

NU-Q Spring 2020 Course Descriptions

Communication/MIT Courses

Journalism Courses

Liberal Arts Courses

Communication/MIT Courses

MIT 190-0 Media Construction

In this introductory production course, students explore the technical and theoretical elements of media construction: storytelling, sound, image and editing. Building upon the aesthetic and narrative concepts introduced in MIT 220, this class will introduce the challenges and opportunities created by filming and editing sync-sound material. Basic camera, lighting, audio, and non-linear editing labs will be combined with regular discussions and lectures. Projects will include an audio assignment, a photography assignment, and a short film. Students will use DSLR still photography cameras, Canon C100 video cameras, location audio recording equipment, and Adobe Audition and Adobe Premiere Pro to envision and execute their productions.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz, Miriam Berg, Joao Queiroga & Marcela F Pizarro

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen only

MIT 230-0 Understanding Media Contexts

This course introduces students to ways of analyzing the social, cultural, economic, and political contexts in which people produce and consume media, especially television. Surveying foundational scholarship in television and new media theory, the class examines a range of critical approaches, including aesthetic/formal analysis, narrative criticism, ideological analysis, political economy, cultural criticism, and audience reception. Working to advance their analytical skills, students will practice using these approaches to examine issues of style, form, ideology, and identity (e.g., race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, and nation) in a range of historical and contemporary television shows, commercials, and online videos. Ultimately, the goals of the course are 1) to acquaint students with a range of critical and methodological tools for analyzing the production, reception, and cultural meanings of television; and 2) to strengthen and expand students' understanding of diverse TV content, contexts, and convergences at different times in history.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike

Prerequisites: None

- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and 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 330-1 Creative Collaboration I

This course, Creative Collaboration I, is designed to provide a creative arena where students can work together in a collaborative process to develop an ensemble project for the stage. Participating in class as playwrights and/or performers, all students will engage in creative research and activities. The course will also consist of required reading, creative writing exercises, and character and scene improvisations. (The rehearsal process will require additional evening and/or weekend meeting time outside of class during the final 3 weeks.) The course will conclude with a public staged-reading of the play. Actual performance participation in the final production is not required, however all students will be actively involved in and responsible for a specific aspect of production. Although there is no prerequisite for this course, it is highly advisable that students have previously taken one of the performance courses, MIT 143-0 Basic Acting or MIT 298 Principles of Characterization.

Instructor(s): Ann E Woodworth

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

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 Juniors 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 353-0: Arab Television Industries

This course is organized around historical periods, geographic locations, popular genres and significant milestones before and after the introduction of satellite technology. Using a combination of readings, lectures, videos, projects and presentations, students develop an understanding of Arab television's history and an ability to assess its various functions. This course examines developments of Arab television through cultural, social, technological, commercial and political lens. The history, practice and impact of Arab television are addressed as useful manifestations of political, cultural, social and economic transformations of the contemporary Arab world. The course also addresses the digital turn in Arab television industries and the emergence of competing content providers from Shahid to Netflix.

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 360-0 Topics in Media Writing: Writing the Comedy Feature

When you write for comedy, you should never try to be funny. The "funny" stuff should arise from the situations, the characters, and the story itself. In this class, we will look at the different types of comedy and the tools and elements used to create them. We will apply these techniques to your own feature length comedy script. This class is for students who want to build a solid foundation for a great, funny screenplay; expand their screenwriting skill into the comedy genre; or who want to be more confident adding humorous moments to their dramatic screenplay.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach

Prerequisites: MIT 260-0

- Open to Sophomores and above, MIT majors only

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

Docufiction blurs the line between fiction and non-fiction filmmaking practices and artistry. In this class, students will be introduced to hybrid, genre-defying films that question traditional definitions of documentary and fiction. Students will familiarize themselves with hybrid films, experimental

forms, mockumentaries, documentary reenactments and dramatized "true stories." Classes will be composed of lectures, critical viewing, discussion of screenings and production workshops.

