Thinking Media

FALL 2022

COURSES

First-Year Experience Seminar
UGST 109
1 credit

Media & Society
J 201
Core Education Social Science (>2)
4 credits

Philosophy & Popular Culture
PHIL 130
Core Education Arts & Letters (>1)
4 credits

CALENDAR

First FIG Meeting
You will get to meet your FIG classmates, FIG Assistant (FA), and Faculty before classes start!

Check your FIG page in September to find out more details.

ACADEMIC TEAM

First-Year Experience Seminar Professor
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ABOUT THIS FIG

FYE Seminar
This course aims to help you get the most out of your first term at the University of Oregon and set you up for a successful undergraduate career all while building a strong community of other students and faculty. This FIG explores the critical engagement with life and society through the lenses of popular culture and mass media.

Media and Society
Introduces the history, nature, and issues of the various media of mass communication and their effects on society. Why did media systems evolve as they did? Who determines the nature of media messages? Provides an overview of professional fields, including print and electronic news, magazine journalism, advertising, and public relations.

Philosophy and Popular Culture
The aim of this course will be to enable students to engage in the critical reflection central to the discipline of philosophy (the love of wisdom)—that which would facilitate living an examined, and hence worthy and properly human, life—about, in, and through popular culture. What is popular or mass culture? Is it something merely "manufactured" by special interests, or is it still in any way genuine culture, the product of free and spontaneous human interaction? Are the products of popular culture (movies, music, games, sports, etc.) merely sources of entertainment or distraction, or might they serve other purposes such as providing for a sense of community and identity? Do they serve merely to bypass (or even undermine) critical reflection, to inculcate particular perspectives or values into those who are exposed to or who participate in them without their conscious awareness? Might they rather, upon scrutiny, provide the basis for the kind of critical reflection commonly regarded as facilitated only by "high" culture?

NEXT STEPS

After you’re registered for your FIG, you will want to check out the Meet Your FIG page (https://fyp.uoregon.edu/fall-2022-figs). This page will have everything you need to know before the beginning of fall term, including how to email your FIG Assistant, your summer assignment, and when you will be meeting your FIG for the first time in September. In order to prepare for your coursework and be notified about important academic deadlines you will want to download the “Canvas” and “Navigate” apps to your devices. Also, be sure to visit the FYE Community page in September, which has all the resources you’ll need to achieve success in your first-year (https://fyp.uoregon.edu/community). If you have questions about anything, make sure you email your FIG Assistant – they are here to help!

ENROLLED IN A FIG AND CHANGE YOUR MIND?

Visit this link to find out the best way to make FIG changes for you: https://fyp.uoregon.edu/fig-enrollment-2022