It is so refreshing to read Toby Miller and George Yudice’s *Cultural Policy* from the perspective of the current Australian debate in media and cultural studies about research on the ‘creative industries’. In arguing for a ‘cultural studies approach to cultural policy’ (and evoking key debates on the ‘policy turn’ of the 1990s, which should be familiar to an Australian audience), Miller and Yudice provide a timely reminder of the political, social, cultural and economic effects of both cultural policy research and cultural policy itself. As they argue: ‘Looking at cultural policy through the lens of cultural studies encourages us towards innovative ways of understanding the circulations of texts, how certain forms of cultural expression are privileged and with what effect, such that the systematic inequalities of a society can be both highlighted and countered.’ (p. 191).

Miller and Yudice define cultural policy broadly as ‘the institutional supports that channel both aesthetic creativity and collective ways of life’, thus it is embodied ‘in systematic, regulatory guides to action that are adopted by organisations to achieve their goals’ (p. 1). *Cultural Policy* posits an approach to research which seeks to understand the ‘governmentality’ of culture. The advantages of this model are that it understands the governance of culture as operating through a network of relations amongst the state, trade unions, religious and charitable organisations, and commercial organisations. Therefore, the concerns of cultural policy research are across a radically diverse range of sectors and are thus cross-disciplinary, covering issues as diverse as tax legislation, the legal administration of intellectual property, international trade agreements, industrial relations, employment and training, as well as the areas more traditionally associated with cultural policy such as arts and media funding. However, far from analysing cultural policy and its effects only in economic terms through a series of cases (the economic effects and applications of culture seem to be a one-eyed focus of Australian government and some Australian researchers lately), Miller and Yudice demonstrate the importance of research which considers the political, social, cultural and economic effects of cultural governance. One of the most significant contributions of this book is Miller and Yudice’s demonstration of the importance of analysing governmentalities of culture through canvassing a range of case studies in a range of national, cultural, governmental and institutional contexts.

Contextually, Miller and Yudice discuss cultural policy case studies including the formation and subsequent history of the National Endowment of the Arts in the United States; the development and application of cultural foreign policy — especially its Latin American programs; the Miami audiovisual industry and its relations to and effects in Latin America; television regulation in Australia; the governance of the British and Latin American film industries; potted histories of the development of Soviet and Latin
American cultural policies; the regulation of museums and heritage; and supranational cultural policy, including UNESCO, GATT and the WTO. Thematically, Miller and Yudice approach these case studies from a range of perspectives including citizenship, postcolonialism, political ideology, the regulation of trade, the construction of identity including national and local identities, and the relations between states and commercial enterprise.

Cultural Policy is an excellent textbook for students and researchers in cultural studies, cultural theory, policy studies, sociology, media studies, cultural geography, economic geography and political economy. In addition, Cultural Policy is a substantial contribution to debates on the nature of culture and its governance. Miller and Yudice provide a timely reminder that the work required for those of us hopeful for a progressive future is to actively tend the seeds of cultural policy (p. 191).

— Lisanne Gibson, Cultural Industries and Practices Centre, University of Newcastle


Those already using the 1997 first edition of this thorough and readable text will greet the appearance of its updated edition with pleasure. Aimed at students of journalism, including cadets, it would be a useful and accessible reference also for working journalists, especially those at an early stage in their career. In my experience, it is adaptable to the concerns of media and communications students more interested in areas of public communication other than news journalism.

The new edition acknowledges the great impact of the internet on journalists’ daily lives, not only as a source of research but also in terms of its impact on intellectual property law. Defamation law has changed somewhat (not enough, some journalists would say) and the protection of sources is not such a ‘live’ issue as it was in the late 1990s. But the main change to this edition is to its intellectual weight. The first edition was insufficiently challenging to bright undergraduates, in the context of an academic program. This edition provides arguments about principles of press freedom and open justice, for example, which were not in the original edition.

Significantly, the word ‘ethical’ appears in the new subtitle. While this may partly be an acknowledgment of the number of ‘law and ethics’ courses in media degrees, it is also a welcome recognition, as the author points out, of the regularity with which ethical issues overlap with legal ones.

The five sections, each comprising between two and four chapters, encompass the legal areas of principal concern to journalists and other public communicators. The first section provides an introduction to the Australian legal system, to the intersections between law and ethics, and to the concept of a free press in both law and moral philosophy. The second part focuses on reporting crime and justice, beginning with a chapter on the principle of open justice. The chapter on court reporting is more

specific and dated than in the original edition and will help a student set a course of study as part of their efforts to become guides to court reporting. Sections 3 and 4 focus on confidentiality, freedom of information and a new discussion of intellectual property. The final section, ethics and the law, focuses on areas such as discrimination and the internet.

Since Australia is one of the countries in which discrimination laws are less developed than in Europe, the choice to concentrate on discrimination is based on a clear recognition of the importance of the topic in the political context of Australian space (the new edition has 25 extra pages longer than the original).

The final chapter, on defamation law, covers an important area of legal knowledge for anyone interested in journalism. The five parts of this chapter cover the basic legal issues, including both civil and criminal matters. The chapter on court reporting is more specific than in the original edition and will help a student set a course of study as part of their efforts to become guides to court reporting. Sections 3 and 4 focus on confidentiality, freedom of information and a new discussion of intellectual property. The final section, ethics and the law, focuses on areas such as discrimination and the internet.

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