

Political Science 702 - Spring 208

Research Methods seminar

Michael J. Shapiro

Tuesdays 3 – 5:30 in Saunders 624

The focus of this methods seminar is on the political theory – cultural studies nexus. Although the syllabus begins with three of themes – how to theorize the way assassins, hotels, and capitalist culture are constructed in artistic and cultural texts - I will be leaving space for other themes to accommodate the kind of research that seminar participants may want to pursue for their seminar papers. At the outset we will read chapters from an anthology on the political theory – cultural studies relationship and then read and view a variety of literary and cinematic texts that treat the three themes. Below are some tentative course materials.

Books and films:

Jodi Dean ed. *Cultural Studies & Political Theory*

On assassins:

Don DeLillo, *Libra* (A novelistic biography of Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged Kennedy assassin)

Leonardo Padura, *The Man Who Loved Dogs* (A novelistic biography of Trotsky and his assassin)

Henk Van Woerden, *The Assassin: A story of Race and Rage in the Land of Apartheid* (the story of Dimitri

Tsafendas , The assassin of the South African Prime Minister, Hendrik)

Laurent Binet, *HHhH* (The story of the assassins of the SS general Reinhard Heydrich).

Films: *Man on Fire* (among others)

On Hotels (to be amplified -the articles will be supplied on the Lulima site

A. J. Wharton, *Building the Cold War: Hilton International Hotels and Modern Architecture*.

Fregonese and Ramadan, "Hotel Geopolitics," *Geopolitics* 20: 4 (August, 2015), 793-813.

Siegfried Kracauer, "The Hotel Lobby," (in his *The Mass Ornament*).

(several films, beginning with *Dirty Pretty Things*, *Salvador*, *Hotel Rwanda*, *The New Rose Hotel*)

The Culture of Capitalism

Mark Fisher, *Capitalist Realism*

Franco Berardi, *The Uprising*

Reading/discussion/viewing schedule TBA