

JUS 591/691

Cultural Theory

Monday 5:40 – 8:30

Professor Torin Monahan

This graduate seminar will serve as an advanced introduction to contemporary cultural theory. Drawing upon the fields of cultural studies, anthropology, literary criticism, philosophy, and science and technology studies, it will investigate problems of modernity and the limits of our theoretical understandings of social problems. The orientation for seminar discussions and projects will be a focus on the applicability of cultural theory for engaging with the complexity of local and global conflicts and cultural differences. Seminar participants will be expected to conduct close readings of dense theoretical texts and work to connect those texts to their own research projects. Sample readings in this course will include works by Judith Butler, Gilles Deleuze & Félix Guattari, Jacques Derrida, Shoshana Felman, Charles Mills, Nikolas Rose, Slavoj Žižek, and more.