

**COMMUNICATION 7000: SEMINAR IN CRITICAL THEORIES OF SPACE & PLACE
SPRING 2015**

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-3

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces you to critical theories of space and place. This course provides opportunities to read about, discuss, and apply various interdisciplinary theories of space and place. The course will also introduce scholarship in communication (particularly rhetoric) that engages with theories of space and place. At the end of this course, you should be able to: 1) speak intelligibly about core concepts, issues, and theories; 2) develop your own orientation toward theories of space and place; and 3) produce a final paper that develops an original argument related to space and place.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Books:

- Auge, Marc. *Non-Places: An Introduction to Supermodernity*. Translated by John Howe. 2nd edition. New York: Verso, 2009.
- Harvey, David. *Rebel Cities: From the Right to the City to the Urban Revolution*. New York: Verso, 2013.
- Massey, Doreen B. *For Space*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005.
- Soja, Edward W. *Seeking Spatial Justice*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2010.
- Solnit, Rebecca. *The Encyclopedia of Trouble and Spaciousness*. Trinity University Press, 2014.
- Tuan, Yi-Fu. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2001.

2. Electronic materials on Canvas

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

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| Reaction Papers & Reading Quizzes | 10% |
| Paper Proposal | 15% |
| Paper Draft | 20% |
| Peer Review | 15% |
| Final Paper | 40% |

ASSIGNMENTS:

Reaction Papers & Reading Quizzes (10%): Each week, you will be assigned either a reaction paper or a reading quiz about the readings for that week. For reaction papers, you will be given a prompt and the paper should be no longer than two double-spaced pages. Reaction papers are due by 11:59pm the Tuesday night before class. Quizzes will take place in class and will consist of up to four multiple choice or short answer questions about the readings.

Paper Proposal (15%): You will turn in a 5-10 page paper proposal due on **February 18th**. In this, you should introduce your topic, explain its significance, link it to relevant scholarly conversations, and offer a précis of what you plan to do for the final paper. More details will be discussed in class.

Paper Draft (20%): In order for you to get some advanced feedback on your final paper, you will turn in a draft of your final paper on **March 25th**. You will receive written feedback on your paper from me and from one student. More details will be discussed in class.

Peer Review (15%): The peer review process is at the core of academic life. You will write one peer review of one of your colleagues' paper drafts. I will grade your reviews based on the quality of your assessment of the paper. Your colleague will receive a blinded copy of your review. Peer reviews are due **April 1st**. More details will be discussed in class.

Final Paper (40%): Write a 20-25 page (double spaced) final paper that engages with theories of space and place. This can be a theoretical, critical, methodological, or applied paper. Whatever you choose, the goal of this paper is to make an original argument that offers a unique contribution to a scholarly conversation. You can work individually or in a group. We will talk more about this assignment in class. I *highly recommend* that you start working on your paper/project early in the semester and that you talk with me when you have chosen a topic. Your paper is due on **May 6th**.

You will also prepare a 7-10 minute presentation due on the final class session: **April 22nd**.

POLICIES

Grading Criteria: Every grade you receive on an assignment in this class will be determined according to the following scale:

A = Excellent. To receive an "A," your assignment must not only meet all of the requirements, but should also exceed the expectations and standards.

B = Good. A "B" is a good grade. It means you met all of the requirements of the assignment and have done a good job in meeting those requirements.

C = Unsatisfactory work

Assignments: All written assignments are due *via canvas* on the due date and should be typed, 11-12 pt. font, double spaced, and in .doc or .docx format. Failure to meet these requirements will result in lowered grades. In the event you do not turn in your assignment on the day it is due, late written assignments will receive a full letter grade reduction for every full day they are late (i.e. A to B).

Statement on Attendance: Because participation and cooperative learning are essential to the design of this course, you are expected to attend class and participate. See the Student Handbook for the university policy on absences.

