

Political Science 190 spring 2019

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Monday 3 – 5: 30 in Saunders 624

This version of Political Science 190 will focus on “the city as a medium” (an expression taken from the title of an essay by Friedrich Kittler). Cities channel flows of information, energy, and bodies, creating the conditions of possibility for who can encounter whom in what way and on what kind of schedule. By reading and looking at a variety of media genres – poetry, film, novels, television series, and a variety of academic urban analyses, we will observe what I call the micropolitics of the city (the degrees to which individuals and enclaves manage their day-to-day experience). Those enrolled will be required to write weekly reflection papers, based on the weekly assignments, and there will be mid term and final writing exercises that constitute what administrators regard (and require) as “exams.” Grading: Everyone enrolled begins the course with an A. It remains your grade if you maintain presence to the course (coming to class and doing the written assignments adequately).

The books to acquire for the course (ordered thru the UH bookstore but also available from online booksellers in paperback or ebooks versions) include:

Michael J. Shapiro, *The Time of the City* Routledge 978-0415780537

Colin Harrison, *Bodies Electric*. Picador 2007 edition 978-0517584910

Walter Mosley, *Devil in a Blue Dress* Washington Square Press 978-0743451796

China Mieville, *The City & the City* Del Rey 978-0345497529

Weekly Schedule TBA