MALLS, MUSEUMS, & AMUSEMENTS!

THE PUBLIC SPHERE IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!

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INTRODUCTION

16 January  Introduction

18 January  The Diminished & Depoliticized Public Sphere?
Reading:
- J. Habermas (1989[1962]), brief excerpt from The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere.

23 January  Pleasures of the Public Sphere: Constraints & Possibilities
Reading:
- M. Ryan (1990), excerpt from “Everyday Space: Gender and the Geography of the Public,” from Women in the Public: Between Banners.

25 January  Walking Cities/Driving Cities
Reading:
• C. Hood (1993), excerpts from *722 Miles: the Building of the Subways and How They Transformed New York*

CONSUMING

**30 January** Capitalism, Class Consciousness, and Commodity Fetishism, Part 1  
Reading:  

**1 February** Capitalism, Class Consciousness, and Commodity Fetishism, Part 2  
Reading:  
• G. Cross (2000), *An All Consuming Century*, ch. 3.

**6 February** Shopping: a World Built for Women?  
Reading:  
• A. Friedberg (1993), “Passage One,” from *Window Shopping*.

**8 February** E. Chin, Title to be announced  
Reading:  

**13 February** Field trip to malls  
Reading:  

**15 February** Guest Lecture: J. Price, Title to be announced  

**19 February** Short Paper #1 due at noon

**20 February** Workshop: Small group discussion of short paper #1.

AMUSING

**22 February** Situating Amusement  
Reading:
• J. Kasson (1978) *Amusing the Million: Coney Island at the Turn of the Century*, 3-54.

27 February  The Carnivalesque
Reading:
• J. Kasson (1978) *Amusing the Million*, 57-112.

1 March  Hollywood
Reading:
• R. Sklar, *Movie-Made America*, chs. 1, 2, and 12.
Assignment: Brief written description of an alternative site of “amusement” that you will attend and write about, for all students who will not be participating in the field trip to Disneyland.

6 March  Disney Parks, 1
Reading:

8 March  Disney Parks, 2
Reading:
Supplementary Reading:
• M. Sorokin (1992), “See You in Disneyland,” from *Variations on a Theme Park*.

13–15 March  Spring Break

20 March  Disney Parks, 3
Reading:

22 March  Import/Export: Some Dynamics of Globalization
Reading:
• Raz (1999), excerpts from *Riding the Black Ship: Japan and Tokyo Disneyland*.

24 March  Field trip: Disneyland in Anaheim

27 March  Porn?
Reading:

29 March  Assignment: Short paper #2 due at the start of class.
Workshop: Small group discussions of paper #2.

ELEVATING / EDUCATING

3 April  Mass Schooling
Reading:
• D. Nasaw (1979), excerpts from Schooled to Order.

5 April  Living History, 1
Reading:
• R. Handler and E. Gabler (1997), The New History in an Old Museum, chs. 1-3

10 April  Living History, 2
Reading:
• R. Handler and E. Gabler (1997), The New History in an Old Museum, chs. 4-7

12 April  Living History, 3
Reading:

17 April  Museums and Others, 1
Reading:
• B. Kirshenblatt-Gimblatt (1998), Destination Culture, pp. 17-78.

19 April  Museums and Others, 2
Reading:
• B. Kirshenblatt-Gimblatt (1998), Destination Culture, pp. 79-129

24 April  Museums and Others, 3
Reading:
• B. Kirshenblatt-Gimblatt (1998), Destination Culture, pp. 131-177 & 259-282
REPRISE

26 April  Rethinking the Politics and Pleasures of the Public Sphere, 1
Reading:
• P. Carpignano, R. Andersen, S. Aronowitz, and W. DiFazio (1993), “Chatter in the
  Age of Electronic Reproduction: Talk Television and the ‘Public Mind,’” from B.
  Robbins, ed, The Phantom Public Sphere.
• P. Bourdieu (19xx), “Public Opinion Does Not Exist”.

1 May  Rethinking the Politics and Pleasures of the Public Sphere, 1
Reading:
• P. Bourdieu (1990[1985]), “Opinion Polls: a ‘Science’ without a Scientist,” from In
  Other Words.
• N. Fraser (1993), “Rethinking the Public Sphere: A Contribution to the Critique of
  Actually Existing Democracy,” from B. Robbins, ed. The Phantom Public Sphere.

3 May  Third short paper due at noon.

9 May at 2  Final examination, as scheduled by the registrars of the Claremont
Colleges.

Please Note the Following

1. Writing Assignments: There are three short papers required for this course. Each of
   these short papers will require that you make connections between the assigned readings
   and a field trip: one field trip to malls, one to an amusement, and one to a museum.

* The first short paper will concern malls, and the class will take a field trip to some
  malls on 13 February. We will provide transportation, and you must participate in the
  field trip to complete the paper. This paper is due on 19 February at noon; you must
  provide us three printed copies of your paper when you turn it in.

* The second short paper will concern an amusement. You have two options in
  terms of a field trip for this paper. You can either participate in a class field trip to
  Disneyland on the 24th of March or you can choose and attend some other site of
  amusement on your own. For the Disneyland option, we will provide transportation, but
  you will need to purchase your own admission ticket. If you choose the second option,
  you must provide us a brief written statement identifying your selected site of amusement
  on or before 1 March. The second short paper is due in class on 29 March; you must
  provide us three printed copies of your paper when you turn it in.

* For the third short paper, you will need to visit a museum. We will not have an
  organized field trip to any museums, but will provide you a list of possible museums.
  When you turn in your third short paper, you must staple your admission ticket or receipt
to the paper. The third short paper is due on 3 May at noon; you must provide us two printed copies of your paper when you turn it in.

2. Assigned Readings: The following books have been ordered for you to purchase at Huntley bookstore; they are also on reserve at Honnold Library:
   * G. Cross, *An All-Consuming Century: Why Commercialism Won in Modern America.*
   * J. Kasson, *Amusing the Million: Coney Island at the Turn of the Century.*
   * The Project on Disney, *Inside the Mouse.*
   * B. Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, *Destination Culture Tourism, Museums, and Heritage.*

All other assigned readings are available for you to download from the web through Honnold’s electronic reserve system at eres.claremont.edu. To access the readings, you will need the following course password: sseizer36 (please note that this must be all lower case letters).

3. Grading:

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<td>Short paper 1</td>
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