

NU-Q Fall 2020 Course Descriptions

Communication/MIT Courses

Journalism Courses

Liberal Arts Courses

Communication/ MIT Courses

GEN CMN 201-0 Research Methods in Communication Studies

This course introduces students to the basic research concepts, methods, and tools used to design, conduct, and interpret studies in communication and other fields. We will examine both quantitative and qualitative approaches, including experiments, surveys/interviews, ethnography, field research and content analysis. The course investigates the basic process common to investigations of a variety of research questions from the communication field. Students will become critical and informed research consumers, developing proficiency at evaluating research. Additionally, students will learn how to design an original study to answer a research question.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun / Venus Jin

Prerequisites: None

- Required for MIT sophomores
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 212-0 Exploring Global Media

This is a course about the various multi-billion dollar industries that provide us with information, entertainment, and advertising. As a result, these global media have an enormous impact in shaping our culture. Throughout the class, we will explore the infrastructures, markets, and stakeholders that shape the development of global media. This course aims to cover the historical context of global media; the theories to interpret global media's impact and reach; and the tools to investigate the elements and agents of global media. By the end of the course, students will be able to: explain when, how and why certain media can become global; apply global media theories to interpretations of global media contexts; research and assess global media organizations; and identify and assess current and future challenges and trends in global media.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

MIT 220-0 Analyzing Media Texts

This course is an introduction to the study and structure of film and other moving-image media. We will define and examine the expressive and aesthetic power of the basic elements of the moving image. Specifically, the course will investigate—across a variety of different media, modes and genres, and historical periods—the fundamentals of production design and acting styles; cinematography, especially the shot and its composition; editing; sound; and narrative structure. The goals of the course are (1) to acquaint students with a vocabulary specific to film and other moving-image media; (2) to provide students with the critical tools required for analysis of the moving image; and (3) to develop student skills in writing and argument for humanistic inquiry. By the end of the course, students will be able to: (1) identify the elements of the moving image (e.g., kinds of camera movement) and of the soundtrack according to a standard glossary of technical terms; (2) recognize patterns of similarity, repetition, difference, and

variation in the image and sound tracks and describe them in brief screening reports and essays; (3) relate those patterns to narrative structure, character psychology, or larger themes and ideas, and describe these relationships in a report or essay; (4) choose the most salient elements in a film in order to craft a written argument about how their patterns function within the meaning-making process of the film.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students only
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor

MIT 260-0 Foundations of Screenwriting

This course is designed to supply students with tools to expand and enrich their appreciation of all aspects of filmmaking, especially screenwriting. Students will prepare for entry into the professional world by learning how outside forces can influence the screenwriter's decisions. Through the practice of screenwriting, students will: (1) learn how to represent in words not only story, but also sound design, editing, visual design, and other elements of media making; (2) discover how core concepts of character, structure, plot, theme, and tone interact within existing and emerging media forms, and (3) explore a variety of films, topics, and exercises that will provide inspiration for a piece of original work of personal significance. By the end of the course, students will be able to: (1) write in professional screenplay style and format; (2) generate compelling scenes, characters, and stories, and distinguish between derivative, obvious choices and honest, original alternatives that affect and move an audience; (3) think like a screenwriter, applying the language of constructive screenplay development and criticism to their own work as well as to the work of others.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 325-0 Film, Media & Gender: Girls' Media Culture

Although media made for girls has long been derided as silly and undeserving of close attention, to the millions of preteen and teen girls who consume it, it is anything but insignificant. From Nancy Drew novels and Shirley Temple films in the 1930s to contemporary films and TV shows such as Whip It, Wadjda, and Hannah Montana, girls' media artifacts have functioned as important historical sites for the negotiation of cultural politics and youthful feminine ideals. In order to shed light on the often-overlooked history of girls' media, this course offers a critical investigation of (primarily) U.S. girls' media from the 1930s to the present, including novels, films, TV shows, advertisements, music videos, teen magazines, toys, and new media. We will investigate girls' media artifacts as aesthetic, political, and commercial texts through which youth have interfaced with lessons about gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, national identity, and generation at different historical moments. American media will be taken up as our main object of study, but students will explore artifacts produced outside the U.S. in a group assignment, and we will consider reception practices among girls in both Western and non-Western contexts. Ultimately, the goals of the course are: 1) to explore the dominant strategies utilized by the media industries to represent female youth and their concerns, as well as those utilized by girls in practices of self-representation; 2) to examine girls' reception of and diverse engagements with media; and 3) to consider how the landscape of girls' media production and consumption has changed, and resisted change, over time.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 330-0 Topics in Theatre: Improvisation

This course focuses on theater as the creation of an imagined situation, the conscious use of one's own instrument (body, voice and mind), to facilitate action and interaction. The student experiences this view of theater in (group) exercises, improvs and assignments. The course awakens students to the possibilities of their voice and body in improvisational settings.