Instructor(s): Joao Queiroga

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 382-0 Foundations of Sound Design: Sound Production

Sound design is crucial to the success of visual storytelling and interaction design. While often subtle, skillfully produced sound design immerses the viewer, listener, or product end-user, shaping the emotional landscape of the piece and guiding the audience along. It's an observable phenomenon that people can watch and even enjoy a scratchy, jumpy, low-quality image, (e.g. The Blair Witch Project (1999)), but they cannot bear poorly produced audio. Therefore, artfully crafted sound design is a vital component of effective audio-visual media. This course explores the history of sound design, its theoretical underpinnings, and the core features of a compelling soundscape. We will explore the workflow of a professionally produced soundtrack—including capturing, editing, repairing, mixing, and applying effects. Students will breakdown and analyze soundscapes by listening to examples from different periods and media formats, produced via a variety of methods, (both analog and digital). Students will examine the state of the art and potential futures of sound design, discussing the core concepts of immersive and 3D audio. Finally, students will apply the knowledge and skills developed in the class to produce original sound design projects for real-world clients.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 389-0 Global Culture and Comm *CANCELLED*****

Whether it is the latest hit song that you hear everywhere from the local radio station to iTunes or it is a new video game that you play online with 'friends' half way around the world (the song that may be featured in the video game that is based on a movie, itself available as a book), there is some 'global culture' that pervades our everyday lives through communication industries and messages. The course is divided in three modules to cover media, critical and cultural studies concepts and methods to study (1) industries (2) messages and (3) audiences. Ultimately, the course is designed to inspire students to pose intriguing research questions for research projects as communicators, journalists, or simply curious humans. The approach will be comparative and multicultural, which will be reflected in the reading material, the lectures, discussions, and assignments.

Instructor(s): Joe Khalil

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Juniors and above
- Sophomore students may contact the instructor for permission to register.
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

MIT 390-0 Directing: Directing Actors

This course is designed for students who wish to develop directing skills and techniques for working with actors. The course will cover auditioning and casting, but the majority of the time will focus on the actor/director relationship during rehearsal and performance. Through lectures, in-class exercises and assignments, students will be exposed to a variety of methods and then be asked to demonstrate their newfound knowledge by directing actors in a series of scenes. All students in the class will be required to act in one another's directing projects.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz

Prerequisites: None

- Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Communication and Sport

Communication and sport introduces students to the study of communication in sport contexts, including interpersonal, organizational and media. Topics covered include identity (racial, gender, etc.), fan cultures, sports media, politics and nationalism, player-coach relationships, parent-child interactions in the context of sport, communication in teams, crisis communication and new media in sport.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Creativity in Context

This course explores an intriguing problem in social scientific analysis: the production of new ideas and practices as well as the reputations of their creators: How do social and cultural contexts affect creative output and innovations? How do professional communities determine when ideas are original, instead of misguided or infeasible? How does this compare across the arts, the media, or the economy? Students will learn about key approaches to creativity and innovation in sociology, communication, organizational analysis, urban studies, and economics. Through a set of assignments, students also will build important skills for their own future creative research or professional work. The course will involve brief lectures, student presentations, plenty of discussions, and a collective interview with a creative expert.

Instructor(s): Larissa Buchholz

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Digital Media Environment

This course examines the implications of digital media with a focus on their meanings and purposes in daily life today, and their impact on societies. Students explore significant psychological, social, cultural, and political implications of areas of current popular practice including digital gaming, e-learning interfaces, human-computer-interaction (HCI), computer-mediated communication (CMC) through social media platforms, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), human-robot-interaction (HRI), as well as avatar-based virtual environments, and haptic interfaces. The impact and implications of these digital media environments are examined at the micro level of individual

psychology (how interaction with them affects our thinking) and at the macro level of society and culture (how their growth and importance shapes our world). After the course, students will understand influential theories that explain our experiences and practices in the constant use of digital media in the 21st century with a focus on addressing social issues that include online deception, platform addiction, concerns about privacy, the problem of cyberbullying, and so forth.

Instructor(s): Venus Jin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Globalization of Culture

With the growth of worldwide interdependencies, scholars have increasingly engaged with the “global economy,” with “global law,” or even “global governance.” But what about culture? Does it make sense to speak of “global culture”? And if so, what role do the arts and media play in it, and how should we study related processes? Specifically, the goals of this course are three-fold: First, to provide an overview of key positions in the evolution of the “global culture” debate as it originated in International communication. Second, to acquaint with important current frontiers of studying media and the arts in a global context. Third, through interviews and various site visits in Doha, students learn how cultural experts navigate the global and the local in their day to day work.

Instructor(s): Larissa Buchholz

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Alpha Start-Ups

This course is a collaborative approach to understanding what it takes to design, develop, and launch a start-up as an entrepreneur. Building on the fundamentals of media entrepreneurship, this program will be project based, team oriented, with a focus on real-world engagement and application. This highly-interactive course will draw on insights from industry professionals, analysis of case studies, the importance of embracing failure, corporate social responsibility, and other key components.

