

MEVIT4710 – Screen Histories and Theories

Take home exam, Autumn 2024

The exam opens on Monday 25 November at 11:00 AM. The submission deadline is Thursday 28 November at 11:00 AM.

The exam must be submitted as a PDF-file in Inspira (more about this below).

The exam overview consists of 4 pages. You must answer one out of three questions.

- Before you start writing your exam submission, you must ensure that you have read and understood the University of Oslo's information about cheating:
<http://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/cheating/index.html>
- When you are writing an academic assignment, it is important that you familiarize yourself with the rules for quotations and the citing of sources and the use of tools created by Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as language models like GPT UiO, ChatGPT, and the like: <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/sources-citations/>

You must use a reference style (such as Harvard, MLA, Chicago or APA) throughout your exam submission, and in the bibliography/reference list at the end of the submission. You must provide a full reference list.

EXAM QUESTION/TEXT:

This exam requires you to provide a 10-page essay response to **ONE** of the three questions below. **You must indicate which question you are responding to.**

You are expected to use the materials and concepts we have worked with this semester in class to formulate and justify your argument. This is not a research essay however you are welcome to include relevant additional material provided it does not substitute for our course materials—although this is not expected.

QUESTION 1

“In my first work on this subject, *Eye/Machine* (2001), I called such pictures, made neither to entertain nor to inform, ‘operative images.’ These are images that do not represent an object, but rather are part of an operation.” (Farocki, p. 17)

Is Farocki's conceptualization of the operative image persuasive today? How might it be applied, or alternatively updated, to analyze contemporary screen media?

QUESTION 2

"More striking even than the limitation as to time is the limitation as to space. All play moves and has its being within a play-ground marked off beforehand either materially or ideally, deliberately or as a matter of course. Just as there is no formal difference between play and ritual, so the "consecrated spot" cannot be formally distinguished from the play-ground. The arena, the card-table, the magic circle, the temple, the stage, the screen, the tennis court, the court of justice, etc., are all in form and function play-grounds, i.e. forbidden spots, isolated, hedged round, hallowed, within which special rules obtain. All are temporary worlds within the ordinary world, dedicated to the performance of an act apart." (Huizinga, p. 10)

In light of Huizinga's statement above, how might we conceptualize what a screen is and does? Your response should consider the themes and concepts of the course.

QUESTION 3

Smartphones screens are intimate. Do you agree? Explain why or why not by contrasting the affordances of the smartphone with other screen media discussed in this course.

More information about the exam:

[Information about home examinations in Inspera from The University of Oslo.](#)

[Frequently asked questions before and during exams at IMK](#)

You will be answering the examination in a word processor (Word), and then upload your answers to Inspera as a PDF before the examination time is up.

Inspera closes precisely and automatically at 11:00 AM. You must calculate at least 2-3 minutes to convert your answers from a Word document to a PDF-document, and to upload the PDF-document to Inspera. Please follow the link for more information regarding converting to pdf: <https://www.uio.no/english/services/it/web/open-document-formats/pdf/>.

The uploaded document will be automatically submitted when the time is up. After starting the exam, you will see your remaining time in the upper left corner.

We recommend you to use the templates that you will find by following the link: <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/submissions/answer-exam/>

Remember that your examination answer is anonymous and that you shall not write your name in your answer. Please type the course code, semester, and your candidate number in the header in the document. Your candidate number is available in Studentweb. The name of the file you upload should be your candidate number (for example 1234.pdf)

If you want to withdraw from the examination, please click on the icon in the right corner, and then choose “withdraw”.

Requirements

This exam requires an essay of 10 pages, excluding front page and references. One page is calculated to ca 2300 characters without spaces.

Rules for use of sources and quotation and use of AI tools in unsupervised exams

When you are writing an academic assignment, it is important that you familiarize yourself with the rules for quotations and the citing of sources and the use of tools created by Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as language models like GPT UiO, ChatGPT, and the like:

<https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/sources-citations/>

HF has additional information on writing academic papers:

<https://www.hf.uio.no/english/studies/sources-referencing/index.html>

Please make yourself familiar with what is considered cheating on exams:

<https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/cheating/index.html>

The exam is intended to measure the knowledge and skills you have acquired. In order for the examiner to be able to assess your paper and measure your knowledge, the assignment must be an independent work written in your own words. If you use the material of others or a previously submitted paper, you must provide a reference in the text, and verbatim reproduction of text must be marked as a quotation. All papers are checked electronically for plagiarism.

AI tools and unsupervised exams

Language models generated using AI are not a lexicon of factual knowledge, but produce text based on statistical probabilities. The text generated by a language model is not verifiable (such as the text in a textbook), and therefore not a legitimate source. It may be considered

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cheating/attempted cheating if you submit an exam paper that includes longer text excerpts that you have not written yourself but have been generated by a language model.

Contact information

If you have technical questions for instance regarding your computer, internet or updates of browsers, please contact IT Helpdesk:

<https://www.uio.no/english/services/it/contact/helpdesk/html>

If you experience technical difficulties during your examination or have further questions, please call 22 84 10 70.

If you have questions regarding the subject or the examination questions, please contact the course leader:

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