

The Big Archive
TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

SESSION 1

Archives and the problem of historical representation

Readings:

Baudrillard, Jean, *Simulacra and Simulations* [The Precession of Simulacra]; “The Collection” [from: *The System of Objects*]

SESSION 2

The archive in modernism

Readings:

Benjamin, Walter, “Unpacking My Library”
Buchloh, Benjamin, “Conceptual Art 1962-69: From the Aesthetic of Administration to the Critique of Institutions”; “Gerhard Richter’s Atlas: The Anomic Archive”

SESSION 3

The historical avant-gardes and their “archival” projects

Readings:

Bürger, Peter, from: *Theory of the Avant-Garde*
Borges, Jorge L., “The Total Library”

SESSION 4

Archive and psychoanalysis

Readings:

Derrida, Jacques, “Freud and the Scene of Writing” [from: *Writing and Difference*]; “To Speculate—On Freud” [from: *The Postcard*]; *Archive Fever* [Mal d’Archive]; Optional: “Cartouches” [from: *The Truth in Painting*]
Donato, Eugenio, “The Museum’s Furnace: Notes Toward a Contextual Reading of Bouvard and Pécuchet”

SESSION 5

The Novel as Archive

Readings:

Flaubert, Gustave, *Bouvard and Pécuchet*

SESSION 6

Museums, Collections, Archives

Readings:

Foster, Hal, “What’s New About the Neo-Avant-Garde?”; “The Archive Without Museums”
Foucault, Michel, “Classifying” [from: *The Order of Things*]; *The Historical a priori and the Archive* [from: *The Archeology of Knowledge*]

SESSION 7

Archives and the media

Readings:

Freud, Sigmund, “A Note On the Mystic Writing Pad”; “Beyond the Pleasure Principle”; “On Fetishism”

Groys, Boris, “The Struggle Against the Museum; or: The Display of Art in Totalitarian Space”

Huyssen, Andreas, “Escape from Amnesia. The Museum as Mass Medium”

Krauss, Rosalind, “The Cultural Logic of the Late Capitalist Museum”; “Perpetual Inventory”

SESSION 8

Archives in Space

Reading:

Le Corbusier, “Other Icons: The Museum”

Liotard, Jean Francois, “Domus and Megalopolis”

SESSION 9

Wunderkammer-Secret Cabinet-Digital Archive

Readings:

Rodchenko, Alexander, “Declaration on the Museum Management”; “Thesis of Rodchenko’s Report on the ‘Museum of Artistic Culture’”; “Against the Portrait—for the Snapshot”

Stewart, Susan, “Wunderkammer. An After as Before”

Winzen, Matthias, “Collecting—So Normal, So Paradoxical”

SESSION 10

Open session