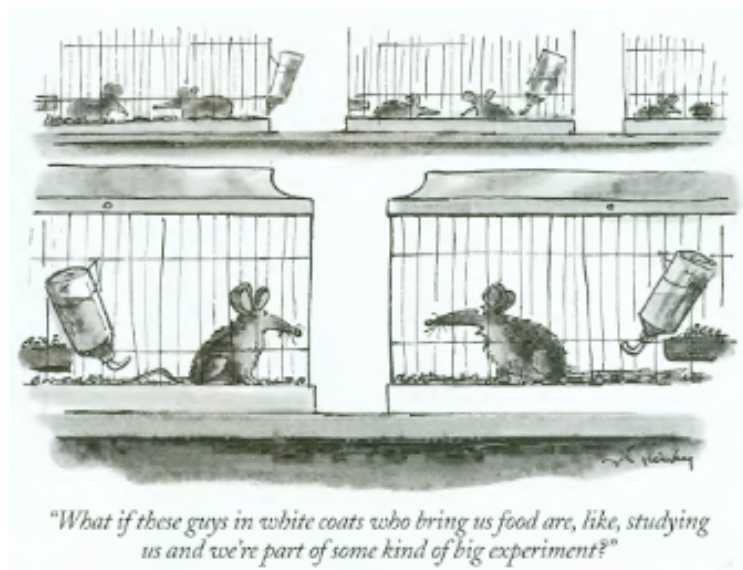


COGN 150: Surveillance, the Media, and the Risk Society
Winter 2008 Wednesdays 3-5:50
Prof. Kelly Gates



Mike Twohy, *The New Yorker*, 12/20/2004, p. 76

Course Description

Surveillance has become an issue of major public and scholarly concern. Journalists, legal scholars, social scientists, and other observers have offered critical assessments of the ubiquitous nature of surveillance in modern societies. This course highlights the contributions that the field of communication has made, and can continue to make, to our understanding of surveillance as a set of cultural and institutional practices, and especially as an instrument of social control. From consumer research, copyright enforcement, and the surveillance capacity of ICTs, to closed-circuit television, interactive media, and the new “rhetorics of surveillance” in television and film (Levin, 2002), communication research and media studies have productive interventions to make into the debates about the “surveillance society” (Lyon, 2001).

Required texts

Andrejevic, M. (2007). *iSpy: Surveillance and Power in the Interactive Era*. Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Press.

Additional readings will be made available online.

Course Requirements

Class participation (20%): Everyone’s active participation in class discussions is essential to the success of the class. Come to class prepared to discuss the readings and to make a substantive

contribution. In addition, in-class assignments and group exercises will count towards the participation grade. Attendance at every class is required, and you cannot make up any work missed as a result of an absence. Two absences will result in a letter grade reduction and 3 or more absences will result in a failing grade.

Reading summaries (20%): Students are required to write six 2-pg summaries (double-spaced) of the assigned readings for class, due in class on the day we discuss those readings. The purpose of the summaries is to help you process the readings and prepare for class participation. *Under no circumstances will late papers will be accepted.*

Group discussion session (20%): The class will be divided into 5 groups, and each group will be assigned a session of the class in which they will prepare a presentation and lead discussion.

Final paper (40%): Students are required to write a final paper (8-10 pages) based on a case study of a surveillance system, technology, or issue. You will apply the insights gained from course readings and discussions to provide an assessment of the social implications of your chosen case.

Course Outline

Note: Complete the readings by the date they are listed. Summaries are due on that day as well. Readings may change at my discretion – check WebCT regularly.

WEEK 1-2 (Jan. 9, 16)

Surveillance in the Early 21st Century

Screening: *Minority Report* (Spielberg, 2002).

Rule, J. (1973) Social Control and Modern Social Structure. In *Private Lives and Public Surveillance*. London: Allen Lane, 19-43.

Andrejevic, M. Introduction. *iSpy: Surveillance and Power in the Interactive Era*, 1-21.

American Civil Liberties Union, The Surveillance-Industrial Complex. Available online at http://www.aclu.org/FilesPDFs/surveillance_report.pdf. 1-33.

