

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

ANT 3930 CONSUMER CULTURE (Honors)

Instructor Information	Course Information
Dr. Susan D. Gillespie	Course meets T 4 (FAC 127); R 4-5 (ROG 129)
Office: B338 Turlington	Credit hours: 3
Office Phone: 352-294-7595	Section Number: 13GD
Office Hours: TR 9-10a, W 1-2p, & by appt.	Prerequisite: sophomore standing
email: sgillesp@ufl.edu	Spring 2014

Course Description and Content:

Catalog Description: Examination of the cultural bases for the consumption of commodities in modern society, employing anthropological concepts and social science methods. Primary emphasis is on the social relationships enacted between people and the things they live with.

Content: Anthropological theories and concepts are employed to investigate the close relationships that link people and the made things they live with—their “material culture”—especially relationships that drive consumption beyond basic needs. Categories of material culture given special focus are clothing, household furnishings, and techno-gear. We examine how these things circulate in our modern society through studies of gifting, shopping, advertising, the “rituals” of product use, heirlooming, and the ecology and politics of recycling and trashing. Specific topics include things and identity, extending our bodies and our selves through the things (real and virtual) we manipulate, creating relationships to other people via things, the meanings attributed to things, the social lives of things, the sensuality and authenticity of things, and the practices and consequences of object discard.

This course welcomes students in any major.

Course Objectives and Goals:

Students will learn about the major concepts and theorists relevant to material culture studies and apply those concepts to real-world examples. With the focus on contemporary Euro-American society, students will use these concepts and their developing skill in fundamental social science methods to observe and analyze their own cultural patterns and their individual consumptive practices. By participating in active learning scenarios and through reflective essays and blog posts, students will better understand how their ideas about themselves and social others as well as their everyday practices are shaped by larger cultural forces, thereby developing greater self-awareness and senses of personal agency. They will also gain new perspectives on the sustainability of current lifestyles and the possibilities of making better informed choices for themselves. The “enduring knowledge statements” for this course are: 1) the things we acquire, use, and discard are active social agents; 2) the things we make, make us as social beings; and 3) living with things has social, political, and material consequences.

E-learning

This course is managed by e-learning (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>). The Resources tool has most of the required readings, except for journal articles you can download through the library. Resources are kept in folders by week. Scores on assignments and exams are available in the Feedback (not Gradebook) tool. Check the Announcements tool regularly to keep up-to-date with course announcements.

Required Textbook and Other Required Readings:

Textbook: *Understanding Material Culture* by Ian Woodward (2007, reprinted 2011)

London: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-0-7619-4226-9

We read only *some* chapters out of this book. If you do not wish to purchase it, save money by reading the copy on reserve in Library West, or share the purchase or rental price among a group.

Most required readings are drawn from book chapters and journal articles dealing with material culture and anthropological consumer studies, as well as some blogs and magazine articles. Book chapters and articles not in online journals are available on the Resources tool on e-learning. You can download or view articles in online journals through the library website by searching for the journal title. See instructions (item #7) to access on-line journals from off-campus computers with the VPN client.

Important: Readings should be completed *before* the class period for which they are assigned (the “flipped classroom”). We use class meeting times to discuss the readings, so you must be prepared to participate in the discussion. For the double period on Thursday, readings are listed separately for each period, but obviously they must be completed before the first period.

Strategies for Success

Attend class—be on time and be prepared. Keep up with all the readings each week. Create a glossary of the major concepts that are discussed. Ask questions in class or by email if you have any difficulty understanding the material. Meet with me in person. You are asked to think, be imaginative, look for patterns, apply concepts, and make interpretive judgments—not just memorize material.

Acceptance of Course Requirements

By remaining registered in this class, you agree to accept the course requirements and expectations as stated in this syllabus. These are in addition to other general University requirements and codes of conduct as stated in official documents and mentioned on pp. 3-4 of this syllabus.

Grade Evaluation and Methods

3 exams

45% of grade

The exams will be administered in class and will consist of short-answer definitions of major terms and brief essays to assess comprehension of the major concepts and their applications to real life. Each exam is worth 15% of the grade.

