

Assignments:

Short paper

1. Read handout on cultural studies.
2. Write at least 500 words, answering ONE of the following questions IN YOUR OWN WORDS.
 - a. *Hegemony* is not a household word in the United States. How would you explain what the term means to your roommate? Can you think of a metaphor or analogy that would clarify this critical concept?
 - b. What is the nature of Hall's complaint about *American media scholarship*?
 - c. Hall articulates the position that the *media encode the dominant ideology of our culture*. If you do not now agree with his thesis, what *evidence* could he muster that would convince you that he is right? What evidence would you provide to counter his argument?
3. Meet with your group and complete peer evaluations of your papers. Complete the following evaluation on a separate sheet of paper for each member of your group.

Author Name: _____ Reviewer Name: _____

1. In your own words, what is the thesis of this essay? (Write it as a thesis statement so the writer knows if he or she was clear).
2. What was the best thing about this essay?
3. What was the weakest thing about this essay?
4. What made you believe the thesis?
5. What made you reluctant to believe the thesis?
6. What adjectives would you use to describe the voice in this essay?
7. List one concrete suggestion that would strengthen the essay.