exam using Proctorio by Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> @11:59pm est.

**SOCIOLOGY 2300**  
**Sociology of Culture and Popular Culture**

Spring 2016  
MWF 12:40-1:35  
Lazenby Hall 034

Michelle Oyakawa, M.A.  
Office: Townshend 165  
Email: [oyakawa.4@osu.edu](mailto:oyakawa.4@osu.edu)  
Office Hours: Wed 2-4 and Fri 2-4

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course will introduce the student to study of culture from a sociological perspective, and with attention to elements of culture, culture and small groups and individuals, culture and inequality, popular culture and how to interpret it, and culture and social change. We will begin the course with a general view of what culture is and is not, how sociologists define in and how they go about studying it. The first half of the course will focus primarily on how culture is related to power, politics and social change. The second half of the course will focus on the analysis of popular culture and its relationship to social class, race, and gender. Throughout the course, readings centering on particular aspects of culture, including news media, sports, and music, will help to illustrate sociological concepts relating to culture.

By the end of the course, students should be able to understand and critically evaluate aspects of culture in their own lives and in the society they live in.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Chomsky, Noam. 2002. Media Control. Open Media Series.

Gans, Herbert. 1999. *Popular Culture and High Culture: An Analysis and Evaluation of Taste*.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

***10% Active class participation:***

Participation includes 2 things:

- (1) Attendance
- (2) Participating in class discussion by speaking in class and small group discussions

I will allow 3 “free” absences for any reason. After that, each missed class will result in a decrease in your participation grade, with very few exceptions. Therefore, if you use up your two absences early in the semester but then later in the semester you get sick/car breaks down/you need to attend a funeral, I will not excuse your later absence.

If there is an ongoing issue (health, family, athletics, etc) that affects your ability to attend this class, you need to communicate that to me in a timely manner. If you think you will miss more than 3 class sessions, I would strongly advise you to consider dropping this course.

### **20% Quizzes**

6 quizzes will be given over the quarter. A quiz will be made up of about 7-8 questions. The questions will be multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer, and T/F. The questions generated for the quizzes will come from **1) the material presented/assigned from the previous class session and 2) the reading assigned for the current day. QUIZZES WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED AHEAD OF TIME. You are NOT allowed to use your notes or texts during the quiz time.** Quizzes will generally occur within the first 20 minutes of a class session. My policy is that students who arrive late can take the quiz up until the allotted time has run out or the point of the last quiz being handed in by a student who showed up on time, whichever occurs first. If you arrive after all the quizzes have been handed in, you cannot take it. There will be **NO MAKE UP QUIZZES**, if you miss it, you miss it. **The lowest quiz will be dropped.**

### **20% Papers (10% each)**

Over the course of the semester, you will be given topics for 2 short papers. These papers will be 3-4 pages in length.

### **50% Exams**

20% Midterm exam

30% Cumulative final exam

Exams will include multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. You will be held responsible for all material covered in course readings and lectures/class discussions. I will be very transparent about what will be on the exam and will hand out a study guide a week prior to the exam that will contain 2/3 of actual exam content.

If you need to take a make-up exam and do not have a well-documented LEGITIMATE reason for needing to do so (alarm clock not going off/out of town on a pre-planned trip do not count), I will take points off to be fair to students who took the exam on time. If you would like to take an exam early let me know awhile in advance; I do not guarantee that I will be able to meet your request but I will try.

### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS:**

#### ***What you can expect from me:***

1. I care about teaching and will put in my full effort and do my best to make the class interesting and engaging.
2. I will learn your name (it may take a few weeks but I will do it!!).
3. I will treat you with respect and as adults.
4. In creating assignments/quizzes/tests, my goal is to be challenging but fair. Thus, do not expect that this will be an 'easy' class, but my goal is never to trick you or force you to do busy work/memorize things that aren't useful.
5. I will be clear about my expectations of you and provide strategies to help you succeed in meeting course requirements.
6. I will be accessible and available to help you understand the material and address any concerns.
7. I will answer emails within 8 business hours of their receipt (business hours: 9-5 M-F).
8. If changes are made to anything on the syllabus, an announcement will be made in class and on Carmen.
9. I will complete all grading in a timely manner (10 days max).

