CENTRE FOR
CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL STUDIES

SEVENTH REPORT, 1972-74

This Report covers developments in the Centre for the period from January 1973 to January 1974

Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies
Faculty of Arts
The University of Birmingham
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT
021-472 1301, Ext. 3549

January 1974
CONTENTS

PART 1: THE CENTRE — INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT 1972-74  

PART 2: ORGANIZATION  
Centre Membership  
Accommodation  
Administration  
Finance  
Admissions  

PART 3: COLLECTIVE WORK 1972-74  
1972-73: General Theory Seminars  
1972-73: Sub-Groups  
1973-74: General Theory Seminars  
1973-74: Sub-Groups  

PART 4: GRADUATE SEMINARS  

PART 5: THESES AND GROUP PROJECTS  
Completed Theses  
Books  
The Journal  
SSRC Project  
UNESCO Projects  
Mugging Project  
Current Theses  

PART 6: TEACHING, CONFERENCES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES  
Conferences  
Undergraduate Course  
Other Teaching  
Inter-Faculty Course  
Publications by Centre Members  

PART 7: FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
PART I: THE CENTRE — INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT 1972-74

The period covered by this Report (1971—February 1974) has been a momentous one for the Centre, both internally and in relation to the wider intellectual context. First, Professor Richard Hoggart, who founded the Centre in 1964, and served as its first Director until his secondment to UNESCO as Assistant Director-General (Social Sciences, Human Sciences and Culture) resigned his Chair in the English Department and his Directorship of the Centre towards the end of 1973. It would be inappropriate for this Report to attempt any assessment of his contribution to the growth of 'cultural studies' in general, or the Centre in particular, at this time: the more so because his interest in our work is a continuing one, and he remains the only non-University member of the newly constituted Board. It suffices to say that the initial conception of 'cultural studies' as a field of study, and the formation of the Centre as a focus for post-graduate research in the University was entirely due to him. His Inaugural Lecture, **Schools of English and Contemporary Society** was not only the Centre's founding document and 'charter': it marked a significant departure in the development of 'inter-disciplinary studies' in the Humanities. The gathering of resources, which enabled the Centre to begin its work, the overcoming of initial academic suspicions, the early emphases in the pattern of research, and the laying of the foundations for research, at once serious and yet sensitive to movements and currents beyond the narrowly academic, were due to his energy and foresight. Graduate students of the Centre whose work was supervised by him, or who had the benefit of shared seminar work with him, will be able more adequately to testify to the exemplary character of his contribution at this formative stage. It would be difficult now to imagine the Centre and 'cultural studies' without the inheritance which we made, collectively, from **The Uses of Literacy**, and the work which stemmed from it. In its combination of close attention to the phenomenal detail and representative concreteness of working class life and culture, and its broad, intuitive grasp of cultural movements and tendencies, the **Uses of Literacy** set us a standard which it has been difficult to match, impossible to fall behind.

Professor Hoggart's resignation led to a reconsideration, by the Faculty of Arts, of the continuation and position of the Centre. A Faculty Working Party was set up to examine these questions, under the Chairmanship of Professor Rees, Head of the School of Hellenic and Roman Studies, and now Dean of the Faculty, which reported in 1974. The Working Party made a full examination of the Centre's present work and future development, taking opinion beyond the University into account. Its recommendation, subsequently accepted by Faculty and by Senate, was that the Centre should continue to develop teaching and research in cultural studies at the post-graduate and undergraduate levels. Its Report also recommended that the Centre should become an independent unit within the Faculty of Arts, with its own Director, reporting directly to Faculty through its own Board. These recommendations have now been put into effect. The Report thus ensured the continuing development of the Centre along lines already established. Its Board now consists of: the Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Chairman); the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science; the Heads of the Departments of English, Modern History, Philosophy and German; Professor Hoggart; the Centre Director, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Green (co-opted). The Report also recommended that an additional member of staff be appointed: funds for this post became available during the present session and Dr. Richard Johnson, a social historian formerly in the Department of Economic History, has been appointed.

The general pattern of post-graduate work and research interests of the Centre are outlined in greater detail below. The main pivot of research remains the individual thesis, submitted for either the M.A. or Ph.D. degrees. Plans are now advanced for the inauguration of a taught M.A. course,
by examination and dissertation, which will generally, though not exclusively, replace the M.A. by-thesis. At the other end of the scale, the Centre continues to seek support for, and to carry out, a small number of full-time research projects, of varied lengths, on problems which are considered to lie at the frontier of the field. There is a limited, but significant, involvement in undergraduate teaching, and in lecturing and teaching in other institutions of Higher and Further Education. This work continues to be framed and supported by seminar work at different levels. Graduates working at the Centre continue, therefore, to take intellectual responsibility for the further definition of their field of study, as well as for their own particular pieces of research. In this way, the Centre has tried to reap the benefits of combining collective and individual research and discussion. The tendency has been to cluster research in particular domains — a trend which the formation of Sub-Groups supports. In addition, graduates and staff play an active role in the day-to-day administration of the Centre's work, and in the discussion and planning of its future direction. Overall, the result of this pattern of intellectual organization and this style of work has been immensely productive in the 1972-74 period.

Post-graduate research continues to be supported by the award-granting institutions, especially the DES and the SSRC. For the first time during this period the Centre has been awarded a number of SSRC 'quota' awards, in addition to winning SSRC 'pool award' support and DES studentships. This has ensured a wider financial base for full-time graduate research than in former years—a development fully in line with the heavy requirements which our pattern of organization makes on student time and commitment. In terms of its range, post-graduate research interests continue to expand. Alongside the work on aspects of popular culture, on the sociology of literature and culture, and on mass communications, the Centre's work includes the study of sub-cultures, problems of work and leisure, the study of the 'culture' of the family, and other small groups; and the general field of social communication and the formation of consciousness.