WEEK 3 (Jan. 23)

Historical Perspectives

Foucault, M. (1977). Panopticism. In *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. Sheridan, trans. NY: Vintage, 195-228. Available online at <http://www.cartome.org/foucault.htm>.

Tagg, J. (1993). A Means of Surveillance: The Photograph as Evidence in Law. In *The Burden of Representation*. University of Minnesota Press, 66-102.

WEEK 4 (Jan. 30)

Warrantless Wiretapping

Risen, J and Lichtblau, E. (2005 Dec 16). Bush Lets U.S. Spy On Callers Without Courts. *The New York Times*, p. A1, A16.

Privacy Rights and Policy

Diffie, W. and Landau, S. (1999). Privacy: Protections and Threats. In *Privacy On the Line: The Politics of Wiretapping and Encryption*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 125-150.

Liptak, A. (2007 Dec 31). In the Fight Over Piracy, a Rare Stand for Privacy. *The New York Times*.

The Rise of the Risk Society

Lupton, D. (1999). *Risk*. NY: Routledge, 1-35.

WEEK 5 (Feb. 6)

Visual Monitoring, Dataveillance, and Convergence

Virilio, P. (2002). The Visual Crash. In T. Y. Levin, U. Frohne, and P. Weibel (Eds.). *CTRL [SPACE]*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 108-113.

Gandy, O. (2003). Data Mining and Surveillance in the Post-9/11 Environment. In Ball and Webster (eds.) *The Intensification of Surveillance*. Pluto Press, 26-41.

Haggerty, K. D. & Ericson, R. V. (2000) The Surveillant Assemblage. *British Journal of Sociology* 51, 605–622.

WEEK 6 (Feb. 13)

Group 1 Discussion Session

Surveillance and Labor

Electronic Privacy Information Center. Workplace Privacy. Available online at: <http://epic.org/privacy/workplace/>. 1-6.

Ericson, R. and Haggerty, K. (1997). Policing as Risk Communications. In *Policing the Risk Society*. Toronto: U. of Toronto Press, 17-38.

Andrejevic, M. Ch. 3: iManagement, the Early Years, *iSpy*, 52-92.

Stross, Randall (2007 December 30). How to Lose Your Job on Your Own Time. *The New York Times*.

WEEK 7 (Feb. 20)

Group 2 Discussion Session

Consumer Surveillance and New Interactive Media

Andrejevic, M. Ch. 4: iCommerce: Interactivity Goes Mobile; and
Ch. 5: iMedia: The Case of Interactive TV, *iSpy*, 93-160.

WEEK 8 (Feb. 27)

Group 3 Discussion Session

Military, State Security, War

Graham, S. (2007). Surveillance, urbanization, and the U.S. ‘Revolution in Military Affairs.’ In Lyon, D. (Ed.). *Theorizing Surveillance*. Willan Publishing, 247-269.

Andrejevic, M. Ch. 6: iWar, *iSpy*, 161-186.

Thought Policing

Talbot, M. (2007, July 2). Duped: Can brain scans uncover lies? *The New Yorker*, 52-61.

WEEK 9 (Mar. 5)

Group 4 Discussion Session

The Culture of Surveillance

Mathieson, T. (1997). The viewer society. *Theoretical Criminology* 1(2); 215-234.

Levin, T. Y. (2002). Rhetoric of the temporal index: Surveillant narration and the cinema of ‘real time.’ In T. Y. Levin, U. Frohne, and P. Weibel (Eds.). *CTRL [SPACE]*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 578-593.

WEEK 10 (Mar. 12)

Group 5 Discussion Session

Lateral Surveillance

Andrejevic, M. Ch. 8: iMonitoring: Keeping Track of One Another, *iSpy*, 212-240.

Neuman, W. (2008 January 7). In Response to M.T.A.’s “Say Something” Ads, a Glimpse of Modern Fears. *The New York Times*.

Wrap-Up

Andrejevic, M. Ch. 9: Beyond Monitoring, *iSpy*, 241-268.

FINALS WEEK (Mar. 19) Final Papers Due