

ASSIGNMENT # 5 RESEARCH PAPER

DUE MAR 14, 2008

As your final assignment in this course you are required to write an 8-10 page research paper that demonstrates your ability to apply concepts of power and everyday life to contemporary social practices.

1. Choose ONE of the following TWO themes:

PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION

e.g. Shopping and identity, Culture-jamming, DIY cultures

TECHNOSCIENCE

e.g. Biotechnologies, Communication technologies & new media, Surveillance

2. Begin your research. Your final bibliography must include at least:

One (1) assigned reading

Two (2) peer-reviewed journal articles

Three (3) additional academic sources

Additional, non-academic (news, magazine, Internet, etc.) sources are acceptable only after the above requirements have been met.

3. Formulate a research question that addresses how these practices are situated in everyday life and how they shape, and are shaped by, different power relations.

You must email Anne your research question AND receive written approval no later than Friday FEB 29, 2008.

4. Complete your research and formulate a clear thesis statement.

Your paper must present a coherent argument in support of this claim.

5. If you would like feedback on your thesis statement, you must email it to Anne no later than Friday Mar 7, 2008.

Please note that Anne will NOT be reading drafts for this assignment.

EVALUATION

40 Marks – 20%

Introduction (10)

Includes an overview of the research domain and explains why it is relevant to understanding power and everyday life (3 marks)

Presents a clear and detailed thesis statement (5 marks)

Provides an overview of the main points used in support of the thesis statement (2 marks)

Body (20)

Presents a logical and detailed argument in support of the thesis statement (5 marks)

Coherently and consistently explains how particular social practices are situated in everyday life and how they shape, and are shaped by, different power relations (5 marks)

Takes a critical perspective on the topic and the research (5 marks)

Uses quotes effectively and includes all necessary citations (3 marks)

Includes properly formatted citations (2 marks - all or nothing)

Conclusion (8)

Reiterates the relevance of the research question and summarises the main points used in support of the thesis statement (5 marks)

Includes suggestions for future research (3 marks)

Bibliography (2)

Includes properly formatted bibliographic references (2 marks – all or nothing)