Instructor(s): Gregory Bergida

Prerequisites: MIT 398-0 Media Entrepreneurs or MIT 398-0 Media Ecosystem

- Open to Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media & Public Diplomacy

This course is an overview of the role of media and communication in public diplomacy and the rise of soft power as an instrument used by states and non-state actors to communicate, understand, and influence attitudes and behaviors. Public Diplomacy has been long regarded as an important tool in building and managing relationships; it influences thoughts and actions in the international arena via three major components: the government, the media, and public opinion. The media have played an integral role shaping and influencing images of countries through news or entertainment programming. With the advent of globalization and new communication technologies, the field has seen further changes, most significantly the increasing significance of the use of social media in global politics and social movements. Some of the particular themes explored in this course are: (1) social media and digital diplomacy; (2) the difference between propaganda and soft power; (3) international broadcasting; (4) culture and exchange diplomacy. By the end of the course, students

will be able to: (1) identify how public diplomacy and the media interact; (2) recognize major concepts related to public/digital diplomacy and public opinion; (3) analyze the evolving role of state and non-state actor's practices of soft power.

Instructor(s): Banu Akdenizli

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Management

This course introduces students to key concepts, models and influential thinkers in management science with the focus on implications for managing media companies. We consider the co-determinant influences of political, social and cultural contexts in which media firms operate, investigate normative standards that ground policy and shape practice, develop insights about media content as products, consider types of management (strategic, operational, developmental, stakeholder) and levels (executive, middle, line), and institutional factors (especially organizational cultures and values). Even for those who decide that being a manager is not the best career path personally, this course facilitates mature understandings of organizational principles and practices that affect all media workers and influence career success.

Instructor(s): Gregory Ferrell Lowe

Prerequisites: None

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

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Web 2.0 & Personal Branding

A personal brand is a manifestation of one's identity at an individual level. Today, social media provide powerful channels through which users establish a personal identity and build brand image online – whether they realize this or not. This course deepens student understandings of the nature, practice and importance of personal branding in contemporary social media environments. Students will engage readings and discussions that deepen understandings about personal branding practices and trends, and learn practical tools for creating effective strategies that enable each individual to leverage the theories to build an effective personal brand in social media environments. This knowledge and capability matters greatly to professional success in today's highly networked digital media environment. Success requires meticulous planning and considerable competence in marketing strategies and tactics. Students will develop a solid foundation for building their personal brands via social media and survey important theories about the nature of self, identity construction, social media dynamics and complexities, and learn useful application of these theories to create and manage their own personal brands. The course also critiques personal branding and examines ethical concerns.

Instructor(s): Venus Jin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Theories of the Moving Image

What is the nature of the photographic image? How has it changed in the digital era? How does a moving image affect a viewer differently than a still image? What is the effect of editing, for example, on a spectator? What is the difference between film and television, or between those two and, say, theater or painting? Such questions may seem philosophical, but their answers pertain directly to our (ever-changing) experience of moving-image media, such as film, television, or web content. To better understand the persistent power and appeal of these media, this course will sample the range of questions and answers—or theories—of the moving image from the 1910s to today. The course will engage with often difficult texts to understand their arguments and their implications for our contemporary media landscape. Each week will focus on a theme and discuss no more than two essays. Assessments will be based on short posts and either several brief papers or one longer essay. By the end of the course, students will be able to 1) identify key theories and theorists of moving-image media; 2) describe the main arguments and ideas of any given essay; 3) apply those arguments or ideas to contemporary examples of either films, television programs, or trends.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis

Prerequisites: MIT 220; MIT 312 History of Film is helpful, but not required

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

Journalism Courses

INTERDIS 201-0 Media and Society

Media and Society explores the interactions among media, culture and society. Students work to develop critical perspectives on mass media as they consider the relationships between media institutions, content, culture, audiences and communities. The impact of globalization and the role of technological change are important variables. Students also consider the historical background of several media industries, including newspapers, film, radio, the internet, television and music. The course examines content and media messages delivered as news, entertainment, persuasion, public relations and advertising. Global media systems are playing an increasingly large role and are vital area of study within the class, as is the notion of ethical communication. Media and society students should be able to identify structure and purpose of variety of media organizations and be able to describe their influence on individuals and social, political and geographic communities.

Instructor(s): Banu Akdenizli & Jairo Alfonso Lugo-Ocando

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen only

JOUR 101-0 Introduction to Journalism

This course provides an overview of journalism fundamentals and will explore how news is defined, reported, written and produced for print, broadcast and online media platforms. Journalism 101 is designed to not only introduce students to journalism, but is tailored to help students begin to develop their own skills in producing content across a variety of platforms for news, sports, business and current affairs.

