

LIT 6934: Writing/Memory; Augmentation/Prosthetic
Fall, 2016
M 3-5
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TUR 4414
Office Hours by Appointment

Description

Early rhetoricians placed substantial value upon the idea and practice of memory. Memoria, after all, was one of the five canons of rhetoric. As writing technologies evolved, rhetoric was repeatedly adapted to account for literacy in the same ways as orality. As written and print culture became the dominant form of communication, memoria began to fall by the wayside as an emphasized element of rhetoric, some criticizing writing as technology determined to eliminate the need for memory, others praising its contributions to sustained memory. In the digital age, we find ourselves needing to engage memory more directly, albeit in a drastically different form, one that might reductively be understood as bound to augmentation.

This seminar will examine histories of memory and the relationship between writing technologies/digital technologies and memory. This seminar will consider the very idea of augmentation ranging from the prosthetic augmented body to information augmenting technologies like augmented reality applications. Encumbered in these discussions, we will address issues of identity, posthumanism, the body, digital media, circulation, delivery, telepresence, and extension.

Texts

Scholarly

- Craig, Allan B. *Understanding Augmented Reality: Concepts and Applications*. Morgan Kaufman, 2013. 978-0240824086
- Landsberg, Alison. *Prosthetic Memory: The Transformation of American Remembrance in the Age of Mass Culture*. Columbia UP, 2004. 978-0231129275
- Schmalstieg, Dieter and Tobias Hollerer. *Augmented Reality Principles and Practice*. Addison Wesley, 2016. 978-0321883575
- Smith, Marquard and Joanne Morra. *The Prosthetic Impulse: From a Posthuman Present to a Biocultural Future*. MIT Press, 2007. 978-0262693615
- Steigler, Bernard. *Technics and Time, 2: Disorientation*. Stanford UP, 2008. 978-0804730143
- Tinnell and Morey, *Augmented Reality: Perspectives across Industry, Art, and Academia*.
- Wendy Hui Kyong Chun, *Programmed Visions: Software and Memory*. MIT Press, 2013. 978-0262518512
- Wills, David. *Prosthesis*. Stanford, UP, 1995. 978-0804724609

Fiction

- Anderson, M.T. *Feed*. Candlewick, 2012. 978-0763662622
- Sterling, Bruce. *The Caryatids*. Del Ray, 2009. 978-0345460622
- Doctorow, Cory. *Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom*. Tor Books, 2003. 978-0765309532
- Gibson, William. *Spook Country*. Berkley, 2009. 978-0425226711

- Maughan, Tim. *Paintwork*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011. 978-1463570460
- Vinge, Vernor. *Rainbows End*. Tor Science Fiction, 2007. 978-0812536362

Additional

- Sterling, Bruce. Blog on *Wired*.

Reading Schedule

Reading Schedule

8/22—Course Introduction

8/29—Chung, *Programmed Visions: Software and Memory*

9/5—Labor Day; No Classes

9/12—Smith, *The Prosthetic Impulse: From a Posthuman Present to a Biocultural Future*

9/19—Maughn, *Paintwork* [Chalifour]

9/26—Schmalsteig and Hollerer. *Augmented Reality Principles and Practice* [Tisdale]

10/3—Vinge, *Rainbow's End* [Gangnes]

10/10—Allan, *Understanding Augmented Reality: Concepts and Applications*.

[Leelathawornchai]

10/17—Anderson, *Feed* [Coste]

10/24—Landsberg, *Prosthetic Memory: The Transformation of American Remembrance in the Age of Mass Culture* [Anderson]

10/31—Doctorow, *Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom* [Medina]

11/7—Gibson, *Spook Country* [Guajardo]

11/14—Willis, *Prosthesis* [Smith]

11/21—Tinnell and Morey, *Augmented Reality: Perspectives across Industry, Art, and Academia* [Crider]

11/28—Sterling, *The Caryatids* [Johnson]

12/5-- Steigler, *Technics and Time, 2: Disorientation* [Jones]

Requirements

- Class participation
- Each student will serve as discussion leader for one class meeting.
- Each student will write, design, and produce on Augmented Reality Criticism (ARC) for publication through the Department of English's Trace Innovation Initiative.
- Each student will write one seminar paper geared toward future revision for publication. Each student should meet with me individually to discuss possible paper topics/positions.

Policies

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of

Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

This class adheres to UF's policies regarding grading, which can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

Phone numbers and contact sites for university counseling services and mental health services: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>; 392-1575, University Police Department 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.