COURSE DETAIL

THE ART OF MONSTROUS MEN
Country Germany
Host Institution Free University of Berlin
Program(s) Free University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Sociology Anthropology
UCEAP Course Number 125
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE ART OF MONSTROUS MEN
UCEAP Transcript Title ART MONSTROUS MEN
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

The mythologically masculine figure of the creative genius has often been employed to minimize and excuse violence against marginalized people. In exchange for great art, audiences might be more than willing to look the other way when women, people of color, queer people and children get hurt. With the arrival of social media, the violent price of art by monstrous men has become harder to ignore. Their crimes are all over the internet. When knowledge of the wrongdoings by artists spread, it becomes challenging for fans to ignore the reprehensible behavior of people like Michael Jackson, Roman Polanski, Louis CK, Woody Allen, Bill Cosby, Kevin Spacey and R. Kelly. In this course, we reflect on the dilemma this leaves for audiences: How do we deal with great art made by horrible people? Students will learn how to make use of an intersectional feminist toolbox to engage with questions like: -- Does art have to be moral? -- Can we separate art from artist? Is this dependent on the medium? -- Is the audience complicit or culpable if they continue consuming the work created by monstrous men? -- How does the art by monstrous men play into discussions around individual taste and political identity as shaped by cultural consumption? -- What do strategies of ethical cultural consumption look like? -- Can we have harmless, morally sound cultural products in patriarchal, white supremacist capitalism? -- What is “woke capitalism” and does canceling culture ever work? -- What do accountability and consequences look like? -- Can monstrous men redeem themselves through confessions, apologies and contrition?

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
32102

Host Institution Course Title
THE ART OF MONSTROUS MEN

Host Institution Course Details

https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/en/lv/817913?query=The+Art+of+Monstrous+Men&sm=7543...

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
John-F-Kennedy-Institut für Nordamerikastudien

Course Last Reviewed
2023-2024

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