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Course MCM 1700P: Radical Media

Radical Media Fall 07 - Syllabus

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MCM1700P: Radical Media

Dept. of Modern Culture and Media

Brown University

Prof. Mark Tribe

- [Wed 9.5: Introduction](#)
- [Mon 9.10: Towards a Definition of Radical Media: Examining the Relationships between Culture and Politics, Content and Tactics.](#)
- [Wed 9.12: Poster Workshop](#)
- [Mon 9.17: Theories of Media and Resistance: Participation and Détournement.](#)
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- [Wed 10.31: Group Project Workshop](#)
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- [Mon 11.12: Reactionary Media](#)
- [Wed 11.14: Group Project Studio](#)
- [Mon 11.19: Group Project Critique](#)
- [Wed 11.21: No Class \(Thanksgiving Break - Enjoy a Turkey or Turkey Substitute\)](#)
- [Mon 11.26: Radical Media Doesn't Work: Recuperation, Immediatism, and Anti-Technologies of Resistance](#)
- [Wed 11.28: Open Project Workshop](#)
- [Mon 12.3: Open Project Studio](#)
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Wed 9.5: Introduction

- Review Course Outline and Syllabus

Mon 9.10: Towards a Definition of Radical Media: Examining the Relationships between Culture and Politics, Content and Tactics.

- Duncombe, Stephen. "Introduction." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 1-8.
- Marx, Karl and Frederick Engels. Selection from The German Ideology. Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 48-49 only.
- Benjamin, "The Author as Producer." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 67-81

Wed 9.12: Poster Workshop

Mon 9.17: Theories of Media and Resistance: Participation and Détournement.

- Student presentation: Triton
 - Reading:
 - Brecht, Bertolt. "The Radio as an Apparatus of Communication." CP.
 - Enzensberger, Hans Magnus. "Constituents of a Theory of the Media." CP.
 - Debord, Guy. The Society of the Spectacle, paragraphs 1-9, 23, 24, 33, 34, 42, 67, 191, 192, 203-210. CP.
 - Viénet, René. "The Situationists and the New Forms of Action Against Politics and Art." CP.
- See also:**
- Baudrillard, Jean. "Requiem for the Media." OCRA.
 - Debord, Guy. "A User's Guide to Détournement." <http://www.bopsecrets.org/SI/detourn.htm>

Wed 9.19: Poster Studio

9.24: Poster Critique

9.26: Poster Critique

Mon 10.1: Art and Politics: Practicing Cultural Resistance inside and outside the Art World

- Reading:
 - Critical Art Ensemble. "Resisting the Bunker." CP.
 - Holmes, Brian. "Do-It-Yourself Geopolitics: Cartographies of Art in the World." CP.
 - Price, Seth. "Dispersion." 2002. CP.
 - Cotter, Holland. "The Collective Conscious." New York Times, March 5, 2006. CP.

Screening

*Journeys from Berlin/1971. Dir. Yvonne Rainer. 1980.

Wed 10.3: Online Video Workshop

Mon 10.8: No Class (Columbus Day)

Wed 10.10: Online Video Studio

Student presentation: Peter

Screenings:

- The Revolution Will Not Be Televised. Dir. Julian House, music and lyrics by Gil Scott-Heron. Screenbase Media, 2001. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTCQSk2l8bc>
- Mayday (Black Panther). Newsreel Collective, 1969.
- Mayday Realtime. Dir. David Cort. 1971, 59 min.
- Underground. Dir. Haskell Wexler.

Mon 10.15: Culture Jamming

- Reading:
 - Hoffman, Abbie. From Revolution for the Hell of It. Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 327-330.
 - Rubin, Jerry. From Do It! Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 330-332
 - Boyd, Andrew. "Truth Is a Virus." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 369-378
 - Dery, Mark. "Culture Jamming: Hacking, Slashing and Sniping in the Empire of Signs." CP.
 - Autonome a.f.r.i.k.a. "What is Communication Guerilla?" Anarchitexts, pp. 86- 91.
- See also:**
- Branwyn, Gareth. Jamming the Media. San Francisco: Chronicle, 1997. On reserve.