10 homework assignments

20% of grade

To evaluate how you are applying knowledge and engaging in self-reflection, and to facilitate class discussion exercises, for specific lectures you are asked to post an essay on the discussion portal or to write a blog post. Suggested length is 300-500 words; specific instructions are given with each assignment. Each assignment is worth 2% of the grade. The first homework essay is required of everyone, but for blog posts, choose 9 to do. Students who do more than 9 posts can earn extra credit.

participation in in-class activities

20% of grade

Every lecture period will include a class discussion, small group discussion, or a class activity. Everyone is expected to be prepared for and to participate in these activities. They account for approximately 1.4% of the grade for each regular class week.

poster project

15% of grade

In week 4 you will be introduced to a research project, to “follow a thing” through its social or use-life and beyond. This project will result in a poster to be presented in the last week of class, requiring a brief oral presentation. Each poster will also be accompanied by a short written description of the project with bibliography. The grade is based on the quality of the research and of the poster, the oral presentation, and the accompanying script.

Total: 100%

Critical dates for exams or other work

Exam 1: Tuesday, Feb. 11

Exam 2: Tuesday, March 18

Exam 3: Tuesday, April 22

Poster Project: topic deadline: Tuesday, Feb. 18

project description (300 words) with starter bibliography (5 entries): Tues. Mar. 25

Presentation: double period Thursday April 17

Final poster and script to be loaded on e-learning Monday April 28 (date of the scheduled final)

Class Demeanor Expected by the Professor

Students are expected to be in their seats at the start of class. Cell phones should be silenced and out of sight, except when used in class activities. Laptop computers and tablets are allowed ONLY to read any electronic readings, for note-taking, and on certain days to facilitate class activities.

Policy Related to Class Attendance and Missed Exams

Attendance Policy: Although daily attendance per se is not taken, participation in in-class activities is recorded and is worth 15% of the final grade.

Make-up Exam Policy: Students may take an exam within one week after the due date with no penalty *by asking the professor for permission* ahead of time to take a make-up. The make-up exam will be different from the original exam. Please make every effort to take the exam with the class.

Late Homework policy: Because you have a choice of blog posts, there is no allowance for a missed due date. If you miss the due date for a post, choose a later one to take its place.

Late submission of poster project: Except for university-wide excused absences, poster projects should be turned in by the due date. They lose 25% of their value for every day late.

For university policy see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

UF Grading policy and Course Grading Requirements

For information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Every graded activity in this course earns points. Letter grades are based on a total of 300 points; see grading scale below. Important: If a minimum grade of C is required to fulfill certain graduation requirements, C- does not fulfill those requirements. GPA points for each letter grade are provided in the bottom line of the chart.

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
270-300	264-269	255-263	240-254	234-239	225-233	210-224	204-209	195-203	180-194	174-179	173 or lower
4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0.67	0.00

The following information is provided in conformance with University Policy:

1. Policy related to class attendance, make-up exams, and other work

Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

2. Accommodations for students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Professor

when requesting accommodation. Upon receipt of documentation, the Professor will grant the accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow these procedures as early as possible in the semester.

3. Online course evaluation process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

4. Religious Observances

Students seeking modification of due dates for class participation, assignments, and exams for religious reasons (e.g., holiday observances) should contact the Professor and request this modification; it will then be granted.

5. Academic Honesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or any TAs assigned to this class. Instances of dishonesty include conducting unauthorized research on the internet and failing to cite sources of information on any work submitted, as well as unauthorized collaborating with students or others to determine the answers on assignments and exams.

6. Counseling and Emergency Services

- the University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575
<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>
- Student Health Care Center, 392-1171
- Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601
- Center for Sexual Assault/Abuse Recovery and Education (CARE), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
- University Police Department 392-1111 (non-emergency); call 9-1-1 for emergencies

7. Electronic Course Reserves

The electronic course reserve service is offered by the George A. Smathers Libraries. Under the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities have the right to equal access, use and benefit of the course materials that have been placed on reserve in the Libraries.

Students who have registered with the University of Florida Disability Resource Center should initiate their request for assistance and accommodation in accessing these materials. The Center will work with the Libraries Course Reserve Unit to provide accessible course materials. All information submitted by the student to the Libraries in fulfilling the request for accommodation will be kept confidential. For more information on services for students with disabilities, contact the UF Disability Resource Center at 352-392-8565 or at accessuf@dso.ufl.edu. For general information on course reserves, please contact the Course Reserves Unit at 352-273-2520, or email at eres@uflib.ufl.edu.

It is best to **use the UF VPN client** when accessing electronic materials course reserve materials as well as e-books, on-line journals, databases, etc. offered by the library. The VPN client is easily installed and configured, and provides easy access to electronic materials using off-campus computers. For more information on using the VPN client, go to <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/login/vpn.html>

Software Regulations

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Tentative Topics, Readings, and Assignments – subject to change

Woodward = textbook; [Lib] = the journal/newspaper article is available online, usually from the library website
urls are given for other materials accessible online; other readings (book chapters) are available directly as pdf files
Required readings are to be completed by the class meeting date; note the required pages of a chapter or article.
Reading and Homework assignments are tentative, and any changes will be announced well in advance.

Week 1

Part I: Why Do We Have So Much Stuff?

Tues Jan 7 **Attitudes towards Modern Consumption**

Thurs Jan 9-1 **Consumption, Capitalism, and Modernity**

Woodward Chap 3: “The Deceptive, Suspicious Object: Marxist and Critical Approaches” read pp. 35-38

Thurs Jan 9-2 **Hyper-Modernity and Hyper-Consumption**

[Lib] Rothman, Lily (2013) *The New Cinema of Stuff: Materialism at the Movies, Just the Way You Like It.*
Time June 10, pp. 60-62.

Slater, Don (1997) *Consumer Culture and Modernity*. Cambridge: Polity Press. pp. 24-32

Week 2

Tues Jan 14 **The Anthropology of Consumption**

Molotch, Harvey (2003) *Where Stuff Comes From: How Toasters, Toilets, Cars, Computers and Many Other Things Come to Be as They Are*. New York: Routledge. Chap 1: “Lash-Ups: Goods and Bads,” pp. 1-15 only

Homework assigned: (required) Essay on a “focal object” (see Woodward reading for Thursday), due Thursday

Thurs Jan 16-1 **Material Culture and Materiality**

Woodward Chap 1: “The Material as Culture: Definitions, Perspectives, Approaches,” pp. 3-16

Carrington, Victoria (2012) There is No Going Back; Roxie’s iPhone: An Object Ethnography. *Language and Literacy* 14(2):27-40. Required excerpt only: Read 5 page excerpt pdf on e-learning

Thurs Jan 16-2 **Individual and Society; Singular and Common**

Week 3

Part II: How Does the Stuff I Have Impact Me Personally?

Tues Jan 21 **My Stuff and Me: Person and Authenticity**

[Lib] Moranis, Rick (2006) My Days are Numbered. *New York Times* 22 Nov 2006: A.27.

Csikszentmihalyi, Mihaly and Eugene Rochberg-Halton (1981) *The Meaning of Things: Domestic Symbols and the Self*. New York: Cambridge University Press. read excerpt: pp. 1, 14-19

Homework: Blog Post #1 : count and rank your possessions in importance, due Thursday before class

Thurs Jan 23-1 **Identities: Ego- and Socio-Centered Self and Person**

Woodward Chap 7: “Material Culture and Identity” pp. 133-143

Greif, Mark. The Hipster in the Mirror. New York Times, November 1, 2012.
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/14/books/review/Greif-t.html?pagewanted=1&_r=0" (or see pdf)

Thurs Jan 23-2 **The Extended Person and the Megaphone Effect**

[Lib] Wolverson, Roya (2013) The Human Billboard. *Time* April 15, 2013: pages Business 2 - Business 6

Woodward Chap 6: "Objects and Distinction" pp. 113-123

[Lib] McQuarrie, Edward F., Jessica Miller, and Barbara J. Phillips (2013) The Megaphone Effect: Taste and Audience in Fashion Blogging. *Journal of Consumer Research* 40(1):136-158. Required pages: 136-140 and skim over the fashion blogs they analyzed

Homework: Post# 2: post 2 comments on others' blog posts #1, due Tuesday before class

Week 4 **Part III: How Do We Create Social Relationships with Things?**

Tues Jan 28 **The Gift: Inalienable Possessions**

McCracken, Grant (1988) Lois Roget: Curatorial Consumer in a Modern World. In *Culture and Consumption: New Approaches to the Symbolic Character of Consumer Goods and Activities*, pp. 44-53. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Woodward Chap 5: "The Material Representing the Cultural Universe," pp. 98-105

Julier, Guy (2009) Inside and Outside the iPod. In *The Object Reader*, ed. by Fiona Candlin and Raiford Guins, Pp. 477-479. London: Routledge.

Homework: Post #3: report on a something received as a gift, due Thursday before class

Thurs Jan 30-1 **Social Lives of Things: Object Biographies**

Kopytoff, Igor (1986) The Cultural Biography of Things: Commoditization as Process. In *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*, ed. by Arjun Appadurai. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 64-68 only

Thurs Jan 30-2 **Object Itineraries: Following Things and Their Traces**

Joyce, Rosemary (2013) Object Itineraries: An Introduction. In *Objects in Motion*, edited by Rosemary A. Joyce and Susan D. Gillespie. In press. Read pp 1-5 only

Recommended:

Jackson, Peter (1999) Commodity Cultures: The Traffic in Things. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 24(1):95-108.

look at www.followthethings.com, www.howstuffismade.org for the poster project

Homework: Post #4: informed comment on prior "gift" posts, due Tuesday before class

Week 5

Tues Feb 4 **Shopping as Love**

Mullins, Paul (2011) *The Archaeology of Consumer Culture*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida. Read Chapter 5: "The Materiality of Domesticity and Victorian Marketing," pp. 146-149 only

Miller, Daniel (1998) *A Theory of Shopping*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. Read “Introduction: pp. 1-13.

Homework: Post #5: report on a special thing shopped for and given to someone else, due Thursday

Thurs Feb 6-1 **Things Gather: Human-Thing Entanglements**

[Lib] Hodder, Ian (2011) Human-thing Entanglement: Towards an Integrated Archaeological Perspective. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 17:154-177. Required pages 154-164

Dant, Tim (1999) *Material Culture in the Social World*. Buckingham: Open University Press. Chap. 4: “Building and Dwelling” pp. 73-84 only

Thurs Feb 6-2 **Things are Social Agents, too**

Gell, Alfred (1998) *Art and Agency: An Anthropological Theory*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. Read pages 12-23.

Kaulingfreks, Ruud (2009) The Broken Mug. In *The Object Reader*, ed. by Fiona Candlin and Raiford Guins, Pp. 454-455. London: Routledge.

Kleege, Georgina (2009) My Secret Weapon. In *The Object Reader*, ed. by Fiona Candlin and Raiford Guins, Pp. 510-512. London: Routledge.

Homework: Post #6: Post on a possession that has “gathered” other things, revealing its agency, due Thursday

Tues Feb 11 **EXAM I**

Week 6 **Part IV: How Do Things and People Intersect?**

Thurs Feb 13-1 **My Body as Me?**

[Lib] Lucas, Gavin (2002) Disposability and Dispossession in the Twentieth Century. *Journal of Material Culture* 7(1):5-22. Read pages 5-12 only on “the moral system of hygiene” and the rise of “disposability”

Thurs Feb 13-2 **The Extended Body-The Extended Self**

Miller, Daniel (2010) *Stuff*. Cambridge: Polity Press. read “The Sari” pp. 23-31.

Knappett, Carl (2005) *Thinking Through Material Culture: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. From Chap. 2: “Animacy, Agency, and Personhood” read pp. 16-22 on “Fuzzy Objects and Extended Organisms”

Homework: Post #7: childhood memory of riding a bike, due Tuesday

Week 7

Tues Feb 18 **Ergonomics: Bodies with Things**

[Lib] Torrens, George, Deana McDonagh-Philp, and Anne Newman (2001) Getting a Grip. *Ergonomics in Design: The Quarterly of Human Factors Applications*. 9:7-13.

Homework: Post #8: make 2 comments on others’ prior post #7, using terms from this lecture, due Thursday

Thurs Feb 20-1 **Bodily Skill and Praxeology**

Ingold, Tim (2011) Walking the Plank: Meditations on a Process of Skill. In *Being Alive: Essays on*

Movement, Knowledge and Description, pp. 51-62. London: Routledge

Thurs Feb 20-2 **Body Hexis**

Wilson, Bee (2012) *Consider the Fork: A History of How We Cook and Eat*. New York: Basic Books. Read Chapter 6 “Eat”, pp. 188-202 and pp. 64-69 on the “overbite”

Rosin, Hanna The Touch-Screen Generation. *The Atlantic*, March 20 2013
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2013/04/the-touch-screen-generation/309250/>

Homework: Post #9: comment on body hexis in using techno-gear, due Tuesday

Week 8 **Part V: How Can Things Have Meaning?**

Tues Feb 25 **How do Objects Mean?**

Berger, Arthur Asa (2009) *What Objects Mean: An Introduction to Material Culture*. Walnut Creek: Left Coast Press. Chapter 3 “Semiotic Approaches to Material Culture” pp. 39-45 only

Miller, Daniel (2009) Buying Time. In *Time, Consumption and Everyday Life: Practice, Materiality and Culture*, ed. by Elizabeth Shove, Frank Trentmann and Richard Wilk, pp. 157-169. Oxford: Berg. On distressed denims as patina, read pp. 157-162.

[Lib] Wax, Emily (2013) Beauty of the Bust: Cracked Cellphone Screens Become Status Symbol. *The Washington Post* June 2013.

Homework: Post #10 comment on the iconicity of cell phone apps; due Thursday
Phone Polaroids: A Semiotics Primer <http://hyperallergic.com/7175/iphone-polaroids/>

Thurs Feb 27 - 1 **Meaning Movement (or How Advertising Works)**

[Lib] McCracken, Grant (1986) Culture and Consumption: A Theoretical Account of the Structure and Movement of the Cultural Meaning of Consumer Goods. *Journal of Consumer Research* 13(1): 71-84.

Thurs Feb 27-2 **Authenticity (again)**

[Lib] Weiss, Elliot (2004) Packaging Jewishness: Novelty and Tradition in Kosher Food Packaging. *Design Issues* 20(1):48-61. Required pages 48-56

Homework: Post #11: report on a “knock-off” purchase, using terminology learned, due Tuesday

[Spring Break]

Week 9

Tues Mar 11 **Making Things - Making Meaning**

Woodward, Sophie (2005) Looking Good: Feeling Right—Aesthetics of the Self. In *Clothing as Material Culture*, ed. by Susanne Küchler and Daniel Miller, pp. 21-39. Oxford: Berg. Required pages: 21-30.

Thurs Mar 13 (both hours) **Ensembles: Diderot Unities and Effects**

McCracken, Grant (1988) *Culture and Consumption: New Approaches to the Symbolic Character of Consumer Goods and Activities*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Chapter 8: Diderot Unities and the Diderot Effect: Neglected Cultural Aspects of Consumption, pp. 118-129.

Recommended to go with the McCracken chapter:

Diderot, Denis (1772) Regrets on Parting with My Old Dressing Gown. Or, A Warning to Those Who Have More Taste than Money. Translated and reprinted in (2001) *Rameau's Nephew and Other Works*, trans. by Jacques Barzun and Ralph H. Bowen, pp. 309-317. Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co. Read pages 309-314.

Tues Mar 18 **Exam II**

Week 10 **Part VI Creating The Desiring Subject (or, Why Do I Want it?)**

Thurs Mar 20-1 **Sensuality and Emotions: the Effects of Things on People**

Marks, Laura U. (2009) My Rock. In *The Object Reader*, ed. by Fiona Candlin and Raiford Guins, Pp. 503-505. London: Routledge.

Clark, Laurie Beth (2009) Shin's Tricycle. In *The Object Reader*, ed. by Fiona Candlin and Raiford Guins, Pp. 513-515. London: Routledge.