Instructor(s): Marci Brown

Prerequisites: None

- Open to ABP students only

- Open for cross-registration

JOUR 301-1 News Gathering and Assessment (9 Weeks)

Focuses on news gathering as the "science of verification," using multiple independent sources to find, confirm, check and report facts. You will scrutinize and evaluate publicly-available documents, information obtained via social media, quantitative data, historical records, legal records, peer-reviewed research as well as information gathered from interviews. You will gather and verify information to produce new pieces of reporting as well as adding facts and context to existing reporting as part of ethical aggregation and curation.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif & Greg Toppo

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0

- Open to Sophomores, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.66 NU-Q units

JOUR 303-0 Audience Insight (9 Weeks)

This class provides an in-depth understanding of audience analytics, its significance in contemporary journalism, and the importance of understanding your viewers and their motivations for consuming media when it comes to content production. The course will further introduce students to audience research and what methods are most appropriate to identify your target audience. This course will also provide an historical overview of the public and both its relationship with news media, and media as a whole.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg

Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0

- Open to Sophomores, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.66 NU-Q units

JOUR 304-0 360 Video Journalism (5 Weeks)

Video journalism in 360 degrees is here. This course will introduce you to the challenges and opportunities of this evolving platform for immersive journalism and give you the chance to experiment with a rapidly developing piece of technology when you complete your own immersive journalism project using 360-degree video. This course will equip you with the background and hands-on knowledge to get started leading your own 360 video journalism projects.

Instructor(s): Joi Lee

Prerequisites: None

- Sophomores only, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.34 NU-Q units

JOUR 305-0 Podcasting (5 Weeks)

This course will introduce you to audio storytelling that combines in-depth reporting with strong, character-driven narrative features. Such stories commonly appear on established podcasts like This American Life, Radiolab and Embedded and many others. The course will run as a small newsroom, complete with pitch meetings and workshops. After a quick introduction to audio equipment, you will create two broadcast-worthy audio features. You will produce your stories through an editing workflow and will workshop each other's stories. We'll cover how to best write

for the ear, and you'll receive coaching to record narration in the studio. We will spend time every week listening to excellent audio stories to help you learn to identify what makes for good radio story subjects and sources.

Instructor(s): Christina Paschyn

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.34 NU-Q units

JOUR 306-0 Broadcast Production (5 Weeks)

This course will be an introduction to broadcast production and will cover techniques of gathering, reporting, and producing video news with special emphasis on production and writing. This will be accomplished through lecture/discussion and exercises. Upon completion of this course students should be able to write/produce short newscast and will also be comfortable presenting and reporting for live broadcast.

Instructor(s): Miriam Berg

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.34 NU-Q units
- Students who have earned credit for JOUR 323-0 may not earn credit for JOUR 306-0

JOUR 317-0 Business & Economic Reporting (5 Weeks)

In this five-week course, students will learn the basics of financial journalism, from covering startups and small businesses to international markets and global trends. Students will spend much, if not most, of their time in the course out in the community, digging up business stories. Doha is a major, and growing, global financial hub, and student will learn more about it, and help their audiences do the same.

Instructor(s): Greg Toppo

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores, JOUR majors only
- This course carries 0.34 NU-Q units

JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling (5 Weeks)

Advanced Online Storytelling is a 5-week course that prepares journalism students for their residencies by simulating a newsroom environment. It is an intensive exploration of advanced multimedia reporting, which gives students in their junior year the chance to apply all of their multimedia reporting skills to one single class project.

Instructor(s): Marcela F Pizarro

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Juniors and above JOUR majors only; for students going on residency.

JOUR 345-0 Journalism Residency: News Magazine and Feature Writing Residency

Journalism Residency in Newspaper/Online (2 units). Hones reporting and news writing skills through practical assignments, including multimedia opportunities whenever possible, under deadline pressure and close editorial supervision.

Instructor(s): Mary Dedinsky

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 390-0 Future Digital Journalism

- Open to Juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 355-0 Journalism Residency: Magazine Writing Residency

Journalism Residency in Magazine (2 units). Exploration of aspects of magazine writing and reporting. Practical assignments, including print and web content whenever possible, in a magazine office with deadline pressure and close professional supervision.

Instructor(s): Mary Dedinsky

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 390-0 Future Digital Journalism

- Open to Juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 365-0 Journalism Residency: Broadcast Reporting

Journalism Residency in Broadcast (2 units). Gathering television news in the field; writing scripts, readers, voiceovers, packages and on-camera news for reporters and anchors. Practical assignments in a broadcast newsroom under close professional supervision.

