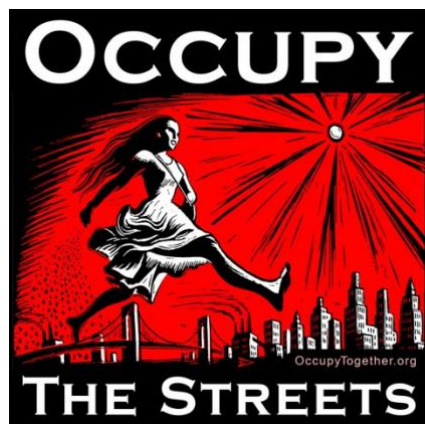


LIT6855-3A97(16670)
Cultural Studies After 2008
 Fall 2020



This course is a synchronous class, with live meetings, Fridays, periods 3-5 (9:35-12:35) via Zoom. It carries 3 credits and entails 3 contact hours.

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Susan Hegeman, Department of English (pronouns: she/her/hers)

EMAIL: Canvas email, or shegeman@ufl.edu. The best way to reach me is by email. I will answer your email within 24 hours, if not sooner.

OFFICE HOURS: Office hours will be conducted remotely, Friday afternoons 1-3 pm or email to arrange an appointment. You can sign up to meet me via Zoom on the Canvas calendar. If you can't meet at any of the free times, email me and we will find another time to meet.

Zoom link to my private meeting room: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/3087752224>; (Links to an external site.)

+16465588656,,3087752224# US (New York)

+13017158592,,3087752224# US (Germantown)

Course Description

This course will provide a grounding in the interdisciplinary field of cultural studies, which takes as its object of study the totality or whole way of life of a group of people, crossing lines of social, political, aesthetic and historical analysis. In particular, we will turn our attention to the aftermath of the economic crisis of 2008, which brought a number of issues to popular consciousness and academic reconsideration. These include financialization, debt,

neoliberalism, and economic precarity. Additionally, in the wake of the Occupy movement, the Arab Spring, and Black Lives Matter, we see the emergence of new attention to questions of political praxis and the formation of political subjectivities. We will study academic work that has emerged since 2008 that takes up these and other related topics. We will also consider the general problem of periodizing cultural and artistic movements using 2008 as a touchstone. The course is divided into two parts: "Another world is possible," focusing on how the shakeup in the financial system and other events precipitated challenges to political, economic, and cultural orthodoxies; and "We are the 99%," focusing on the theorization of political and other kinds of subjectivity.

Course Goals

Through genuine and persistent engagement with course materials, activities, and discussions, you will:

- be able to identify some central issues and debates in the field of cultural studies
- Understand how these issues were addressed in the context of cultural and political developments since 2008
- Develop knowledge of some key topics in contemporary cultural debates, including debt, the commons, the manifesto, revolutionary change, periodization, the event, biopolitics, neoliberalism
- Develop knowledge of and skills in interpreting, discussing, and writing critically about key texts in cultural studies
- Develop advanced skills in academic or creative writing, research, and argumentation, leading to publication and thesis and dissertation work

Course Materials

The following books are required for the course. They are listed in the order in which we will read them. Other editions, including e-books, are acceptable.

- Alain Badiou, *The Rebirth of History* (ISBN 1844678792)
- David Graeber, *Debt, the First 5,000 Years* (ISBN 9781612194196)
- Nick Estes, *Our History is the Future* (ISBN 1788735013)
- Cinzia Arruza et al., *Feminism for the 99%: A Manifesto* (ISBN 1788734424)
- Stefano Harney and Fred Moten, *The Undercommons* (ISBN 9781570272677)
- Jackie Wang, *Carceral Capitalism* (ISBN 9781570272677)
- Jodi Dean, *Comrade* (ISBN 1788735013)

- William Davies, *Nervous States: Democracy and the Decline of Reason* (ISBN 0393357945)
- Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, *The Mushroom at the End of the World* (ISBN 0691178321)

We will also be discussing two films, *The Square* (2013, d. Jehane Noujaim), and *The Big Short* (2015, d. Adam McKay), both of which will be available via UF Libraries streaming services. All other course materials—other required and supplementary readings, syllabus, documents, assignments, course calendar and discussions—are posted on the course's Canvas e-learning website.

Canvas and Zoom

You are required to have access to Canvas for accessing course materials and turning in assignments, and Zoom for participating in class discussions and meeting your instructor in office hours. There is a link to Zoom Conferences on the navigation menu of the Canvas course page. Zoom login information will also be given on the course calendar.

