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Course MCM 1700M: Techniques of Surveillance

Techniques of Surveillance Fall 07 -Syllabus

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Added by Mark Tribe, last edited by Mark Tribe on Mar 23, 2008 (view change)

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Fall, 2007

MCM1700M: Techniques of Surveillance

Dept. of Modern Culture and Media

Brown University Prof. Mark Tribe

- Wed 9.5: Introduction
- Mon 9.10: Panoptic Surveillance
- Wed 9.12: Panoptic Project Workshop
- Mon 9.17: Panoptic Project Studio
- Wed 9.19: Surveillance and Control
- Mon 9.24: Panoptic Project Critique
- Wed 9.26: Panoptic Project Critique
- Mon 10.1: Synoptic Project Workshop
- Wed 10.3: Synoptic Surveillance
- Mon 10.8: No Class (Columbus Day)
- Wed 10.10: Surveillance and Art
- Mon 10.15: Synoptic Project Studio
- Wed 10.17: Synoptic Project Studio
- Mon 10.22: Synoptic Project Critique
- Wed 10.24: Synoptic Project Critique
- Mon 10.29: Group Project Workshop Wed 10.31: Surveillance as Entertainment
- Mon 11.5: Group Project Studio
- Wed 11.7: Surveillance and Resistance
- Mon 11.12: Group Project Studio
- Wed 11.14: Surveillance and War Machines
- Mon 11.19: Group Project Critique
- Wed 11.21: No Meeting (Thanksgiving Recess)
- Mon 11.26:Open Project Workshop
- Wed 11.28: Surveillance and Pleasure
- Mon 12.3: Open Project Studio
- Wed 12.5: Open Project Studio
- Mon 12.10: Open Project Critique
- Wed 12.12: Open Project Critique

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Mon 9.10: Panoptic Surveillance

- In-class screening: 1984 (excerpt). Radford, Michael, Dir. MGM, 1984. 113 min.
- Reading:
 - McGrath, John E. "Introduction: Thinking Surveillance," pp. 1-2, 6-14. *Loving Big Brother: Performance, Privacy and Surveillance Space*. New York: Routledge, 2004. Available at OCRA.
 - Foucault, Michel. "Panopticism." In "Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison." Vintage, 1995. pp. 195-228. Also available here.
 - Elmer, Greg. "A Diagram of Panoptic Surveillance." *Profiling Machines: Mapping the Personal Information Economy*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 2004. MarkTribe: Also available here. CP.
 - "MarkTribe:1984 Surveillance Edit," a redacted version of George Orwell's 1984 by previous Techniques
 of Surveillance students.

Wed 9.12: Panoptic Project Workshop

- Individual meetings to discuss project ideas.
- Have one page tagged on del.icio.us.
- Have one Wiki page created.

Mon 9.17: Panoptic Project Studio

Wed 9.19: Surveillance and Control

- Student presentation: Quint Stevenson
- Independent screenings:
 - The Lives of Others. Dir. Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck. Bayerischer Rundfunk, 2006.
 - The Conversation. Dir. Francis Ford Coppola. Paramount, 1974.
- Reading:
 - Deleuze, Gilles. "Postscript on Societies of Control". *OCTOBER* 59, Winter 1992, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, pp. 3-7. Available at OCRA. Also widely available online." CP
 - McGrath, John E. "An Ideology of Crime." *Loving Big Brother: Performance, Privacy and Surveillance Space*. New York: Routledge, 2004. Available at OCRA.
 - Agre, Phillip E. "Surveillance and Capture: Two Models of Privacy." In Waldrip-Fruin and Montfort, Nick,
 "The New Media Reader." MIT Press, 2004. Available at OCRA. CP

Mon 9.24: Panoptic Project Critique

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Mon 10.1: Synoptic Project Workshop

- Individual meetings to discuss project ideas.
- In-class screening:
 - Ultimate Surveillance: The Basics. Gene Robertson, instructor. The Mothership, 2003.

Wed 10.3: Synoptic Surveillance

- Independent screening:
 - Rear Window. Dir. Alfred Hitchcock. Universal Studios, 1954.
- In-class screening: National Geographic: Inside 9/11 (excerpts). Written by Eldridge, Michael and Lance Hori. Towers Productions, 2005.
- Reading:
 - Lyon, David. "9/11, Synopticon, and Scopophilia: Watching and Being Watched." The New Politics of Surveillance and Visibility. Haggerty, Kevin. D. and Ricard V. Ericson, eds. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2006. CP.
 - "Sousveillance." <u>Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia</u>. 26 August, 2006. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sousveillance>.