Instructor(s): Maria d'Herripon

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 330-0 Topics in Theatre: Theatre Directing

Theatre acting and directing is a study of humankind and our attitudes towards ourselves. In this course, our point of departure is an understanding that art is a mirror of human society. Students learn by engaging in practice, experimenting, exploring. In short, we learn best by doing. In this all-compassing introduction to theater acting and directing, each student will act in several etudes and direct other students in a short play.

Instructor(s): Maria d'Herripon

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 349-0 Internship

This course provides academic structure and guidance for professional internships being completed by students in the Communication Program. The course covers organizational communication and behavior topics, including: organizational cultures; working in teams; managing generational differences; effective workplace strategies; leadership and mentoring; work-life balance; ethics and soft skills; feedback and motivation; technology in the workplace; networking; and starting life as young professional. In this seminar-style class, we discuss the readings and their relationship to events in the job sites; students share their progress reports, questions, and concerns about the work they are completing in various media-related jobs. Students are encouraged to explore the links and gaps between what they have learned in the classroom and what they are learning in the workplace, thereby developing their professional skills while deepening their academic experiences. Students are evaluated on a written final project and presentation and by their work site supervisor, as well as their weekly written responses to the readings, which should show a clear understanding of the readings as well as thoughtful application to the work site.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

- Open to junior and above, MIT majors only
- Students may register for 1-4 units with the instructor's permission
- Instructor permission is required; students should write the instructor for permission to register at s-dun@northwestern.edu

MIT 351-0 National Cinema: Modern Arab Cinema (2011-20)

The Arab Spring inspired a resurgence in filmmaking in the Arab world. This course will screen and analyze dramatic films, both documentaries and narratives, from countries including Tunisia, Syria and Egypt, by both male and female directors, that were made in the decade that followed the beginning of the Arab Spring, 2011-2020. By analyzing the selected films for their aesthetics and themes, as well as their political and societal context, students will gain perspective into each filmmaker's singular cinematic vision as well as the events that led up to the Arab Spring and the complex set of consequences that followed and continue to reverberate throughout the world. Students will have the unique opportunity to interact with

the filmmakers of the screened films in order to gain insight into their directorial choices and personal reasons for making their films. Finally, students will learn how to discuss, present and write about film.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor & Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 352-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Alternative Media in the Middle East

Alternative media in the Middle East is a seminar course examining the diversity of contexts that often produce media through pirate radio, underground press, independent film, internet, digital and mobile technologies, and other forms. We examine various facets of these alternative media forms, their development, circulation and overall impact. The class will make use of readings, lectures, alternative media artefacts, case study analyses, guest presenters and your own research projects. In this course, we develop a set of analytical and practical tools to evaluate and distinguish between alternative and mainstream media. We also acquire regional understanding of the multitude of ways citizens, artists, critical thinkers and others are contributing to effecting change and enjoying the power of their imagination.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor & Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 360-0 Topics in Media Writing: Pixar Storytelling

Pixar has a distinct cinematic voice, loved by audiences, critics and filmmakers alike. Not only are Pixar's films known for their rich fictional worlds, glorious visuals, and original plots, but for their ability to move audiences. This course will focus on Pixar's effective storytelling techniques (core ideas, moving conflict, emotionally satisfying endings, character development, theme, etc.) and how they are used to create memorable films. Students will craft finished works including but not limited to character studies, dialogues, scenes, analyses and a completed feature film screenplay. This course is for writers interested in writing for animation or for anyone who is interested in learning more about the world of storytelling.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach

Prerequisites: MIT 260-0

- Open to Sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 372-0 Editing

This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of digital non-linear editing. The emphasis of the course will be hands-on practice through a series of projects. There will be several in-class screenings, readings, and a significant amount of time spent editing to develop your abilities. This class is the first step to finding your own "voice" as an editor. The projects in the class will offer experience with several different editing strategies and techniques. They are designed to develop conceptual and technical proficiency, as well as the working skills, strategies, and discipline necessary to provide a foundation for further exploration.

Instructor(s): Joao Queiroga

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0 with "C-" grade or better

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 376-0 Topics in Interactive Media: Mixed Reality Design

This course introduces students to fundamental concepts, theories, and techniques involved with designing and developing mixed reality products, i.e. augmented reality and virtual reality applications. Students will learn the affordances and limitations of different mixed reality products, their design requirements and development processes. The course uses Unity software to program interactions.

