

Hacettepe University  
Faculty of Letters  
Department of English Language and Literature

## SYLLABUS

Title of the Course: IKA 601 Introduction to British Cultural Studies

Course Credits: 4 (national), 8 ECTS

Course Status: Required

Semester: Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Sinan AKILLI

Office Hours: To be announced.

Campus Phone: 297 8475 – Ext. 133

Email Address: [sinanakilli@gmail.com](mailto:sinanakilli@gmail.com)

Class Schedule: Wed. 09:00-13:00 – Seminar Room

### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION (Aim and Content):

The course aims to introduce the historical and theoretical development of British Cultural Studies up to the present with specific emphasis on the main themes and topics of the field through analysis of the works and the views of prominent British and non-British theorists, as well as the current debates about and trends in Cultural Studies in general and British Cultural Studies in particular. 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 I-II (Oct. 3, Oct. 10) General Introduction:** What is Culture, High/Mass/Popular Culture? What is Cultural Studies/British Cultural Studies? A Short History of Cultural Studies in Turkey.

Turner, G. “The Idea of Cultural Studies” in *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*, 2002.

During, S. “Introduction” in *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Ed. Simon During, 1999.

Turner, G. “The British Tradition: A Short History” in *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*, 2002.

Hall, S. “The Emergence of Cultural Studies and the Crisis of the Humanities.”

*October*, Vol. 53, The Humanities as Social Technology (Summer, 1990): pp. 11-23.

Arnold, M. From “Introduction” and “Sweetness and Light” in *Culture and Anarchy*, 1869.

T.S. Eliot, “The Three Senses of Culture” in *Christianity and Culture: The Idea of a Christian Society and Notes towards the Definition of Culture*, 1960.

Williams, R. “The Analysis of Culture” in *The Long Revolution*, 1961.

Umunç, H. “Instituting British Cultural Studies in Turkey: Paradigms and Pragmatics.”

*Journal of English Literature and British Culture* 5 (1996): 123-131.

Raw, L. “The Practice of Cultural Studies in the Turkish Republic.” *Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies* 26 (2004): 111-127.

### Week III (Oct.17) Culture, Ideology, and Hegemony

Turner, G. “Ideology” in *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*, 2002.

Adorno and Horkheimer, “The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception” in During, *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

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

Gramsci, A. “Culture and Ideological Hegemony” in *Prison Notebooks*.

Williams, R. "Marxism and Culture" in *Culture and Society*, 1958.  
Williams, R. "Chapter III: Cultural Theory" in *Marxism and Literature*, 1977.

**Week IV (Oct. 24) Official Holiday, no class**

**Week V (Oct. 31) Culture and Representation**

Giles, J. and Tim Middleton. "Representation." in *Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction*, 1999.  
Hall, S. "Introduction" and "The Work of Representation" in *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*.  
Hall, S. "Encoding and Decoding" in During, *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

**Week VI-VII (Nov. 7, Nov. 14) Discourse, Power, Knowledge**

Turner, G. "Texts and Contexts," "Audiences" in *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*, 2002.  
Barthes, R. "Myth Today" in *Mythologies*.  
Foucault, M. "Space, Power and Knowledge" in During, *The Cultural Studies Reader*.  
Foucault, M. "Truth and Power" in *Critical Theory since Plato*. Eds. Hazard Adams and Leroy Searle.  
Williams, R. "Advertising: The Magic System" in During, *The Cultural Studies Reader*.

**Week VIII-IX (Nov. 21, Nov. 28) Popular Culture, Subculture**

Dentith, S. "Bakhtin's Carnival" in *Bakhtinian Thought: An Introductory Reader*, 1995.  
Fiske, J. From *Reading the Popular*. Chapters I, II.  
Certeau, M. "Part I: A Very Ordinary Culture" in *The Practice of Everyday Life*, 1984.  
Hebdige, D. Chapters 5-9. in *Subculture: The Meaning of Style*.  
Clarke, J. et al. "Subcultures, cultures and class" in *Resistance through Rituals: Youth Subcultures in Postwar Britain*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2006.  
Willis, P. "The Cultural Meaning of Drug Use" in *Resistance through Rituals: Youth Subcultures in Postwar Britain*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2006.

**Week X-XI (Dec. 5, Dec. 12) Class, Gender, Race-Ethnicity**

Cook, J. "Class, Taste and Space" in *Cultural Studies and the Working Class*. Ed. Sally R. Munt, 2000.  
Butler, J. "Subjects of Sex/Gender/Desire" in *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*, 1999.  
Fanon, F. "The Fact of Blackness" in *Black Skin, White Masks*, 1952.  
Banks, M. "Ethnicity and Race in Britain," and "Ethnicity and Nationalism" in *Ethnicity: Anthropological Constructions*, 1996.

**Week XII-XIII (Dec. 19, Dec. 26) Postcolonial Studies**

Childs, P. and P. Williams. "Introduction: Points of Departure." in *An Introduction to Post-Colonial Theory*, 1997.  
Ashcroft, B. et al. eds, "General Introduction" in *The Post-colonial Studies Reader*.  
Ashcroft, B. et al. From *The Empire Writes Back*, 1989.  
Bhabha, H. ed. Chapters 1, 2, and 16. *Nation and Narration*.  
Bhabha, H. From the *Location of Culture*.  
Fanon, F. "On National Culture" in the *Wretched of the Earth*, 1961.  
Said, E. From *Orientalism*.  
Said, E. From *Culture and Imperialism*.

## **Week XIV (Jan. 2) Current debates/trends in (British) Cultural Studies**

Cyberculture/Digital Culture/Convergence Culture

Post-Saidian Turn in Postcolonial Studies

New paradigms in East/West Encounters

Ecological Imperialism

III. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Lectures, readings, class discussions, student presentations and in-class work.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT CONDUCT: Class attendance is obligatory and failure to attend more than two sessions (8 hours) will result in an F1. As this class will combine lectures, discussion and other in-class work, students are expected both to attend every session and to take an active part in class—joining in discussions and raising questions. Questions, discussion, and disagreement are all encouraged in this class.

Likewise, academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes all forms of plagiarism, failing to appropriately represent and document sources, fabricating information or citations etc.

V. ASSESSMENT: Each student will prepare two response papers (10 % each), two research papers (20 % each), all of which will be first orally presented in class and the submitted at the beginning of the next class meeting, as well as a final paper (20 %) which will be a cultural studies project applying the theory that the course covers on relevant texts. Class participation and contribution (excluding oral presentations of papers) will make up 20 % of the end-of-term grade.

The topics and due dates for all papers will be assigned by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Response papers will be short essays (at least 6 pages long or 1500 words), and research papers, in addition to descriptive parts, should display critical and interpretive arguments about the assigned theories/texts. All papers must be written in compliance with MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. and submitted in hard copy form on or before the due date.

VI. REQUIRED READING: In addition to the reading list given under “Course Outline,” students may be asked to read some other texts and articles for individual class meetings.