Screenings:

1. The Yes Men. Dir. Dan Ollman, Sarah Price, Chris Smith. Yes Men Films, 2003.

Wed 10.17: Online Video Studio

- Student presentation: Aaron

Mon 10.22: Online Video Critique

Screenings:

- The Bus. Dir. Haskell Wexler.
- Four More Years. TVTV.

Wed 10.24: Online Video Critique

Mon 10.29: Tactical Media

- Student presentation: Kiera
- Reading:
 - Bey, Hakim. Selections from T.A.Z.: The Temporary Autonomous Zone. Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 113-118
 - Garcia, David and Geert Lovink. "The ABC of Tactical Media." Anarchitexts, pp. 107-110.
 - Blissett, Luther. "The XYZ of Net Activism. Anarchitexts, pp. 92-97.
 - Richardson, Joanne. "The Language of Tactical Media." *Anarchitexts*, pp. 123-128.
 - Certeau, Michel de. "[General Introduction](#)." *The Practice of Everyday Life*, pp. xi - xxiv.
 - Martin, Nathan. "Parasites and Other Forms of Tactical Augmentation." Anarchitexts, pp. 115-122.
 - Wark, McKenzie. "On the Tactic of Tactics." Anarchitexts, pp. 138-140.
 - Guerrero, Frank (RTMark) interviewed by Sylvie Mayerson, with Vidyut Jain. "The Art of Confusion." Anarchitexts, pp. 129-133.

Screening:

- The Corporation. Dir. Mark Archbar, Jennifer Abbott, and Joel Bakan. Big Picture Media, 2004.

Wed 10.31: Group Project Workshop

Mon 11.5: Hacktivism

- Student presentation: Sarah
- Reading:
 - Critical Art Ensemble. "Electronic Civil Disobedience." CP.
 - Galloway, Alexander. "Possibility." Anarchitexts, pp. 284-286.
 - Dominguez, "Electronic Disturbance." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 379-396.
 - Wark, McKenzie. "A Hacker Manifesto." Anarchitexts, pp. 344-357.

Screening:

- For Life, Against the War. Filmmakers Cooperative, 1967.
- For Life, Against the War... Again! Filmmakers Cooperative, 2007.

Wed 11.7: Group Project Studio

- Student presentation: Helena

Mon 11.12: Reactionary Media

- Reading:
 - Atton. An Alternative Internet. Chapter 3: "Far-right Media on the Internet: Culture, Discourse, and Power," pp. 61-71. Photocopy to be distributed.
 - Khatchadourian, Raffi. "Azzam the American: The Making of an Al Qaeda Homegrown." CP.
 - Garcia, David. "Islam and Tactical Media in Amsterdam." Anarchitexts, pp. 111-114.
 - Kimmage, Daniel and Kathleen Ridolfo. Selections from Iraqi Insurgent Media: The War of Ideas and Images. CP.

Screenings:

- Investigation of a Flame. Dir. Lynne Sachs.

Wed 11.14: Group Project Studio

- Student presentation: Adam
- Guest Lecture: Lynne Sachs

Mon 11.19: Group Project Critique

Wed 11.21: No Class (Thanksgiving Break - Enjoy a Turkey or Turkey Substitute)

Mon 11.26: Radical Media Doesn't Work: Recuperation, Immediatism, and Anti-Technologies of Resistance

- Student presentation: Robin
- Reading:

- Jordan, "The Art of Necessity." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 347-349.
- Frank, "Why Johnny Can't Dissent." Cultural Resistance Reader, pp. 316-327.
- Bey, Hakim. "Immediatism" and "Involution." CP.
- Brener, Alexander and Barbara Schurz. "Anti-Technologies of Resistance." Anarchitexts, pp. 29-33

Screening:

- Why We Fight. Dir. William Jarecki. BBC Storyville, 2005.

Wed 11.28: Open Project Workshop

- Student presentation: Patrick

Mon 12.3: Open Project Studio

- Student presentation: Helena

Wed 12.5: Open Project Studio

- Student presentation: _____

Mon 12.10: Open Project Critique

Wed 12.12: Open Project Critique

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