

IS 204 : Themes in Popular Culture

An interdisciplinary study of a specific event, person, idea, or process in popular culture which will bring together various methodologies and conceptual tools to create a complex analysis. Topics covered will include: the concept of popular culture, how elements of popular culture are created and circulated, how elements of popular culture connect to historical, political, social, symbolic and intellectual history, how different groups in society are related to the elements of popular culture, and how popular culture plays a role in the lives of individuals.

Credits 3

Lecture Hours 3

Course Outcomes

- Identify the connection between the theme in popular culture with larger political, social, and intellectual patterns in society.
- Analyze the connection between the theme in popular culture and other themes, either contemporary or historical.
- Participate effectively in group discussions, given evidence of thoughtfulness and an engagement with other people's positions.
- Connect local elements of popular culture to global economic and political systems.
- Explain and justify an evaluation of the role of popular culture in the student's life.