You will get the most out of Zoom discussions if you have a good internet connection that allows you to participate in class using both video and audio. If you are having trouble with your connection, you can log into the session using your phone, for the audio portion, and internet for the video. [Click here for tips on how to manage Zoom settings and communicate effectively on the platform. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back to and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

For help with Canvas or Zoom, contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

Web: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu> (Links to an external site.).

Phone: (352) 392-HELP (4357)

Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu

Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for accommodations (e.g. credit for overdue work) due to technical issues must be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem.

Class Comportment

Even though we are not meeting face to face, you are expected to comport yourself and communicate in the same way as you would in any other classroom. Respectful interactions among students are expected. Participation grades will be negatively affected by a failure to adhere to professional, polite, scholarly, and respectful communication.

Course Requirements and Grading

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active participation in the seminar is expected. You should be prepared to engage in active discussion of the assigned reading during the Zoom meetings. Participation can also consist of participation in the class discussion board or Zoom chat. You will also be asked to informally introduce the readings for a given week. This will include a set of discussion prompts of questions generated by the reading. They will be posted on the course discussion board, ideally the Thursday night before the seminar.

Written Assignments

You will hand in 25-30 pages (7500-9000 words, including reference matter) of written work over the course of the semester. Depending on your needs and goals for the course, this may be in the form of three short papers of 8-10 pages in length, one long paper, or a long and a short paper.

Students choosing to write one long paper should be in consultation with me early in the semester and should post a prospectus of 1-2 pages on the Discussion Board ([Paper prospectuses](#)) by November 1. These documents will be available to the rest of the class, and comments from other students are encouraged. I recommend that advanced students working on extended projects related to the course material write one long paper. Students whose goals are to develop a strong familiarity with the material should consider writing shorter papers of a more explicatory sort.

Due Dates

- **October 1, November 1:** due dates for short papers
- **November 1:** prospectuses for longer papers due on the course discussion board. Students writing two shorter papers must turn the first paper in by this date

- **December 11:** last day to turn in papers and receive comments before the end of the semester
- **December 16:** last day to turn in a paper and receive a GRADE for the semester (You will receive comments on your paper, but not before Dec. 21.)

Course Policy on Incompletes

I am willing to let students take Incompletes to have more time to complete a long final research paper. However, I will accept seminar papers and grade them for full credit only until the end of the spring 2021 semester. Students who turn in papers after this date will not receive an "A" in the course.

More information on grades, including the grading scale, is available in the Graduate Catalogue [here](#).

Accommodations for Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor. Students needing accommodations should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are required to review the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/> (Links to an external site.)). Plagiarism or any other violation of the Student Honor and Conduct Code will result in an automatic failure of the assignment. A report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Office. <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-honor-code/> (Links to an external site.)

According to the Student Conduct Code,
"Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Stealing, misquoting, insufficiently paraphrasing, or patch-writing.
2. Self-plagiarism, which is the reuse of the Student's own submitted work, or the simultaneous submission of the Student's own work, without the full and clear acknowledgment and permission of the Faculty to whom it is submitted.
3. Submitting materials from any source without proper attribution.
4. Submitting a document, assignment, or material that, in whole or in part, is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment the Student did not author."

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care. If you or a friend are in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352-392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu / <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Career Resource Center: Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/> (Links to an external site.)

Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>

Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Schedule of Readings and Discussions

The schedule of readings and discussions is located on the following page on Canvas: [Course reading/discussion schedule](#). It may be changed to accommodate student needs and interests or other exigencies. I will announce any changes well in advance.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Fri Sep 4, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
	Calendar Event office hours	1pm to 3pm
Fri Sep 11, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
	Calendar Event office hours	1pm to Dec 11 at 3pm
Fri Sep 18, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Sep 25, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Oct 2, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855-3A97(16670) - Issues Cultural Stu	9:30am to 12:30pm
	Calendar Event Office hours	1pm to 3pm
Fri Oct 9, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Oct 16, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Oct 23, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Oct 30, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm

Date	Details	
Fri Nov 6, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Nov 13, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Nov 20, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Dec 4, 2020	Calendar Event LIT6855 Cultural Studies after 2008	9:35am to 12:35pm
Fri Dec 11, 2020	Assignment Turn in your final papers here!	due by 11:59pm