Instructor(s): Mariam Rafehi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 379-0 Topics in F/V/A Production: Digital Podcast Production

In this digital production course, students will form an interdisciplinary team to produce, distribute, and promote an original podcast on iTunes, SoundCloud, Spreaker, and other emergent platforms. Students will have the opportunity to specialize in fields of digital production of interest to them. Podcasts represent a media format custom-designed for busy 21st century lifestyles. Podcasts are essentially prerecorded radio focused around specific topics and made easily available for download via mobile devices. Beginning in 2004, as a disruptive new media format, podcasts have now broken through to mainstream popularity in many parts of the world—especially in South Korea, Sweden, Australia, and the United States. However, podcasts have yet to achieve popularity in the Middle East—which presents an entrepreneurial opportunity for Doha-based digital creatives. Podcasts are a uniquely effective digital media format for consuming relevant information while on the go. One can consume podcasts while doing other tasks, e.g. while commuting to work; waiting in line for groceries; or running on the treadmill. And one can find podcasts dedicated to nearly every subject, no matter how broad or obscure. Quality podcasts offer both information and entertainment, in bite-sized chunks, right at your fingertips. Podcasts can also facilitate a deeper dive into subjects—creating the possibility for long-form investigations in an accessible medium. And podcasts can create communities by bringing together like-minded individuals who share common interests. Podcasting is at the knee of the curve here in the Middle East, and this course offers the opportunity for enterprising media entrepreneurs to pioneer the genre for the region. In this course students will learn experientially the interdisciplinary teamwork required to produce, distribute, and promote an original podcast from scratch—gaining tangible expertise with current podcast production technologies. Having taken original digital media content from concept to execution: students will be able to point to specific podcast episodes produced in class that are now live and available for download around the world.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 379-0 Topics in F/V/A Production: The Director's Vision

Vision is what distinguishes one film director from another. This course is meant to assist each student in defining and maintaining their unique vision from script to finished film. And yet a director's vision can only be realized through creatively and respectfully collaborating and communicating with others in the cast and crew. By breaking down the director's role from beginning to end, the class will offer vocabulary, tools and examples of the art and language of cinema in order to help the director knowledgeably communicate his/her unified vision to all the people responsible for fulfilling it. Each student will examine how to choose and work with a producer, screenwriter, cinematographer, production designer, editor and composer. In addition, the class will analyze the choices made by professional directors known for their unique visions in the hopes that students will be further inspired to create and define their own.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz

Prerequisites: MIT 190

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 388-0 Internet and Society

The Internet affects every society and culture on earth. This class surveys a range of theoretical, historical and technological issues that the Internet poses to society. At its core, this class asks students to critically think about the question “Who controls the Internet?” Students develop a broad familiarity with a range of issues and problems related to the impact of the Internet on society through directed readings and discussion. Students also hone their research and writing skills through independent research projects on Internet topics of interest throughout the course. The goals of this course are to 1) familiarize students with the macroeconomic, social, and political effects of the internet, 2) develop intellectual curiosity by supporting directed student research and 3) provide students with intellectual frameworks to consider internet policy.

Instructor(s): Banu Akdenizli

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor

MIT 392-0 Documentary Production

In two lectures per week and outside field work, this course will cover the basics of documentary production with an emphasis on the creation of short documentaries, as well as the history of the genre. Using advanced cameras, professional location audio recording equipment, and Adobe Premiere Pro computer editing, you will create engaging, meaningful, creative non-fiction media. Concurrently throughout the semester, your inquiry, discovery, and mastery will be firmly grounded in the history and scholarship of American and international documentaries from the early part of the 20th century to today.

Instructor(s): Joao Queiroga

Prerequisites: MIT 190-0

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 393-0 2D Computer Animation

In this course, students will learn how to make digital animation and discover how to capture the hearts and minds of audiences with this highly popular and fun - filled art form. It offers a basic comprehensive understanding of integrating motion theory and various digital practices that create the illusion of life and movement on the screen. The course consists of three main components:1. Theoretical knowledge development to understand the history of animation, basic principles of time and movement, digital production systems and methodologies, sensual values (such as visual, aesthetic, formal, pragmatic) and abstract values (such as emotional, motivational, persuasive).2. Technical knowledge development through in - class workshops, self - guided learning, hands on practice using computer software and employing different digital production methods and processes. Students will learn how to manage projects and understand various technical terminologies, attributes and industry - standard specifications.3. Experimentation and creative exploration by taking the knowledge and skills that were gained in the first two phases and reapplying them using a more personal, creative and conceptual mind - frame. This phase will reinforce the importance of narrative and creating value and romance for different audience.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Economics

In this course, students develop essential understandings of how and why economic and financial forces shape media industries and influence the strategies and operations of media companies. Media have important political, cultural and social roles in every society, but at base every company is a financial organization because the need for resources drives competitive strategy and deciding how to apply resources is fundamentally about sustaining creative activities. The importance of media economics applies to commercial and non-profit companies alike, and at all levels from local to global levels. In this course students learn key concepts and practices such as economies of scope and scale, business models and revenue streams, vertical and horizontal integration, consolidation and conglomeration, convergence and disintermediation, financial and management accounting, and so forth. The course focuses on the microeconomic level of company and industry performance rather than broad macroeconomic theory. Study emphasizes the impacts of profound disruption caused by advancing digitalization in platforms and globalization in competition, that poses threats and brings opportunities for media companies in competitive markets. Guest speakers from the media industry in Doha provide real world perspectives to supplement readings from textbooks by two of the most influential figures in the field, Robert G. Picard and Gillian Doyle. Students do not need prior knowledge of economic theory.

Instructor(s): Gregory Ferrell Lowe

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Intercultural and international Communication

Intercultural and international communication. As a result of new communication technologies, the movement of people across borders, global media, transnational organizations and economies, the need for intercultural and international communication understanding and competency has become more salient than ever. This course examines the relationships between communication and national cultures. The course covers theory and research in intercultural and international communication, and aims to identify and describe the many different ways we communicate and interact across cultures and nations. Through a combination of research projects, discussion and case studies some of the issues that will be discussed are: theories of symbolic interaction, nonverbal communication, world-system theory, global flows of information, interaction between beliefs and identities, the importance of power and context in intercultural and international communication. By the end of this course students should be able to read and analyze current research in intercultural and international communication from multiple research paradigms; learn skills to communicate effectively across culturally diverse environments by identifying challenges that arise from difference, increase intercultural competence by creatively addressing those challenges, broaden perspectives of culture and people in general and build capacity to adapt by exploring cultural and international similarities and differences.

Instructor(s): Banu Akdenizli

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Organizational Communication

This course explores influential theories and examines research about organizational communication. The focus for this field of specialization is effectiveness in the exchange of information and the sharing of knowledge which is crucial for the effective operation of every media company. Organizations must be competent in both internal and external communication practices in order to manage the interests of

diverse stakeholders. Otherwise, the organization cannot achieve its strategic goals and be an effective and efficient company.

Instructor(s): Martin Ndlela

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media in Africa

This course examines influential theories and approaches that underpin the relationship between media and society in African countries. The course surveys the history and development of media institutions on the continent in various regions, interrogates media policy and regulation in comparative terms, employs a political economy orientation for understanding the role of media in the exercise of political and economic power, and clarifies trends and dynamics in media development.

Instructor(s): Martin Ndlela

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only
- Satisfies Media & Politics Minor

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Communication Skills

This course teaches students how to be effective communicators in various platforms, formats and contexts. Students will learn how to make impactful presentations, to develop skills in public speaking, and hone practical skills in writing and design. The course combines practice and instruction.

Instructor(s): Martin Ndlela

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

Journalism Courses

GEN CMN 202-0 News and Numbers

Introduction to statistics for journalism students. Students will discuss ways to detect fraud in government data, methods for dissecting academic research from scholarly journals (as well as research promoted in press releases), and strategies for reporting numbers to a mass audience, among other skills. Students will become deeply familiar with SPSS software. Covered topics include those common in general statistics courses, including the Central Limit Theorem, descriptive and inferential test statistics, correlation, One-Way and Two-Way Analyses of Variance, and multiple regression. Specific attention is given to challenges journalists encounter in reporting numbers.

Instructor(s): Jairo Alfonso Lugo-Ocando

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above, Journalism majors only

JOUR 201-0 Journalistic Storytelling Across Media

Students will produce journalism stories across a variety of forms and platforms: writing for print and digital outlets, as well as creating audio, video and interactive content. You will learn how to amplify your storytelling by tapping into social media tools to reach, attract and interact with a wider audience. This class is conducted in a collaborative atmosphere within a newsroom environment to produce stories for the digital age. You will develop a strong sense of news judgment and be prepared to learn advanced areas of reporting and storytelling in future classes. This course builds on the introductory experiences in techniques of journalism received in your first year, developing these to master basic skills of every storytelling format. These include news judgment, information gathering (sourcing,

discovering and covering different kinds of news, interviewing techniques, practices of inclusion and sensitivity); constructing stories (leads, story structure, quotes, use of data, assessing collected information); editing and presentation (grammar, punctuation, AP style, voice, tone, clarity); and visual literacy and presentation. This course emphasizes deadline reporting and storytelling and the practice of ethical journalism. The course expands students' skills in the use of multi-platform tools (text, photos, audio and video in print, broadcast and/or digital platforms) needed for effective, relevant and engaging storytelling.

Instructor(s): Mary Dedinsky / Abraham Abusharif / Gregory Toppo

Prerequisites: JOUR 202-0

- Open to sophomores only, Journalism majors only

JOUR 202-0 Journalism in the Digital World

This course begins your exploration of a field that is constantly transforming yet strives to remain true to asset of time-tested fundamentals. We will explore essential questions about journalism and strategic communication: its purpose(s), its techniques and what makes it valuable. Once those foundations are laid, we will examine digital technology's impact on journalism, including the essential role social media and mobile technology play. In the final weeks, you will work as journalists to cover a real news story from multiple perspectives. Working in a newsroom setting, you will gather information and produce content for social media and mobile platforms.

