

Summer 2014

Media, Culture, and Communication



The Global City and Media Ethnography

Course # MCC-GE.2166

4 Points

Summer Session 1: May 27 – June 13, MTWR 4:55 pm – 7:40 pm

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Global urbanism harbors multiple actualities, designed and imagined space, performative inscription and collective memory, embodied sensation and digital simulacra. This seminar engages participant-sensation, observant participation and the affective fabric of techno-mediatic forms of life. Our terrain is sensory-centered research through visual, sonic and haptic cultures and media archaeologies. The research process will focus on the sensory envelope of the self and the interface of a media skin shaped by technics and culture. The curriculum is aimed at students in the humanities, the arts and social sciences seeking practice-led skills at the intersection of social aesthetics and evidence-based multi-media inquiry. Our practice-led pedagogy empowers self-reflexive contextual and critical understandings of mediatic and sensory subjectivity in the creative process of research, in post-research curation-exhibition, dissemination and archival performances.

Please contact the course instructor, Allen Feldman (af31@nyu.edu), with any questions.

Allen Feldman has conducted ethnographic fieldwork in the emergency zones of Northern Ireland and South Africa and among the homeless infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in New York City. He teaches visual culture, performance studies, and philosophy of media. Through numerous publications he pioneered the political ethnography of embodiment and the senses. He has designed and team-taught practice-led seminar-clinics with documentary film-makers, photographers, installation and digital artists in Budapest, Paris, Ljubljana and Dublin, and has written exhibition catalogue essays on immersion, web, and installation art for shows and on-line exhibitions in New York City and Lisbon.