Instructor(s): Mary Dedinsky

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 390-0 Future Digital Journalism

- Open to Juniors and above JOUR majors only

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0 Special Topics: Data Visualization for JR & COMM

*****CANCELLED*****

Teaches techniques for creating data visualizations for news reporting, documentary films, marketing communication, non-profit issue awareness, and more. A significant part of the course also reviews research at the intersection of visual communication and psychology, and you will study theories and scholarship on the nature of data imaging humans find visually arresting and informative, and also ask why. Some of the visualizations you may create are interactive tools like maps, timelines, treemaps, and time-lapse visualizations, as well as static charts and infographics. You will create data visualizations for project ideas you generate yourself, as well as contribute to a larger, single class project that compiles and visualizes data on a topic of importance in Qatar. The course is open to journalism and communication majors of sophomore standing or higher.

Instructor(s): Justin Martin

Prerequisites: None

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

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Exploring Future Digital Journalism (5 Weeks)

In 2010, Sir Tim Berners-Lee, the founder of the World Wide Web, said data-driven journalism was the future of journalism. Since we live in an increasingly datafied society dominated by emerging data brokers like Google and Facebook, his prediction might prove right. Exploring the Future of Digital Journalism examines in detail the role of contemporary journalism in a data-centric society. The course will provide students with a panoptic overview of how journalism professionals and

news organizations are disrupted by, and subsequently adapt to, innovation technologies such as Big Data, Internet of Things (IoT), and automation and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Throughout the course we will explore and understand how journalists are assimilating contemporary data cultures and logics, thus transforming their working practices in areas such as storytelling, newsgathering, ethics, dissemination, presentation and consumption of news. The course therefore aims to critically engage with three fundamental questions: a) What is data journalism and what are the idiosyncrasies of data journalism practice? b) What is the role of journalism within the larger structures of power set by emerging data brokers? c) Will the advent of data and algorithms disrupt journalism practice in news organizations?

Instructor(s): Eddy Borges-Rey

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Juniors and above Journalism majors only; for students going on residency

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Covering Education/Other Beats *CANCELLED*****

In this advanced seminar, students will learn how to develop news sources and to cover a specific topic. The course will focus on education, but will address the development of beats on other topics as well, such as architecture, fashion, sports or entertainment. Students will develop at least one beat under supervision. They will contact and study the work of distinguished beat reporters to learn how they practice their craft. Students will learn effective networking to get newsworthy information.

This course is designed to introduce you to the fundamental skills, values and mindset you will need to work at the top of your field as an education journalist or as a journalist in another specialty. My goal is to help ground your work in rigorous news gathering, analytic thinking, and sharp, moral news judgment in service to your audience. You will explore how to develop stories, how to interview both children and educators, among others, build sources, and use statistics and public documents to create journalism that matters.

Instructor(s): Greg Toppo

Prerequisites: None

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

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0 Special Topics: Media and Religion

Many of the most significant public discourses and media narratives produced today are those that concern religion. Matters of faith and its practices, contestations, pamphleteering, violence, social backlashes, and fictive storylines are all fodder for media content and for provoking crucial global conversations. In this class, students will be introduced to the surprisingly close relationships between the mighty forces of media and religion in what is arguably a “secular” age. We will take a close look at the evolution of religious content in popular media (including entertainment, journalism, and religious broadcasting) and examine how this all relates to what is loosely called “globalization.” We will also consider methods to produce case studies of major media stories that started as or evolved into religion-based narratives, mainly Islam, such as ISIS’s use of digital media; reactions and counter-reactions to the Charlie Hedbo shootings; Western discourses appropriating religion for political advantage; and appraisals of media handling of such flashpoints as the Chapel Hill murders, South Carolina church shootings, post-elections intimidations, and more. This will be an interactive class with much discussion and analysis.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif

Prerequisites: None

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

JOUR 390-0/MIT 398-0 Special Topics: Sports, Media & Society

Sport is a social institution no less than education, religion, family, or the military, and no less important: It makes identities of all kinds, from the national to the deeply personal. Modern sports were born in the early 19th century, at the same time and for the same reasons as modern mass media; the two have ever since been joined at the hip, such that scholars often refer to them as one institution: “mediasport.” Today sport is the most valuable, highest-earning media product in the global entertainment industry—indeed for most of us, sport is something we consume, not something we do. And yet the “right to play” is—according to the United Nations, the International Olympic Committee, and the European Union—a fundamental human right. So it’s big stuff—less than war, but more than a game. In this course, sport is considered from various contexts. We do it through weekly monitoring of sports media, documentary films, student research and writing assignments, and class discussion. Our contexts include commerce and industry, domestic and international politics (including war) gender and sex identities, racial and ethnic relations, religion and spirituality, and popular culture from fashion to video games.