Instructor(s): Eddy Borges-Rey/ Marcela Pizarro (Lec/Lab)

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students only

JOUR 318-0 Mobile Journalism (MoJo)

Smartphones have become an essential component of contemporary journalism. On average, 62% of users prefer to read their news on their smartphones, which has steered editorial efforts towards mobile-first strategies. The level of technical sophistication of modern smartphones, coupled with their online connectivity and their computing power, has made these devices able to produce and disseminate news of a professional standard in-situ. More and more, smartphone footage finds itself competing with standard broadcasting footage in news bulletins and newscasts. ENG and EFP operations are put aside in favor of compact and portable mobile journalism (MoJo) deployments. With a full radio or television studio in their pocket, Mobile journalists are now able to blend in to challenging reporting environments and efficiently navigate their complexities.

This practical course introduces students to the methods and techniques of Mobile Journalism. Students will use MoJo gear to gather, produce and post-produce mobile news packages to a professional standard. The course will also provide an opportunity to learn about apps, the limitations of the medium, and how to tell mobile-first stories.

Instructor(s): Eddy Borges-Rey

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

JOUR 321-0 Storytelling: Magazine and Feature Writing

Magazine and Feature Writing students will be introduced to the editorial flank of the magazine world (online and print)—a vast and storied part of not just journalism but public debate, controversy, and

exchange of ideas. Students will be introduced to and learn how to write and edit various “kinds” of magazine stories. Though they originated in print magazines (and still do so in a surprisingly robust way), these story types have survived the transition to online publications to an important extent. (We will discuss the differences between online stories and print.) This is a writing-emphasized, editing-dependent and reporting-based class. You will learn important skills and will be shown an expansive venue for your story ideas, storytelling abilities and, of course, your unique writing style and voice. By this point in the journalism program, students are expected to have advanced writing skills so that we may focus more on the various structures and approaches to magazine writing. Students are expected to develop their story ideas (in close consultation with your instructor and classmates) and find sources required to produce interesting and well-told stories. Also, you will produce your own multi-media accompaniments to your stories. As such, you will be introduced to open-source offerings that permit students to design creative art concepts intended to accompany their written pieces. An example is the work done by Medill’s Knight lab.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif

Prerequisites: JOUR 301-0 OR JOUR 301-1 with a C or better

- Open to juniors and above, JOUR majors only

JOUR 324-0 Video Journalism – Video Producing: Broadcast/Web

Video Production for Broadcast & the Web will cover techniques associated with writing and producing broadcasts for television and digital platforms. Students will learn the roles and responsibilities of the key personnel involved in producing programs both within the studio and outside broadcasts. Students will have the opportunity to take on all the production and technical roles available, providing them with a strong foundation in live television production. The course will also instruct students in advanced storytelling, shooting, and editing techniques for television and multi-platform environments. It will enable students to recognize and understand the technical and aesthetic aspects of visual storytelling and how to build successful visual narratives using a combination of still images, 4K video, ambient audio, voice and/or text. The course is designed to prepare students for the “real world”, allowing them to apply the journalistic standards of truth, fairness and accuracy, alongside the tools and techniques of multi-platform journalism, to tell compelling narratives in a professional environment. The course will consist of lectures, discussions and practical exercises.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- This course carries 2.00 NU-Q units

JOUR 370-0 Media Law & Ethics

Introduces students to the basic legal concepts necessary to produce content responsibly in a global environment. Students develop a basic understanding of principles of freedom of speech and freedom of the press through the study of government structures, defamation, intellectual property protection and invasion of privacy.

Instructor(s): Craig LaMay

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Priority to Journalism students who will be on residency in the spring

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Culture Media Magazine Show

The Media & Culture Magazine show is a 15-week production course for students who want to learn to write, direct and present broadcast quality programming. The final product will be a studio presented show

with a range of short and long reports and films about art, culture and media. Students will be asked to pitch, produce, direct, write, film and edit slickly produced short films of a high editorial standard. They will also be required to produce studio excerpts which will include training in presenting, production and graphic design. This is a dynamic course taught by someone who has worked in the industry and requires ambitious students who are keen to write and produce for broadcast – and who will walk away with a strong element to add to their show reel.

Instructor(s): Marcela Pizarro

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Gender and the Media

This course will give students a general introduction to covering pressing gender and women's issues in media. Students will be introduced to gender and feminist theory and will study how American and Middle Eastern media cover issues of particular importance to women, such as sex trafficking, rape, domestic violence and economic issues. They will learn how such coverage can be improved to better reflect women's lived realities and perspectives. Students also will learn how female and gendered voices have been historically ignored, stereotyped, misunderstood and marginalized by many media professionals; how this approach often resulted in warped truths and narratives in news reports; and how aspiring media practitioners can avoid these common pitfalls.

