WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

FALL 1991
EVENING

LYNNE HISSEY AND LIANNE MCLARTY

Lec.: Tue. 18:30-20:20
Tut.: Tue. 20:30-21:20

W.S. 301-3

WOMEN AND THE MEDIA: WOMEN AND TELEVISION

This course explores both the theoretical discussions and cultural practices of television focussing on the positioning of, and implications for, women. We begin the course with a feminist consideration of two major theoretical traditions: theories of ideology and postmodernism. These lectures are designed to provide students with critical tools with which to analyse the various forms of television we consider in the second half. Here we look first at “reality programming,” and then at fictional programmes. In this part of the course we move from the most documentary of programmes — the news — to the most non-realistic science fiction and horror. Several issues will both inform and emerge from the course material. These include the characteristics of contemporary media images, the significance of emerging television genres, the representation of feminist concerns within a variety of forms of television, the relations between those forms and the people who consume them, and whether these relationships are, or can be emancipatory or oppressive.

REQUIRED READING


ASSIGNMENTS

25% Term Paper # 1 (12-15 pages)
25% Term Paper # 2 (12-15 pages)
25% Class Presentation
25% Mid-term exam (in class)

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours or WS 100

THIS COURSE MAY BE USED AS 3 UPPER DIVISION CREDITS IN COMMUNICATION.

THIS COURSE MAY BE APPLIED TO THE CERTIFICATE IN LIBERAL ARTS

TUTORIALS WILL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES