The seminar will conduct a multi-site exploration of "the gaze" as an everyday life structure, as the sensorial formation of modern experience and personhood, as a material culture of simulation, as geography, as historical memory, as trans-cultural signification and as the production of political scenography and violence. The mediatization and technological development of vision and its dominance over the human sensorium is integral to the emergence of the modern, including experiences of urbanism, consumer desire, spatial experience, gender/sexual identities, race and ethnicity, trans-cultural image systems, aesthetic production and the making of power and political truth claims. This seminar will focus on introducing participants to the core theories and analytic methods of visual culture, and the socio-political history of the human sensorium in a variety of disciplines, including ethnography, social history, urban studies, cinema studies social geography, material culture studies and media studies.

Seminar Requirements and Grading:
- Consistent attendance and participation in class discussion: 10%
- Mid-Term: 25%
- End Term Take Home Essay Exam 2 Questions 65%

Course Resource Materials:
Course Documents Section Blackboard Course Site.

Learning Outcomes:
Students who successfully complete the course will be able to demonstrate:

- advanced understanding of research methodologies, vocabularies and procedures appropriate to M.A.-PhD level work in Media Studies and Visual Culture
- advanced skills in the application of critical and interpretive vocabularies
- Learn to write a critical literature review
- developed research, writing and communication skills
• self-reflexivity as a research practitioner

• developed ability in identifying and addressing research objectives

• knowledge of a range of specific critical vocabularies, debates and concerns focused on visual communication, visual culture, media, technology, and cultural studies.

9/8-9/15 **Defamiliarizing Media/ Mediating the Gaze**


Recommended Reading
Bennet, Tony Grossberg, Larry, Morris Meaghan (2005)*The New Keywords* Blackwell Publishing, Read all entries before first class

9/22 **The Theater of Perception**


Crary Jonathan, 1988 Techniques of the Observer, October 45 Summer pp 3-35


9/29 **The Apparatus**


Harvey, David, 1989 The Time and Space of the Enlightenment Project. . In *Conditions of Postmodernity* Basil Blackwell
10/6 Piercing and Cutting the Body


Weizman, Eyal, 2003. The Politics of Verticality."), Open Democracy (http://www.opendemocracy.net/debates/article.jsp?id=2&debateId=45&articleId=801 (Blackboard Documents Section)

10/13-10/14/School Holiday- No Class!

10/20-10/27 Mimetic Circuits

10/20: Midterm Due


11/3- Reading the City


Hansen Miriam, 1992 Mass Culture as Hieroglyphic Writing: Adorno, Derrida Kracauer, New German Critique, no.56 Spring-Summer


11/10-11/17 –The Othering/Embodying Gaze


11/24 Violence and Visuality

Doherty, Brigid 1997. We are All Neurasthenics” or, The Trauma of Dada Montage” Critical Inquiry 24 (Autumn.


12/1-12/8 History’s Faces


12/15 Final Exam Due