



## MEDIA AND SOCIETY

Class Location: FH 208  
Class meeting times: Tuesdays 6-8:45 PM

Professor: Roslyn Schoen, PhD  
Office: HH 204B  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 AM-12:30 PM,  
and by appointment  
Contact me: [roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu](mailto:roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu)

**Course description:** Examine the interactions of culture and the media with a focus on representations of race, class, gender, and sexuality. Evaluate contemporary mass media to explore the unique relationship between media content, the industry that creates it, and audiences whose interpretations and demands constitute its market.

**Course objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Apply cultural studies research to issues of gender, race, class, and sexuality in media images.
2. Analyze media and mass communication from a gendered perspective.
3. Evaluate the complexity and fluidity of social identities, particularly with respect to the intersections of class, ethnicity, gender, and nationality.
4. Understand how cultural differences and identities found in categories such as age, race, and sexuality are produced and perpetuated through a variety of social, cultural, and disciplinary discourses.
5. Be aware of the causes and effects of structured inequalities and prejudicial exclusion rooted in race, class, and gender.
6. Recognize bias and discrimination as they relate to the exercise and distribution of material and cultural power and privilege.

**Mode of instruction and course access:** This course meets face-to-face on Tuesday evenings between August 27 and December 10, 2019. Supplemental materials and grades will be made available online through the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>].

### Contacting your professor:

The best way to contact me is through email ([roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu](mailto:roslyn.schoen@tamuct.edu)). I check email every day during the week and often on the weekends as well. I do not respond to email after 7 PM; if you email in the middle of the night, please look for my response the following day. I am on campus during my office hours should you need to talk to me in person. Also, the best way to refer to your professor in email or in person is as "Professor Schoen" or "Dr. Schoen," pronounced *SHANE*.

## **WARRIOR SHIELD**

### **Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas**

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login)

[<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

### **Required reading materials:**

Dines, G., & Humez, J. M. (2017). *Gender, race and class in media: A critical reader*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Other required reading materials listed on the syllabus will be available through the course E-Reserve page. E-Res Password: *culture*

### **Course requirements:**

Below is a description of the four main activities for this course.

1. **Attendance and Participation:** Beginning the second day of class, your instructor will take attendance via sign-in sheet. Excluding exam days, **each day of class will be worth 7 attendance points. Ten additional attendance points will be earned by presenting a media-related news item** on one day during the semester. In order to receive full points, students must arrive one time and remain until the class is excused. All students should complete the readings before coming to class and sign the attendance sheet upon arriving. Total points possible = 100.
2. **Assignments:** There will be four 50-point assignments to complete throughout the semester. Instructions for each assignment will be posted to Canvas and discussed in class. Due dates for assignments are in the class schedule below. In total, these assignments are worth 40% of your overall grade for the course.
3. **Midterm Exam:** There will be one midterm exam that covers readings, discussion, films, and any other supplemental material we engaged with during the first half of the semester. The format will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, true/false, and short essay questions. The midterm is worth 100 points, which is 20% of your grade.
4. **Final Exam:** There will be one final exam that covers readings, discussion, films, and any other supplemental material we engaged with during the second half of the semester. The format will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, true/false, and short essay questions. The final is worth 100 points, which is 20% of your grade.



**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Numbered chapters are from your course reader *Gender, Race, & Class in Media*.

<b>Session &amp; Date</b>		
#1 Aug. 27	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Buy textbook(s) -- <b>Orientation to the Course</b>
#2 Sept. 3	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part I: Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 -- <b>Introduction to Cultural Studies</b>
#3 Sept. 10	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part I: Chapters 5, 6, 7, 9 Assignment 1 due Sept 15 <b>A Cultural Studies Approach to Media: Theory</b>
#4 Sept 17	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part II: Introduction and Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13 -- <b>Representations of Gender, Race, and Class: Part 1</b>
#5 Sept. 24	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part II: Chapters 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 Assignment 2 due Sept 29 <b>Representations of Gender, Race, and Class: Part 2</b>
#6 Oct. 1	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part III: Introduction and Chapters 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26 -- <b>Reading Media Texts Critically</b>
#7 Oct. 8	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part IV: Chapters 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34 Begin exam prep <b>Advertising and Consumer Culture</b>
#8 Oct. 15	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Study Parts I–IV – <b>*MIDTERM EXAM*</b>
#9 Oct. 22	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part V: Introduction and Chapters 36, 37, 38, 39 -- <b>Representing Sexualities: Part 1</b>
#10 Oct. 29	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part V: Chapters 40, 41, 42, 43 Assignment 3 due Nov 4 <b>Representing Sexualities: Part 2</b>
#11 Nov. 5	PREPARATION: ASSIGNMENTS: TOPICS:	Read Part VI: Chapters 44, 45, 46, 47 -- <b>Growing Up with Contemporary Media: Part 1</b>

#12 Nov. 12	PREPARATION: Read Part VI: Chapters 48, 49, 50, 51 ASSIGNMENTS: -- TOPICS: <b>Growing Up with Contemporary Media: Part 2</b>
#13 Nov. 19	PREPARATION: Read Part VII: Introduction and Chapters 52, 56, 58, 59 ASSIGNMENTS: Assignment 4 due Nov 24 TOPICS: <b>Still Watching Television in the Digital Age</b>
#14 Nov. 26	PREPARATION: Read Part VIII: Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63 ASSIGNMENTS: -- TOPICS: <b>Social Media, Virtual Community, and Fandom: Part I</b>
#15 Dec. 3	PREPARATION: Read Part VIII: Chapters 65, 66, 67, 68 ASSIGNMENTS: Begin exam prep TOPICS: <b>Social Media, Virtual Community, and Fandom: Part II</b>
#16 Dec. 10	PREPARATION: Study Parts V–VIII ASSIGNMENTS: -- TOPICS: <b>*FINAL EXAM*</b>

**Other university dates and deadlines:**

September 11, 2019	Deadline to drop 16-week Classes with No Record
November 8, 2019	Deadline to Drop 16-Week Classes with a Quit (Q) or Withdraw (W)
November 28-29, 2019	Thanksgiving (University Closed)
December 13, 2019	Fall Commencement Ceremony
December 17, 2019	Final grades submitted

Source: [TAMUCT Academic Calendar](#)

**COURSE PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**

**Late papers/assignments** will receive a deduction of one letter grade per day it is late. Please pay attention to deadlines and work ahead to minimize the risk that your assignment will be late.

A student may only make up **an exam** if there is illness, injury, or another *documented* excuse. If a student misses an exam due to illness, injury, something out of their control they must 1. Provide documentation (doctor’s note, police report, etc), 2. Notify Dr. Schoen as soon as possible of intent to take a make-up exam, and 3. Prepare to take the make-up exam within 1 week of the excused absence. Students who miss an exam with no excused absence will receive a zero for that exam. If the student foresees that s/he will be unable to complete the course, then s/he should drop the course or accept the posted grade.

## **Plagiarism policy**

Plagiarism on any assignment will not be tolerated. Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism. If you are confused, please ask me. If an assignment is found to be plagiarized, the student will receive a zero for that assignment and a referral to Student Affairs. If the plagiarism is egregious, the student will receive an F for the course. See also: section below on Academic Integrity.

## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES**

### **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop\_Request\_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **Academic Integrity**

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=0].

### **Academic Accommodations**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

### **Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students**

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

### **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111. **Tutor.com tutoring will not offer writing support beginning August 1, 2019, but will continue to offer other tutoring support.**

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at [deadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu](mailto:deadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **University Writing Center**

Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This semester, the UWC is also offering online only hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

### **University Library**

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](http://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

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