Instructor(s): Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above

STRATCOM 303-0 Introduction to Strategic Communication

Introductory course in which students learn about the fundamentals of strategic communication; become familiar with strategic communication practices such as advertising, public relations, branding, corporate communication, promotions, social media marketing, and mobile marketing; understand the integrated approach to IMC (Integrated Marketing Communications); explore issues shaping the practice of strategic communication such as ethics and industry regulations; discover career opportunities and types of jobs in strategic marketing communications in the non-profit sector, the private sector, or the government.

Instructor(s): George Anghelcev

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 330-0 or IMC 303 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 303-0
- Satisfies Strategic Communication Certificate

STRATCOM 305-0 Corporate Storytelling

Development of message strategies for communicating with consumers and other audiences. Emphasis on understanding audiences, how persuasion works and how brand communications are developed and executed. Hands-on exercises in writing and using digital and social media for effective communications.

Instructor(s): George Anghelcev

Prerequisites: IMC 330-0 or STRATCOM 303-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 331-0 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 305-0
- Satisfies Strategic Communication Certificate

STRATCOM 307-0 Digital, Social and Mobile Marketing

Focus on the tools, methodologies and programs used by companies to develop, justify, deploy and measure their social and mobile marketing programs. Development of complete social marketing programs for actual companies using best practices, including social monitoring, web analytics, social marketing systems, blogs, Twitter, Google Plus, LinkedIn and other tools.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: STRATCOM 303-0

- Open to sophomores and above
- Satisfies Strategic Communication Certificate

Liberal Arts Courses

ECON 242-0 Principles of Economics

This introductory course studies basic economic concepts and theories. It is divided into two main parts: microeconomics and topics on macroeconomics. The module examines central economic ideas including supply and demand, market structures, consumers, public policy and monopoly as well as macroeconomic indicators such as gross domestic product, inflation and unemployment. Issues on economic growth, financial systems and capital markets are also discussed (including Islamic finance). Whenever possible, examples from Qatar and other economies in the Gulf region will be used to illustrate the material being discussed. The content and delivery of the course are suitable to students who are not pursuing a major in economics. Topics are discussed in a relatively non-technical way. Analytical explanations will focus on graphs rather than mathematics.

Instructor(s): Giovanni Bandi & Tamer Rabbani

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students and above
- Open for cross-registration

ENGL 103-1 First-Year Writing

The primary goal of this course is to improve writing skills within an academic setting. It is designed to help a student become a more efficient and successful writer by also strengthening skills in reading and analyzing texts. It recognizes that writing is indeed a process. This means that whether a writer starts with a thesis, an outline, or an assigned topic, there will be many steps and missteps involved in producing the final essay. Multiple phases of the writing process will be carried out, such as workshop, peer review, and one-on-one conferences with the instructor. Each semester, a different theme will serve as a focal topic for readings, discussions, and writing assignments.

Instructor(s): Aaron LaDuke / Maria Lombard / Sam Meekings / Kelly Wilson / Michael Telafici

Prerequisites: None

- Mandatory for all first-year students

ENGL 242-0 Topics in Literature: Intro to Creative Writing

The course introduces the basic principles of creative writing, focusing on fiction and poetry. The course will provide an introduction to narrative, character, setting and voice. Students will read from a variety of literary genres, and identify how to replicate the techniques and tools in each genre in their own writing. The course will prioritize experimentation and building up a regular writing practice. Students will explore a variety of writing styles, and practice analyzing and critiquing creative work in regular workshops.

Instructor(s): Sam Meekings

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students

- Open for Cross-registration

ENGL 242-0 Topics in Literature: Literature and Place

This course will examine literary works through their specific settings. In the introductory text of the course, Tim Cresswell writes that “place is not just a thing in the world but a way of understanding the world.” Focusing on place in literary texts provides a critical lens that unlocks a rich variety of subjects: themes of identity, belonging, and displacement, as well as the gamut of social and political issues. This kind of place based analysis gives rise to a number of important questions as well: How can setting act as character? How does location become place? And, how fully can works of literature create place in the minds of readers? As the class encounters works from a number of global settings, the common goal will be to utilize place as a method of inquiry to more deeply examine and comprehend the world.

Instructor(s): Aaron LaDuke

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

ENGL 242-0 Topics in Literature: Postcolonial Literature

Although we live in a world that is technically after colonialism, our ideas, governments, institutions, and many other elements of our lives are still organized and determined by the western world’s colonization of the rest of the world. Like a ghost, colonialism is technically gone but asserts itself in our reality in micro and macro ways on a daily basis. How that process works, via concepts such as race, and how to counteract it are some of the main subjects of postcolonial studies. In this class we will address core postcolonial, anti-colonial, and decolonial thinkers such as Edward Said, Albert Memmi, Achille Mbembe, Franz Fanon, Aimé Césaire, and Gayatri Spivak, among others. Furthermore, we will turn to novels, short stories, and films from Africa, the Caribbean, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America to consider ways of seeing and being that overcome a reliance on western models. In particular, we will read the literary works of authors such as Chinua Achebe, Chris Abani, Jamaica Kincaid, Aravind Adiga, Luis Sepulveda, Nawal El Saadawi, Gabriel García Márquez, and Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o, among others. We will also watch the movies of filmmakers such as Ousmane Sembène, Gillo Pontecorvo, Lee Tamahori, and Djibril Diop. Assessment in this course is via participation, short response papers, a mid-term paper, and a multi-modal final project.

