Week 1.

Wednesday January 21: Introductions

- During the first meeting we will discuss the syllabus, goals and requirements of the course.

Week 2.

Monday January 26: An Introductory Perspective

- Carl Elliot, “Amputees by Choice” (Philosopher/Bio-ethicists/doctor)
- Ian Hacking, “Making People Up” (Philosopher of Science)
Wednesday January 28: Body Technique, Techniques of the Body

- Marcell Mauss, “Techniques of the Body” (Sociologist/Anthropologist)
- Edward Tenner, “Technology, Technique and the Body” (Philosopher)

Week 3.

Monday February 2: Electricity! Bodies! Spirits! Let’s talk to the Dead Bodies!

- Jeremey Stolow, “Salvation by Electricity” (Communication Scholar)
- Jeffery Sconce, Haunted Media (4 people will read 4 different chapters from the book and each person will be in charge of presenting a chapter). (Communication Scholar)

Wednesday Feb 4: Electronic Presence and Embodiment

- Vivian Sobchack, “The Science of the Screen: Envisioning Cinematic and Electronic Presence” (Film theorist)
- Maurice Merleau-Ponty, “Eye and Mind” (Phenomenologist/Philosopher)

Week 4.


- E.P. Thompson, “Time, Work-Discipline and Industrial Capitalism” (Labor Historian)
- Anson Rabinbach, “From Idleness to Fatigue” (Historian)

Wednesday February 11: Body Modification

- Cressida Heyes, “Foucault Goes to Weight watchers” (Feminist Philosopher)
- Judith Butler, “From Bodies that Matter” (Political Theorist/Philosopher)

Week 5.

Monday February 16: Holiday

No Class

Wednesday Feb 18: The Body on Display, Performance and Celebrity

- Carl Elliot, “The Loneliness of the Late-Night Television Watcher” (Philosopher)
- Thomas de Zengotita, “Attack of the super zeroes: Why Washington, Einstein, and Madonna can’t compete with you” (Journalist/Media Theorist)
Week 6.

Monday February 23: The Body on Display, Performance and Celebrity

- Walter Benjamin, “On the Mimetic Faculty” (Critical Philosopher)
- Something on Karaoke?

Wednesday February 25: Race and Technology

- Lisa Nakamura, *Digitizing Race: Visual Cultures of the Internet* [chapter TBD] (Media Theorist)
- Alondra Nelson, *TechniColor: Race, Technology, and Everyday Life* [chapter TBD] (Sociologist)

Week 7.

Monday March 2: Sport, Body Modification

- Michael Ralph, “Prototype: In Search of the Perfect Senegalese Basketball Physique.” (Anthropologist)

Wednesday March 4: Sport continued

- Movie: *Dogtown and the Z-boys* (Documentary)
- Take-home midterm due Saturday March 7th (based on the movie)

Week 8.

Monday March 9: Eugenics, Disability and Reproductive Technologies

- Bonnie Steinbock, “Disability, Prenatal Testing, and Selective Abortion. (Ethicist/Philosopher)
- Adrienne Asch. “Disability Equality and Prenatal Testing: Contradictory or Compatible?” (Disability rights activist and philosopher)
- The Sterilization of Leilani Muir (In class movie 40 minutes)

Wednesday March 11: New Genetic Technologies

- Rayna Rapp, “The Disabled Fetal Imagery” (Anthropologist)
- Ruth Cowan, “Medical Genetics is not Eugenics” (Historian)
  http://chronicle.com/weekly/v54/i36/36b01401.htm

Week 9. SPRING BREAK

NO CLASS
Week 10.

Monday March 23: Human Enhancement Technologies

- Michael Sandel, *The Case Against Perfection* (Philosopher)

Wednesday March 25: Transhumanism and Cognitive Liberty

- Ian Kerr and James Wishart, “A Tsunami Wave of Science: How the Technologies of Transhumanist Medicine are Shifting Canada's Health Research Agenda” (Law/philosophy)

Week 11.

Monday April 1: Debate, Debate and Debate

- Kurt Vonnegut, “Unready to Wear” in *Welcome to the Monkey House*. (Fiction)
- Debate presentation (3 students will argue for human enhancement technologies, 3 students against them. Everyone should be prepared to jump into the debate after the formal presentation).

Wednesday April 3: Zines, Political Activism, and Making Visible the Body Politic

- Read through one issue of Madness Network News
- Nancy Scheper-Hughes and Margaret Lock, “The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology” (Anthropologists)
- Write 2 page response paper on the newsletters and turn in by Saturday 10 AM (this will count as one of your five response papers). We will not be meeting in class as you will should take the time to work on your class project and study for your exam, which will include the Scheper-Hughes and Lock piece.

Week 12.

Monday April 8:

In class exam
Wednesday April 10: Patient Activism and Making Visible the Body Politic

- Gabriella Coleman, “The Politics of Rationality: Psychiatric Survivor’s Challenge to Psychiatry” (Anthropologist)
- BBtv WORLD + WITNESS.org: 60 Years of Declaration of Human Rights, and Rights of The Mentally Disabled. [http://www.boingboing.net/2008/12/10/bbtv-world-witness-6.html](http://www.boingboing.net/2008/12/10/bbtv-world-witness-6.html) (We will watch in class).

**Week 13.**

Monday April 15: Virtual Worlds and Avatars

- Julian Dibbell, “A Rape in Cyberspace” (Cyber-journalist)
- Tom Boelstroff, *Coming of Age in Second Life* (Anthropologist)

Wednesday April 17: Virtual Worlds and Avatars

- Tom Boelstroff, *Coming of Age in Second Life* (Anthropologist)
- Bruno Latour, “Do You Believe in Reality?” (Not easy to categorize Mr Latour so I wont!)
- Second Skin Film (Hopefully)

**Week 14.**

Monday April 22: Privacy and the Surveilled Body

- Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis “The Right to Privacy” (Judges/lawyers) [http://groups.csail.mit.edu/mac/classes/6.805/articles/privacy/Privacy_brand_warr2.html](http://groups.csail.mit.edu/mac/classes/6.805/articles/privacy/Privacy_brand_warr2.html)
- James Rule, “The Making of an Issue,” Privacy in Peril: How We are Sacrificing a Fundamental Right in Exchange for Security and Convenience. (Sociology)

Wednesday April 24: RFID and Sousveillance

- Preemptive Media (Beatriz da Costa, Jamie Schulte, and Brooke Singer), “Surveillance Creep! New Manifestations of Data Surveillance at the Beginning of the Twenty-First Century. (Artists/activists/people who make robots!)
Week 15th

Monday April 28: Late Capitalism, Food, and the Body
- Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* (Journalist/Journalism Professor)
- Nathanael Johnson, “Swine of the times: the making of the modern pig.” (Journalist)

Wednesday April 30: Late Capitalism, Food, and the Body
- Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*
- Farmer’s market presentation (4 students)

Week 15th

Monday May 4:

Final discussion.