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Course MCM 1700N: Open Source Culture

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## Open Source Culture Spring 08 - Syllabus

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Added by [Zachary McCune](#), last edited by [Mark Tribe](#) on Apr 20, 2008 ([view change](#))

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## Wed 1.23: Introduction

## Mon 1.28: Collage & Readymade

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- Reading:
  - Benjamin, Walter: "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction," available at [OCRA](#). *Note: You can skip sections VIII - XI, and XII, but definitely read the footnotes.*
  - Rosalind Krauss: "[In the Name of Picasso](#)" and "[The Originality of the Avant-Garde](#)" in *The Originality of the Avant-Garde and Other Modernist Myths*. On reserve at the Rock.
  - Johanna Drucker: "[Review: Dada Collage and Photomontage](#)." *Art Journal*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (Winter, 1993), pp. 82-84+87.
  - Recommended: Greenberg, Clement: "[Collage](#)." (This is the essay to which Krauss responds in "Name of Picasso.")

## Wed 1.30: Gimpshop Workshop

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## Mon 2.4: Authorship & Copyright

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- Reading:
  - Roland Barthes: "[The Death of the Author](#)."
  - Michel Foucault: "[MarkTribe:What is an Author?](#)"
  - Edward Samuels: *The Illustrated Story of Copyright*, pp. 10-17, 108-179, 188-209. Available at Allegra (recommended). Also on reserve at the Rock and online [here](#).
  - Recommended: Jeffrey Cunard, "Making Art, Making Law: When Worlds Collide?" (online lecture): <http://nothing.org/lectures>
  - Recommended: Lawrence Lessig: "[Free Culture](#)" (online lecture)
- Lily

## Wed 2.6: Found Images/Found Objects Studio

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## Mon 2.11: Install Exhibition in List

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## Wed 2.13: Found Images/Found Objects Critique

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## Mon 2.18: No class (long weekend)

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## Wed 2.20: Found Images/Found Objects Critique

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## Mon 2.25: Appropriation & Fair Use

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- Reading:
  - Martha Buskirk: *The Contingent Object of Contemporary Art*. Chapter 2: "Original Copies," pp. 60-105. Available at [OCRA](#). Also on reserve at the Rock.
  - Critical Art Ensemble: "[Utopian Plagiarism, Hypertextuality, and Electronic Cultural Production](#)."
  - Joy Garnett: "[Steal This Look](#)."
  - Recommended: Joy Garnett: "[Painting Mass Media](#)" (video of presentation).
- Abe, Maha

## Wed 2.27: Student Presentations

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- Jacob, Michelle

## Mon 3.3: Audio Remix Workshop

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## Wed 3.5: Found Sound

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- Reading:
  - Siva Vaidhyanathan: *Copyrights and Copywrongs*. Introduction, pp. 1-16 and Chapter 4: "Hep Cats and Copy Cats: American Music Challenges the Copyright Tradition," pp. 117 - 148. On reserve at the Rock and available as an e-book.
  - Paul D. Miller aka Dj Spooky that Subliminal Kid: *Rhythm Science*. On reserve at Orwig.
  - Edward Samuels: *The Illustrated Story of Copyright*, pp. 31-33, 44-55
  - Recommended: John Oswald: "[Plunderphonics, or Audio Piracy as a Compositional Prerogative](#)".
- See also: [Hypnotext](#), a web-based remix of Rhythm Science by artists Peter Halley and Casey Reas.
- Lauren, Jared

## Mon 3.10: Video Remix Workshop

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## Wed 3.12: Found Footage

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- Reading:
  - William Wees: *Recycled Images*. Chapter 4: "In the Domain of Montage: Compilation, Collage, Appropriation" and Chapter 5: "Epic Collage," pp. 32-58, and "Speaking of Found Footage: Craig Baldwin, Bruce Conner, Leslie Thornton," pp. 67-71, 77-86, 95-99. Available on OCRA.
- Screening:
  - Bruce Connor: *A Movie* (12 min, 1958)
  - Leslie Thornton: *Peggy and Fred in Hell* (1984-90)
  - Peggy Ahwesh: *The Color of Love* (10 min, 1994)
  - Dara Birnbaum: *Technology/Transformation: Wonder Woman* (24 min, 1978-80)
  - Craig Baldwin: *Tribulation 99: Alien Anomalies Under America* (48 min, 1991)

- See also:
  - Mark Lafia and Fang-Yu Lin: The Battle of Algiers (2006)  
<http://artport.whitney.org/commissions/battleofalgiers/BattleofAlgiers.shtml>

## Mon 3.17: Audio/Video Remix Critique

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## Wed 3.19: Audio/Video Remix Critique

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## Spring break

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## Mon 3.31: Audio/Video Remix Critique, Continued

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- Presentations: Jason, Patrick, Zuzanna

## Wed 4.2: Group Project Studio

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- Come to class with an idea for a group project

## Mon 4.7: Group Project Studio

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- Presentations: Caleb

## Wed 4.9: Free and Open Source Software

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- Reading:
  - Edward Samuels: *The Illustrated Story of Copyright*, pp. 76-88
  - Richard Stallman, "[Gnu Manifesto](#)."
  - Eben Moglen, "[Anarchism Triumphant: Free Software and the Death of Copyright](#)."
  - Eric Raymond
    - "[The Cathedral and the Bazaar](#)."
    - "[Homesteading the Noosphere](#)."
  - Open Source Initiative, "[The Open Source Definition](#)."
- See also: [CODeDOC](#), an exhibition of software art projects commissioned by the Whitney Museum of American Art for ArtPort, the museum's net art portal. <http://artport.whitney.org/commissions/codedoc/>

## Mon 4.14: Group Project Critique

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## Wed 4.16: Group Project Critique

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## Mon 4.21: Open Project Studio

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- Presentations: Anne, Paul

## Wed 4.23: Political Economy of Open Source Culture

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- Reading:
  - Yochai Benkler. *The Wealth of Networks: How Social Production Transforms Markets and Freedom*. Entire book available as wiki, html, or pdf at [http://www.benkler.org/wealth\\_of\\_networks](http://www.benkler.org/wealth_of_networks).
    - Recommended: [Chapter 2. Some Basic Economics of Information Production and Innovation](#).
    - Chapter 3. [Peer Production and Sharing](#).
    - Chapter 8: [Cultural Freedom: A Culture Both Plastic and Critical](#).
  - McKenzie Wark. "A Hacker Manifesto." Available online at [http://subsol.c3.hu/subsol\\_2/contributors0/warktext.html](http://subsol.c3.hu/subsol_2/contributors0/warktext.html).

## Mon 4.28: Open Project Studio

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- Presentation: Michelle

## Wed 4.30: Recap and Evaluations

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- Presentation: Steve

## Mon 5.5: Open Project Critique

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## Wed 5.7: Open Project Critique

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