Syllabus 2013: Movies & Madness Big Problems 26400

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Class meetings: Mondays, 3-9 PM in Cobb Hall Film Center. Screenings from 3-6; lecture, take-out meal, & discussion from 6-9.

Sept. 30: Introduction: Seeing Madness: Insanity, Media, and Visual Culture

Screening, 3:00-6 PM: Teinosuke Kinugasa, A Page of Madness; Cabinet of Dr. Caligari; Brainwashing scene from The Manchurian Candidate; in class, 6-9 PM: Gabriel Mitchell, Crazy Talk


“Cinema and Reality,” Antonin Artaud, pp.410-412

Oct. 7: Documenting the Asylum

Screenings: Titicut Follies; Asylum (on R. D. Laing’s “clinic”); Psychiatry: An Industry of Death (on YouTube); in class: Jean Rouch, clips from Chronicle of a Summer


Francoise Meltzer: Guest Lecture on Foucault/Derrida debate on madness
Oct. 14: The Mad with the Movie Camera: Documenting the First Person

Screenings: *Doc*, dir. Immy Humes; Philmworx.com (Gabriel Mitchell’s Website); Gabriel’s lecture on *Crazy Talk*; excerpts from *People Say I’m Crazy* and *Tarnation*. Note: we currently have Manchurian Candidate scheduled for this day, but it doesn’t really fit with Doc very well, does it? Belongs with the more political material.


Oct. 21: Melancholy and Medication: Your Mind-Brain on Drugs


Reading: “Annals of Psychology, Unreality Star” by Andrew Marantz, The New Yorker, 9-16-2013

Oct. 28: Madness, Noir, and the Thriller

Screenings: Alfred Hitchcock, *Spellbound*; Sam Fuller, *Shock Corridor*

Readings: Proposals for Final Paper or Creative Project: to be posted on course website no later than October 26.

Nov. 4: Religion and Collective Madness: Possession, Exorcism, and Mass Hysteria


Nov. 11: Filmmaking as Madness: Montage and Mania


Nov. 18: Paranoia and the National Security State

Screening: *Shutter Island* including a teleconference with Ellen Lewis, Scorsese’s Casting Director.

Nov. 25: The MAD Game: From Mutually Assured Destruction to Neoliberal Economics

Screenings: Adam Curtis, *The Trap*; scenes from *A Beautiful Mind* and *The Corporation*

Readings: TBA

Dec. 2: Torture and Terror: From Brainwashing to Enhanced Interrogation

Screening: John Frankenheimer, *Manchurian Candidate*; *Homeland*, Episodes and excerpts from seasons 1 and 2.

Readings: Bernard De Vos, “Depsychologizing Torture”