Instructor(s): Craig Llewellyn LaMay

Prerequisites: None

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

JOUR 395-0 Strategic Communication Residency

Practical work under professional supervision in a public relations agency or in a division of a corporate or not-for-profit entity.

Instructor(s): Mary Dedinsky

Prerequisites: Must enroll and obtain a C or better in JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling and JOUR 390-0 Future Digital Journalism

- Open to Juniors and above JOUR majors only

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): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Sophomores and above

- Open for cross-registration
- Students who have earned credit for IMC 330-0 or IMC 303-0 may not earn credit for STRATCOM 303-0
- Satisfies Strategic Communication Certificate

STRATCOM 305-0 Corporate Storytelling *CANCELLED*****

Builds on foundational knowledge acquired in pre-requisite courses. Designed to provide skills for developing effective communications messages on behalf of brands, commercial and non-commercial organization, and for integrating the messages into coherent institutional narratives. Hands-on exercises in writing and in using digital and traditional media for effective communications. Students develop personal and group portfolios to kick-start their careers.

Instructor(s): George Anghelcev

Prerequisites: IMC 330-0 or STRATCOM 303-0

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

STRATCOM 320-0 Strategic Communication Campaigns

In this course students develop a comprehensive integrated strategic communication program. Final product consists of a report that outlines the learning and insights that led to the strategic, creative, interactive and digital recommendations; a client presentation; and a project book detailing the research, analysis, strategy, creative and content execution, media use and other integrated communication activities.

Instructor(s): Ilhem Allagui

Prerequisites: STRATCOM 305-0 OR IMC 331-0

- Open to Juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Strategic Communication Certificate

Liberal Arts Courses

ANTHRO 242-0 Anthro Special Topics: Living the Law: Politics, Law, & Culture

This course will explore the fundamental question of how the state and the law figure into our everyday lives. We will look at the ways in which state practices and apparatuses come to influence society and culture and how anthropologists have gone about studying political and legal systems. Issues to be dealt with will include democratic techniques, security, human rights, and law and violence. Students will gain an in-depth picture of law in culture and society by studying different parts of the world.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration

ANTHRO 379-0: Advanced Topics: Troubling Gender

In this course, students explore anthropological perspectives on gender. They will learn about people's gendered practices, knowledge and everyday lives in a range of societies. They will tackle debates in the field of gender studies and explore these debates through ethnographies. How are femininity and masculinity defined and embodied across cultures?

How do race, class, religion and sexuality intersect with gender? How is mobility gendered? We will explore these and other questions, and analyze the way feminist intellectuals have troubled gender and opened up new spaces of thinking. The class will work together on an ethnographic project that explores the way mobility and space are gendered in Qatar.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez

Prerequisites: None

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

ARABIC 142-2 Arabic for Media

This course offers an opportunity to explore Media language from the vantage point of Critical Discourse Analysis. Specifically, participants will explore and discuss the social role Language, and Media language in particular, can play in the enactment and reproduction of power abuse, dominance, and inequality. Students need to possess an upper intermediate Arabic language proficiency (or the ability to read and understand mainstream Arab media articles in fus-ha with relative ease).

Instructor(s): Mounir Ouanaimi

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and above; Students should email the instructor for permission to register at: mounir-ouanaimi@northwestern.edu
- Open for cross-registration
- This course carries 0.5 NU-Q units
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

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 Sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 103-2 First-Year Writing

In this course students will explore issues in writing for research. They will formulate research questions, identify research methods, select sources, understand research contexts, and assess audience expectations.

Instructor(s): Maria D Lombard/ Danielle Ellen Jones/ Aaron J Laduke/ Adam Larson/ Sam Meekings/ James Michael Hodapp / Kelly Reagan Williams

Prerequisites: ENGLISH 103-1

- Open to Freshmen only

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: African Literature

In this course we will study the foundations of African literature in the print era, beginning with the missionary press era, and the seminal novel *Chaka* by Thomas Mofolo. We will make our way through some of the literary highlights of the modern era in Africa by turning to various novels and short stories from the independence era, eventually reading contemporary texts from Africa in an effort to track the development of African literary studies.

