

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

Sociology website address: <http://sociology.lakeheadu.ca/>

TO: Students in "Issues in Higher Education
and Popular Culture"
(Sociology 5115 FA)
Fall 2009

DATE: September 2009

FROM: R.W. Nelsen, Professor
Department of Sociology

SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY 5115 FA

Description

In addition to connecting the university to popular culture, some specific popular culture issues will be covered as they arise in the context of class discussions and readings. Special attention will be paid to individual career mobility and cultural (Canadian) recognition of success as well as the current transformation of popular culture into peep culture.

Some Topics We Might Cover as Part of Our Learning Agenda

What the Students Are Saying
Funding Today's Universities
Corporate Capital and the Academy
The University as Edubusiness
The Role of Administration in the University
Technocratic Management in the University
Social Control in the University
Dialogic Communication, Self Development,
and the Search for Wisdom
The University Hierarchy
The Hierarchy of Universities
The University as Bureaucracy
"The Political Correctness Debate"
Ethical/Value Neutrality and the University
"Science" as the Language of the University
Sexism in the University
Racism in the University

The Hidden Curriculum of the University
Cultural Capital and the University
Unionism and University Workers
"Academic Freedom," "University
Community," and "Collegiality"
Ideology, "liberalism," and the University
Social Change in/and the University
Government and the University
On Knowing and the University
Critical Pedagogy and the University
Technology and the University
The University and "Distance Education"
Teaching and Research in the University
Postmodernity and the University
Day-to-Day Life at the University
The University as Popular Culture

Textbooks (Available at Lakehead University)

1. Hal Niedzviecki, The Peep Diaries: How We're Learning To Love Watching Ourselves And Our Neighbors. San Francisco: City Lights Books, 2009.

Choose One or the Other of These Two:

1. James E. Cote and Anton L. Allahar, Ivory Tower Blues: A University System in Crisis. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007.
2. Tom Pocklington and Allan Tupper, No Place To Learn: Why Universities Aren't Working. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2002.

Optional:

1. Malcolm Gladwell, Outliers: The Story of Success. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2008.

On Plagiarism: *Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University regulations (see Lakehead University Calendar).*

Final Note: *You will be presented with further information concerning course requirements, assignments, evaluation procedures, and any other relevant material which we shall need to discuss as a group on the first day of class, Tuesday, September 15, 2009.*


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R.W. Nelsen.