

HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

COURSE: İKA 601 INTRODUCTION TO BRITISH CULTURAL STUDIES

2009-2010 Autumn

Friday: 9:00-13:00 Seminar Room

Associate Prof. Dr. Huriye Reis

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Aim: This course aims to introduce the historical and theoretical development of British cultural studies with specific emphasis on the main themes and topics of the field through analysis of the works and the views of the cultural studies theorists. It focuses on British cultural studies and aims to do cultural studies using the theories and themes introduced by the course. To this end it further studies a selective body of works and arguments of some cultural studies theorists like Raymond Williams and Stuart Hall and other theorists (Adorno and Horkheimer, Foucault, Barthes, Althusser etc.) that cultural studies uses for the analysis and examination of culture.

Texts:

A Cultural Studies Reader, Simon During, 1990.

Literary and Cultural Theory, Anthony Easthope

Tumer, Graeme. *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*. Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1990, 2000.

Giles, Judy and Tim Middleton. *Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction*. Blackwell, 1999

Baker, Chris. *Cultural Studies. Theory and Practice*. Sage Publications, 2000.

Lewis, Jeff *Cultural Studies: The Basics*. Sage Publications, 2002

Storey, John. *What is Cultural Studies: A Reader*. London: Arnold, 1996.

Milner, Andrew. *Contemporary Cultural Theory: An Introduction*. UCL Press, 1994. Chap. 2.

Hall, Stuart. Ed *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. Sage Publications, 1997

The texts and articles assigned for individual sessions.

Week I and II: What is Cultural Studies? A General Introduction

What is Culture? High Culture/Mass/Popular Culture

Texts:

Turner, "Part I: The Idea of Cultural Studies"

Turner, "The British Tradition: A Short History"

From Hall, Stuart. *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*.

From Matthew Arnold, *Culture and Anarchy*, 1869.

From F.R. Leavis, from *Mass Civilisation and Minority Culture*

From T. S. Eliot, "Notes Towards the Definition of Culture" in *Selected Prose of T.S. Eliot*. Ed. Frank Kermode, 1975.

Raymond Williams. *Culture and Society: Coleridge to Orwell*, 1958, Chapter V,

..... *The Long Revolution*, 1961. Chapter 2, "The Analysis of Culture"

Week III&IV: Representation and Ideology Culture

Texts:

Turner, "Ideology"

Studying Culture: "Representation"

Adorno and Max Horkheimer, "The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception" in During, *The Cultural Studies Reader*

Althusser, L. "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"

From Hall, Stuart. *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices?*

Althusser, L. "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"

Week V&VI: Culture: Ideology, Hegemony, Discourse

Texts:

Turner, "Texts and Contexts", "Audiences"

Hall, Stuart. "Encoding and Decoding" in Simon During. *A Cultural Studies Reader*

Williams, Raymond "Advertising: The Magic System" in During

Ien Ang, "Dallas and the Ideology of Mass Culture" in During

Barthes, from *Mythologies*, "Myth Today"

Michel Foucault, from *History of Sexuality and Discipline and Punishment*

Week VII&VIII : (No class on 27 November, Bayram Holiday) Culture: Consumption and the Media: Ideology and Beyond

Texts:

Hebdige, D. from *Subculture: The Meaning of Style*, 1979.

Lury, C. from *Consumer Culture*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 1996.

Week IX & XI: Popular Culture.

Texts:

Fiske, John, from *Reading the Popular, Chap I, II*

From Fiske, John. From *Television Culture* Routledge London ;New York 1989

From Fiske, John *Understanding Popular Culture, Chap I and II*

Certeau, Michel de. From *The Practice of Everyday Life*

Tony Bennett. From *Popular Culture: Themes and Issues*, 1981.

Week XII-XIV: (No class on 1 January 2010) Postcolonial, racial and gender issues

Turner, 2000, last chapter.

From Said, Edward. *Orientalism*

From Said, *Culture and Imperialism*

Ashcroft, B et al. from *The Empire Writes back*

Bhabha, Homi. *From Nation and Narration*

Requirements: Attendance is obligatory. Class participation is essential. Students are required to prepare their discussions in writing and present their views orally and clearly. Students will write two papers on a given topic which they will present in the class orally, and will hand in their papers soon after their oral presentation of the paper. For the final exam each student will prepare a cultural studies project applying the theory that the course covers. (To be discussed) The students may choose their topic for the project from TV programmes, films, TV series,

newspaper and magazines etc, (preferably British). Students are advised to consult the instructor for the selection of the topic and the proposed approach .

Suggestions for Student papers

On Structuralism/Poststructuralism in British Cultural Studies

On Popular Culture, Reading Fiske

A Comparative evaluation of Fiske's views on popular culture

On the theory of Representation and British Cultural Studies

Stuart Hall's Discussion of Representation

On Hall and Foucault "Representation and Power"

Consumer society and consuming culture

A Critical reading of the media and culture with reference to the texts for discussion

The theory of representation and Feminism

Assessment:

Paper I: 25 %

Paper II: 25 %

Class Participation and Contribution (short oral presentations): 25 %

Final Paper: 25 %