Current Perspectives on Popular Culture (CM2032)

TIMETABLE

Practical information ⌃

Course ID

CM2032

Credits

5 EC

Instruction language

English

Themes

- Bachelor 2 - International Bachelor Communication and Media
- Bachelor 3 - International Bachelor Communication and Media

Registration procedure

IBCoM students, **Elective** and **Exchange** students via OSIRIS Case ("IBCoM Studyplan Term X").

Secretariat

Education Office ESHCC, M7-31, 010-4082482, educationoffice@eshcc.eur.nl

Course description ⌃

Content

What can superhero movies like Black Panther teach us about today's society? Or series like the Handmaid's Tale or Black Mirror? What is the cultural value of memes? And who decides what content is (allowed to be) shared via popular platforms like Instagram or Facebook? As a form of entertainment for the masses, popular culture (movies, series, music, social media, games etc.) has always played a key role in society. In this course, we approach popular culture beyond its entertainment function by paying close attention to both its content and its followers, the fans.

Often popular culture illustrates, reflects on, and helps to better understand the world we live in through representing or questioning societal changes that take place. In this seminar, we explore the interplay between popular culture, media entertainment, and fandom. We do so by examining topics ranging from meme culture to race, and gender to transnational pop culture.

Discussing different theories and popular culture topics each week, we address core questions like: Why and what ways do people engage with popular culture? How has and will popular culture help us understand societal changes?

This course should not be taken if you have already followed CM2232.

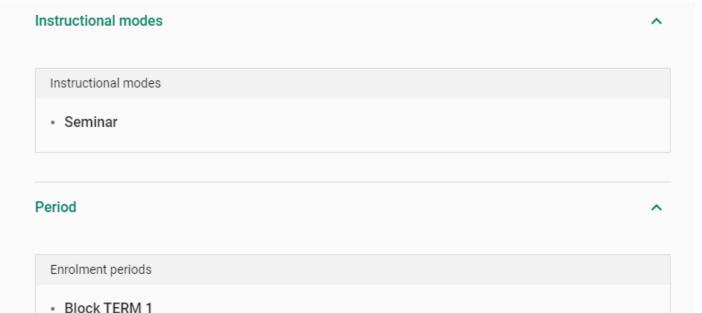Learning goals

Students have knowledge and understanding of:

- Key concepts and approaches in theory and research on current and past perspectives on popular culture and its role in society.
- The relation between popular culture and societal changes.

Students have developed skills to:

- ·Critically assess and compare existing theories on popular culture and societal changes.
- ·Analyze and reflect upon popular cultural forms using concepts and theories covered in this course.
- ·Coherently present the discussed themes verbally (and visually) as well as in written assignments.

Study materials ⌃

Required material

- Book
  Readings via Canvas and online resources

Instructional modes ⌃

Instructional modes

- Seminar

Period ⌃

Enrolment periods

- Block TERM 1
  Start courses   7 September 2020

Lecturer
• **dr. SMR Driessen**

Assessment ⌃

Toetsvorm

assignments

Extra information

Disclaimer: this information is subject to alteration. Always check the course manual for the up to date details.

Assessments (result in OSIRIS)
• **Attendance**
Test weight   0
• **Final Assignment**
Test weight   50
• **Memes Assignment**
Test weight   30
• **Presentation**
Test weight   20