Statement on Content Accommodation: All of the content, reading assignments, films, assignments, and other teaching materials have been chosen in order to achieve the pedagogical objectives of this course. Some of the writings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that conflicts with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. I will not make content accommodations in this course.

Statement on Academic Misconduct: Academic misconduct is a serious violation of your contract as a student and will be treated severely. The university policy on academic misconduct is in the student code available at [<http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>](http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html).

Statement on Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Service, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodation.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

January 14: Introduction to Course: An Overview of Space and Place

- Cresswell, Tim. "Defining Place." In *Place: A Short Introduction*, 1–14. Maldon, MA: Blackwell, 2004.
- Blair, Carole, Greg Dickinson, and Brian L. Ott. "Introduction: Rhetoric/Memory/Place." In *Places of Public Memory: The Rhetoric of Museums and Memorials*, edited by Greg Dickinson, Carole Blair, and Brian L. Ott, 1–54. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 2010.

I. Critical Theories of Space and Place

January 21: Humanist Geography

- Tuan, Yi-Fu. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2001.

January 28: Phenomenology and Sense of Place

- Relph, Edward. "Sense of Place." In *Ten Geographic Ideas That Changed the World*, edited by Susan Hanson, 205–26. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997.
- Seamon, David. "Body-Subject, Time-Space Routines, and Place-Ballets." In *The Human Experience of Space and Place*, edited by Ann Buttimer and David Seamon, 148–65. New York: St. Martin Press, 1980.
- Casey, Edward S. "How to Get from Space to Place in a Fairly Short Stretch of Time." In *Senses of Place*, edited by Steven Feld and Keith H. Basso, 13–52. Santa Fe: NM: School of American Research Press, 1996.
- Rose, Gillian. "Place and Identity: A Sense of Place." In *A Place in the World? Places, Cultures, and Globalisation*, edited by Doreen B. Massey and Pat M. Jess, 87–118. Oxford: The Open University Press, 1995.

February 4: Social Space & Spatial Practices

- Lefebvre, Henri. *The Production of Space*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 1992. *Chapters 1-2
- De Certeau, Michel. "Part III: Spatial Practices." In *The Practice of Everyday Life*, 91–130. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1984.

February 11: Rethinking Space

- Massey, Doreen B. *For Space*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005.

February 18: Non-Place

Due: paper proposal

- Auge, Marc. *Non-Places: An Introduction to Supermodernity*. Translated by John Howe. 2nd edition. New York: Verso, 2009.

February 25: Feminist Interventions

- Rose, Gillian. "Women and Everyday Spaces," In *Feminism and Geography: The Limits of Geographical Knowledge*, 17-40. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 1993.

- hooks, bell. "Homespace: A Site of Resistance." In *Yearning: Race, Gender, and Cultural Politics*, 41–49. Boston, MA: South End Press, 1990.
- hooks, bell. "Choosing the Margin as a Space of Radical Openness." In *Yearning: Race, Gender, and Cultural Politics*, 145–53. Boston, MA: South End Press, 1990.

March 4: Spatial Justice

- Soja, Edward W. *Seeking Spatial Justice*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2010.

March 11: The Right to the City

- Harvey, David. *Rebel Cities: From the Right to the City to the Urban Revolution*. New York: Verso, 2013.

March 18: *SPRING BREAK*

II. Space & Place in (Mostly) Communication Scholarship

March 25: Memory & Museums

Due: Paper Draft

- Said, Edward W. "Invention, Memory, and Place." *Critical Inquiry* 26, no. 2 (2000): 175–92.
- Zagacki, Kenneth S., and Victoria J. Gallagher. "Rhetoric and Materiality in the Museum Park at the North Carolina Museum of Art." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 95, no. 2 (2009): 171–91. doi:10.1080/00335630902842087.
- Dickinson, Greg. "Memories for Sale: Nostalgia and the Construction of Identity in Old Pasadena." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 83, no. 1 (February 1997): 1–27.
- Dickinson, Greg, Brian L. Ott, and Eric Aoki. "Spaces of Remembering and Forgetting: The Reverent Eye/I at the Plains Indian Museum." *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* 3, no. 1 (2006): 27–47.
- Blair, Carole, and Neil Michel. "Reproducing Civil Rights Tactics: The Rhetorical Performances of the Civil Rights Memorial." *RSQ: Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 30, no. 2 (2000): 31–55.