Instructor(s): James Michael Hodapp

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Contemporary World Literature

What do we mean by world literature, when the world itself shifts and changes, develops and regresses, over time and place? How can literature be worldly? How do practices of production, circulation and reception contribute to shaping this category of texts? In addressing these and other questions, this course will explore a wide variety of contemporary works by such authors as Marjane Satrapi, Jean Rhys, Ryunosuke Akutagawa, Chinua Achebe, Kamila Shamsie, and Margaret Atwood.

Instructor(s): Kathleen Mary Hewett-Smith

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen, Sophomore and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Modern Middle Eastern Literature

We will read a range of literature from modern Middle Eastern authors: short stories, novels, memoirs, essays and works of drama—most being translated works from Arabic, Persian, Urdu, and Turkish. We will examine and explore the splendors of this region through the voices of its writers and poets, whose literature tells urgent and liberating stories. With a wealth of contextual information that places the writing within the historical, political, and cultural breadth of the region, our analysis will create a vital bridge between modern Middle Eastern and Western cultures.

Instructor(s): Aaron J Laduke

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen, Sophomore and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

ENGLISH 379-0 Special Topics: Reading & Writing Short Fiction

The course introduces the basic principles of writing short fiction. Students will explore the key elements of narrative, character, setting and voice. Together we will read, analyze, and practice a variety of literary techniques to write short stories. We will also explore the question of how we might represent ideas, emotions and experiences for different audiences. The course will encourage students to experiment with writing flash fiction and short stories, and to develop the discipline of writing daily. As well as developing their own writing, students will learn how to critique creative work by participating in regular peer-led writing workshops and so will become part of a supportive and constructive community of writers.

Instructor(s): Sam Meekings

Prerequisites: None

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

ENGLISH 379-0 Special Topics: Writing in the Workplace

This course focuses on writing in business and professional contexts. The curriculum is informed by current research in the field of professional writing and is guided by the needs and practices of business, industry, and society at large to prepare students for the writing environments of the global workplace.

Instructor(s): Maria D Lombard

Prerequisites: ENGLISH 103-2

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

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: History of Modern Africa

This survey course provides an overview of African history, mostly in the twentieth century. Reference to the history of pre-colonial African societies is included to provide background to the colonial encounter from African perspectives. Besides colonialism, the course deals with other key historical themes such as slavery, nineteenth-century "legitimate trade," independence struggles, religious movements, neo-colonialism, and globalization.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: What is Modern Europe?

What is Modern Europe? This course explores the last 250 years of European history to find an answer. It will not cover everything. It is designed to be an analysis of the ideas, people and events that transformed Europe from small territorial states to industrial empires that spread around the world and then collapsed. Our goal is to uncover how Europeans lived through these changes and over time transformed them into a definition of modernity that lives on today. Ultimately, this course argues that understanding the history of Modern Europe is essential for understanding how the modern world is defined.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen, Sophomore and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: Britain and the Middle East

This course examines the history of British involvement in the Middle East over the last 200 years. We will explore British strategies of formal and informal influence in the region and, in turn, local strategies of resistance and accommodation. We will start by focusing on the development of political, economic and cultural ties between Victorian Britain and the Ottoman Empire in the 19th Century. We will then study the British occupation of Egypt in 1881 as the beginning of a period of expansionism in the Middle East, follow the rise of British influence during WWI and the post-war Mandates in Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Iran, before tracing the rise of Arab nationalism and the decline of British influence in WWII, the 1948 War and the Suez Crisis of 1956. Throughout the course our goal will be to understand how the interactions between these two worlds helped shape the modern Middle East.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott

Prerequisites: None

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

INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Science, Technology & Society

The course introduces you the role of science and technology in different societies around world from different time periods. Exploring science and technology in world history, we will examine several case studies that raise important questions related to the relationship between science and technology and between technoscience and society. We will explore how both local and global human endeavors influenced the development of science and technology and how societies were in turn shaped by these technoscientific developments. Along the way, important concepts and key terms in science and technology studies (STS) will be introduced as way to discuss the intertwining connection among science, technology, and society.

Instructor(s): Anto Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen, Sophomore and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Our Electrified World

Electricity dominates our lives. But our electrified world presents opportunities as well as challenges. Electric-powered technologies help complete many of our tasks and many people claim that electricity to be the underlying energy of our civilization. At the same time, electricity exposes inequalities in the world (not all societies have access to it) and serious environmental implications. Drawing from a variety of sources and disciplines, this course examines the nuts and bolts of electricity, history of electricity and electrification, and the consequences (good and bad) of our electrified world.

