**Course Outline**

**School / Portfolio:** Faculty of Education and Arts  
**Course Title:** CONTEMPORARY MEDIA THEORY  
**Course ID:** ATSGC2450  
**Credit Points:** 15.00  
**Prerequisite(s):** (Completion of one introductory (Level 1000) Media & Screen course)  
**Co-requisite(s):** Nil  
**Exclusion(s):** (ATSGC3450)  
**ASCED Code:** 100799

**Program Level:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQF Level of Program</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<td>Intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
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**Learning Outcomes:**

**Knowledge:**

- **K1.** Appraise key debates, issues and perspectives informing the study of traditional and new media technologies.
- **K2.** Identify and analyse a range of theoretical approaches to understanding new and old media.
- **K3.** Demonstrate understanding of the structural characteristics of selected media technologies and their relationship to social and cultural experience.

**Skills:**

- **S1.** Research contemporary media theories and technologies.
- **S2.** Express substantiated, reasoned expositions and arguments concerning the technological features and social implications of traditional and new media according to different theoretical perspectives.
- **S3.** Summarise themes, issues and debates that define technological change and related developments in theory.

**Application of knowledge and skills:**

- **A1.** Apply skills in critical thinking to argue, write about and verbally discuss theory and its application in making sense of media technology and social change, making appropriate use of research and evidence.
- **A2.** Utilise and integrate relevant conceptual frameworks in analysing a range of examples of media technologies and their use.
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A3. Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives that define the
study of traditional and new media.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Broadcast media technologies
- Theories of broadcast media
- The Internet, cyberculture and bodies in cyberspace
- Approaches to theorising new media
- Social media and notions of the self
- Transmedia storytelling
- Mobile media
- Database culture

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

V1. Appreciate how media environments have changed over time in response to both technological
innovation and theoretical development.

V2. Recognise the significance of theory in making sense of media forms, technologies and practices.

V3. Develop an understanding of the interrelations between textual forms, industry, culture,
technology, and identity.

Graduate Attributes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Learning</td>
<td>Students develop their ability to understand and critically analyse the contemporary media landscape</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self Reliance</td>
<td>Students develop skills in independent research, analysis and critical reflection</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engaged Citizenship</td>
<td>Students relate theorisations of media technologies to a diverse range of social and cultural activities, practices and contexts.</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>Students engage with theories that inform understanding of the meaning and impact of media technologies on students' own lives and the wider socio-cultural context.</td>
<td>High</td>
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Learning Task and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1, K3 S2, S3 A1, A3</td>
<td>Demonstrate understanding of relevant concepts through analysis of set topic material.</td>
<td>Minor essay</td>
<td>15-35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K3 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3</td>
<td>Research and writing skills, construction of an informed and substantial argument using relevant evidence.</td>
<td>Major essay</td>
<td>35-45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K3 S2, S3 A2, A3</td>
<td>Comprehension of key terms and concepts from the course. Application of knowledge of issues, theories and arguments relevant to course topics.</td>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>30-40%</td>
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</table>
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*Adopted Reference Style:*

MLA