Spaces of Media, Fall 2019 seminar (JAMS 860 Seminar in Media Studies)
Prof. Michael Z. Newman mznewman@uwm.edu

The starting assumption of this seminar will be that the spaces of media consumption matter, that they shape the meanings of the content of media (i.e., texts) and the value of their experience, and that they are crucial to the significance of media in the lives of audiences or users. These spaces also have their own meanings and politics, which can be analyzed with the tools of critical cultural analysis.

The seminar will focus on reading academic studies of the spaces of media -- popular media of the 20th and 21st centuries in particular -- including work on cinema exhibition, television in the home and in public, video arcades, and communication in a digital age characterized by mediated public spaces and mobile media technologies. It will take an historical perspective on spaces of media as sites for critical analysis, considering the archives of media spaces and how they may be accessed by scholars. And it will encourage participants to be active explorers of media spaces in our everyday lives, offering critical reflections on their cultural significance.

Seminar participants will conduct an original research project on one particular space of media, to be presented at the conclusion of the semester and submitted as a paper.

Readings may include theoretical work on basic concepts (e.g., Doreen Massey, *Space, Place, and Gender*) but will largely focus on particular analyses such as some of the following:

- Charles Acland, *Screen Traffic: Movies, Multiplexes, and Global Culture*
- Nick Couldry and Anna McCarthy, eds., *MediaSpace: Place, Scale and Culture in a Media Age*
- Laura Fair, *Reel Pleasures: Cinema Audiences and Entrepreneurs in Twentieth-Century Urban Tanzania*
- Jason Farman, *Mobile Interface Theory: Embodied Space and Locative Media*
- Larissa Hjorth, *Mobile Media in the Asia-Pacific: Gender and the Art of Being Mobile*
- Carly Kocurek, *Coin-Operated Americans: Rebooting Boyhood at the Video Game Arcade*
- Anna McCarthy, *Ambient Television: Visual Culture and Public Space*
- Scott McQuire, *Geomedia: Networked Cities and the Future of Public Space*
- David Morley and Kevin Robbins, *Spaces of Identity: Global Media, Electronic Landscapes, and Cultural Boundaries*
- Lynn Spigel, *Make Room for TV: Television and the Family Ideal in Postwar America*