Homework: Post #12 Post a comment on an object quality that had memorable sensual or emotion affect, due Tuesday

Thurs Mar 20-2 **The Technology of Enchantment and Enchantment of Technology**

[Lib] Isaac, Gwyneira (2008) Technology Becomes the Object: The Use of Electronic Media at the National Museum of the American Indian. *Journal of Material Culture* 13(3):287-310. required reading pp. 287-301

Week 11

Tues Mar 25 **Consuming Experience - Consumed by Experience**

Assignment: watch youtube videos and be prepared to discuss them (urls will be listed on e-learning)

Homework: Post #13: comment on a remembered consumed experience, due Thursday

Thurs Mar 27-1 **Modes of Tourist Experiences and the Question of Authenticity (again)**

Cochran, Matthew, and Paul Mullins (2011) The Archaeology of "Shoppertainment": Ideology, Empowerment, and Place in Consumer Culture. In *Ideologies in Archaeology*, ed. by Reinhard Bernbeck and Randall H. McGuire, pp. 90-106. Tucson: University of Arizona Press. Required reading pp. 97-106.

Recommended: [Lib] Cohen, Erik (1979) A Phenomenology of Tourist Experiences. *Sociology* 13(2):179-201.

Thurs Mar 27-2 **Consuming Historic Places: Gathering the Past**

www.virtualtourist.com

Recommended: [Lib] McIntosh, Alison J., and Richard C. Prentice (1999) Affirming Authenticity: Consuming Cultural Heritage. *Annals of Tourism Research* 26(3):589-612.

Homework: Post #14: visit and comment on an internet "virtual reality" site, due Tuesday

Week 12 **Part VII: Where Does the Stuff Go?**

Tues Apr 1 **Divesting Oneself of Things**

[Lib] Herrmann, Gretchen M. (1997) Gift or Commodity: What Changes Hands in the US Garage Sale? *American Ethnologist* 24(4):910-930. Required pages 910-911, and 918-920

[Lib] Marcoux, Jean Sébastien (2001) The ‘Casser Maison’ Ritual: Constructing the Self by Emptying the Home. *Journal of Material Culture* 6(2):213-235. Required pages 213-221.

Homework: Post #15: comment on the difficulty of getting rid of specific possession, due Thursday

Thurs Apr 3-1 Resistance: Hoarding and Anti-Consumption

[Lib] Maycroft, Neil (2009) Not Moving Things Along: Hoarding, Clutter and Other Ambiguous Matter. *Journal of Consumer Behaviour* 8(6):354-364.

[Lib] Cherrier, Hélène (2009) Disposal and Simple Living: Exploring the Circulation of Goods and the Development of Sacred Consumption. *Journal of Consumer Behaviour* 8(6):327-339. Required pages 327-332.

Thurs Apr 3-2 Rubbish: Order, Placement, and Performance

[Lib] Lucas, Gavin (2002) Disposability and Dispossession in the Twentieth Century. *Journal of Material Culture* 7(1):5-22. Read pages 12 (bottom) to 19. [we read the first part of this article earlier]

Homework: Post #16: comment on your “trashing” activities, due Tuesday

Week 13

Tues Apr 8 Trash or Treasure: Alternative Afterlives of Things

[Lib] Reno, Joshua (2009) Your Trash is Someone’s Treasure: The Politics of Value at a Michigan Landfill. *Journal of Material Culture* 14(1):29-46. Assigned pages 29-37.

Homework: Post #17: comment on your observations: garage sale or recycling, due Thursday

Thurs Apr 10-1 The Politics of “Waste” Disposal and the Taphonomy of Disaster

[Lib] Dawdy, Shannon (2006) The Taphonomy of Disaster and the (Re)Formation of New Orleans. *American Anthropologist* 108(4):719-730. Assigned pages 719-725.

Thurs Apr 10-2 Ruins: Entropic Heritage, Objects as Process, and the Sensuality of Decay

[Lib] DeSilvey, Caitlin (2006) Observed Decay: Telling Stories with Mutable Things. *Journal of Material Culture* 11(3):318-338. Assigned pages 318-328.

Tim Edensor (2005) *Industrial Ruins: Spaces, Aesthetics and Materiality*. Oxford: Berg. Chapter 4: “Waste, Excess and Sensuality” assigned pages 108-118.

Homework: Post #18: comment on observation of a “ruin”, due Tuesday

Week 14

Tues Apr 15 Course Wrap-up: The Future of Consumption?

Thurs Apr 17 both hours: Poster Presentations

Week 15

Tues Apr 22 **Exam III in class**