April 1: Power, Control, & Resistance

Due: Peer Review

- Shome, Raka. "Space Matters: The Power and Practice of Space." *Communication Theory* 13, no. 1 (2003): 39–56. doi:10.1111/j.1468-2885.2003.tb00281.x.
- Witteborn, Saskia. "Constructing the Forced Migrant and the Politics of Space and Place-Making." *Journal of Communication* 61, no. 6 (December 2011): 1142–60. doi:10.1111/j.1460-2466.2011.01578.x.
- Escobar, Arturo. "Culture Sits in Places: Reflections on Globalism and Subaltern Strategies of Localization." *Political Geography* 20, no. 2 (February 2001): 139–74. doi:10.1016/S0962-6298(00)00064-0.

- Endres, Danielle, and Samantha Senda-Cook. "Location Matters: The Rhetoric of Place in Protest." *Quarterly Journal of Speech* 97, no. 3 (August 2011): 257–82. doi:10.1080/00335630.2011.585167.
- Endres, Danielle, Samantha Senda-Cook, and Brian Cozen. "Not Just a Place to Park Your Car: Park(ing) as Spatial Argument." *Argumentation & Advocacy* 50, no. 3 (Winter 2014): 121–40.
- Greene, Ronald Walter, and Kevin Douglas Kuswa. "'From the Arab Spring to Athens, From Occupy Wall Street to Moscow': Regional Accents and the Rhetorical Cartography of Power." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 42, no. 3 (May 1, 2012): 271–88. doi:10.1080/02773945.2012.682846.
- Ewalt, Joshua P. "Mapping Injustice: The World Is Witness, Place-Framing, and the Politics of Viewing on Google Earth." *Communication, Culture & Critique* 4, no. 4 (December 1, 2011): 333–54. doi:10.1111/j.1753-9137.2011.01109.x.

April 8: Place & Space in Everyday Life

- Ackerman, John. "The Space for Rhetoric In Everyday Life." In *Towards a Rhetoric of Everyday Life: New Directions in Research on Writing, Text, and Discourse*, edited by Martin Nystrand and John Duffy, 84–117. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2003.
1. Dickinson, Greg, and Brian L. Ott. "Neoliberal Capitalism, Globalization, and Lines of Flight: Vectors and Velocities at the 16th Street Mall." *Cultural Studies↔ Critical Methodologies*, 2013, 1532708613503780.
 2. Aiello, Giorgia, and Greg Dickinson. "Beyond Authenticity: A Visual-Material Analysis of Locality in the Global Redesign of Starbucks Stores." *Visual Communication* 13, no. 3 (August 1, 2014): 303–21. doi:10.1177/1470357214530054.
 3. Wood, Andrew F. "Two Roads Diverge: Route 66, 'Route 66,' and the Mediation of American Ruin." *Critical Studies in Media Communication* 27, no. 1 (2010): 67–83. doi:10.1080/15295030903554375.
 4. Modesti, Sonja. "Home Sweet Home: Tattoo Parlors as Postmodern Spaces of Agency." *Western Journal of Communication* 72, no. 3 (2008): 197–212. doi:10.1080/10570310802210106.

III. Popular Writing on Space & Place

April 15: Essays on Space and Place

- Solnit, Rebecca. *The Encyclopedia of Trouble and Spaciousness*. Trinity University Press, 2014.

April 22: *In-class Paper Presentations*

May 6: *Final Papers due via email at 11:59 p.m.*