Radiation: A Slow Death  
(2005, Director Hitomi Kamanaka)  
Wed., September 17  
Discussant: Etsuko Kinefuchi (Communication Studies)  
The consequences of nuclear warfare, as well as the general effects of atmospheric radiation, are explored through the eyes of its victims in this compelling and unsettling documentary. Originally, the Japanese word “hibakusha” was used to refer to the survivors of the atomic bomb. Here, the director goes back to its literal meaning, “victim of radiation” to include new generations of sufferers who have emerged globally. This film documents the lives of these sufferers including Iraqi children irradiated by the use of depleted uranium ammunition during the Gulf War, American farmers living near the Hanford plutonium factory in Washington state, and survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Though separated by time and space, their common peril delivers a strong message to the contemporary world. (amazon.com)

The Act of Killing  
(2012, Director Joshua Oppenheimer)  
Wed., October 8  
Discussant: Alexandra Moore (English and WGS)  
This chilling and inventive documentary, executive-produced by Errol Morris (The Fog of War) and Werner Herzog (Grizzly Man), examines a country where death squad leaders are celebrated as heroes, and are challenged to reenact their real-life mass killings in the style of the American movies they love. The hallucinatory result is a cinematic fever dream, an unsettling journey deep into the imaginations of mass murderers and the shockingly banal regime of corruption and impunity they inhabit. THE ACT OF KILLING is an unprecedented film that, according to The Los Angeles Times, could well change how you view the documentary form. (amazon.com)

Another Corleone, Another Sicily, Living Sustainably in the Land of the Godfather  
(2014, Director Tony Fragola)  
Wed., November 12  
Discussant: The Director, Tony Fragola, with Will Dodson (Ashby Residential College)  
Fragola’s film focuses on the lands confiscated from the mafia in Corleone, the town made famous by Francis Ford Coppola’s The Godfather. The film illustrates the progress of Sicilian cooperatives to form self-sustaining ventures that provide meaningful work and economic freedom from mafia control by producing organically grown products. (weatherspoon.uncg.edu)