

WRITING ABOUT POPULAR CULTURE

WRTG 3018: BLACK MIRROR

Fall 2020 TuTh 2:00pm - 3:20pm



Often described as a modern day Twilight Zone, the BBC television program *Black Mirror* considers the increasing footprint of new technologies on our material, social, cultural, and relational lives. WRTG 3018 provides an introduction to the critical analysis of popular culture by utilizing the series as primary text and point of reference. Specifically, WRTG 3018 aims to:

- Survey the paradigms of mass culture and cultural theory
- Decode the visual, semiotic, and cinematographic elements that convey meaning
- Read *Black Mirror* from different theoretical perspectives
- Develop meaningful claims and support those claims with authoritative research, logical reasoning, and thoughtful analysis
- Engage the series critically and creatively, encouraging students to become more active critics and contributors to pop culture discourse

To accomplish this, students will complete a series of written, multimodal, and presentation assignments.

Students must take WRTG 2010 or equivalent prior to taking this course.

Fulfills Humanities Exploration (HF)



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