#### ***What I expect from you:***



1. Be physically and mentally present in class: In order to be successful in this course, you must come to class and pay attention during class. Period. *If you think you will miss more than 2 class sessions, you may want to consider dropping this course.*
2. Complete the required readings before coming to class: I assign what I strongly believe is a reasonable and fair amount of reading for a 200-level college course. Most of the material covered in the class comes directly from the readings assigned. Students who do the reading will get a lot more out of this class and will be more successful on exams and assignments than students who do not. I understand that you may not be able to carefully read every page of every reading assigned, but you should put in your full effort to read as much as possible and strategically skim what you can't read closely. *If you do not think you will be able to complete the majority of the readings assigned, you may want to consider dropping this course.*
3. You are responsible for obtaining materials from classes you have missed: Students are responsible for obtaining notes from another student so make sure you have exchanged contact information with others in the class. I will post skeleton power points online that will likely not contain all the information. I will help any student that is struggling with the material, however I will not reteach the material (i.e. providing basic definitions, etc).
4. NO TEXTING/GOING ON THE INTERNET DURING CLASS: These things need to take place outside of the classroom. I will notice if I see you doing it (and you would be surprised how easy it is to see from my vantage point in the classroom... hiding it under the desk doesn't actually work because it is very suspicious when it looks like someone is closely examining their own crotch). Your participation grade will suffer if you are a repeat offender.
5. Keep me informed about anything that may be affecting your performance in the course. I will be flexible about course requirements ONLY to the extent that I am informed of extenuating circumstances in a timely manner with proper documentation.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE:**

**NOTE: Readings listed must be completed BEFORE the class session under which they are listed.**

#### **WEEK 1:**

*Monday January 11: Introduction*

- No reading 😊

*Wednesday January 13: What is culture?*

- They Burn Witches Here (and then they upload the photos to social media) (Carmen)

*Friday January 15: What is culture?*

- Kohls: The Values Americans Live By (Carmen)

#### **WEEK 2:**

*Monday January 18: NO CLASS- MLK JR. DAY 😊*

*Wednesday January 20: Culture and Power*

- Hacking: Making Up People (Carmen)

*Friday January 22: Culture and Power*

- Marx and Engels: The German Ideology (Carmen)

WEEK 3:

*Monday January 25: Culture and Power*

- Horkheimer and Adorno: Culture Industry (Wray pg. 65-79)

*Wednesday January 27: Culture and Power*

- McChesney (Carmen)

*Friday January 29: Culture and Power*

- No additional reading

WEEK 4:

*Monday February 1: Culture and Power*

- Chomsky: Media Control (book)

*Wednesday February 3: Culture and Power*

- Chomsky: Media Control (book)

*Friday February 5: Culture and Power*

- No additional reading

WEEK 5:

*Monday February 8: News media*

- Misperceptions, Media and the Iraq War (Carmen)
- Optional supplemental reading: Misinformation and the 2010 Election (Carmen)

*Wednesday February 10: News media*

- Reading TBD

*Friday February 12: News media*

- No reading: Guest speaker Todd Callais

WEEK 6:

*Monday February 15: Culture, Politics and Social Change*

- Duggan Intro (Carmen)

*Wednesday February 17: Culture, Politics and Social Change*

- Duggan Chapter (Carmen)

*Friday February 19: Culture, Politics and Social Change*

- No additional reading

- PAPER #1 DUE

WEEK 7:

*Monday February 22: Culture and Social Change*

- Gladwell- Small Change: Why the Revolution Will Not be Tweeted (Carmen)

*Wednesday February 24: Catch up and midterm exam review*

- No reading

*Friday February 26: MIDTERM EXAM*

WEEK 8:

*Monday February 29: High Culture and Low Culture*

- Gans: Intro and Ch. 1

*Wednesday March 2: High Culture and Low Culture*

- No additional reading

*Friday March 4: High Culture and Low Culture*

- Gans Ch. 2

WEEK 9:

*Monday March 7: High Culture and Low Culture*

- No additional reading

*Wednesday March 9: High culture and Low Culture*

- Gans Ch. 3

*Friday March 11: Culture and Self*

- DeNora: Music as a Technology of Self (Carmen)

**SPRING BREAK WEEK OF MARCH 14-18- NO CLASSES**

WEEK 10:

*Monday March 21: Group culture*

- Wacquant (Carmen)

*Wednesday March 23: Sports culture*

- Reading TBD

*Friday March 25: CLASS CANCELLED (Michelle at North Central Sociological Association conference)*

WEEK 11:

*Monday March 28:* Fandom studies

- Star Wars and Everyday Life (Carmen)

*Wednesday March 30:* Fandom Studies

- Reading TBD (about fanfiction)

*Friday April 1:* Fandom Studies

- No additional reading

WEEK 12:

*Monday April 4:* Ethnicity and Culture

- Gans Symbolic Ethnicity

*Wednesday April 6:* Ethnicity and Culture

- Tuan Ch. 3 and 6 (Carmen)

*Friday April 8:* Ethnicity and Culture

- No additional reading

WEEK 13:

*Monday April 11:* Women in Popular Culture

- Douglas: The Rise of Enlightened Sexism (Carmen)- Intro

*Wednesday April 13:* Women in Popular Culture

- Douglas Ch. 7 or 10

*Friday April 15:* Women in Popular Culture

- No additional reading

WEEK 14:

*Monday April 18:* Race, Gender and Culture

- Collins: Black Sexual Politics Ch. 4 (Carmen)

*Wednesday April 20:* Race, Gender and Culture

- Collins: Black Sexual Politics Ch. 5 (Carmen)

*Friday April 22:* Race, Gender and Culture

- Collins: Black Sexual Politics Ch. 6 (Carmen)
- PAPER #2 DUE

WEEK 15:

*Monday April 25:* Catch up day and final exam review

- No reading

**FINAL EXAM- Tuesday May 3 12:00-1:45 pm**

## **Disability Services Statement**

**If you have a documented disability, please register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations, so they may be implemented in a timely fashion. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Disability Services at 614-292-3307 or [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu).**

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT)**

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's *Code of Student Conduct* and this syllabus may constitute "Academic Misconduct."

The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](#))
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* ([Ten Suggestions](#))
- *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html))

## Arts and Sciences Distance Learning Course Component Technical Review Checklist

**Course: Sociology 2300**

**Instructor: Amy Ng**

**Summary: Pop Culture**

Standard - Course Technology	Yes	Yes with Revisions	No	Feedback/ Recomm.
6.1 The tools used in the course support the learning objectives and competencies.	X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carmen</li> <li>• Office 365</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
6.2 Course tools promote learner engagement and active learning.	X			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carmen Discussion boards</li> </ul>
6.3 Technologies required in the course are readily obtainable.	X			All are available for free
6.4 The course technologies are current.	X			All are updated regularly
6.5 Links are provided to privacy policies for all external tools required in the course.	X			No external tools are used
Standard - Learner Support				
7.1 The course instructions articulate or link to a clear description of the technical support offered and how to access it.	X			Links to 8HELP are provided
7.2 Course instructions articulate or link to the institution's accessibility policies and services.	X			a
7.3 Course instructions articulate or link to an explanation of how the institution's academic support services and resources can help learners succeed in the course and how learners can obtain them.	X			b
7.4 Course instructions articulate or link to an explanation of how the institution's student services and resources can help learners succeed and how learners can obtain them.	X			c
Standard – Accessibility and Usability				
8.1 Course navigation facilitates ease of use.		X		Recommend using the Carmen Distance Learning "Master Course" template developed by ODEE and available in the Canvas Commons to provide student-users with a consistent user experience in terms of navigation and access to course content.
8.2 Information is provided about the accessibility of all technologies required in the course.	X			No external tools are used
8.3 The course provides alternative means of access to course materials in formats that meet the needs of diverse learners.	X			SLDS statement covers this
8.4 The course design facilitates readability	X			
8.5 Course multimedia facilitate ease of use.	X			All assignments and activities that use the Carmen LMS with embedded multimedia facilitates ease of use. All other multimedia resources facilitate ease of use by being available through a standard web browser

### Reviewer Information

- Date reviewed: 6/12/20
- Reviewed by: Ian Anderson

**Notes: Note the method of office hours (Zoom). I didn't see any mention of lectures and how they will be delivered.**

<sup>a</sup>The following statement about disability services (recommended 16 point font):  
Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone 614- 292-3307, [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu).

<sup>b</sup>Add to the syllabus this link with an overview and contact information for the student academic services offered on the OSU main campus.  
<http://advising.osu.edu/welcome.shtml>

<sup>c</sup>Add to the syllabus this link with an overview and contact information for student services offered on the OSU main campus. <http://ssc.osu.edu>. Also, consider including this link in the "Other Course Policies" section of the syllabus.