

**Hacettepe University**  
**Faculty of Letters**  
**Department of English Language and Literature**

**Title of the Course:** IED 261 (02) Introduction to Cultural Studies

**Instructor:** Assist. Prof. Dr. Aslı Değirmenci Altın

**Year and Term:** 2019-2020 Fall

**Class Hours-Day:** 09:00-11:50 Thursday

**Classroom:** B2/205

**Office Hours:** Thursday 09:00-11:50

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**I. Aim of the Course:** The course aims to present students an overview of the historical and theoretical development of Cultural Studies up to the present with specific emphasis on key concepts and issues of the field through introduction of the works and the views of prominent British and non-British theorists. For the illustration of the methodology, strategy and approach that are used in “doing cultural studies,” some selected examples addressing the main themes and topics in British Cultural Studies will be studied and discussed.

**II. Course Outline:**

**Week 1 (Oct 10):** General Introduction

**Week 2 (Oct 17):** General Introduction to the key concepts, definition, and theorists of cultural studies  
What is cultural studies? Birmingham Center for Contemporary Cultural Studies (CCCS).

**Reading Material:**

During, Simon, ed. Introduction. *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

Turner, Graeme. “The Idea of Cultural Studies.” *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*.

**Week 3 & 4 (Oct 24 & Oct 31):** High/ Low/ Mass/ Popular Culture

**Reading Material:**

From Arnold, Matthew. “Sweetness and Light.” *Culture and Anarchy*.

“History of the High/Low Culture Debate”

Storey, John. “What is Popular Culture?” *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*.

Adorno, Theodore and Max Horkheimer. “The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Depiction.”  
*The Cultural Studies Reader*.

**Week 5 (Nov 7):** Culture and Representation, Ferdinand de Saussure, Roland Barthes

**Reading Material:**

Barthes, Roland. “Myth Today.” *Mythologies*.

Giles, J. and Tim Middleton. “Representation” in *Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction*, 1999.

Hall, Stuart. “Introduction” and “The Work of Representation.” *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. (until page 44)

**Week 6 (Nov 14):** Representation continued, Cultural Capital

**Reading Material:**

Bourdieu, Pierre. “The Forms of Capital.”

**Week 7 (Nov 21): MIDTERM I**

**Week 8 (Nov 28):** Culture, Ideology and Hegemony

**Reading Material:**

Althusser, Louis. “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses” in *Critical Theory since Plato*. Eds. Hazard Adams and Leroy Searle.

Walton, David. “How to Dominate the Masses without Resorting to Inquisition: Antonio Gramsci and Hegemony Theory” in *Introducing Cultural Studies: Learning Through Practice*.

**Week 9 & 10 (Dec 5 & Dec 12):** Discourse, Power, Knowledge

**Reading Material:**

Hall, Stuart. "Introduction" and "The Work of Representation." *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. (page 44- 74)

Foucault, Michel. "Space, Power and Knowledge." *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

Foucault, Michel. "Truth and Power." *Critical Theory since Plato*.

**Week 11 (Dec 19): MIDTERM II**

**Week 12 & 13 (Dec 26 & Jan 2):** Postcolonial/ Racial Issues

**Reading Material:**

Said, Edward. Introduction. *Orientalism*.

Bhabha, Homi. "Of Mimicry and Man." *The Location of Culture*.

Memmi, Albert. "Mythical Portrait of the Colonised." *The Coloniser and the Colonised*.

Fanon, Franz. "The Fact of Blackness." *Black Skin, White Masks*.

**Week 14 (Jan 9):** Feminism and Gender Representations

**Reading Material:**

Agger, Ben. "Feminist Cultural Studies." *Cultural Studies as Critical Theory*.

Butler, Judith. "Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire" *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

**III. Course Book:** There will be a course pack which the instructor will provide.

**IV. Method of Instruction:** This course will be conducted through lecturing and discussion of the assigned material.

**V. Course Requirements:** The students are expected to come to the class having read the assigned material. Class participation is essential, and will have a serious weight in the overall evaluation of your performance. Since the course is designed to be an interactive one, attendance is obligatory. More than 11 (eleven) hours of absence will result in F1.

**VI. Assessment:** There will be two midterms and a final. In the grading of the final mark, up to 25 % of the total grade will be taken off for grammatical mistakes. Also note that students who get less than 50/100 in the final exam will automatically fail the course no matter how high their midterm results are. The evaluation will be as follows:

**25 % Midterm Examination I**

**20 % Midterm Examination II**

**5 % Class Participation**

**50 % Final**