

THE SEMINAR PROGRAMME

This programme of seminars is designed to reflect these four areas within the work of the School of Media and Performing Arts as a whole, and it does so in two ways. Firstly, the programme includes a number of invited speakers who are authorities in their fields, whether in the academic world, or in the media, or within Government and regulatory bodies. Secondly, it offers an opportunity for young scholars, embarking on doctoral research, to present their projects to an interested audience, with the support of their supervisors – all experienced researchers within the School. These alternating presentations will, we hope, set up an informed and stimulating dialogue between students, scholars, media workers and others who are interested in the important roles which both electronic and traditional media play in contemporary society, whether Irish, British or global.

We welcome all-comers and hope that the seminars will generate some lively debates.

Professor Máire Messenger Davies, PhD, FRSA, Director,
Centre for Media Research

Admission to all seminars is free. For further details please contact the Cultural Development Office, Coleraine campus. Tel: 028 7032 4683
Email: j.mackle@ulster.ac.uk

To contribute to, ask about, or comment on the seminars, please contact Dr. Robert Porter, School of Media & Performing Arts, Coleraine campus. Tel: 028 7032 4974
Email: r.porter@ulster.ac.uk

THE CENTRE FOR MEDIA RESEARCH

The Centre for Media Research was set up in 2003 to provide a new kind of venue for Media Studies research and debate. Within the Centre, a diverse group of scholars and students from many parts of the world are investigating questions of media history, media policy, media technologies, cross-cultural flows and new media developments within an Irish, British and international context. The Centre for Media Research was set up within the School of Media and Performing Arts to carry out research in four main areas:

- The visual history of Ireland, including photography, film and television
- Digital media, new technology and their applications in education, archiving and the arts
- Cross-cultural film studies, collaborating with scholars in film and media studies in India, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia
- Media policy - seeking to make the Centre an informed voice on contemporary matters of public concern including media globalisation, media literacy and national/international issues



THE CENTRE FOR MEDIA RESEARCH



in the SCHOOL OF MEDIA AND PERFORMING ARTS
at the UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER AT COLERAINE:

SEMINAR PROGRAMME
AUTUMN 2004

the programme

The seminars run on Thursdays from 1.00pm – 2.30pm except where otherwise indicated in the brochure. The first seminar is a special event on Thursday 7th October, and this will be followed by the first of the PhD seminars on 14th October.

THURSDAY 7th OCTOBER

GUEST SPEAKER - Cultural identity and broadcasting – the case of ‘stroke city’

At this first seminar, broadcaster **Gerry Anderson** will be discussing his experience as a Northern Irish media personality with a UK-wide reputation, in conversation with fellow radio-practitioner and sound researcher, **Dr. Paul Moore**. Refreshments will be served from 1.30pm and **the talk will begin at 2.00pm**.

Venue: 1.30pm, the Octagon, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 14th OCTOBER

PhD presentations - Irish film: historical and contemporary perspectives

Ciara Chambers - ‘Sharing their cottage with the pig’ in a land ruled by ‘dictator’ de Valera. The newsreels’ portrayal of twentieth century Ireland

Ciara Chambers is researching the depiction of Irish events in cinema newsreels. In the first half of the twentieth century, newsreels constituted the only visual news medium available to the public. Constantly seeking to avoid censorship and controversy they sought to uphold social norms and satisfy public taste. This was often difficult in their portrayal of events in Ireland, an area where their representation frequently clashed with public opinion.

Conn Holohan - The Male Vanishes: The devaluation of patriarchy in Irish and Spanish culture and its legacy for contemporary cinematic representations

An examination of the effects of the Spanish civil war and the experience of colonization respectively on the construction of a patriarchal national culture within Spain and Ireland, arguing that a devalued concept of patriarchy has been central to trends in representation within the contemporary national cinemas of both countries.

Supervisors and respondents - Professor Martin McLoone; Professor Máire Messenger Davies.

Venue: 1.00pm, the Octagon, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 21st OCTOBER

GUEST SPEAKERS - Nasty Nickelodeons!: regulating the cinema in New York City in the early 20th century

Professor Roberta Pearson, Professor of Film in the School of American and Canadian Studies, Nottingham University and **Professor William Uricchio**, Professor of Comparative Media Studies at MIT and of Comparative Media History at Utrecht University, will discuss their forthcoming book on the history of media regulation and reception with special reference to methods of historical research.

Venue: 1.00pm, the Octagon, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 4th NOVEMBER

PhD presentations - Theorising sound

Andrew Boyce - Creating a sound identity for Northern Ireland: the sonic profile of BBC Radio Ulster

A look at the history of BBC Radio Ulster as a public service medium, highlighting how sound has been used to construct a sense of identity in the Northern Irish context.

Liz Greene - Making waves about ones and zeros: the origins of sound design during the cross over from analog to digital

An account of how technological changes in the 1970s and early 1980s created a space for the sound designer in film.

Respondent and supervisor - Dr. Paul Moore.

Venue: 1.00pm, the Link Lounge, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 18th NOVEMBER

GUEST SPEAKERS - Why is the government so keen on media literacy? The view from OFCOM and the Northern Irish dimension

Robin Blake, Manager of OFCOM's national Media Literacy programme, with **Denis Wolinski**, OFCOM's Northern Ireland representative, will discuss the recent nationwide Government consultation on media literacy and its implications for education, media research and the media industries.

Venue: 1.15pm, Lecture Theatre 6, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 2nd DECEMBER

PhD Presentations - Cybercultures

Julian Kücklich - Work hard, play harder. The changing relationship between work and play in new media

How computer game modifications, or mods, are unique, digital cultural objects redefining the relationship between work and play, and between production and consumption.

Shihong Wu - A study of young cyber fanatics’ uses of the internet in contemporary China

How the impact of internet communication on young Chinese has provided them with new forms of social activities, perhaps giving birth to a new youth culture with cyber characteristics.

Respondents and supervisors - Ned Rossiter, Professor Dan Fleming.

Venue: 1.00pm, the Link Lounge, Coleraine campus

THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER

GUEST SPEAKERS - Dumbing down or informing the public?: How can the press get it right when reporting controversial research?

Professor Ed Cairns of the Psychology Department at the University of Ulster, has been consulted as an expert many times over the years by journalists reporting stories about children and conflict. Here he discusses the issues involved in being ‘an expert’ on such sensitive matters with a local journalist, **Maggie Taggart**, Education and Arts Correspondent for BBC Northern Ireland, in a conversation moderated by **Dr. Greg McLaughlin** of the School of Media and Performing Arts, author of *The War Correspondent*, Pluto Press, 2002.

Venue: 1.00pm, the Link Lounge, Coleraine campus