

## EMCP 241: Picturing Madness: Mental Illness on Screen

May 7-11, 2018  
238 Tory Building

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### What is this course about?

From *Repulsion* (1965) to *Girl, Interrupted* (1999), the stories of the so-called mad are constantly being portrayed on film. This often leads to inaccurate representations of mental illness. Together, we will examine issues of stigmatization and marginalization, as a social problem, exaggerated by misleading and negative images. In exploring films and madness, we will also look at some of the major themes in psychiatric history, as a means to develop a better sense of the present debates. Films will then become a gateway to learn about the reality of mental illness rather than just readily accepting it as reality. So, whether you love movies, history, or are passionate about mental health, you will love this class!

\*Due to restrictive ratings, this class will not be screening *Repulsion* or *Girl, Interrupted*.

### Class Project

In small groups of three or four, you will produce an original skit or video. This performance will be an attempt to respond to the media that has negatively portrayed mental illness. This exercise is also meant to challenge you to think about not only your own experiences, but also experiences that are foreign to you. As a group, you will write and perform a script. If there is a need for props, you must let the teacher know by Thursday before the lunch break. This project will be completed within class time. There will be time set aside each class beginning on Tuesday to work on this project.

### Course Outcomes:

- 1) Develop skills to critically engage with media representations of mental illness
- 2) Describe the relation between the history of mental illness and today
- 3) Apply knowledge to create a better environment for discussions and experiences of mental illness
- 4) Strengthen empathy skills in relation to mental illness

# SEMINAR SCHEDULE

## DAY ONE | MAY 7, 2018 | INSTITUTIONAL EXPERIENCES: ASYLUMS TO IN-TREATMENTS

1. Introductions and Ice Breakers, 9:00-9:30
2. Class Rules, 9:30-10:00
3. Break, 10:00-10:10
4. Lecture, 10:10-10:30
5. Screening of *It's Kind of a Funny Story*, followed by a discussion, 10:30-12:30
6. Lunch, 12:30-13:30
7. Stigma Units, 13:30-14:30
8. Ted Talk and Discussion, 14:30-15:00

## DAY TWO | MAY 8, 2018 | FORGING A STEREOTYPE – THE SO CALLED CRIMINALLY MAD

1. Introduction, 9:00-9:10
2. Activities, 9:10-10:20
3. Break, 10:20-10:30
4. Screening of selected movie (*Shutter Island* or *Psycho*), 10:30-12:30
5. Lunch, 12:30-13:30
6. Movie discussion, 13:30-14:00
7. Project Introduction and work time, 14:00-15:00

## DAY THREE | MAY 9, 2018 | BEING QUEER IN A 'NORMAL' WORLD

1. What is Normal, 9:00-10:00
2. Break, 10:00-10:10
3. Screening of *But I'm a Cheerleader*, 10:10-11:30
4. Discussion, 11:30-12:00
5. Lunch, 12:00-13:00
6. Homosexuality as Psychiatric Danger, 13:00-14:00
7. Break, 14:00-14:15
8. Project time, 14:15-15:00

## DAY FOUR | MAY 10, 2018 | GENIUS AND CREATIVITY, WHAT'S MAD ABOUT IT?

1. Introduction, 9:00-9:10
2. Selected movie screening and discussion (*A Beautiful Mind* or *Aviator*), 9:10-12:30\*
3. Lunch, 12:30-13:30
4. Activities, 13:30-14:10
5. Break, 14:10-14:20
6. Project Time, 14:20-15:00

\*Subject to modifications depending on movie selection

## DAY FIVE | MAY 11, 2018 | A CHANGIN WORLD: DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION AND PATIENT ACTIVISM

1. Introduction, 9:00-9:10
2. Deinstitutionalization and Activism Activities, 9:10-10:10
3. Break, 10:10-10:25
4. Documentary Screening, 10:25-11:30
5. Preparation Time for Performances, 11:30-12:30
6. Lunch, 12:30-13:30
7. Performances, 13:30-15:45
8. Feedback, 14:45-15:00