At the level of more general theory, the Centre continues to study the specific forms and processes of culture in very close relation to the historical development of particular periods, to social structures, to consciousness and the domain of ideologies. There is a continuing effort to clarify the theoretical problems posed by these inter-connections, in the context of relevant intellectual descriptions and theories. This is a long and difficult task: though we are nowhere near its completion, we feel closer to some substantive formulations than at earlier points in the Centre's development. Thus the empirical work in different areas is beginning to cohere around certain core concerns: the relationship of culture to ideologies; questions of cultural power and control; the relations of dominance and subordination between different meaning-systems; the study of processes and institutions of social and cultural communication; the formation of social perceptions and consciousness in groups and audiences. Central to this work is the need to understand the 'double articulation' of culture; on one side, what is specific to the forms, institutions and structures of cultural production and dissemination; on the other side, the inextricable inter-connections of culture with social structures, historical trends, social relationships between groups and classes, institutions. Though the application of these general principles to the different domains — media studies, subcultures, the social basis of literary, artistic and popular cultural forms — differs, a basic way of conceptualizing 'culture' is common to all the areas of empirical research. In each area, then, work must be done at both levels: analysis of what is specific to the cultural forms of expression and mediation peculiar to that domain, and to the institutional frameworks within which they develop; analysis of how these connect with wider social and historical structures and processes. The attempt must always be to return the analysis of cultural forms to the level of the social totality within which cultural patterns cohere and conflict.
The idea of ‘culture’ has something specifically to do with the ‘giving of meaningful form’ to social life: hence, part of the work in each area is, necessarily, ‘formal’ — the analysis of media messages, public opinion, literary forms and genres, of popular culture and of systems of ideas, meanings and collective representations. But the idea of culture also has something directly to do with the way social categories and meanings mediate social processes between individuals and groups. This latter side of the work remains, then, oriented towards some wider conceptualization of the historical situation and conditions in which ‘culture’ works, and points towards the study of societies as ‘complex wholes’, with ‘culture’ as the particular vantage point from which aspects of the inner structure and life of these social formations can be understood and reconstructed. A good deal of this work relates to the concrete historical situation of post-war Britain, so that the cumulative effect of empirical work across one period is contributing to the construction of some ‘overall’ notion of the society as a ‘complex whole’ in this period. This clustering of work in a particular ‘near-contemporary’ period has not, however, led to any historical fore-shortening in our work. In fact, one of the distinguishing features of the past two years work in the Centre is the growing centrality of historical studies and of the need for historical depth to our work. Edward Thompson’s remark, in an early review of Williams’ Long Revolution, is particularly germane here: “We must suppose the raw material of life-experience to be at one pole, and all the infinitely complex human disciplines and systems, articulate and inarticulate, formalised in institutions or dispersed in the least formal ways, which ‘handle’, transmit or distort this raw material, to be at the other. It is the active process — which is at the same time the process through which men make their history — that I am insisting on . . . ”

The effort to sustain and make empirically concrete this approach has benefitted, in recent years, from the changing climate and general context in which it is pursued. A growing body of work, especially by continental theorists, has recently become available in translation. Without in any way abandoning its roots in the ‘peculiarities’ of the English situation, ‘cultural studies’ becomes a very different kind of study, in practice, when the work of the structuralists and semiologists, of Althusser, Gramsci, Lukacs, Sartre, Adorno and the ‘Frankfurt School’, new developments in the social history, influences from phenomenology and from linguistics etc., are widely accessible to students and researchers. The renewal of these buried intellectual traditions and the appearance of new departures has stimulated an active general intellectual discussion and debate around questions which are quite seminal to our own work. The early sense, in the Centre, of relative isolation, of ‘going it along’, (along with the traditional academic suspicions which seem naturally to accompany new departures, especially if they are in any way ‘contemporary’) is no longer relevant in this changed climate. The ‘breaks’ within some of the traditional disciplines most cognate with ours has continued: and if this has meant, on the one side, that there is less certainty and coherence within the traditional disciplines to which to relate our own work, it has meant, on the other side, the forging of closer links and an active dialogue with particular groups of students, teachers and researchers who have themselves been free to move closer to our kinds of concern. The rapid growth, say, in the sociology of ‘deviance’, and the related expansion of an interest in the role of the media in the formation of consciousness and the significations of public events, has brought us directly in touch with many new contacts, right against the grain of existing disciplinary boundaries. There have been important developments closer to home, as well. The period 1972-74 has seen, for example, a remarkable revival of ‘the sociology of literature and culture’, with its consequences for the teaching of literature. In media studies, the hold over the field of ‘effects’ questions of a simple type has been broken, in favour of the more central questions of significations, production structures and processes, media institutions, questions of the media and ideologies, etc.; all these new departures, which for long the Centre was fairly isolated in proposing, have grown in solidity and depth over the past two years, with the most favourable consequences for our continuing work.
Finally, some of these changes are beginning to be reflected in the actual changing patterns of teaching, curricula and research at many levels in higher education. The question of proper, rigorous, inter-disciplinary work is, once again, on the agenda. In the Polytechnics, and, more slowly, in the Universities, courses of a traditional kind are being revised, many of them in the direction of 'communications' or 'cultural studies'. This, in turn, has consequences, both for the Centre's recruitment of students for post-graduate research, and, later, for graduate teaching and placement. Some of these changes are little more than panic responses to what are seen as panic trends: some represent new and strikingly original departures in further and higher education, with significant consequences for teaching, research and educational practice in general. The Centre has, willy-nilly, a task of critical responsibility to discharge in relation to this whole area — it represents an investment of resources of both a practical and intellectual kind. While attempting, with the limited means at our disposal, to meet both kinds of demands, our concern must be, in the end, with the development of our own critical intellectual practice, in empirical research and theory-development. We hope to be able to report favourably, and more fully, on all these aspects of our work in our subsequent Reports.
PART 2: ORGANIZATION

CENTRE MEMBERSHIP 1972-74

Director:
Lecturers:

Visiting Professor (1973-74):
Centre Secretary:

Centre Secretary/Librarian:
Senior Research Associate:

Graduate Students (1972-):

Graduate Students (1972 Entry):

Graduate Students (1973 Entry):

Occasional Attached:

*continuing into present 1973-74 session.
ACCOMMODATION:

The Centre is housed on the fourth floor of the Faculty of Arts building on the main University Campus. Accommodation includes staff rooms, main office, the librarian's room, an equipment room, two project rooms (housing current papers and periodicals), a graduate workroom, seminar room and library.

ADMINISTRATION:

As described in Part I of this Report, the Centre is now an independent research and graduate unit in the Faculty of Arts. Its Board of Studies, which overlooks general Centre development and reports directly to Faculty Board, consists of:

- Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Chairman);
- Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science;
- Heads of the Departments of English, Modern History, Philosophy and German; Mr. Richard Hoggart; Acting Director of the Centre; Mr. Green (co-opted).

There is a weekly Administration meeting of Centre staff and students to plan and programme the week's events. All the members of the Centre participate in determining the shape of the Centre's seminar work and general development, take equal part in the editing of its books and journals, in the establishment of links with other interested groups and in its general administration. Graduate students therefore take a more collective responsibility for the Centre's activities and policy decisions than is common in many other research departments or units. The collective structure of the day to day running and long term planning thus requires, and enables, the exercise by graduate students of wider interests than the wish to complete a thesis.

