Conceiving Fantasy: Interdisciplinary Research and Methods
21:525:101
Spring 2023

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Classroom: ENG 201

Monday and Wednesday: 10:00-11:20am
Office Hours: By Appointment Only
Office: ENG 219

Course Description:

In this course we will be putting theory into practice by exploring the numerous processes and options for engaging in research and the varied methodologies we can use to produce a scholarly project. Using fantasy as our frame, we will explore how shaping fantasy spaces allows for a unique insight into American culture and provides us with ways to employ interdisciplinary research, methods, and production.

Readings:

All readings are posted on Canvas.

You are required to read EVERYTHING that is listed on the schedule BEFORE you attend class.

It is essential that you have each day’s readings with you during class.

Grading and Assignments:

The percentage breakdown for the course will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #4</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Readings:
Class Participation and Attendance:

Attending class is not optional. Class lectures not only include discussions on your assigned readings, but the material presented is what you will be writing about. In-class participation is essential to this discussion driven course. Any student who misses four or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.

Academic Integrity, Plagiarism, and Cheating

As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/

All students are required to sign the Rutgers Academic Integrity Pledge and the Rutgers Honor Pledge on all assignments.

“On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination / assignment.
Semester Schedule

January 18:  What is Fantasy?  What is a Theme Park?
January 23:  World’s Columbian Exposition – 1893
January 25:  Coney Island’s “Freakshows” and New Jersey Amusements
January 30:  New York World’s Fairs 1939 & 1964
February 1:  Malls: A Consumers’ Republic
February 6:  Disneyland/Disneyworld: Part I
February 8:  Disneyland/Disneyworld: Part II
February 13:  Disney’s Frontierland
February 15:  Maps: Northeast Heading Southwest
February 20:  Disney’s Tomorrowland
February 22:  International Theme Parks
February 27:  Religious Theme Parks
March 1:  Group Project Overview via Mary Douglas’ Taboo
March 6:  Rides & Rollercoasters
March 8:  Immersive Theater & Escape Rooms
March 13 & March 15 – Spring Break
March 20:  DWB
March 22:  Trauma & Memory
March 27:  Concept Maps
March 29:  Boardgames
April 3:  Video Games: Part I
April 5: Video Games: Part II

April 10: In-Class Group Project Work

April 12: Sawyer Seminar: The Pandemic and the City: Art, Medicine, Migration

April 17: Theory of Everything

April 19: Presentations 1 & 2

April 24: Presentations 3 & 4

April 26: Presentations 5 & 6

May 5: Final Paper Due at 5:00pm

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

- **Students with Disabilities:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact ODS, register, have an initial appointment, and provide documentation. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and documentation submitted) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided to the student. The student must give the LOA to each course instructor, followed by a discussion with the instructor. This should be completed as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS: (973) 353-5375 or ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

- **Religious Holiday Policy and Accommodations:** Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work or exams according to an agreed-upon schedule. The Division of Student Affairs is available to verify absences for religious observance, as needed: (973) 353-5063 or DeanofStudents@newark.rutgers.edu.
• **Counseling Services:** Counseling Center Room 101, Blumenthal Hall, (973) 353-5805 or http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu.

• **Students with Temporary Conditions/Injuries:** Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury that is adversely affecting their ability to fully participate in their courses should submit a request for assistance at: https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu.

• **Students Who are Pregnant:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist students with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy: (973) 353-1906 or TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

• **Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** Students experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, should know that help and support are available. To report an incident, contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance: (973) 353-1906 or TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. To submit an incident report: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. To speak with a staff member who is confidential and does NOT have a reporting responsibility, contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance: (973) 353-1918 or run.vpva@rutgers.edu.

**Learning Resources:**

• Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)  
  Room 140, Bradley Hall  
  (973) 353-5608  
  https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/learning-center

• Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops)  
  Room 126, Conklin Hall  
  (973) 353-5847  
  nwc@rutgers.edu  
  https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center