

**ANG 760 COMPARATIVE CULTURAL STUDIES : ÉTUDES CULTURELLES COMPARÉES
(3 crédits)**

PRÉALABLE : aucun

Nombre limite : 15 étudiantes ou étudiants

DESCRIPTEURS :

Objectifs : To introduce students to the interdisciplinary and theoretical field of Cultural Studies from Britain and later from Australia, United States, Canada, and Europe. To read French and English theorists in their original language (Bourdieu, Foucault, de Certeau, Williams, Eagleton, Hebdige, Willis, Grossberg) and others in translation (Gramsci, Althusser, Freire). To offer practical experience in reading and comparing a variety of performances from cultural fields such as literature, film, music, journalism, street performance, body art, architecture, television and photography.

Contenu : Since the field of Cultural Studies rejects the predominance of one methodological approach, we will explore a "toolkit of theory" to analyze cultural production and reception, rooted in various disciplines such as feminism, anthropology, Marxism, communications, discourse analysis, sociology, and cultural geography. Emphasis will be on intermedial comparisons and the role of ideology, hegemony, and resistance in cultural production and reception, whether in popular or high culture.

AUTRES INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES

Pour vérifier si cette activité pédagogique est offerte à la présente session, consulter l'horaire sur le site du Département des arts, langues et littératures à la rubrique Étudiants actuels <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/dall/etudiants-actuels/>

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Objectives

The objectives are as follows :

- To understand theories of cultural reproduction and cultural resistance.
- To understand different levels and forms of cultural expression.
- To be able to interpret expressions of everyday culture, mass culture, youth culture, counter-culture, and global culture in context.
- To understand Cultural Studies as a field of study and how Comparative Cultural Studies is a specialization within that field.
- To recognize leading theories and theorists in Canadian and international contexts.

Content

Introduction to varied critical approaches to culture and the politics of culture : for example, identifying hegemonic and emergent culture (Gramsci, Williams), encoding and decoding cultural performances (Hall, Fiske, Grossberg), analyzing subculture (Hebdige, Giroux); identifying the making of working-class and other minority cultures (Gramsci, Valaskakis), cultural distinction (Bourdieu, Spivak); understanding cultural agency (Buthler, de Certeau, Baudrillard, Hall) and cultural reproduction (Althusser, Foucault, Adorno, McLuhan).

Procedure

The readings in Cultural Studies theory will be international, in English and in French, as well as national to trace the adaptation of Cultural Studies to North America, Canada, and Quebec. While the theoretical sources will be international and national, students will be asked to apply these theories to cultural performances from Canada or Quebec or from indigenous or diasporic communities within Canada. There is also a possibility to compare performances across cultures, for example, to compare Canadian performances of culture in film or literature to performances from other cultures or other nations.

Evaluation

For assignments students will be asked to; a) prepare two presentations giving a summary and commentary on materials in the course reading list; b) discuss literary, filmic, and other cultural works on a regular basis; c) write a mid-term theoretical paper of 4-5 pages, and; d) write a final paper on comparative cultural analysis of Canadian works or performances of 8-10 pages.

Presentation 1	15 %
Presentation 2	15 %
Midterm paper	20 %
Participation	10 %

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Final Paper

40 %

Texts

The Cultural Studies Reader, 3rd Edition, Ed. Simon During.

Selected films, music performances, web lectures, PDF articles and blogs, etc., which will be posted on Moodle.