

LIBS 5300-115 Interdisciplinarity
Spring 2022
First 8 Week, Asynchronous Online

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Office Hours

Available by appointment. Appointments can be made over email at allen.redmon@tamuct.edu. I will not use Canvas email. Neither will I check my office phone as a first point of contact.

Mode of Instruction and Course Access

This course is a 100% online course. Nearly all interactions will occur in the A&M- Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>]. We will have one planned interaction over WebEx where I will meet with each student for thirty minutes during the afternoon of 3 or 4 March. We will schedule these meetings during the seventh week of our class. These meetings are a required part of the class. All other interactions will occur asynchronously as described in Canvas.

Please do keep in mind that this is not a self-paced class. Our assignments have firm due dates. Please complete all assignments on time and in full. Those who fail to meet a deadline will forfeit credit for that assignment.

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953. Alert the technician that you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

For log-in problems, contact Help Desk Central, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: helpdesk@tamu.edu; (254) 519-5466; [Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Contact me for issues related to course content and requirements.

Student-Instructor Interaction

Our course will have two primary means of communication. The less formal means for communication will be over email. If you need to contact me, please write to my TAMUCT email: (allen.redmon@tamuct.edu). You can expect any email sent to my TAMUCT email to receive a response within 24 hours if not much sooner. I will not respond to emails sent to my Canvas email. The other type of interaction will occur through my responses to your written work. I am quick to comment on all assignments. My comments are an important part of our class as they will help you see ways to improve and expand your ideas. Please be sure to read every comment.

Instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time

WARRIOR SHIELD

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

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that allows Texas A&M University-Central Texas 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.

Course Overview and Description

This course allows students to assess and to discuss a topic from a variety of perspectives. The goal of this discussion is less to make sense of the topic we will examine, in this case film as a cultural expression, and more about coming to terms with interdisciplinary efforts. In other words, this course intends to help you see the ways interdisciplinary scholars work across disciplines and to consider some of the advantages for working in a similar manner.

Course Objectives

This course will provide students the opportunity to...

- Explore a topic from a variety of disciplinary perspectives
- Recognize the competing priorities of individual academic disciplines
- Test the value of cross disciplinary discussions thinking in terms of trans-, multi-, or interdisciplinary strategies.
- Assemble a diverse group set of texts around a single argument that defends the value of interdisciplinary research

Required Readings and Textbooks

Our course will most primarily assign seven monographs:

- Anderson, Steve F. *Technologies of History: Visual Media and the Eccentricity of the Past* (Dartmouth College Press, 2011).
- Benson-Allott, Caetlin. *The Stuff of Spectatorship: Material Cultures of Film and Television* (University of California Press, 2021).
- Klein, Amana Ann. *American Film Cycles: Reframing Genres, Screening Social Problems, & Defining Subgenres* (University of Texas Press, 2011).
- Lobato, Ramon. *Netflix Nations: The Geography of Digital Distribution* (New York University Press, 2019).
- Lyden, John C. *Film as Religion: Myths, Morals, and Rituals* (New York University Press, 2003).
- McCarthy, Anna. *The Citizen Machine: Governing by Television in 1950s America* (New York University Press, 2013).
- Skvirsky, Salomé Aguilera. *The Process Genre: Cinema and the Aesthetic of Labor* (Duke University Press, 2020).

Students are free to introduce additional readings when doing so further develops specific arguments, but written assignments must consider the assigned readings. The assignment directions in Canvas will specify which books go with each assignment.

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Course Assignments

This is primarily a readings course, which means a careful reading of the assigned texts constitutes the bulk of the work in this class. You will want to go beyond just reading the words in each book. You will also want to evaluate the structure of the book and the way that structure validates or champions interdisciplinary research. Our three written reflections will focus on these more global aspects as much as the specific arguments in the pages of our assigned reading. In truth, we will be most interested in how the ideas in our assigned readings develop across readings rather than in any one text. You can find specific guidelines for our written assignments in the modules posted in Canvas. The due date for each assignment is in the below course calendar.

Grade Rubric

We will have three written assignments:

Reflection One...25%

Reflection Two...25%

Reflection Three...50%

All three reflections will be graded on a point scale, 0-100. Assignment specifics are available in Canvas. To earn an A in the course, students will need to earn 90% of all available points. Those who earn between 80-89% of all available points will earn a B. Those who earn between 70-79% of all available points will earn a C. Those who earn between 60-69% of all available points will earn a D. Those who earn below 60% of all available points will earn an F.

Students must complete all three reflection assignments to earn a B or better for the semester.

Course Calendar

1/18: Introductions and early course work (see discussion board)

1/23: Complete reading of Klein's book

1/28: Complete reading of McCarthy's book

1/31: Submit First Reflection

2/5: Complete reading of Anderson's book

2/10: Complete reading Lobato's book

2/15: Complete reading of Lyden's book

2/21: Submit Second Reflection

2/26: Complete reading of Skvirsky's book

3/3: Complete reading of Benson-Alcott's book

3/7: Submit Third Reflection draft and schedule virtual conference (for afternoon 3/7 or 3/8)

3/11: Submit Third Reflection

Any changes to this schedule will be sent as an announcement through Canvas. I do not expect us to have any changes.

Important University Dates

18 January...spring classes begin

20 January...deadline for add, drop, and late registration for spring classes

25 January...deadline to drop first 8-week classes with no record

25 February...deadline to drop first 8-week classes with a Q or W

11 March...classes end for first 8-week classes

25 March...deadline for spring graduation application for ceremony participation

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Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web. Faculty cannot drop students. Once you submit the completed 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 should continue to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absences. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you may receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

In some circumstances, students will face life-altering circumstances *after* the deadline to drop a course. When this happens, students may request an incomplete. Such a request may be granted if the student is in good standing and has only the last remaining assignment to complete before satisfying the requirements of the course. Students who face life-altering circumstances before the published drop dates, or who simply fall behind in their coursework, should consider dropping the course rather than requesting an incomplete.

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, working with others in an unauthorized manner, 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 referred 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>].

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].

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu.

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](#) [<https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT>] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an

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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 except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Spring 2022 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

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 making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

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. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. 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

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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].

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 Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity 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/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.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.

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

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Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](#) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal: Username (Your MyCT email address) and Password (Your MyCT password)

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

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