Eastern Oregon University Course Syllabus

Number of Course:
ANTH 357

Name of Course:
Media, Self, and Society

Catalog Description:
Who are you?... In this class we will explore concepts of the self and how we get to be the way we think we are. In particular, we will consider the ways in which media (print, film, music, television, and more) have been taken to shape us. We will look at possible relations between various types of media and western academic theories of self (Enlightenment thought, Psychoanalysis, Culture and Personality Anthropology, Frankfurt School critical media analysis, Birmingham School Cultural Studies, Cognitive Anthropology, and recent work on social media, gaming). Finally, we will consider these academic theories as forms of media themselves. At the end of the term you will present a short critically-autobiographical video intended to demonstrate how your "self" has been/is shaped by media.

Credit Hours:
5

Required Texts or Suggested Materials:
Link to the EOU Bookstore: Eastern Oregon University Bookstore

Prerequisites:
None

Learning Outcomes:
Communication (C), Civic Engagement (CE), Critical Thinking (CT), Inquiry (I), and Integrated Learning (IL). Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate their familiarity with the historical development of media research in anthropology and allied social scientific disciplines (C, I)
2. apply theories of and other information coming from multiple schools of media research to their environment and their own lives. (CT, IL, CE)
3. demonstrate the ability to relay academic information in a format other than a written paper (audio-visual media) (C)

Course Requirements and Means of Assessment:
Grades will be based on end-of-section Reading Response Papers (50%), an Introductory Short Video (5%), a Critically-Autobiographical Video (30%), and class participation (15%).
Reading Response Papers (50%): Response papers are to be turned in at the end of each of the six sections of the course. The lowest grade will be dropped. These papers should primarily address the readings and in-class discussion for the section at the end of which they are due

(though making connections with material from previous sections and bringing in information from outside the class is also required). They should be two pages long, single-spaced, using 12 point type. These papers should contain "Media, Self, & Society Response Paper #" and your name in the header of the page and begin your notes in the first line. The papers should have one inch margins on all sides. (A template is provided in the Canvas "Course Information & Documents" module.) These papers should be turned in through the appropriate Canvas "Assignments" folder. No late response papers will be accepted without prior permission from the instructor. You can, and should, verify that papers were successfully submitted into Canvas. Each of the Response Papers will be graded on a 10 point scale, with tenths of point possible (9.2, 9.3, etc.). (LO1&2)

1. Introductory Short Video (5%):
    - The first week of class will include a (mobile) digital storytelling workshop that will begin to lay a foundation for the skills needed to complete the course's Final Project. The end result of this workshop will be a short video in which you will highlight your favorite media (movies, novels, songs,… whatever) and describe why you like it. These short videos will be screened in class at the end of the first week of class. (LO3)
2. FINAL PROJECT:
    - Critically-Autobiographical Video (30%): Throughout the term, you will be introduced to numerous theories regarding how different media affect, perhaps effect, particular kinds of "selves." Based on these examples, you will produce a three- to five-minute video that addresses how your "self" has been/is shaped by media. A portion of the grade for this assignment (5% of the total course grade) will be based on a Final Project Transcript and Assets List to be turned in prior to completing your video. The Final Project videos will be screened during the class Final Examination period. The remaining 25% of the course grade for this assignment will be given by me in consultation with peer evaluations that each student in the class will provide when the videos are screened. (LO1,2,&3)
3. Class participation (15%):
    - Class participation grades will be based on three criteria: 1) your part in helping to determine the course-readings for the last topical section of the course (Web 2.0/Social Networking/Gaming and more…). Each student in the course must provide reference information and an abstract for ONE relevant reading on a Wiki page that will be set up for this purpose. 2) your performance as the primary discussant for a number of the class readings during the course of the term. The primary discussant must provide a short summary of the reading under discussion, draw out key points in the piece, highlight points of connection or contradiction with other course readings, and/or present relevant outside material. 3) overall attendance and participation in classes in which you are not a designated discussant. These three categories will be given a grade of up to five points each for a total of up to 15 points. (LO1)

Grading Policies:

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89.9 = B
- 70-79.9 = C
- 60-69.9 = D
- ≤59.9 = F

General Education Category and Outcomes:
N/A

University Writing Requirement Outcomes:
N/A

Writing Center Statements:
The EOU Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU student can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU undergraduate and graduate students and are available for writing at any course level and for writing resumes, job letters, and graduate applications. For drop-in hours or to schedule in-person, synchronous online, or asynchronous online tutoring, please visit the EOU Writing Center: Writing Center – Eastern Oregon University.

Classroom Decorum:
Instruction is the most valuable function at Eastern Oregon University. To assure that all students gain full benefit of instruction, the University insists that appropriate classroom decorum be maintained. To achieve this faculty are encouraged to establish rules about such matters as: tardiness, absences, argumentation, collaboration, presence of children and guests, eating and drinking, use of electronic devices, and basic forms of conduct to minimize disruption of the educational process. Such rules established by individual faculty will be clearly and explicitly communicated to students in the course using such means as the course syllabus. You should be seated and ready to begin class by the class start time. Let me know if you are going to be late on a consistent basis, due to the late ending of a university-sanctioned activity. If you are going to miss a class, let me know as early as possible so that I can inform you about what material will be covered and whether there will be any in-class activities for which you will be responsible. Be respectful of your classmates during in-class discussion and group work. Both the professor and students should use language that is scholarly and professional. Practice expressing yourself clearly and accurately, and in an intellectual rather than personal manner. Be certain that critiques are framed in terms of others' arguments rather than toward the speakers themselves. Check with me before bringing children or guests to class. As a parent, I recognize the difficulties of balancing family, work, and scholarly life, but young children can be disruptive. Let's talk about how best to accommodate your child or children in class. Let me know ahead of time if you want to invite other family members or friends to a class session. Eating in class can also be disruptive. As such, you should have already had your breakfast before class. Come talk to me if something unique about your schedule requires you to eat in

class. Cell phones and/or other electronic devices should not be used during class. Come talk to me if some learning disability or other reason requires that you use an electronic device.
No leaving in the middle of a class for bathroom breaks, to make phone calls, or for any other reason. Class is only 50 minutes long. Plan accordingly so that you will not have to take a break during that short amount of time. I will make every effort to end class on schedule. Do not start packing up books or begin conversations with your classmates prior to my ending the class session; you and/or your classmates might miss important information about course content or upcoming assignments that is often given right at the end of class.

Academic Misconduct Policy:
Eastern Oregon University places a high value upon the integrity of its student scholars. Any student found responsible for an act of academic misconduct (including but not limited to cheating, unauthorized collaboration, fabrication, facilitation, plagiarism or tampering) may be subject to having his or her grade reduced in the course in question, being placed on probation or suspended from the University, or a combination of these.

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities Policy:
Any student who feels they may need accommodation for any type of disability must contact the Disability Services Office in Loso Hall, Room 233. Phone: 541-962-3081.

Disclaimer:
This standard syllabus provides only general information on the course. For those enrolled in the course a detailed syllabus will be provided by the Instructor at the beginning of the term. Please keep in mind that not all courses are offered every year.

Date:
February 27, 2018