Instructor(s): Anto Mohsin

Prerequisites: None

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

PHIL 242-0 Topics in Philosophy: Ethics - Politics of Immigration

The course addresses the topic of immigration from the standpoint of social and political philosophy. An estimated 244 million people live outside of the country of their birth, often as a result of economic inequality, civil war, environmental degradation, and the desire to reunite with family members. At the same time, states enjoy broad powers to police their borders using violence. The goal of this course is to inform ourselves about the nature of immigration and to critically assess immigration policies from an ethical perspective. Topics may include: border controls and admissions policy, citizenship, human trafficking, the treatment of unauthorized immigrants, the role of immigration in economic development, and the role of gender and race in immigration. As we explore these topics, we will practice reading and critically engaging with argumentative texts, challenging basic assumptions, analyzing concepts, and assessing arguments.

Instructor(s): Torsten Menge

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration

PHIL 387-0 Topics in Philosophy: Social Construction

The idea that aspects of our world are socially constructed is prominent both in public discourse and in academic disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, gender studies, disability studies, critical race theory, and literary theory. The goal of this class is to better understand claims about social construction. How is social construction supposed to work? Does it work the same way in all cases? How can our thinking about something affect the nature of the things we think about? What are the historical developments and social forces at work? Does the claim that something is socially constructed mean that it is not real? We are also going to think about the political and ethical implications of the idea: Does the claim that something is socially constructed undermine its authority? What is the problem with essentialists claims about race, gender, disability, etc.? Does social construction mean that “anything goes”? What should we do with the things that turn out to be socially constructed — keep, reform, or abolish them? We are going to explore these question in a number of different areas, which may include race, gender, sexuality, disability, mental illness, money, and power. In addition to systematic philosophical texts, we are going to read texts that situate these phenomena in concrete social and historical contexts. The class will have an interactive, discussion-based format.

Instructor(s): Torsten Menge

Prerequisites: None

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

POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Debates in Comp Politics

*****CANCELLED*****

Comparative politics is the study of domestic politics around the world in a systematic and comparative way, in order to answer consequential questions: What are the politics and how do they work in this place? What is this “a case of,” and why? How do politics in this place relate to

other cases and larger theories? Can we discover larger lessons on the nature of political behavior that transcend the boundaries of space and time? We will explore these questions with an in-depth look at regime type, political transitions and revolutions, and state-society relations. By becoming familiar with political science theories, methods, and literature, this class provides a solid foundation for students to delve deeper into the big political questions and events that are of particular interest to them.

Instructor(s): Jocelyn S Mitchell

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen, Sophomore and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Palestine & Arab-Israeli Conflict

The course examines the various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict with specific focus on Palestine and the Palestinians. It starts with looking at the history of Zionism and the idea of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine; then moves to discuss the consequences of the implementation of this idea within colonial and postcolonial contexts. Particular importance is given to the 1948 war and the subsequent creation of Israel; where the region entered a state of conflict between Israel and the neighboring Arab countries that left devastating impacts. Top of these are the emergence of the Palestinian refugees issue, and the lack of Palestinian statehood. Following the chronology of the conflict with its war and peace episodes, the course intends to critically discuss the conflicting narratives, role of regional and international players and the long-lasting and present ramifications of the conflict that have affected the shape and politics of the Middle East.

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

RELIGION 387-0 Topics in Religion: Modern Reform Movements in the Muslim World

Islamic renewal and reform movements since the nineteenth century have had dramatic effects on the region. This course explores the origin and development of key religious movements such as Wahhabism, Salafism, "neo-Sufism," the Muslim Brotherhood, and millenarian movements. By interrogating the nature of renewal and reform, and the influence of modernity on movements of change, we will evaluate the extent of doctrinal and social change occasioned by such movements in the last two centuries.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright

Prerequisites: None

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

SOCIOLOGY 242-0 Topics in Sociology: International Migration

This course will give students a broad understanding of international migration, with a focus on South-South migrations to generate conversation with more commonly studied South to North migration. It will address various types of migration across domestic and international boundaries

as well as the ways in which various states deal with them. Finally, it will introduce everyday migrant life to provide a balance to highly state-centric readings of migration.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

- Open to Freshmen and Sophomore
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

SOCIOLOGY 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: Individuals and Groups in Sociology

This course introduces sociological theories in understanding how society affects individuals and groups. It begins with Marx, Durkheim, and Weber's foundational social theories and then goes on to the major schools of modern social thought, including Symbolic - Interactionism, Critical Theory, and contemporary theories of race, ethnicity, gender, Post- Structuralism and Post-Modernism.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud

Prerequisites: None

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