L A K E H E A D  U N I V E R S I T Y  O R I L L I A

2009 COURSE OUTLINE

SOCI 3811 FAO: Surveillance and Society

Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2:30pm    Instructor: Prof. K. Marcellus
Location: HP 0007                     Office Location: HP0012
                              Office Hours: Wed. 2:30-4:30;
                                           Thurs 10-11
                              Email: kcmarcel@lakeheadu.ca

Course Overview:

This course will introduce students to the social study of surveillance by examining some of the ways – common and uncommon – in which surveillance is done. We will discuss practices and meanings of surveillance and techniques of resistance to surveillance, all with a view to determining how surveillance in its many forms has effects on social life. Some common groups of concepts will be addressed, such as privacy, security, risk and networked systems of surveillance. The key emphasis in this course is individual project-based inquiry into an area of Surveillance and Society chosen by each student.

Required Materials:

All readings are available online via an online journal article search, which is accessible through the library website with your student ID, or via a web search using your preferred search engine (these are noted in the schedule below). Students are responsible for acquiring these readings for their own use.

WebCT information will include a copy of this course outline, detailed expectations for assignments, and online discussion boards. Students must familiarize themselves with WebCT in order to effectively participate in the course and to submit assignments. The slides from our meetings will also be posted on WebCT.

Evaluation Scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Proposal</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Due 25 Sept.; submit via WebCT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>During last four weeks of the term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Due <em>two weeks after</em> Presentation; submit via WebCT</td>
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</table>
**Important Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>WHAT'S HAPPENING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 Sept.</td>
<td>Major Project Proposal Due by 4:00pm; submit on WebCT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06 Nov.</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses without academic penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Nov. -1 Dec.</td>
<td>Student Seminar Presentation Days; all students must attend and provide peer-evaluations</td>
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**Course Schedule:**

10 Sept.: Welcome and Course Overview

No assigned reading.

15 Sept.: Introduction: Issues in the Sociological Study of Surveillance


17 Sept.: Theoretical Influences on Contemporary Surveillance Studies


22 Sept.: Everyday Surveillance


24 Sept.: Surveillance and the City


29 Sept. & 1 Oct.: Work and Surveillance


6 & 8 Oct.: Health Surveillance


13 & 15 Oct: Gender and Surveillance


20 Oct: Current Issues in Surveillance: The Vancouver 2010 Olympics


22 Oct. & 27 Oct.: National Identity Cards


29 Oct.: Resisting Surveillance


Also explore the Surveillance Camera Players’ website: http://www.notbored.org/the-scp.html

3 & 5 Nov.: Student Seminar Presentations

10 & 12 Nov.: Student Seminar Presentations

17 & 19 Nov.: Student Seminar Presentations

24 & 26 Nov.: Student Seminar Presentations

1 Dec.: Student Seminar Presentations; course wrap-up

More Information About…

Participation: In-class – stories of interest, contributing to discussions, participating in peer evaluations of seminars; Online – items of interest, questions emailed to instructor for discussion in class or online, WebCT engagement with course materials and other course participants

Project: may be on any substantive topic related to both surveillance and society you choose; be aware of the requirements for the various parts of the project; approval from the instructor is recommended

Proposal: 6-8 pages; should identify your topic and thesis statement as well as outlining key issues that you have identified in your research; should include a rough outline of how you plan to organize your presentation and paper; preliminary bibliography should include at least 6 scholarly sources (including relevant course materials)

Presentation: approximately 25 minutes including time for questions; should cover your project in an engaging way and include questions for discussion and/or requests for feedback on specific areas of your project; will be graded by a combination of average peer-evaluation mark and instructor mark; ‘anonymized’ peer comments will be forwarded by the instructor to student presenters for consideration in final paper

Paper: 11-14 pages; should do what you set out in the Proposal and explained in the Presentation. Must address comments/suggestions from the discussion and
peer evaluations associated with your Presentation; should include a more complete bibliography than your proposal; grading template to be posted on WebCT

**Submitting Course Work via WebCT:** Upload both a .doc and a .pdf file of your assignment; ALWAYS KEEP A COPY OF YOUR WORK IN SAFE LOCATION

**Turn-Around Time:** One week for the Proposal; two days for the Presentation (including peer evaluation comments); see me during the first week of Winter term for your Paper

**Penalties for Late Assignments:** Late submissions will be penalized at 2% per day to a maximum of 10 days including weekends, and may not be returned to students on the same day as assignments submitted on time.

**Requesting a Re-evaluation of Course Work/Challenging A Grade:** You may do this after a 24-hour ‘cooling-off’ period following the release of a grade. You must provide a roughly one-page write-up outlining specifically why you would like your grade to be revisited. I reserve the right to lower the grade if, upon re-examination, this is warranted. If we are unable to resolve the dispute, students have the right to formally appeal a grade through set University guidelines, found here: [http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=116](http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=116)

**Getting Information about the Course:** Check your LakeheadU email account regularly to get information about this course (changes to the schedule, last-minute cancellations, Proposal feedback, etc.). You will also need to use this to access the course readings through the library website and to access the WebCT components of the course.

**Communicating with the Instructor:** All email to the instructor regarding this course must originate from your LU email account and should include the course number (SOCI 3811FAO) in the subject line. I do my best to respond to email within a 24-hour period (usually much faster) but will not respond to email or WebCT issues on weekends. I suggest making use of the ‘Does Anyone Know…’ discussion board on WebCT to get answers to questions from fellow course participants (and periodically from me); use the ‘Anonymous Feedback’ board to provide me with comments about the course – I will be able to see the comment but not who wrote it. Please feel free to stop by during my office hours; if you need to make an appointment at another time, email me to set something up.

**Choosing a Topic for your Project:** Should be something of interest to you, possibly with a connection to your everyday life (work, school, family, hobbies, other interests, etc.); the instructor can help you to refine the topic to a manageable scope for this Project; must be relevant to the study of Surveillance and Society.