Mon 10.8: No Class (Columbus Day)

Wed 10.10: Surveillance and Art

- Student presentation: Jeanne Jo
- In-class screening:
 - How Little We Know of Our Neighbors. Barron, Rebecca, Dir. 2005.
- Reading:
 - McGrath, John E. "Dimensions, Doubles, and Data: Producing Surveillance Space" and "Staging the Spectator." *Loving Big Brother: Performance, Privacy and Surveillance Space*. New York: Routledge, 2004. Available at OCRA.
 - Optional: Crain, Caleb. "Surveillance Society: The Mass-Observation Movement and the Meaning of Everyday Life." The New Yorker, September 11, 2006. Available at OCRA.

Mon 10.15: Synoptic Project Studio

Student presentation: Kristen Schindler

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Wed 10.17: Synoptic Project Studio

Mon 10.22: Synoptic Project Critique

Wed 10.24: Synoptic Project Critique

Mon 10.29: Group Project Workshop

• Student presentation: Ethan Currens

Wed 10.31: Surveillance as Entertainment

- Student presentation: Matt Cate on Andrea Zapp
- Independent screening:
 - Big Brother. Donohue, Terry, Dir. Excerpts TBD.
- Reading:
 - Andrejevic, Mark. "Reality TV." Rowman & Littlefield, 2003. Chapters 1 and 2
 - · Zizek, Slavoj. "Big Brother, or, the Triumph of the Gaze over the Eye." In Levin, Thomas, Ursula Frohne, Peter Weibel, Eds. "CTRL SPACE: Rhetorics of Surveillance from Bentham to Big Brother." MIT Press, 2002, pp. 224-227. Available at OCRA . CP.

Mon 11.5: Group Project Studio

Student presentation: Katharine Joo

Wed 11.7: Surveillance and Resistance

- Student presentation: Tarek Aryani
- Independent screening: Enemy of the State. Tony Scott, Dir. Touchstone Pictures, 1998.
- Reading:
 - · Gilliom, John. "Struggling with Surveillance: Resistance, Consciousness, and Identity." The New Politics of Surveillance and Visibility. Haggerty, Kevin. D. and Ricard V. Ericson, eds. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2006. Available at OCRA. CP.
 - o Critical Art Ensemble. Selections from "Electronic Civil Disobedience" (pp. 7-15, 20-32) and "Resisting the Bunker" (pp. 35-39, 48-54). Electronic Civil Disobedience. New York: Autonomedia, 1997. Available at OCRA®. CP.
 - Richardson, Joanne. "The Language of Tactical Media." Anarchitexts: Essays in Global Digital Resistance. New York: Autonomedia, 2004. Available at OCRA. CP.

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Mon 11.12: Group Project Studio

Mid-semester course evaluation: http://FreeOnlineSurveys.com

Wed 11.14: Surveillance and War Machines

- Student presentation: Michelle Snow
- Reading:
 - Dandeker, Christopher. "Surveillance and Military Transformation: Organizational Trends in Twenty-First-Century Armed Services." The New Politics of Surveillance and Visibility. Haggerty, Kevin.
 D. and Ricard V. Ericson, eds. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2006. Available at OCRA.
 - Crandall, Jordan. "Between Movement and Position: Tracking and Its Landscapes of Readiness." Ephemera, vol. 5 no. x, Dec. 2005. Available at OCRA. CP.
 - De Landa, Manuel. "War in the Age of Intelligent Machines." Zone Books, 1991. "Policing the Spectrum,"
 pp. 179 231. Available at OCRA.

Mon 11.19: Group Project Critique

Wed 11.21: No Meeting (Thanksgiving Recess)

Mon 11.26:Open Project Workshop

Wed 11.28: Surveillance and Pleasure

- Reading:
 - Mulvey, Laura. "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema." "Screen," (August 1975), vol 16, no. 3. Available at OCRA. CP.
 - Weibel, Peter. "Pleasure and the Panoptic Principle." In Levin, Thomas, Ursula Frohne, Peter Weibel, Eds. "CTRL SPACE: Rhetorics of Surveillance from Bentham to Big Brother." MIT Press, 2002, pp. 207-223. Available at OCRA. CP.
 - Burgin, Victor. "Jenni's Room: Exhibitionism and Solitude." In Weibel, Peter, "CTRL SPACE: Rhetorics Of Surveillance From Bentham To Big Brother." MIT Press, 2002, p.228-235. Available at OCRA. CP.

Mon 12.3: Open Project Studio

Wed 12.5: Open Project Studio

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Mon 12.10: Open Project Critique

Wed 12.12: Open Project Critique

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