MEDIA THEORY AND HISTORY

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FACULTY ASSOCIATED WITH MEDIA THEORY AND HISTORY

Professors  Dudley Andrew (Film & Media Studies, Literature), Jack Balkin (Law School), Jessica Brantley (English), Rüdiger Campe (German), Francesco Casetti (Humanities, Film & Media Studies), Aaron Gerow (Film & Media Studies, East Asian Languages & Literatures), Inderpal Grewal (Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies), Matthew Jacobson (History, American Studies, African American Studies), David Scott Kastan (English), Marianne LaFrance (Psychology, Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies), John MacKay (Slavic Languages & Literatures, Film & Media Studies), Charles Musser (American Studies, Film & Media Studies, Theater Studies), Robert Post (Law School), Henry Sussman (German) (Visiting), Katie Trumpener (Literature, English), Michael Warner (English, American Studies), Laura Wexler (American Studies, Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies)

Associate Professors  Gundula Kreuzer (Music), Karen Nakamura (Anthropology, East Asian Studies), R. John Williams (English)

Assistant Professor  J. D. Connor (History of Art)

Media Theory and History examines the category of ”media” as both an object and a method of study. This field of study considers media as historically constituted entities, as objects of theoretical and juridical debate, and as crucial elements of the messages they convey and the audiences they help to constitute. Media Theory and History bridges diverse disciplinary approaches, including literature, film, legal studies, history of art, sociology, anthropology, architecture, history of science, and computer science. It considers the social contexts and cultural effects of different media, including oral communication, written and printed texts, recorded and broadcast sound and image, and digital media.

Yale College does not have a department or a major in media studies. Media Theory and History serves as a network connecting faculty members whose interests in research and teaching intersect around the subject of media. The faculty members listed above have made themselves available to advise students interested in approaching media from various disciplinary perspectives. Advisers help students identify appropriate sequences and combinations of courses, and meet with students about senior essays on interdisciplinary topics in media studies.