

US-UK MEDIA

Master in English and American Language, Literature and History Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Master year 1 24 HOURS Fall Semester 5 ECTS

Seminars (S)

Professor: John Dean (PhD, University of London)

Course description

Key Texts of Modern Mass Media and Culture Studies.

In electrically connected modern civilizations we are not at the mercy of media producers and cultural artifacts for our understanding of the world around and within us. But they pull a lot of strings. How does this happen and why?

Our focus will extend from the modern, private, US mass communications template through the use of mass media in state-owned, autocratic regimes. How does the mass media-culture relation provide an interpreted, enforced reality as done by different nations, eras, systems?

Our search will be driven by a two part, complement and contrast analysis. On the one hand a choice of key English-language artifacts from digital media, TV, print media, radio and movies. On the other, a host of essays by outstanding close readers of media and culture in the 20th and 21st centuries. Among which will be writings by Walter Benjamin, George Orwell, Raymond Williams, Newton Minnow, David Riesman, Dwight Macdonald, Marshall McLuhan, Neil Postman, Maria Ressa, Gunther Anders, Lisa French, Aimée Viga Montiel, Claudia Padovani, and others.