



Advertising and Pop Culture

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an exploration of advertising and popular culture (and advertising as popular culture). Students will explore advertising from many different perspectives, how it is attached by pop culture and how it is affecting pop culture and our everyday lives.

The goal of this course is to provide:

- Define and discuss the elements of popular culture
- Understand the symbiotic relationship between marketing communication and popular culture
- Analyze various forms of popular culture and critically examine the social impact of marketing communication

READING MATERIAL

Arthur A. Berger (2015), 5th Edition. *Ads, Fads, and Consumer Culture*, Rowman & Littlefield

* Additional readings will be provided to students prior to the lectures

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are responsible for all reading assignments, handouts, and lecture materials. Students who miss class are expected to make arrangements with fellow students for lecture material.

Exam	30%
Group Project	30%
Pop Journal	30%
Participation	10%

* A grade of 60 or above is considered as a passing grade.

Group Project (30%)

The instructor will provide a list of topics and you can choose from this list, or select your own, although it has to be approved by the instructor. Within this topic, the group will choose a case study that will examine the context, elements and aspects of a specific segment of popular culture (i.e. pop music, political communication, film genre, TV program, artist, etc.). You will also examine this case study with a popular culture lens such as representation, rhetoric, metaphors, or portrayals. The guidelines on format and presentation will be provided in a separate handout. Selected groups will give a presentation of their findings in front of the class.

Pop journal Assignment (30%)

We are inundated with pop culture by way of advertising every day. From traditional modes such as television, to new media format such as Instagram – we act as both recipient and instigator of advertising's pop culture messages. Your assignment is to document and critically analyze forms of marketing communication that you find interesting. As you go about your day remain aware of the advertising messages that surround you; when you come in contact with a message that you find exceptionally effective (or ineffective). Use the format below to document and analyze it. The minimum number of journal entries in 15 pages.

Sample Journal Entry

Documentation of Advertising Message	Critical Analysis of Advertising Message
<p>Use this space to visually document the advertising message. You may use any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing • Color Photocopy • Cut & Paste Actual Ad 	<p>Answer the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the intended audience of the message? • What elements of the message make it an effective (or ineffective) form of persuasion? • How does the message utilize and/or influence popular culture?

COURSE SCHEDULE

* This schedule may be revised, if needed. Changes to the schedule will be announced in class.

WEEK I

6/27 Mon	What is Advertising and Popular Culture I
6/28 Tue	What is Advertising and Popular Culture II
6/29 Wed	How Advertising Works: Theory & Practice I
6/30 Thu	How Advertising Works: Theory & Practice II

WEEK II

7/04 Mon	Movie & Advertising
7/05 Tue	Music & Advertising
7/06 Wed	Sports & Advertising
7/07 Thu	Social Class and Race in Advertising

WEEK III

7/11 Mon	Advertising: Codes of Gender
7/12 Tue	Generational Advertising
7/13 Wed	Pop Culture and Advertising in America
7/14 Thu	Pop Culture and Advertising in Asia
7/15 Fri	Pop Culture and Advertising in Europe

WEEK IV

7/18 Mon	The Future of Advertising
7/19 Tue	Final Exam