The Centre continues to be indebted to the hard and invaluable work of the Secretary and the Librarian, who bear a great deal of the day-to-day administrative burden and service the Centre's intellectual work. As in previous Reports, it must be emphasized that, without them, the Centre could not sustain anything like its present range of activities and contacts.

FINANCE:

The Centre is supported as a graduate research unit by the University. It also receives a number of private grants which enable it to give general support to graduate work and research projects by way of additional staff, books, and a limited amount of equipment. The main grant of this type, at the present time is in the form of a covenant from Penguin Books. In the initial stages this covenant enabled the Centre to make a start, and was then generously renewed for a further period of five years. The Centre also receives, from time to time, funds from independent research foundations, and commissions for special studies. The covenant from Penguin Books ends in 1976, and the Centre is now actively examining ways to maintain and expand this area of funding in the future to support the programme of research.

ADMISSIONS:

The Centre continues to admit about eight new graduate students each session. In addition the Centre has welcomed, as Occasional Students, graduates and staff from other countries. The Centre attempts to provide facilities both for those students who have a clearly defined project, and also for those with a more general interest in the field. Over the past two or three years, the Centre has become concerned by the small number of women applicants each year: we are anxious that undergraduate departments in other institutions should encourage women students, with a specific or general interest in this field of study, to apply.

The Centre has no money of its own for the direct support of graduate students, who therefore usually apply for a grant from the Department of Education and Science (or the Scottish Education...
Department, if the applicant is registered in a Scottish University or College); or from the Social Science Research Council. Applications to the D.E.S. (and S.E.D.), to work in areas based mainly in the Humanities, are made by personal application (on forms available from University Registries, who also retain copies of relevant regulations) before the end of March in a given year. For research work based in the Social Sciences the S.S.R.C. offers two kinds of research awards; quota places, for which the application is made by the Centre, who then may allocate whatever quota awards it may receive; and pool places which are allocated directly by the S.S.R.C., usually in late summer, to applicants who have obtained the Centre's sponsorship. Applications may be made to both the S.S.R.C. and D.E.S./S.E.D., but not for the same research project. Candidates are strongly advised to seek the Centre's advice in connection with applications made to these grant-giving bodies.

Failure to obtain either a D.E.S./S.E.D. or S.S.R.C. grant does not rule out the possibility of financial sponsorship. Often smaller amounts of money are available from private or local authority trust funds. All applicants are advised to consult the Grants Register, (copies of which will be available in either the reference section of the University Library or in the Registry) which lists most of the bodies who distribute this type of grant.

Overseas applicants should arrange their own support. This may be available on awards such as Fulbright Awards, British Council Fellowships and the Canada Council. Graduate students registered at other universities overseas, may be attached to the Centre for period up to a year, as Occasional Students of the University. Such students need not be registered for a Higher Degree here, though they must propose a specific programme of work. Overseas applicants interested in this form of attachment should apply in writing in the usual way.

Members working full-time are given strong preference at the Centre, since part-time research work supported by, for instance, liberal studies teaching at colleges in the city, has often proved difficult to combine with full-time research in the past. However, a few part-time students may be admitted.

To satisfy the working regulations of the Arts Faculty's Board of Graduate Admissions, prospective students should normally have a 'good upper second' or 'first class' honours degree, or its equivalent. Special cases will have to be made out for 'lower second' degrees, and sometimes for the B.Ed. As it is possible to negotiate with the Board in such instances, all students who make application are recommended to provide a piece of written work, as this may form the basis of the case to be put before the Board. Even where candidates fully meet the Faculty's minimum requirements, evidence based on written work is of great value to those responsible for Admissions interviews. It would also be useful if applicants would set out or indicate the general area of interests he or she has in this field of study.

All applicants are interviewed, usually towards the end of the Spring Term. The interview is so designed that the applicant can learn something of the form and substance of the Centre's work, as well as indicating to us his or her own research and general interests. It must be stressed that the interview is thus not simply a means of assessment, but is also concerned with the mutual exchange of information. Places are offered by late May or early June, with waiting list vacancies which may fall free through the summer.

Members of the Centre at the present time work towards an M.A. or Ph.D. degree by thesis only. As was pointed out in the supplement which accompanied the previous Report, planning for a taught M.A. degree has been under way. It was hoped that this course could have been introduced in October 1974, but this has been delayed. With a new, full-time staff appointment commencing in the 1974-75 session, the taught M.A. course is now planned to begin in October 1975.
ART 3: COLLECTIVE WORK 1972-74

As in previous years, individual research projects are framed and supported by collective seminar and group work. There is, at the first level, a General Theory Seminar, in which the general problems of theory and method in the field are discussed by Centre members as a whole. There are, secondly, a number of Sub-Groups, dealing with the different domains of study. Sub-Groups are closely related to the third level — individual thesis work — and cover an 'intermediary' range of topics and texts falling between the thesis and general theory questions. Broadly speaking, the 1972-73 Theory seminars were concerned with the general definition of the field of 'cultural studies', with special reference to the relation of culture to social structure and consciousness. The 1973-74 Theory Seminar consists of a set of 'presentations' of the on-going work in their particular domains by the main Sub-Groups to the Centre as a whole. The intention in the 1973-74 series was (a) to make the work of particular Sub-Groups available to all members of the Centre; and (b) to relate and integrate the work in particular domains with more general problems of theory. In the present session, the Sub-Cultures, Literature and Society and Media Sub-Groups have taken the main responsibility for presenting the particular problems of their area to Theory Seminar participants.

General Theory Seminars continue to be held on Monday mornings: the Administration Meeting, which plans the week's events and discusses matters of business, etc. is also held on Mondays, in the afternoon. Sub-Group meetings are timed throughout the week, at the convenience of participants.

1972-73: General Theory Seminars

The Theory Seminar was mainly concerned with the relation of culture to social structure, and, in particular, with one of the central ways in which this relation has been expressed: the 'base-superstructure' metaphor. Initial readings were from Marx (German Ideology), Williams (Long Revolution), Parkin (Class Inequality and Political Order), Perkin (Origins of Modern British Society), Bottomore (Classes in Modern Society) and Lockwood and Goldthorpe (the 'Affluent Worker' studies). In later sessions, the Seminar concentrated on 'base-superstructure' problems as advanced within the framework of Althusser's structural concepts (For Marx, Reading Capital); and on the related theme of culture/social structure/consciousness and ideology (including Sartre's Problem of Method, Gramsci, and other readings from Marx, especially, Bottomore and Rubel selections, and the Grundrisse).

1972-73: Sub-Groups

1. Literature and Society: Theories of literature in relation to the development of a model of 'literary production'. Particular attention was given to the various marxist traditions in this field and to structuralist theories. The work of this Group led to the production of the fourth issue of the journal, WPCS 4, with 'Literature and Society' as its main theme. Several members of the Group contributed articles, and discussed at length both the 'mapping the field' article which introduced the theme in the journal, and the supporting Bibliography. Texts included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barthes</td>
<td>Writing Degree Zero, Elements of Semiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>Illuminations, 'Writer as Producer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer</td>
<td>Necessity of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldmann</td>
<td>Hidden God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lukacs</td>
<td>Human Sciences and Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sartre</td>
<td>Historical Novel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meaning of Contemporary Realism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Literature and Problem of Method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8
2. *Media Studies*: The Group continued its work on general problems of media analysis, focussing especially on the production process, production structures and the question of 'access'. The relation of minority groups and opinion to media visibility was also discussed. In the Summer Term, the Group tried to examine the concept of 'spectacularization' in relation, especially, to the televised presentation of events. Texts included:

- Althusser  
  'Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses'
- Barthes  
  *Mythologies*
- DeBord  
  *Society of the Spectacle*
- Lefebvre  
  *Revolution of Everyday Life*
- Elliott  
  *Making of a TV Series*
- Groombridge  
  *Television and The People*
- WPCS 3

3. *Sub-Cultures*: A review of the evolution of post-war youth culture in Britain and a critique of existing surveys, and of sub-cultural theory in general. Some detailed analysis of particular phases and movements in the post-war period was combined with this critical review of the existing literature and of dominant theories. Special attention was given to the relation of sub-cultures to 'parent' cultures, and to the class structure of contemporary 'youth cultural' formations. During the Summer the Group did some extensive work on 'Mugging as a Moral Panic', which yielded a pamphlet (20 Years), a number of articles, and further work towards a book, now nearing completion. Texts included:

- S. Cohen  
  *Folk Devils and Moral Panics*
- J. Young  
  *Drugs and Deviance*
- S. Cohen (ed)  
  *Images of Deviance*
- Taylor and Taylor (ed)  
  *Politics and Deviance*
- Downes  
  *Delinquent Solution*
- A Cohen  
  *Deviance and Control*
- Cloward and Ohlin  
  *Delinquency and Opportunity*
- Nuttall  
  *Bomb Culture*
- Fyvel  
  *Insecure Offenders*
- Matza  
  *Becoming Deviant*
- P. Cohen  
  'Subcultural Conflict and Working Class Community'

1973-74: *General Theory Seminars*

So far, this session, Theory presentations have been made by the Sub-Cultures and Literature and Society Sub-Groups. The set presented by the Media Group is to follow.

*Sub-Cultures* presentations began with a review of present sub-cultural theory and a critique of contemporary accounts of the evolution of post-war British 'youth cultures'. Discussion then turned to the relation of youth cultures to parent cultures and to class. Youth cultures were analysed both in terms of structural factors and as meaning-systems related to conflicts within the situation and setting of 'parent cultures' and of society as a whole. The special problem of analysing cultural 'styles', and of the diffusion and de-fusion of stylistic innovation was considered. The Seminar concluded with a general discussion of the centrality of the concept of class and hegemony to the study of youth-cultures, and the usefulness of an analytic model based on the relationship between three levels: structure, culture and biographies.

*Literature and Society* presentations have focussed around the themes posed in the *WPCS 4 Special Issue*, with special attention to the question of 'literary production'. These general themes
have been reviewed in relation to some of the main literary theorists who have addressed these questions. Beginning with a review of the approach to 'literature and society' questions from literary criticism (Cf: 'Mapping the Field' in WPCS 4), and the problem of 'critical reading' (Cf: Andrew Tolson's article in WPCS 4, and Sartre's work in particular), the Seminar has gone on to consider the approaches of Lukacs, Goldmann, Benjamin. The presentations ended with a discussion of 'popular fiction'.

The Media Group presentations are planned to begin with the main themes outlined in WPCS 3, and to continue with the more recent work of the Group. The first session will present an 'overview' of recent developments in mass communications research. Sessions on The Media and Signification and on The Media and Idiologies will follow. There will be two sessions on 'Production Structures' — in television and film. In the second half (Summer Term), presentations will deal with the developing area of film semiotics and analysis of the visual image, and with the question of 'reconceptualizing' studies of the audience for media communications.

Marx Reading Group: In the 1972-73 General Theory Seminar, considerable attention was given to the contribution of the Marxist tradition to the clarification of general theories of culture in relation to society. Texts read here included Marx's early work (especially the 1844 Manuscripts and the German Ideology) and more recent contributions (Althusser, Gramsci, etc.) which dealt with the 'relative independence' of culture, ideology and consciousness from the material conditions of society. In the 1973-74 General Theory Seminars, this work has yielded to Sub-Group presentations (outlined above), but the work initiated in the previous session has been sustained in a continuing 'Reading Group' which, this year, is following through some of these questions of theory and method especially in relation to Marx's later work (in particular, the 1857 Introduction and the Grundrisse). On alternate weeks, this year's graduates have an opportunity to review the texts studied in the previous session (especially 1844 Mss, the German Ideology, the 18th Brumaire, and selected essays by Althusser, Lukacs, Gramsci and others).

1973-74: Sub-Groups

The general pattern of Sub-Groups has been retained, but the particular topic areas have been varied to reflect the changing pattern of thesis concerns. During this session, Sub-Cultures and Media are continuing, but Literature and Society has been temporarily suspended; there are two new Sub-Groups, one on the 1950's and 1960's as a Period of special interest, and the other on Collective Psychology.

1. Sub-Cultures: The Sub-Group (with additional members) has been principally concerned with their presentations to the Theory Seminar, and with the completion of their work on 'Mugging'. The Sub-Group plans, on the completion of this latter project, to return to the study of the 'Evolution of Post-War Youth Cultures', in the light of the comments and criticisms made during their presentations, and further reading in sub-cultural theory. The design of the 'Mugging' study is reported on elsewhere.

2. Media Studies: The year began with a review of 'mass communications theory and research', and a discussion of the Centre's distinctive approach to this field (partly on the basis of articles in WPCS 3). Special attention has been given to semiotic analysis (Barthes' Elements, Mythologies, Kristeva and others, film semiotics based on articles and translations in Screen; the work of Metz: Comolli, the CinetThique critics of realism, etc.). There has been an initial discussion of the role of 'techniques' in visual media, and on 'new technologies' as a relatively independent factor (e.g. video cassette, closed-circuit and cable developments in television). The group has continued its interests in media signification of public events, through analysis of particular examples and case-studies
(Cf: Manufacture of News, ed. Cohen and Young): in the practical and theoretical problems of community-based video; in content analysis (in relation to the UNESCO Race/Provincial Press Study, reported on elsewhere) and problems of audience research. There are plans for the production of a number of video-programmes for use in Further Education, and on field work with selected audiences (related to current theses).

3. Period: The Centre has often discussed the relation of ‘cultural studies’ to the general historical development of a period, but this Sub-Group is the first effort to reconstitute in detail the movements and changes in a particular period in direct relation to culture. Some attention has been given to the 1920’s and 1930’s, but the Group is concentrating on Britain in the 1950’s and 60’s. This period forms the historical background to a large number of individual studies being currently undertaken at the Centre. In addition to detailed historical material on the period and on key events, the Group has also been considering some of the theoretical problems associated with economic development, historiography and the concept of ‘periodization’. Texts relating to these latter aspects of the Period Group work include:

The Nairn-Anderson-Thompson ‘controversy’ (e.g. Anderson’s ‘Origin of the Present Crisis’, Nairn’s ‘The English Working Class’, Thompson’s ‘Peculiarities of the English’; and other related essays): Althusser and Balibar, Reading Capital; Mandel and others on economic theory and the problem of ‘crises’; and Vilar’s essays on historiography. In its later work, a more detailed attention to particular aspects of the 1950’s and 1960’s is planned.

4. Collective Psychology: The Centre has often discussed the relation between culture and the social consciousness of groups and of the individual: but there has not so far been any sustained effort to look at the psychological mechanisms which sustain cultural forms or which mediate between individuals and their culture. The undertaking of a small number of theses in this area, the growth of a general interest in questions of collective psychology, and the presence, this year, as Visiting Professor, of Peter Homans, who has written extensively on psychological and psychoanalytic aspects of culture have, for the first time, provided the basis of a small Sub-Group dealing with these questions. The Sub-Group has concentrated, so far, on a close reading of a selected number of Freud texts, and is now planning a course of readings in the work of the ‘Frankfurt School’, which has given considerable attention to this level, especially in their analysis of ‘mass culture’. Readings have included: Freud’s Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis, Reich’s Mass Psychology of Fascism, and essays by Adorno, Marcuse, Fromm, etc.
PART 4: GRADUATE SEMINARS 1972-74

These seminars are open to members of staff and interested research students in other Departments and Faculties of the University, as well as to all members of the Centre. They are held on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Centre seminar room. A paper is read, usually by a visiting speaker, followed by questions and general discussion. The main purpose of these seminars is to introduce research work which is going on elsewhere in the field of cultural studies and communications and to raise for discussion general issues and problems. The subject matter of these seminars has expanded considerably in the last two years, in line with the Centre’s general development.

1971-72:

- Phil Cohen
  “Subcultural Conflict in the Working Class Community”
- Dave Laing
  “The Tasks of Rock Criticism”
- Terry Eagleton
  “Marxist Literary Criticism: Problems of Method”
- Dave Perman
  “Althusser”
- Stuart Hall
  “Class Consciousness and Ideology: Althusser and Gramsci”
- Jock Young
  “The Drugtakers”
- Mary McIntosh
  “Historical Aspects of Crime”
- Fred Davies
  “The Hippie Social Movement: Origins and Prospects”
- Stuart Hood
  “The Crisis in Broadcasting”
- Stuart Hall
  “Journalistic Uses of Photography”
- Anselm Strauss
  “Reflections on Some American Myths”
- Richard Hoggart
  “International Organization of Culture” (Arthur Smith Memorial Lecture)

1972-73:

- David Hopkins
  “Alternative Media: Some Problems”
- Stan Cohen
  “Motivational Accounts”
- Jock Young
  “Sub-Cultural Theory Revisited”
- Graham Murdock
  “Youth Culture and Class”
- Fred Jameson
  “Marxist Literary Theory” and “Max Weber: The Vanishing Mediator”
- Louis Marx
  “The Politics of English Studies”

1973-74:

- Raymond Williams
  “Beyond Literature” (Arthur Smith Memorial Lecture)
- Brian Torode
  “Analysing Teachers’ Talk”
- Clem Adelman and
  “Analysing Classroom Talk”
- Robert Walker

In the last two years, the number of outside speakers invited to Tuesday Graduate Seminars has been limited, and these occasions have been alternated with Work-in-Progress Seminars, with Centre members reporting on their own research. Those who have given Work-in-Progress Seminars during this period include:

Charles Critcher, Ian Connell, Paul Willis, Andrew Tolson, Janice Winship, Jack Hailey, Colin Sparks, Richard Dyer, John Clarke, Allon White, Phil Slater.
PART 5: THESSES AND GROUP PROJECT

COMPLETED THESSES:

A number of completed theses have been successfully examined during this period. The topics indicate to some degree the continuing range of Centre work generally. The completion of individual theses, publication of work-in-progress in the Journal and the plans for book publication continue to form part of an integrated effort to establish a distinctive approach to the study of culture and social communication. The apparent variety of thesis topics is, thus, framed by their attention to, and contribution to the development of a common theoretical research perspective.

Richard Dyer
Paul Willis
Stuart Laing
Trevor Fisher
Ian Connell
John Hoskin
Chris Pawling
Ashley Pringle
Andrew Tolson

The Idea of Entertainment: A Study of the American Musical (Ph.D.)
Popular Music and Youth Culture Groups in Birmingham (Ph.D.)
The Idea of a Post-War Britain: A Case Study in the
Cultural Analysis of Literature (Ph.D.)
The Post-War Folk-Song Revival (M.A.)
Film Production and Presentation: The Institutional Passage (M.A.)
Racialism and Popular Consciousness: Popular Fiction,
1870-1920 (M.A.)
Orwell and the English Working Class (M.A.)
Television Drama Series and Their Viewers (M.A.)
Theories of Reading and Problems of Textual Interpretation (M.A.)

BOOKS FOR PUBLICATION:

The Centre has now a substantial body of completed work of a distinctive and valuable kind. This work is mainly in the form of successful M.A. and Ph.D. theses. There are continuous negotiations with various publishers for the publication of this work in book form.

We are at various stages in the discussions of particular manuscripts, but already we have three firm contracts signed for the following books:

Trevor Millum, Advertising and the Role of Women, Chatto & Windus.
Richard Dyer, That's Entertainment, Fontana (paperback), (based on his Ph.D. study of the American Musical).

THE CENTRE JOURNAL:

The circulation of the Centre's bi-annual journal, Working Papers In Cultural Studies (which has replaced an earlier series of white Occasional Papers), continues to increase steadily. The journal is a much larger undertaking than the Occasional Papers, involving considerable intellectual and financial investment, and reflecting the growth and consolidation of the Centre's work as a whole. WPCS is edited on each occasion by a changing editorial group; it aims to present Centre work to as wide an audience as possible; to print work of a high quality by people outside the Centre, and to represent some of the debates and tensions within the field. It is hoped that empirical and theoretical work will be given related attention. Not surprisingly, the immediate context of the journal's reception is academic, though the open and radical nature of work in the cultural studies area finds a growing audience outside the University. It is our aim to foster this development, publishing work of varying topics and styles, and encouraging response and criticism.

WPCS 5 is due to appear in the Spring 1974. It consists of a majority of outside contributions, and, as a mixed issue, departs from the aim of the previous two issues, No. 3 (Media) and No. 4
(Literature and Society), to follow through a particular field in depth. In this we hope to have indicated something of the range of cultural studies, while suggesting some continuities between discrete areas and approaches.

Contents of the Journal so far have included:

**WPCS 1:** Paul Willis on News Reporting; Roland Barthes on the Rhetoric of the Image; Richard Dyer on Tom Jones; Alan Shuttleworth on People and Culture, with a reply by Stuart Hall; Jean Claude Passeron on Richard Hoggart and a Bibliography on Non-Verbal Communication by Trevor Millum.

**WPCS 2:** Phil Cohen on Sub-Cultural Conflict and Working Class Community; Paul Willis on the Motorbike in a Sub-cultural Group; Stuart Hall on *Picture Post*; Adorno on the Sociology of Art; and on Rock Music, a Bibliography by Bryn Jones and reviews by Mike Flood-Page and Pete Fowler.

**WPCS 3:** Rosalind Brunt on *Whicker's World*: Stuart Ewen on Manson and The Family; Rachel Powell and Stuart Hall on News Photographs; Bryn Jones on the Windsors and the Newspapers; Umberto Eco on the Television Message and a Bibliography on Ideological Analysis of the Message by Marina de Camargo.

**WPCS 4:** Rod Watson on Public Announcements of Fatality; a collective article on Literature and Society — "Mapping the Field"; Andrew Tolson on Reading Literature as Culture; Colin Sparks on Lukacs; Adrian Mellor on Goldmann’s Later Method; Helga Gallas on Lukacs’ relation to the League of Revolutionary Proletarian Writers; Alf Lourve on Genre; Jack Hailey on Shakespeare’s 1642 Revolution, Stuart Laing on Walter Greenwood; and a Selective Bibliography on the Analysis of Literary Texts.

**WPCS 5:** Charles Critcher and Paul Willis on Women in Sport; Stan Cohen on Breaking Out, Smashing Up and Social Aspirations; Trevor Blackwell on the History of a Working Class Methodist Chapel; Graham Holderman on Lawrence, Leavis and Culture; Fred Jameson on The Vanishing Mediator and Narrative Structure in Max Weber.

Back issues are available at 60p each, or at 50p each where more than one is ordered, from The Librarian at the Centre — who would also be glad to handle library or individual subscription orders. Contributions to the journal or comments on it should be sent to the Editorial Group at the Centre. *WPCS 5* will be available in early May 1974; *WPCS 6* in October; and so on thereafter.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL PROJECT:**

The Transition from School to Work as a Meaningful Passage:

In December 1972, the S.S.R.C. made an award to Stuart Hall and Paul Willis for a research project on the transition from school to work of working class adolescents. The project commenced in April 1973, and is financed until June 1975. Field work is now well advanced.

The aim of the study is to make an exploratory and qualitative analysis of the way working-class school-leavers make subjective sense of the experience of passing from the last year at school into full-time employment.

The study is based on a small sample of working-class boys in their last year at school, and their first year in work, in the Birmingham area. Formal agencies (school, careers advice, Y.E.S., etc.) often describe this passage from school to work as 'irrational', based on little accurate information: formal guidance about work seems to make little impact on the typical working-class school-leaver.
This project is concerned with how the boys themselves understand the ‘logic’ of their passage and make it meaningful. This involves monitoring and assessing the relative importance of the various sources of information, advice and definition, both formal and informal, to which the boys are exposed.

Complementary to this is an analysis of the manner in which such information is used, translated and contextualised by the boys at home, at school and in leisure time activities.

The development over time of the boys’ understanding of themselves in relation to work both at school and during the early critical experience of work, is the main focus of the study. Participant observation, taped discussion and focussed interviewing are the central methods of data collection.

**UNESCO PROJECTS:**

*Race and the Provincial Press, etc.*

The Centre has been commissioned by the Division of Applied Social Sciences to produce a Report of the coverage of themes concerning Race in the provincial press, with special reference to the West Midlands. This is a follow-up study to the analysis of Race in the National Press recently completed by the Leicester Centre for Mass Communications Research. The first part of the Centre Report will consist of a content analysis and thematic study based on five or six West Midlands newspapers over the period 1963-70. The second part will offer a number of case studies in depth, and an overview of the relation of the press to the significations of ‘race problems’ in this area. The study, which is due to report in December 1974, is being undertaken by Charles Critcher, Margaret Parker and Ranjit Sondhi.

The Report to UNESCO on *Innovation and Decline in Cultural Programming on British Television*, prepared for the Centre by Stuart Hall, was submitted in December 1973.

A Report on *The Structured Communication of Events*, prepared by Stuart Hall, was submitted to the Symposium on “Obstacles to Communication”, currently being edited to appear as a volume of essays by Jonathan Cohen, on behalf of the Division of Philosophy.

Stuart Hall has also been commissioned to submit a Report on *Culture and Structure in So-Called ‘Plural Societies’ in the Caribbean*, to the project on “Inter-Ethnic Relations” organized by the Division of Applied Social Sciences.

**MUGGING PROJECT:**

A group of students are at present working on a book length study of ‘mugging’. The study deals with the use of the term ‘mugging’ by the British police, judiciary and media in 1972-73. It also considers the wider ideological location in which the moral panic about ‘mugging’ took place.

The project stemmed from a variety of interests among Centre members concerning delinquency, crime and the presentation of these phenomena in the media. It began with an analysis of the coverage of the ‘Handsworth case’ in which a youth was given a 20 year detention sentence for his part in a ‘mugging’ attack (Summer 1973). This case provided the focus for a pamphlet ‘20 Years’, to which members of the Group contributed (available from the Centre, price 15p). Members of the Group have also produced an article entitled ‘Down these Mean Streets . . . The Meaning of Mugging’ for the *Howard Journal*. The forthcoming study will deal with the ‘borrowing’ of the term ‘mugging’ from its American context and its subsequent use by the media, police and courts; the history of the ‘moral panic’ about ‘mugging’, which reached its peak in the Autumn of 1973; a detailed analysis of the ‘Handsworth’ case; a study of the relation of this moral panic to the situation
of black youth, in particular, and the background contexts of its use in the media and in the general growth of ‘law and order’ policies.

CURRENT THESES

The following list indicates the variety of interests on which research, at the thesis level, is at present being carried out.

The topics listed give only a broad idea of the substance of each student’s work. If readers are interested in any one of these, or think that their own research plans are related, they are advised to contact members of the Centre directly for a fuller account of the work being done at this level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Clarke</td>
<td>Reconceptualising the Concept of ‘Youth Cultures’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Grimshaw</td>
<td>Conventional Youth Movements: The Scouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Jefferson</td>
<td>Youth and Crime: The ‘Mugging’ Panic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allister McGowan</td>
<td>Images of Work in Three Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Hebdige</td>
<td>Deviant/Criminal Transactions in the 1960’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Mellor</td>
<td>Goldmann/Sociology of the Novel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Pawling</td>
<td>Politics and Literature in the 1930s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Sparks</td>
<td>Shaw, Fabianism and Social Imperialism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Harrison</td>
<td>Period Study: “Structure of Feeling” concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Harrison</td>
<td>Fictional/Documentary Images of Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Lacey</td>
<td>Political Theatre: John Arden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allon White</td>
<td>Cultural Theory: Problem of Mediations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Tolson</td>
<td>Accounts of Roles in the Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Connell</td>
<td>Cinema Audiences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janice Winship</td>
<td>Changing Trends in Women’s Magazines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iain Chambers</td>
<td>Film Theory: Semiological Approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ellis</td>
<td>Post-War British Film Comedy: Ealing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Rusher</td>
<td>Access/Local Media Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Eaton</td>
<td>News Values: National Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Powell</td>
<td>Broadcasting Providers/Audiences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Willis</td>
<td>News Content/Minority Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Neville</td>
<td>Documentary Movements in the 1930s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chas Critcher</td>
<td>Soccer and Working Class Values</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PART 6: TEACHING, CONFERENCES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES:

Members of the Centre have actively participated in a number of Conferences during the past year, presenting their work or leading seminar discussions. These include Conferences held at East Anglia (Popular Culture), Essex (Sociology of Literature), Cardiff (Post-War Changes in Youth Culture), Leicester (Analysis of Television Discourse), Hull (Godard Film Festival), York (National Deviancy Symposium), London (Society for Education in Film and Television), (New Developments in Media Technology, Standing Conference on Broadcasting), Manchester Polytechnic, Venice (Italia Prize Seminar on Television Research), Manchester (Developments in Cultural Studies). The Centre was also represented at the C.N.A.A. Seminar on "The Future of Communications Studies".

THE UNDERGRADUATE COURSE:

An optional one-year course in Cultural Studies is offered to students in the English Department, attracting 28 students in 1974. The course has three main components: a close study of cultural and social changes in England during the period 1830-1860 (the formation of an industrial society); an examination of theories of industrial society based on a study of some founding classic texts by Marx, Weber and Durkheim in the new discipline of sociology; and a detailed study, making comparisons both with the earlier period and with developments in contemporary America, of British society and culture in the last two decades. In this third section some problems in contemporary research are introduced; and some seminars are taken by graduate students on their own work. The course is designed to examine a range of theoretical and empirical issues in a preliminary way; several students on the course normally go on to postgraduate study in the field here or elsewhere.

A basic selection from the course reading list would include:

J. F. C. Harrison  The Early Victorians
G. Best            Mid-Victorian Britain
E. J. Hobsbawm    The Age of Revolution
E. J. Hobsbawm    Industry and Empire
Asa Briggs        Victorian People
M. Dalziel        Popular Fiction 100 Years Ago
P. J. Keating     The Working Class in Victorian Fiction
L. James          Fiction for the Working Man
R. K. Webb        The British Working Class Reader
E. P. Thompson    "Time and Work Discipline" in Past and Present
E. P. Thompson    The Making of the English Working Class
B. Harrison       "Religion and Recreation" in Past and Present (Xerox)
R. Williams       Culture and Society
Matthew Arnold    Culture and Anarchy
F. R. Leavis (ed) Mill on Bentham and Coleridge
R. Williams       The Long Revolution
R. Hoggart        The Uses of Literacy
Max Weber         Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
E. Durkheim       The Division of Labour
T. B. Bottomore (ed) Selections from Marx's Sociological Writings
H. Stuart Hughes  Consciousness and Society

17
A. Giddens
N. Birnbaum
M. McLuhan
H. Marcuse
T. Roszack
George Melly
J. Mitchell
R. Neville
R. Willener
J. Young
S. Cohen
Phil Cohen
Taylor & Taylor
Coburn &
Blackburn (ed)
S. Cohen &
J. Young (ed)
J. Halloran (ed)
J. Tunstall (ed)
D. McQuail
H. Enzenberger
Halloran, Elliott &
Murdock
B. Groombridge
S. Hall
McQuail (ed)
L. Althuser
S. R. Parker
C. Critcher
R. Dyer
C. Gillett
R. Williams
R. Boston (ed)

*Capitalism and Modern Social Theory*  
*The Crisis of Industrial Society*  
*Understanding Media*  
*One Dimensional Man*  
*The Making of a Counter-Culture*  
*Revolt into Style*  
*Woman's Estate*  
*Play Power*  
*The Action-Image of Society*  
*The Druggakers*  
*Folk Devils and Moral Panics*  
"Sub-Cultural Conflict and Working Class Community", *WPCS 2*  
*Images of Deviance*  
*Student Power*  
*The Manufacture of News*  
*The Effects of Television*  
*Media Sociology*  
*Towards a Theory of Mass Communications*  
"The Consciousness Industry" (Xerox)  
*Demonstrations and Communication*  
*Television and the People*  
"External and Internal Dialectic in Broadcasting" (Xerox)  
*Sociology of Mass Communications*  
"Ideological State Apparatuses"  
*The Future of Work and Leisure*  
"Football as Popular Culture" (Xerox)  
"Television Light Entertainment" (Xerox)  
*All in the Game*  
*Communications*  
*The Press We Deserve*

OTHER TEACHING:

The Centre has continued to offer a course of lectures and discussions on "The Educational Implications of the Mass Media" to students working for the Teaching Diploma in the School of Education, University of Birmingham. This year the course included such topics as "Mass Media and Mass Culture in the Classroom", "Football", "Teenage and Women's Magazines", "Violence and the Media". The course is given by staff and student Centre members.

Three double sessions were given by Centre members at the Department of Librarianship, Leeds Polytechnic during the Winter Term of their Diploma Course. The scope of the sessions covered: "The Uses of Literacy"; "film"; "Women's Magazines" and "Theories of Mass Communication".

INTERFACULTY COURSE:

The University requires every undergraduate to take an Interfaculty Course in their first year.
and the Centre this year is giving a course on “Contemporary Britain and the Media”, including lectures, films and seminars on:

“Change in Britain: the 1950s and 1960s”, K. M. Green and C. Sparks
“Working Class Life and ‘Affluence’ ”, C. Critcher
“Youth Culture”, J. Clarke and T. Jefferson
“Middle Class Life, S. Hall
“The Mass Media”, I. Connell
“The Family”, A. Tolson
“Women’s Roles”, Janice Winship

On a more individual basis, Centre members are involved part time in the teaching of the following kinds of courses offered in the City:

“Communications, Popular Culture and Youth Culture” at Aston University; the Extra-Mural Department of Birmingham University and at W.E.A. classes. The Liberal Studies courses taught by Centre members in local Colleges of Further Education and the Polytechnic also usually incorporate work reflecting the interests of the Centre, e.g. news analysis in the media; the significance of football; rock music and film.

After completing their registration periods, Centre members often take up part-time teaching in Birmingham and are thus able to maintain regular contact with the Centre while completing their research.

Finally, the Centre is regularly asked to provide speakers at all levels of education, at weekend schools, and at conferences.

In these different ways the Centre continues to be concerned with the extension and application of its own research to other educational contexts, and with the problems of educational practice as related to cultural studies.
PUBLICATIONS BY CENTRE MEMBERS

Michael Green:

2. Reviews in T.H.E.S.

John Ellis and Ros Coward:


Tony Jefferson and John Clarke:

2. Twenty-Years, with other authors. The Paul, Jimmy, Musty Support Committee, 134 Villa Road, Birmingham 19.

Chris Pawling:


Paul Willis:


Stuart Hall:


FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The main aim of the Centre must be to build on, extend and develop its work on the solid foundations laid so far. This continues to be demanding work, since it involves both the development of theory, the clarification of difficult problems of method and, above all, empirical application. For the moment, then, work at the post-graduate level, of a thesis or project kind, remains the core of our concerns; though we do not at all underestimate the extension of these concerns into under-graduate teaching, and are anxious to maintain the teaching we already do at this level. The M.A. course will draw together, in a more formal way, what is so far distinctive about the 'cultural studies' approach, and attempt to provide, on this basis, a clearer definition of the field, its boundaries, and methods as an introduction to subsequent research. We are anxious, however, that the M.A. should be, as far as possible, integrated with other work in the Centre, and not stand apart from its aim is to provide a coherent introduction to the field, such as would make either teaching from it or further research in it a natural second stage. The serious work of research remains our main task, and this is centrally represented by research theses and projects, and supporting seminar work. We are anxious to maintain a proper balance between teaching and research. The M.A. course, Ph.D. theses, and a limited number of fully funded projects, sited at key points on the frontier of the field, are therefore all, together, central to our project. Maintaining solid work in each of these elements, rather than a rapid expansion of numbers at the introductory level, is how in general terms we see the process of consolidation in the coming year or two. The selection and funding of post-doctoral research is itself something we are beginning to plan for, since the funding process is a lengthy and complicated one, and needs constant attention if we are to build, continuously, on personnel and concerns already present somewhere in the Centre's orbit.

Secondly, we are concerned about the problems of extending the work and empirical findings to other educational levels. This is partly a question of getting books, articles, papers and the Journal published regularly, so that the work of the Centre in circulation more closely matches what is being currently worked on. The quid pro quo for the research on a fairly limited scale which we are able to do must be that we take some responsibility for communicating and transmitting our work, in an available and usable form, to other students and teachers working in similar areas. Our involvement, one way or another, with teaching and curriculum development in 'cultural studies' or 'communication studies' in Colleges and Polytechnics is, therefore, a natural extension of this concern with mediating research to a wider public. We are already in touch with some of the new developments in teaching in these areas, and we hope that the Centre's involvement here will expand in keeping with our other aims and limited resources.
WORKING PAPERS IN CULTURAL STUDIES is the bi-annual journal of the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, Birmingham University, a postgraduate centre engaged in definitional study of a new and developing field. Taking the more traditional disciplines of literary criticism, history, sociology, anthropology and mass-media studies as our springboard, we aim at a more comprehensive understanding of the role of culture in the social and political complex. WPCS serves mainly to present the Centre's ongoing work to a wider audience, but also publishes, in similar fields, hitherto untranslated work from abroad, bibliographies on selected topics and a variety of outside contributions.

W.P.C.S. Contents include:

No. 3
(Autumn 1972)
The Spectacular World of Whicker
Determinations of Newsphotos
Semiotics and the Television Message
Bibliography: Ideological Analysis of the Message
Rosalind Brunt
Stuart Hall
Umberto Eco
Marina de Camargo

No. 4
(Spring 1973)
Special extended issue: Literature and Society.
Mapping the Field, a survey of the argument.
Lukacs and the League of Proletarian Writers
Bibliography: Textual Analysis
Helga Gallas
Stuart Laing

No. 5
(forthcoming)
Max Weber: The Vanishing Mediator
Breaking Out and Smashing Up: The Social Context of Aspiration
D.H. Lawrence and the Eastwood Community
The History of a Methodist Chapel
Fred Jameson
Stan Cohen
G. Holderness
Trevor Blackwell

As a result of the success of the first four issues, we are extending our print order and reprinting all issues to date.

Price per copy £0.60 (U.K.) or 2.00 dollars
Library copies £0.55 (U.K.) or 1.75 dollars
Subscription (2 consecutive issues) £1.00 (U.K.) or 3.50 dollars

Terms to bookshops (bulk orders):
Sale or Return: £0.45 per copy (25% discount)
Outright Sale: £0.40 per copy (33 1/3% discount)

Rates include post and packing charges.