

<p>ENG 485 Television Studies Winter 2014 Prof. Miller PLC 529 Office Hours W 11:30 - 2:30</p>	<p>US Sitcom History TV Criticism + Consumer Culture qmmiller@uoregon.edu</p>	<p>T/TH 2:00 - 3:50 p.m. VOL 302 4 cr. 541/346-3978 CRN: 27548/27549</p>
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<p>Work</p> <p>W February 19</p> <p>T March 18</p>	<p>Preparation Participation Quizzes Midterm Essay Take Home Final Exam</p>	<p>25% 35% 40%</p>
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Grad students: The work above represents 60% of your grade.
An 8pp. term paper due March 22 constitutes the remainder.

Texts <https://blackboard.uoregon.edu>

Description * This course analyzes situation comedies about consumer culture as works of art that explore social relations from a queer perspective. We focus on seventeen programs – programs with original airdates ranging from 1953 to 2001. Addressing the sitcom as a sophisticated form of inquiry into binaries, taste distinctions, and transformation, we discuss aesthetics, the economics of the media industries, and the ways in which sexuality, gender, race, class, ethnicity, and ability intersect in representation. Students will read popular television criticism and scholarship in the interdisciplinary field of TV studies; view and re-view telefilms; and contribute to small and large group discussions.

Expectations * Read and study assigned texts in preparation for class meetings. Study telefilms in part and whole. Prepare questions and comments for discussion. Commit to original thinking. Respect your classmates' different backgrounds, insights, and frames of reference.

Policies * Attendance and participation are crucial to your success in this course. More than five absences will result in a failing grade. Each absence subsequent to your second will lower your final grade one notch (C to C-, etc.). You cannot pass the course without taking the final exam and submitting an essay. Contact the professor at least two days in advance to ask for an extension. Essay grades drop a full mark each day past the due date. Meet Student Conduct Code and Community Standards. Learn how to avoid plagiarism. Alert me to accommodations you may need. If bad weather or another emergency requires cancelling a class, I will notify you by email or put a note on the door of Volcanology 302. Use your discretion in traveling to class.

Course Schedule

subject to change

Complete all readings for the date next to which they appear.
Revisit readings in light of quizzes and class discussions.

Programming key: [Season Number. Episode Number; Year of First Run]

<i>Week 1</i> T January 7	Television, Consumption: Real Estate and Makeovers <i>The Beverly Hillbillies</i> , “Jed Buys the Freeway” [1.23; 1963]
TH January 9	<i>All-American Girl</i> , “Redesigning Women” [1.5; 1994] * Staiger, “The Beverly Hillbillies”
<i>Week 2</i> T January 14	Norms and Transgression: The American Dream <i>The Jetsons</i> “Jane’s Driving Lesson” [1.18; 1963] * Attallah, “The Unworthy Discourse”
TH January 16	<i>Bewitched</i> , “Driving is the Best Way to Fly” [1.26; 1965] * Metz, “An Industrial History of <i>Bewitched</i> ”
<i>Week 3</i> T January 21	Consumer Ideologies: Celebrity Hairdressers, Pet Stylists <i>Ozzie and Harriet</i> , “A Hairstyle for Harriet” [5.15; 1957] * Cassidy, “Daytime TV in the Era of the Feminine Mystique”
TH January 23	<i>The Ellen Show</i> , “Vanity Hair” [1.4; 2001] * Feuer, “Genre Study and Television”
<i>Week 4</i> T January 28	Marketing Equality: Audiences and Spectacles <i>The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air</i> , “Father Knows Best” [5.7; 1994] * Gray, “The Politics of Representation in Network TV”
TH January 30	<i>Larry Sanders Show</i> , “Everybody Loves Larry” [5.1; 1996] * Hemphill, “...Faggots, and Bucks”
<i>Week 5</i> T February 4	Progress + Irony: Cable, Pay Cable, and Self-Deprecation <i>The Larry Sanders Show</i> , “Ellen, Or Isn’t She” [5.4; 1996] * Vincent Brook, “The Americanization of Molly”
TH February 6	<i>Daria</i> , “Malled” [1.5; 1997] * Koski, “The Promise and Disappointment...”

Week 6
T February 11

TV Non-Space: Consumer Lock-ins, Ethnicity, “Authenticity”
Mothers-in-Law, “Night to Forget” [1.4; 1967]
* Morse, “The Freeway, The Mall, and Television”

TH February 13

Bewitched, “Eat at Mario’s” [1.35; 1965]
* Lipsitz, “The Meaning of Memory”

Week 7
T February 18

Present/Past: Vaudeville Scams and Camp Crimes
pebbles and bamm bamm, “No Cash and Carry” [1.12; 1971]
* Leibovitz, “Yabba Dabba Jew” (2010)

Midterm Essay due WED February 19 * PLC 529

TH February 20

Honey West, “Pop Goes the Easel” [1.26; 1966]
* Julie D’Acci, “Honey West and the New Sexuality”

Week 8
T February 25

Gender and Sexuality: Door-to-Door and Bed Death NYC
I Love Lucy, “Sales Resistance” [2.17; 1953]
* Desjardins, “Sexuality, Ethnicity, TV’s First Family”

TH February 27

Sex and the City, “Ghost Town” [4.05; 2001]
* Hidalgo, “The Exoticization of Lesbian Sexuality”

Week 9
T March 4

Adultery Analogues: Pets, Palates, Shopping, Deception
Mr. Ed, “The Price of Apples” [3.22; 1963]
* Warhol “The Rhetoric of Addiction”

TH March 6

Bewitched, “Which Witch is Which?” [1.24; 1965]
* White, “Supporting ‘Character’”

Week 10
T March 11

Television, Consumption, Critique: Sitcom History
* Spigel, “From the Dark Ages to the Golden Age”

TH March 13

* Blum, “Sitcoms Are Dead!”

Final Exam due TUE March 18 * email qmmiller