THE ARTS OF POWER

RITUAL, MYTH AND PROPAGANDA
FROM THE EMPEROR AUGUSTUS
TO THE DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES

01:510:245, Spring Semester 2008
Monday/Thursday 11:30-12:50
Campbell Hall A4, CAC

Professor Alastair Bellany
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Office Hours: Thurs. 9:30-10:30 & By Appointment
THE ARTS OF POWER: RITUAL, MYTH AND PROPAGANDA
FROM THE EMPEROR AUGUSTUS TO THE DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES
Professor Alastair Bellany
Teaching Assistant: Martina Saltamacchia

Class Meetings: Attendance at both types of class meeting--lectures and discussions--is required. You will be asked to sign in at every class, and more than TWO unexcused absences will lower your final grade. For discussion sessions we will divide into two groups: group A will meet with Professor Bellany in Campbell A4; group B with the TA in either SCILS 201 (for Monday discussions) or SCILS 212 (for Thursday discussions). Students will be assigned to discussion groups at the beginning of the second class.

Website: A course website has been set up at https://sakai.rutgers.edu. Everyone registered for this class will be automatically registered for the website--your website ID and password are the same as your eden account ID and password. The website will include copies of the syllabus and lecture outlines; various course materials, including study guides and some assigned readings; guidelines for preparing for the assignments; and a bulletin board for electronic discussions.

Assignments and Grading: The final grade for this class will be calculated from the following:

(1) Participation (15%): includes regular attendance at lectures; participation in discussion sections and on the course website discussion board; and participation through questions during or after lecture or via e-mail.
(2) Ritual Analysis (25%): a schematic analysis (c.3pp.) of a medieval coronation ritual.
(3) Midterm Essay (30%): a 5 pp. paper on Castiglione’s *Courtier* and/or Shakespeare’s *Richard II*.
(4) Final essay (30%): a 5 pp. paper on topics drawn from the second half of the semester.

All extensions of the deadlines for written work must be negotiated in advance. Work handed in late without an extension will be penalized. Any assignment not handed in one week after the deadline, without an explanation for the delay, will be given an F. Two Fs for incomplete work will result in an F for the class.

Readings: All readings listed on the syllabus are required. The following 4 required books are available in paperback at the Rutgers University Bookstore:

- Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (Vintage)

The rest of the readings are available as downloadable files (in PDF or HTML) on the course website (and are marked as ‘web’ on the syllabus). The two films for this course, Sergei Eisenstein’s *Battleship Potemkin* and Leni Riefenstahl’s *Triumph of the Will*, should be treated as required readings. Both will be screened on campus before the discussion, and both will be available for viewing in the Media Library (in the Kilmer Library on Livingston campus).
SYLLABUS

WEEK 1
Thu. Jan. 24  Lecture 1: Introductory

WEEK 2
Mon. Jan. 28  Lecture 2: Augustus and the Imperial Cult
Thu. Jan. 31  Discussion: Suetonius and the Augustan Arts of Power
Reading: Suetonius, “Life of Augustus”, in *The Twelve Caesars*

WEEK 3
Mon. Feb. 4  Lecture 3: Religion and the Imperial Style: From ‘Pagan’ to Christian
Thu. Feb. 7  Discussion: Eusebius, Corippus and the Christian Emperor
Reading: Eusebius, *Life of Constantine* [death and funeral] (web)
Corippus, *In Laudem Iustini* [coronation of Justin II] (web)

WEEK 4
Mon. Feb. 11  Lecture 4: Medieval Kingship I: Coronations and Sacral Monarchy

WEEK 5
Mon. Feb. 18  Discussion: Medieval Kingship: Decoding the Coronation
Reading: “Little Device” for the Coronation of Richard III (web)
J. Le Goff, “A Coronation Program” (web)
**ASSIGNMENT 1: RITUAL ANALYSIS DUE IN CLASS**
Thu. Feb. 21  Lecture 6: Body Politics: Metaphors, Law and Civic Ritual

WEEK 6
Mon. Feb. 25  Lecture 7: Renaissance Elaborations I: The Courtier
Thu. Feb. 28  Lecture 8: Renaissance Elaborations II: Entries and Festivals

WEEK 7
Mon. Mar. 3  Discussion: Castiglione, *The Book of the Courtier*
Reading: Castiglione, *Book of the Courtier* [Book 1; Book 2 to p.154; Book 4 to p.322]
Thu. Mar. 6  Lecture 9: The Virgin Queen: Religion, Gender and Elizabeth I

WEEK 8
Reading: Shakespeare, *Richard II*; ‘The Rainbow Portrait’ (web)
Thu. Mar. 13  Lecture 10: The Court Artist: Velázquez and Van Dyck
SPRING BREAK
WEEK 9
Thu. Mar. 27  Lecture 12: Making Republican Man: The French Revolution

WEEK 10
Mon. Mar. 31  Discussion: The French Revolution in Song and Paint
Readings: Texts of Revolutionary Songs (web HTML)
Study Sheet on 3 J-L. David Paintings (web)
David paintings on the website
Thu. Apr. 3  Lecture 13: Making the Republic Visible: America c.1776-1850

**ASSIGNMENT 2: ESSAY DUE IN CLASS**

WEEK 11
Mon. Apr. 7  Lecture 14: Capital Punishment and the Arts of Power
Thu. Apr. 10  Lecture 15: Power and Modernity: Prologue to Foucault

WEEK 12
Mon. Apr. 14  Discussion: Foucault, Discipline and Punish
Reading: Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish, selections (TBA)
Thu. Apr. 17  Lecture 16: Making Soviet Man: Bolshevik Russia, 1917-1930
Film Screening TBA: Battleship Potemkin, dir. Sergei Eisenstein; Take Study Sheet (web HTML) to Screening

WEEK 13
Mon. Apr. 21  Discussion: Eisenstein’s Battleship Potemkin
Thu. Apr. 24  Lecture 17: The Hitler Myth and the Nazi Aesthetic
Film Screening TBA: Triumph of the Will, dir. Leni Riefenstahl
Take Study Sheet (web HTML) to Screening

WEEK 14
Mon. Apr. 28  Discussion: Riefenstahl’s Triumph of the Will
Reading: Leni Riefenstahl, Leni Riefenstahl: A Memoir, extracts (web PDF)
Hitler, Mein Kampf, extracts on Rallies and Flags (web PDF); “The Horst Wessel Song” (web HTML)
Thu. May 1  Lecture 18: Totalitarianism and Resistance: From Stalin to the Plastic People of the Universe

WEEK 15

FINAL PAPER DUE AT PROF. BELLANY’S OFFICE BY NOON, FRIDAY, MAY 9