

**Media and War
Fall 2006**

**Thursdays 7:20
Robinson A107**

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Office hours: Wednesday 3:30-4:30
Thursday: 2:30-3:30
Or by appointment

This class draws eclectically on literature in anthropology, media studies, history and critical security studies to examine the relationship between war and media since World War II. While shifts in technology and political economy have produced changes in the dynamics of war and media, the shifting phenomenologies of war and media have also been co-produced by one another. The class will delve into theories of the emergence of what has variously been called “postmodern war” or “network war,” track the mobilization of mass publics mobilized for war (especially in the context of the Cold War), map the uses of war by Hollywood, examine the relationship between memory, atrocity and nationalism, and explore the ways in which the media become conduits for both dominant and counter discourses. The wars examined will include World War II, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and the War on Terror.

Reading, writing and class participation are all essential to the class. While there will be some lecturing from the instructor, much of the learning will be generated by seminar-style discussion. Consequently, it is important to come to class prepared to discuss the readings for class. The final grade will be based on class participation and on written assignments. Students have a choice of writing three short (5-7 double-spaced pages) papers on questions periodically distributed by the instructor or (the preferred option) writing an original research paper due at the end of the semester.

Articles will be distributed by the instructor as pdfs. The following books have been ordered from the bookstore:

Paul Virilio, War and Cinema (Verso, 1989).

Susan Sontag, Regarding the Pain of Others (Farrar, Straus and Girous, 2003).

Tom Vanderbilt, Survival City: Adventures Among the Ruins of Atomic America (Princeton Architectural Press, 2002)

Marita Sturken, Tangled Memories: The Vietnam War, The AIDS Epidemic, and the Politics of Remembering. (UC Press, 1997).

James Swofford, Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles. (Scribner, 2005).

Barbie Zelizer and Stuart Allen (eds.), Journalism After September 11 (Routledge 2002).

Schedule of Classes

Aug 31 Introduction

Sept 7 Introductory Ideas

H. Bruce Franklin, "From Realism to Virtual Reality: Images of America's Wars." In Susan Jeffords and Lauren Rabinowitz (eds.) Seeing through the Media: The Persian Gulf War (Rutgers University Press, 1994), pp.25-44

Susan Jeffords, "Afterword: Bringing the Death-World Home." In Susan Jeffords and Lauren Rabinowitz (eds.) Seeing through the Media: The Persian Gulf War (Rutgers University Press, 1994), pp.301-306.

James Schwoch, "Television, Chechnya and National Identity After the Cold War: Whose Imagined Community?" In Lisa Parks and Shanti Kumar (eds.) Planet TV: A Global Television Reader (NYU Press, 2003), pp.226-242.

Akbar S. Ahmed, "'Ethnic Cleansing': A Metaphor for Our Time?" In Alexander Hinton (ed.), Genocide: An Anthropological Reader (Blackwell, 2002), pp. 211-230.

Robert Entman, Projections of Power: Framing News, Public Opinion, and U.S. Foreign Policy (Chicago, 2004), chapter 1.

Martin van Creveld, "Future War," chapter 7 of his The Transformation of War (Free Press, 1991), pp.192-223.

Sept 14 Creating A War Public

Benedict Anderson, "Patriotism and Racism." Chapter 8 of Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities (Verso, 1983), pp.141-154.

Barbara Ehrenreich, "Three Cases of War Worship," from her Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War (Owl Books, 1997), pp.204-224.

Klaus Theweleit, "Dam and Flood: The Ritual of Parading in Mass." In his Male Fantasies, volume 1: Women, Floods, Bodies, History (Minnesota 1987), pp.429-435.

Joanne Sharp, Condensing the Cold War: Reader's Digest and American Identity (Minnesota, 2000), introduction and chapter 3 ("the beginnings of the cold war"), pp.ix-xix, 83-106.

Joseph Masco, "Radioactive nation-building" and "Radioactive Nation-building in Northern New Mexico: A Nuclear Maquilladora?" Joseph Masco, The Nuclear Borderlands: The Manhattan Project in Post-Cold War New Mexico (Princeton University Press, 2006), pp.18-27, 160-214.

Film: Why We Fight

Sept 21 Images and Networks

Paul Virilio, War and Cinema (Verso, 1989).

John Arquilla and David Ronfeldt, "The Advent of Netwar (Revisited)", chapter one of their Networks and Netwars: The Future of Terror, Crime, and Militancy, Rand 2001.

Sept 28 Picturing War

Susan Sontag, Regarding the Pain of Others (Farrar, Straus and Girous, 2003).

Susan Moeller, "Compassion Fatigue." Media Studies Journal 15(1):108-113 (2001).

Film: Baghdad ER

Oct 5 Memorializing Atrocity

Robert Jay Lifton and Greg Mitchell, "Commemorating Hiroshima: The Smithsonian Controversy," chapter 5 of Hiroshima in America (Putnam, 1995), pp.276-297.

Lisa Yoneyama, "Introduction," "On Testimonial Practices," and "Ethnic and Colonial Memories: The Korean Atomic Bomb Memorial." Lisa Yoneyama, Hiroshima Traces: Time, Space, and the Dialectics of Memory (University of California Press, 1999), pp.1-40, 85-111, 151-186.

Ed Linenthal, Preserving Memory: The Struggle to Create America's Holocaust Museum. (Columbia University Press, 1995), pp.167-272.

Film: Hiroshima, Mon Amour

Oct 12 The Cold War I

Tom Vanderbilt, Survival City: Adventures Among the Ruins of Atomic America (Princeton Architectural Press, 2002)

Oct 19 The Cold War II: Representing the Unthinkable

Tom Englehardt, The End of Victory Culture: Cold War America and the Disillusioning of a Generation. Basic Books, 1995, pp.3-15, 263-271.

Joyce A. Evans, Celluloid Mushroom Clouds: Hollywood and the Atomic Bomb.(Westview, 1998), chapters 5 ("radiation-produced atomic monsters, *Them!*") and 9 ("Questioning Authority"), pp.91-114, 155-168.

Alan Nadel, "Appearance, Containment and Atomic Power." Chapter 1 of Alan Nadel, Containment Culture: American Narratives, Postmodernism and the Atomic Age (Duke University Press, 1995), pp.13-37.

John Canaday, "'Beggared Description': Writing Nuclear Weapons." Chapter 8 of his The Nuclear Muse (Wisconsin 2000), pp.205-225.

Carol Cohn, "Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals." Signs 12(4):687-718 (1987).

Oct 26 Vietnam

Daniel Hallin, The “Uncensored War”: The Media and Vietnam, (Oxford University Press, 1986), pp.3-58, 103-158.

Chester J. Pach, “And That’s the Way it Was: The Vietnam War on the Nightly Network News.” In David Farber (ed.), The Sixties: From Memory to History. (University of North Carolina Press, 1994), pp.90-118.

Michael Herr, “Colleagues,” from his Dispatches (Knopf 1977), pp.152-199.

Susan Moeller, “The Photographs: A Subversion Through Exposure.” Chapter 15 of Susan Moeller, Shooting War: Photography and the American Experience of Combat (Basic Books, 1989), pp.385-413.

James William Gibson, Warrior Dreams: Violence and Manhood in Post- Vietnam America (Hill and Wang, 1994), Introduction and chapters 1 (“Old Warriors, New Warriors”), 2 (“Birth of the Warrior”) and 5 (“The Hero’s Magic Weapons.”).

Film: Sir! No Sir! OR Hearts and Minds OR The War at Home

Nov 2 (4s) Remembering Vietnam

Marita Sturken, Tangled Memories: The Vietnam War, The AIDS Epidemic, and the Politics of Remembering. (UC Press, 1997), pp.2-145.

Fred Turner, Echoes of Combat: The Vietnam War in American Memory (Anchor Books, 1996), chapters 4 (“Rebuilding the Hero”), 5 (“Emotional Rescue”), 8 (“Healing as Memory”) and 9 (“Scar Tissue”).

Film: Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision

Nov 9 Journalistic Complicities

Mark Pedelty, War Stories, selections

Ulf Hannerz, "World Stories," chapter 6 of his Foreign News: Exploring the World of Foreign Correspondents. (University of Chicago Press, pp.179-207).

Film: War Photographer (from AU library)

Nov 16 (AAA) The First Gulf War

James Swofford, Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles. (Scribner, 2005).

Film: Jarhead

Nov 23 (NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING)

Nov 30 9/11 and After

Barbie Zelizer and Stuart Allen (eds.), Journalism After September 11 (Routledge 2002).

Film: The Control Room

Dec 7 The War on Terror

Mary Pratt, "Security," Joe Dumit, "trauma" and Itty Abraham, "weapons of mass destruction" in Bregje van Eekelen, Jennifer Gonzales, Bettina Stotzner and Anna Tsing, Shock and Awe: War on Words (New Pacific Press, 2004, pp.140-142, 155-157, 167-172).

Jonathan Friedman, "From Nine-Eleven to Seven-Eleven: the Poverty of Interpretation." In Bruce Kapferer (ed.), The World Trade Center and Global Crisis (Berhahn, 2004), pp.18-25.

Allen Feldman, "Ground Zero Point One: On the Cinematics of History." In Bruce Kapferer (ed.), The World Trade Center and Global Crisis (Berhahn, 2004), pp.26-36.

Charles W. Brown, "Where's Jessica? Myth, Nation, and War in America's Heartland." In Bruce Kapferer (ed.), State, Sovereignty, War (Berghahn, 2004), pp.29-36.

Michele Zazini and Sean J.A. Edwards, "The Networking of Terror in the Information Age" in John Arquilla and David Ronfeldt (eds.), Networks and Netwars: The Future of Terror, Crime, and Militancy, Rand 2001pp.29-60.

Robert Entman, Projections of Power: Framing News, Public Opinion, and U.S. Foreign Policy (Chicago, 2004), pp.76-94, 107-122, 147-168.

Hugh Gusterson, The Weakest Link? Academic Dissent in the War on Terrorism. In Austin Sarat (ed.) Dissent in Dangerous Times. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press (2005), pp.81-110.

Film: Occupation Dreamland