Instructor(s): James Hodapp

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

History 242-0 Topics in History: Understanding Hist. Sources

In this course you will explore a range of historical sources and discover what secrets they can tell you about the past. Each week you will focus on one type of source and, with the aid of theoretical guides, discover how they can help you build historical interpretations. The sources will come from all over the world, including the Middle East, and cover the last 500 years. Our goal is to understand how different kinds of sources contribute to our historical understanding in different ways. We will start by reading written sources, such as diaries or newspapers, before looking at visual sources, such as portraits or cartoons, and finally study physical sources, such as clothes or architecture. By the end of the course, you will have a strong understanding of how to include a wide variety of primary sources to support analytical arguments about the past. Effective use of evidence is key skill for anyone interested in taking further history courses and for your undergraduate education in general.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: British India

The history of modern India cannot be explained without understanding the impact of the British Empire. For 350 years, Britain and India shared a common history that has a lasting legacy today. This course explores the major themes of the British Empire in India from the formation of the East India Company in 1600 to Indian Independence and Partition in 1947. Empires are shaped by the encounters between agents of imperial power and indigenous peoples. These encounters change both groups creating a hybrid society with long term consequences. We will explore the different types of imperial encounters that took place between Britons and Indians from conquest and subjugation to negotiation and collaboration, and finally struggle and resistance. By focusing on these experiences our goal is to avoid the traditional imperial narrative of superior Britons and inferior Indians and instead understand British India as a place of encounters and experiences.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: Islam Shaping African History

How did Islam come to have such primacy in African history? What are the currents of Islamic thought that have come to shape African lives? How did Africans affect Islamic religious culture? This course aims to answer such questions with an overview of fourteen centuries of Islam in Africa. Although not an exhaustive history, we will outline major historical shifts, consider broad intellectual currents and discuss some of the main historiographical debates surrounding Islam in Africa.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

INTERDIS 200-0 Introduction to Environmental Science

This class provides a comprehensive overview of environmental science. By using an “earth systems” approach, you will recognize society and the environment as an interrelated system. This course will examine the science behind natural ecosystem and physical environmental problems, including water and air quality, global climate change, energy, ecosystem services, introduced and endangered species, water supply, solid waste, human population, and interaction of technical, social, and political approaches to environmental management.

Instructor(s): Sayeed Mohammed

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students and above

INTERDIS 203-0 Ways of Knowing

What do we know? How do we know it? What is the best way of gathering data to learn what we do not currently know? How do we process our current knowledge and use it as a basis for action? These epistemological questions are addressed differently by different disciplines or academic groups trained to investigate problems following certain, agreed-upon rules of analysis. The theme of climate change, a topic of particular importance to students and the world at large, functions as a concrete mental hook for the

students to better understand diverse epistemologies and methodologies: how different disciplines address these questions in different ways. Each professor will introduce methods and protocols from his/her discipline to discuss different ways of knowing. But by weaving together lectures, discussions, and assignments, the course will also underscore the interconnectedness of our disciplines and the value of an interdisciplinary approach to understanding and solving the complex problems of our times.

Instructor(s): Sami Hemez & Torsten Menge

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores only

INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Introduction to Science and Technology Studies

This course introduces the interdisciplinary field of science and technology studies (STS), which is the study of science and technology in social context. Drawing on insights from the history and sociology of science and technology, the course discusses topics related to how and why people shape, develop, use, adapt, and contest scientific knowledge and technologies. It introduces important concepts such as “everyday science” and “sociotechnical system” in order for students to understand how science works and how to think about our technological world.

