

Youth, Media, & Educational Justice I & II:
A Participatory Learning & Mentoring Seminar
2-3 points, per semester
MSTU 5011 & 5012

Course Staff:

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Office: 322D Thompson

Office hours: TBA

Course Time: Monday, 5:30-8:30

Room: TBA

Course Blog: TBA

This course is a yearlong, participatory learning seminar that will provide an interdisciplinary approach to three areas of study as they intersect in the lives of court-involved adolescents: youth, media, and educational justice. A significant percentage of young people in urban contexts and beyond are under some form of court-mandated supervision, largely in the form of incarceration, probation, or foster care. Portrayals of these youth permeate popular and academic texts and shape educational practice and policy in subtle and explicit ways. Thus a main goal of the course is to develop an approach to the practice of educational justice through participatory research and active participation between graduate students and court-involved youth to complement the wide range of texts that will frame the course. This seminar will offer students an opportunity to engage with the ideas in these texts through course discussion, hands-on workshops, and the publication of a whole class multimedia text at the end of the academic year that will contribute a new set of narratives about the intersection of youth, justice, and educational justice. Course texts that will be drawn from various areas of inquiry – the arts, media studies, philosophy, anthropology, literature, sociology, law, literacy studies.

Please keep in mind that a requirement of this course is participating in a mentoring relationship with a young person to whom graduate students will be introduced following the start of the fall semester.

Course criteria for interested graduate students (the basis on which instructor permission will be granted)

1. Why are you interested in participating in this course?
2. What are your goals as a student in this course?
3. Please watch any single episode of the recently released television program “The Fosters” on ABC Family and write a brief response to the episode. (Be sure to include the name of the episode you watched.) Available via hulu: <http://www.hulu.com/the-fosters>

Please submit brief responses to the prompts above via email to Prof. Vasudevan (lmv2102@tc.columbia.edu) by **August 5, 2013**. If you will have trouble responding by this date or if you are currently outside of the US and cannot access the episode, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Following the submission of your responses, you will be hearing from someone on the teaching team to schedule an interview some time in August, either in person on the TC campus or via skype.