Instructor(s): Anto Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 301-0 Doha Seminar: Behind the Headlines: Context and Meaning of Qatar on the World Stage

This honors course seeks to locate historical contexts and ideological meanings that underpin Qatar’s complex and varied approaches to nation building, development, and international influence. Qatar’s process of identity making, as with all nations and individuals, is internally contested, subject to cultural hybridities, and often is not received as intended by outsiders. Such continually reworked portraits both respond to immediate concerns and try to strike a chord with deeper cultural memories, traditions of the Gulf and the wider Muslim world whose relationship to Western modernity are still being worked out. This course will examine Qatari and regional debates on religious doctrine, race, class, gender roles, educational change, sports, public art, and media. Guest discussants who are recognized authorities in particular fields will often join classroom exchanges.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright & Sohaira Siddiqui

Prerequisites: None

- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- If interested contact Michelle Telafici at m-telafici@northwestern.edu
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

Phil 242-0 Topics in Philosophy: Introduction to Philosophy

This course will introduce students to a range of philosophical topics, questions, and puzzles. Topics may include: the foundation of morality, free will, personal identity, the nature of minds, the possibility of genuine knowledge, the legitimacy of government, questions about justice and power, the meaning of life, and the nature of death. We are going to approach these topics from a number of different perspectives and use classical and contemporary texts, dialogues, movies, short stories, and podcasts. As we explore these questions, we are going to practice how to identify, understand, and assess arguments, as well as

how to challenge basic assumptions, analyze concepts, draw distinctions, and read difficult texts. The goal of this class is to strengthen your ability to think, read, and write critically and to contribute to conversations about perennial human concerns.

Instructor(s): Torsten Menge

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

Poli_Sci 242-0 Topics in Political Science: American Politics

This course provides an introduction to American politics and government. We will explore the US constitution, the three branches of government, the news media, public opinion and political participation, and campaigns and elections. We will follow the American elections with interactive blogs, and end with a comparative and critical perspective on US democracy. An introduction to American politics is essential for students to understand American influence and capacity on foreign policies and current events.

Instructor(s): Jocelyn Mitchell

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor

Poli_Sci 387-0 Advanced Topics in Political Science: Inequality in America

This course provides an in-depth look at inequality in America, in which some individuals and groups "get what, when, and how" (Lasswell 1936) more than others. The class will contrast the promise of equality with the reality of inequality in American democracy today. Although the primary focus is on America, relevant comparisons to Qatar and the Gulf will be introduced to investigate how these concepts travel across contexts and raise awareness of global forms of inequality. Students will understand the social construction of difference (race, class, gender, and sexuality), the impact of intersectionality, and the concept of backlash as status quo groups seek to protect perceived threats to their power and place in the system. Specific issues, such as voting rights, education, and policing, will be explored through a comparative and critical perspective, and the prospects of social change will be assessed.

Instructor(s): Jocelyn Mitchell

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor

Poli_Sci 387-0 Advanced Topics in Political Science: Contemporary Arab Thought

This course covers various ideologies and schools of Arab thought from the late 19th century up to current times. The intent of teaching and class discussion is to engage with the main principles of ideologies and thinkers that have dominated intellectual activism in the Arab region. The course aims at examining the mixed effect of these ideologies on the Arab world, exploring their approaches to traditional and modern values and structures, and their endeavors to (re)formulate a collective identity. Across the region, before and after the independence of Arab countries, liberalism, Marxism, Arab nationalism and Islamism have continued to rival one another in bidding for popular support and political leadership. Arab intellectuals who belonged to these ideologies strived to absorb, adopt, or reject sheer consequences created by the

'shock of modernity' on socio-political, economic, cultural moral levels. Over the long decades of the 20th century and through the days of the post-Arab Spring, intellectual struggle has engulfed the cultural and political scene in the Arab world, reflecting both the rise and fall of those ideologies.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

POLI_SCI 390-0/MIT 398-0 Special Topics: Media & Politics in Arab World

The course engages with the debates over the role of the media since the emergence of the independent Arab states in the first half of the 20th century through present time, and up until the influence of the media during and after the Arab Spring. Between these two time ends, the media has been part of broader processes of nation-building, ruling-elites consolidation, identity-creation and dismantling, as well as a crucial means of political opposition. The course examines how emerging states and governments in the region have used and manipulated the media for decades in their sustained effort to construct distinctive national identities. Thematically, the course covers a spectrum of topics including loyalist media and their role in supporting political status quo, oppositional and ideological media, the politics of private-owned media, media and political change, media and foreign policy, media and social change, media and religion, and the politics and influence of foreign media and off-shore Arab media. A considerable space and discussion is also devoted to transnational broadcasting media pioneered by Al-Jazeera in 1996. A similar focus is given to the emergence of social media along with youth activism in relation with raising the ceiling of free speech and creating spaces for political debates and criticism in the region.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for Cross-Registration
- Satisfying Media and Politics Minor and Middle East Studies Minor

Sociology 242-0 Topics in Sociology: Introduction to Sociology

This course offers a broad overview of a range of issues and sociological ways of thinking. Issues may include: interrelations of society, culture, and personality; major social institutions and processes.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

- Open to first-year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

Sociology 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: Sociology of Development

This course discusses key ideas, theories, and actors (e.g., institutions, social movements, NGOs, governments, etc.) that have shaped mainstream and alternative development processes and practices. It examines the ways in which discursive, political, and economic aspects mutually reinforce power structures that determine which people do and do not count as "developed" and which perspectives on change become part of development processes.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration