NU-Q Spring 2021 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.

Instructor(s): Rana Kazkaz, Miriam Berg, Joao Queiroga, Marcela Pizarro & Christina Paschyn
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students 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 298-0 Undergraduate Seminar: New Media and Social Change

This course examines contemporary patterns of new media appropriation in the Global South with a tight focus on their implications in diverse processes pursuing developmental social change. The growing uptake and popularity of new media platforms in the world beyond the wealth Western OECD countries, most particularly social media, has ignited burning questions about the roles these media play in everyday life and for societal development. Students develop understandings about the potential of new media for beneficial social change, and critically examine the implications of rapid and often sweeping changes on social and cultural identities, power structures, citizenship engagement, and local concerns in the context of global pressures. The course features case studies from Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and Latin America to inform critical analyses of opportunities and challenges posed by new media applications for social, cultural, economic and political impact.

Instructor(s): Martin Ndlela
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

MIT 312-0 History of Film

This course offers an introductory survey of global film history from the 1890s to the 21st century. We will examine the national industrial, social, and historical contexts within which films were produced and viewed, as well as theories of cinema that emerged alongside them. The course thereby introduces students to key international trends in making and thinking about cinema and offers a view of the distant foundations upon which the more familiar terrain of contemporary film culture rests. The course will cover such topics as: early cinema in Europe and the United States; race, gender, and stardom in early American cinema; various national cinemas of the 1920s, including Germany, France, and the Soviet Union; the introduction of sound to motion pictures; the Hollywood studio system of the 1920s and 1930s; Italian neorealism; Japanese and Indian Cinema; the French new wave; political cinemas of Latin America and Africa; New American Cinema; Arab and Hong Kong cinema.

Instructor(s): Scott Curtis
Prerequisites: MIT 220-0
- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

MIT 330-0 Topics in Theatre: Affecting an Audience

This course explores ways to affect an audience in two different styles of presentation: entertainment and professional. The principles and skills students learn are generally applicable, but the course focuses on remote presentations using Zoom. Students learn life skills and essential tools for producing effective presentations no matter the career because affecting audiences is important for success in every profession. Learning how to affect an audience through entertainment teaches students to activate an audience by way of emotions and creativity. Students choose venues in relation to their individual interests (performing, writing, or directing). Learning how to affect an audience through professional presentations teaches students to clearly communicate ideas by means of information, persuasion, and ceremony. Again,

participants choose the venue in relation to individual interests (reporting, pitching, or presenting). This course is cross-listed for Communication and Journalism students.

Instructor(s): Ann 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 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 360-0 Topics in Media Writing: Writing the TV Series

This course will provide students with the skills to craft and create a serialized TV show. Students will be tasked with pitching, outlining, and writing a series, from the development of the premise and outline, through the creation of the pilot episode and first season summary. By the end of the course, students will be able to: 1. complete an original pilot and following episodes 2. envision relationships and conflicts between characters that will propel a show through multiple seasons 3. hone their ideas with an eye towards production, in a collaborative, writers' room environment.

Instructor(s): Dana Atrach
Prerequisites: MIT 260-0
  * Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 376-0 Topics in Interactive Media: Mobile Game Design

Great games can immerse us in wondrous, compelling new worlds. And now, with the rise of mobile game technology—rich, compelling interactive experiences are available inexpensively, in your pocket, and at your fingertips. This course guides you through the essentials of mobile game design and development, including such topics as: picking the right engine, building a cross-functional team, developing artwork, integrating sound, prototyping, bug triage, polishing, publishing and marketing. Along the way, we examine the role of the game designer—including the process of generating ideas, writing professional game design documents, and defining core loops, mechanics, dynamics, and systems. Next, we dive into character systems and the mechanics of chance, skill, tactics, and strategy. We define what makes mobile game design unique from desktop or console, including such considerations and affordances as UI (user interface) and UX (user experience), screen resolution, touch and swipe, the accelerometer, and optimizing for performance across operating systems and devices—including iOS and Android, phone and tablet. In addition, students learn to pitch their ideas and explain how their game works—and why users will love it. We look at how to develop a game design portfolio in order to break into the game industry. Finally, we explore the topic of launching your own mobile game startup—including creating a business plan, achieving funding, hiring contractors, managing costs, developing original IP, and scaling for success.

Instructor(s): Spencer Striker
Prerequisites: None
 • 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 code interactions in the programming language C#.

Instructor(s): Mariam Rafehi
Prerequisites: None
 • Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 376-0 Topics in Interactive Media: Immersive Storytelling in VR

In this course, students will conceptualize, design, and document immersive VR narratives that demonstrate critical thinking and technical expertise in this rapidly growing emergent technology. Students begin by examining non-linear narratives and character development for audience engagement. Working both individually and collaboratively, they develop technical capabilities to apply this to the VR environment with a focus on the user-experience. The course is based on design principles for 360 filming and VR development using Oculus Go – a widely-used VR headset. In-class exercises require students to build environments to facilitate their narratives using Unity 3D software, the most commonly used interactive video player for professional application. The overall learning goals are to cultivate knowledge (research) and skills (practice) that are essential for create narratives that are immersive and interactive. Students will engage with and contribute to the emerging scholarly and professional discourse on immersive media as a significant communication technology.

Instructor(s): Mariam Rafehi
Prerequisites: None
 • 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 389-0 Global Culture and Comm

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 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Feminist Media Historiography

This course explores the theories and practices of media historiography—that is, researching and writing media history—from a feminist perspective. During the first half of the course, students will learn and practice methods of historical research by investigating a range of media produced for girls and young women between 1968-1980—the era commonly referred to as "second-wave feminism" in the U.S. Artifacts to be examined include teen's and women's magazines, diaries, high school yearbooks, young adult fiction, self-help books, popular music, TV shows, films, advertisements, games, and toys as well as a range of primary documents related to these artifacts—from trade and fan press discourses and journalistic reviews, to box office figures, Nielsen ratings data, and archival materials. One of our primary goals will be to consider how different resources count as "evidence" and can be used to uncover, expand, complicate, and/or challenge contemporary histories of youth, gender, and popular culture. During the second half of the course, students will apply the theories and practices of media historiography to an original, gender-related research project of their own choosing. Students will be responsible for locating and reading primary and secondary sources carefully and critically, assessing sources in relation to the historical context in which they were produced, bringing their research to class for workshopping sessions, and writing a final paper (and giving a presentation) that showcases their unique historical and analytical research discoveries. In addition to enhancing students' interests and abilities in feminist historical research, the course aims to help students develop a polished research paper that could be submitted to an international conference on gender and media history.

Instructor(s): Kirsten Pike
Prerequisites: MIT 230-0
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Sports Globalization in Africa

This course investigates complex interactions and relationships between sport and contemporary African societies. This provides a lens for improved understanding of how the ongoing transformation of both in socio-economic development. 'Modern' sport as been entrenched in the political, cultural and socio-economic life of African societies. Sport has functioned as an instrument of both colonialism and liberation, and served as a nation building tool in the period since African countries gained independence from colonial rule. Today, sport has a dynamic role as an interface between local and transnational interests, and is increasingly an international industry with a global agenda that encourages the growing commodification of sport practices and experience. Topics covered in this course include: the history of sport, the role of sport in anti-apartheid movements and independence struggles, issues related to athlete migrations, the roles and impact of media and communication technologies, the emphasis on nationalism and the modern state, dynamics of globalization, the politics of international governing bodies and institutions in sport, contrasting African elite sport versus mass sport, and the hosting of "major sport events." The course features a close focus on understanding contemporary Africa through the medium of sport.

Instructor(s): Gerard Akindes
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and Politics Minor

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 majors only

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 majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Sports Broadcasting

The course equips students to understand key theoretical concepts and contemporary practices in sports broadcasting at the intersection of local and global dynamics. Students will understand models for broadcasting rights, the political economy of sports, and contemporary developments in sports broadcasting as a significant media industry that generates billions of dollars of annual revenue. The course clarifies the historical evolution of sports broadcasting and how the practice has changed with advances in digital media and communication technologies with a focus on complex interactions in media and sports competition at local, regional and transnational levels. The course clarifies the impact of COVID-19 on sports broadcasting and analyzes its the socio-economic role for countries that host major and mega-events, particularly the FIFA World Cup Championship games in 2022 in Qatar, as well as Olympic games and regional competitions that are important for national pride.

[Big time professional sport and sport celebrities have become integral to the entertainment options favored by many media users on cable and satellite television channels, as well as streaming services that include Netflix and Amazon Prime. Over The Top (OTT) content via apps and streaming offer live games, replays, special programs and sports shows that are watched by billions of spectators and viewers around the world, generating extraordinary amounts of revenue. In fact, the global value of sports broadcasting rights and sports media rights reached $49.5bn in 2018 (Sportbusiness, 2019).].

Instructor(s): Gerard Akindes
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Ecosystems

This course takes an in-depth look at media industries as an ecosystem – an interdependent but competitive system of platforms and companies that is the professional context for all content creators and media managers. Students are introduced to key factors that determine success or failure, including organizational structure, verticals, distribution, and revenue models. In addition to the business aspects, the course clarifies issues related to ethics and the principle of corporate social responsibility. Using case studies, guest speakers, and simulations, students develop a hands-on understanding of the environment that every media professional must navigate today. This class requires a high level of participation to facilitate hands-on learning. Students are encouraged to draw on their knowledge from prior courses and to apply their personal experiences in applying what they learn. As with all ecosystems, any changes will have positive and negatives elements, and students will be challenged to identify, assess, and weigh the impact of changes.

Instructor(s): Gregory Bergida
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Media Entrepreneurs

This course lays an essential foundation for understanding and practicing an entrepreneurial orientation in digital media industries. The readings build an essential understanding of what entrepreneur is and is not, the talents and skills needed for success, characteristic satisfactions and aggravations, and the process involved with managing a new media enterprise. Students practice skills needed to identify a business

opportunity in media markets, conduct a proper market analysis to identify competitors, opportunities and potential obstacles, create a convincing business plan for a lean start-up, devise an appropriate growth strategy, and a workable business model. Students learn a step-by-step process for value creation and pitch their business plan in a Dragon's Den to conclude the course. This course is structured to facilitate a fruitful balance between relevant theory, skills development, practical experimentation and critical reflection.

Instructor(s): Gregory Ferrell Lowe
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Health Communication

Health Communication is designed to provide students with a critical understanding of the main theories that explain the relationship between health communication and health behaviors with a focus on interpersonal and mediated communication as well as mass media campaigns. Students will develop the skills necessary to apply communication and other theories to communication situations to understand and strategically plan health communication campaigns. Health communication is critically important in helping to combat diseases such as diabetes and heart disease as well as encouraging people to live healthy lives. The class will help future media professionals should develop an understanding of how to develop effective public health campaigns.

Instructor(s): Susan Dun
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Digital Communities

Foundations, Issues and Praxis. This course introduces students to foundational knowledge and works to deepen understandings that are essential for building and managing online digital communities. The course clarifies success factors and explores various benefits for organizations, societies and economies. Networked media provide super-connectedness. Harnessing that effectively requires new ways of thinking about the nature and dynamics of 'community' and what is required to build digital communities that cross conventional boundaries that include geography, nationality, professional and economic status. Digital communities are praised for enhancing communication and connectedness, and with empowering people as citizens at home and abroad. But digital communities are also blamed for playing instrumental roles in a growing range of problems that include cyberbullying, propaganda, polarization, and cybercrime. This course takes a holistic and critical view of digital communities, requires students to engage in readings and discussions, and guides students in producing projects that employ design thinking to create digital communities.

Instructor(s): Minna Aslama-Horowitz
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Crisis Communication

This course is an introduction to crisis communication theories and processes. Crises can be the result of natural causes or man-made, and are an inevitable and persistent feature of life in media companies and societies. Organizations are vulnerable threats that can destroy their reputations and severely undermine future sustainability. All organizational crises affect every stakeholder, directly and indirectly, thereby creating a need for communication interventions that require competence in strategies, processes and actions aimed at mitigating the impact of the crisis. The course takes a three-stage approach to crisis

management (pre-crisis, crisis, and post-crisis) that encompasses communication management strategies to anticipate crises, prevent them, and manage them effectively once they have occurred in order to minimize damage to an organization and its stakeholders. The course examines recent case studies of organizational crises.

Instructor(s): Martin Ndlela
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Media and 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

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Innovation in Media Industries

This course deepens understandings that are essential for being able to identify, analyze, and capitalize on trends keyed to the development of media technology in application. The course clarifies historic trends and pivotal moments that explain contemporary media industries and platforms, highlighting catalysts that have been change agents. The course takes a critical view on the interaction between commercial and consumer advances, entrepreneurship, and the persistent importance of constraints both as a driver of creativity and as a barrier to seizing opportunities. This class requires student participation and a willingness to engage in debate. Students are expected to draw on their knowledge from prior courses and personal experience for application of the topics. Through case studies, articles, guest speakers, and multimedia, an array of perspectives provide insight into the broader conceptual framework of media and innovation as a persistent feature of industrial and professional development. Assignments require students to showcase the practical application of what they learn, including case study analysis and design, assessment of current trends, and efforts to forecast the impact of innovation on their professional goals.

Instructor(s): Gregory Bergida
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Leadership in Media Companies

This course introduces students to essential principles and practices of leadership in direct application to media companies. Students will learn varied perspectives on what leadership is, develop insight about how it is exercised, and appreciate the consequences for the success or failure of media firms. Topics include understanding historical and contemporary theories of leadership; recognizing leadership traits; understanding philosophies and styles of personal leadership; attending to tasks and relationships; developing leadership skills; creating and communicating a compelling vision; establishing a constructive organizational work environment; handling conflict effectively; prioritizing ethics in leadership, and leading organizations in efforts to overcome obstacles to achieve goals. Students will assess their personal leadership traits and identify the skills each needs to improve for developing their knowledge and capacity for exercising leadership. The course is designed as a mixed learning format that includes lecture-type instruction, student presentations, analysis of case studies, expert guest speakers and self-directed learning.

Instructor(s): Mohammed Asad Al-Emadi
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above, MIT majors only

MIT 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar: Environmental Communication

This course introduces students to concepts, practices and challenges that are essential for effective environmental communication. Students learn the importance of what is expressed (information, emotions, hierarchy, etc.), how it is expressed (in which style, through which media, when, by whom, where), and with what consequences (cultural norms, political decisions, popular trends, etc.). Coursework clarifies the role of public fora in providing opportunities for different voices to communicate about the environment from local neighborhoods to international relations. Students learn the core elements of advocacy campaigns and the role of message construction and work collaboratively to develop answers to questions of fundamental importance: Why do we need to speak for the environment? What constitutes an environmental problem, and environmental justice? Who speaks for (or about) the environment? How do we communicate impactfully in this age of ecological crisis? How can influential concepts from the diverse field of communication studies help us think critically about the issues involved and engage the world effectively? Readings include chapters from the book Environmental Communication and the Public Sphere (5th edition) by Pezullo and Cox, and contemporary journal articles and news reports.

Instructor(s): Rania El-Masri
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above

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
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students 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

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. Students in this course should think of themselves as real reporters, working to produce real stories for a real online publication with a real audience. The best stories produced in this class may appear publicly. This course also aims to give you experiences that have an eye on the future of journalism. The stories and/or assignments of this class represent story archetypes (or story opportunities) that most media organizations consistently publish.

Instructor(s): Abraham Abusharif & Greg Toppo
Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0
- Open to sophomores, JOUR majors only

JOUR 303-0 Audience Insight

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 & Jairo Alfonso Lugo-Ocando
Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0
- Open to sophomores, JOUR majors only

JOUR 342-0 Advanced Online Storytelling (5 Weeks)

Advanced Online Storytelling is a 5-week intensive course that prepares journalism students for their residencies by simulating a newsroom/programme department environment. In this class, students will produce news on culture which they will bring together on a multimedia website. The audience being targeted is an international one – with a particular sensitivity to the 'global south'. The output is expected to cover a range of different areas of cultural news. The output is expected to be produced in a range of different formats: written pieces, short filmed reports, podcasts, animated explainers. This is an intensive course which will involve hitting the ground running.

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 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/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 390-0/ MIT 398-0/ Religion 242-0 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/MIT 398-0 Special Topics: Science and Health Journalism

The Science and Health Journalism course seeks to provide students with the intellectual tools and practical skills to engage critically and report these two subjects as part of their news beats. To do so, the course discusses the key issues around science and health while providing students with the ability to understand and produce news stories relating to science and health. The course is delivered in lectures and workshops. In the lectures, students examine a series of topics relating to science and health and which deal with aspects such as ethics of **since** communication, the politics of health and science news, audience engagement, among others. During the workshops, students learn how to gather, write and produce science and health news stories for print, online and broadcast media.

Instructor(s): Jairo Alfonso Lugo-Ocando
Prerequisites: None
- Open to sophomores and above

JOUR 390-0 Special Topics: Fashion Journalism

This course will introduce NU-Q students to fashion journalism. It will enable students with a passion for both storytelling and fashion to combine their interests and learn the skills necessary to succeed in this competitive industry. Through the course, students will develop an understanding of the history and theories behind fashion journalism, gain insight into how various media cover the fashion industry, deepen their understanding of the fashion industry's cultural, gendered and economic impact on consumers, learn how to spot fashion trends, research concepts, interview sources, analyze markets and target their writing for

specific audiences, and gain proficiency in reporting on fashion across different media platforms, including print, broadcast, online and blogs**.**

Instructor(s): Christina Paschyn
Prerequisites: JOUR 201-0
- Open to sophomores and above

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 students who have declared Stratcom Certificate and are 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

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: Special Topics: Intro to Anthro in the Middle East

This course is a survey course of anthropological concepts and methods using the Middle East as a regional focus. The goal is for students to develop conceptual tools to read societies and use that to read and make sense of their own surroundings. Some anthropological concepts that students will grapple with are cultural relativism, kinship, reciprocity, social structure, religion, and gender. Students will learn to think critically about the region loosely known as the Middle East, but which may more aptly be called West Asia and North Africa (WANA). The people, their societies, cultures, religions and ways of life are often stereotyped, misrepresented and misinterpreted in the media and in other corridors of power. How can we study such a vast region to draw more informed conclusions? How can we make sense of the diverse experiences and ways of thought across the many societies? And how can we study the region from within the region? Anthropology is equipped with the tools to think about such questions and unpack the particularities of diverse experiences and ways of life.

Instructor(s): Samar Kanafani
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

ANTHRO 379-0: Advanced Topics: Anthropology of Palestine

This course will explore Palestinian culture, society, economy, and politics through literature, ethnography, and film. We will investigate different aspects of the everyday lives of Palestinians and learn about their national struggle. Topics to be covered will include human rights, constructions of gender, political economy, and social movements to name a few.

Instructor(s): Sami Hermez
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

ECON 387-0 Foundations of Business and Startup

The course combines fundamental academic knowledge of business management with the ideas economy and the entrepreneurial spirit of creating a Startup. It addresses such topics as incorporation issues, management and organization, human resources management, marketing, information systems, accounting, and finance. Concurrently, students will learn how to identify innovative business ideas; how to build a winning strategy and create a value proposition; how to prepare an innovative business plan and determine when the business is unprofitable.

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): Aaron Laduke/ Sam Meekings/ James Hodapp / Kelly Wilson/ Michael Telafici
Prerequisites: ENGLISH 103-1
- Open to first year students only

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Travel Writing

The course will cover a range of contemporary travel literature, along with significant historical pieces of travel writing. This course will examine the many styles, structures, audiences, narrative choices, and points of view of travel writing. Course readings will include travel tales written by curious tourists, explorers, and the locals who live in places often and less visited.

Instructor(s): Maria Lombard
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Women's Literature

The focus of this course is to examine women's literary and rhetorical voices as they respond to their historical context and their place in society. This course looks at the tradition of women writers in the English language, while English translations of significant women's writing may also be examined. The course will trace the development of women's literature through significant full-length works, short texts, and essays.

Instructor(s): Maria Lombard
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

ENGLISH 379-0 Special Topics: Gothic Literature

From 1764 to the present, Gothic literature has been using terror and horror to bring about a return of the repressed. This course will offer a presentation of this influential genre's history, tropes, and accompanying theory. Students will examine British Gothic roots, the American tradition, more recent global texts, as well as the Gothic's influence on television and film.

Instructor(s): Aaron Laduke
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Students who completed ENGLISH 242-0 Topics in Literature: Gothic Literature **should not** enroll in this course
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: 20th Century U.S. History

This course explores the major themes of the history of the United States in the 20th Century. It is designed to be an analysis of the forces that shaped and reshaped American society from 1900 to the present day. In what has become known as America's Century, the United States rose to superpower status abroad and at home began reexamining what it meant to be American. We will focus on how generations of ordinary Americans experienced and responded to this fast paced century. Topics covered in the course include American imperialism, Progressivism, World War I,

the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Postwar Boom, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movements, Vietnam War, New Conservatism and Globalism. Special attention will be given to the different ways popular forms of media responded to and, in turn, influenced the major themes of the day.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: History of the Modern Middle East

This course familiarizes students with key political, social, and intellectual developments in the Middle East from the early eighteenth century to the present.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle Eastern Studies Minor

HISTORY 242-0 Topics in History: Fashion as History

The clothes we wear are important historical documents. Every garment from the exclusive haute couture ballgown to the ready to wear t-shirt tell us about the culture, politics, and economics of particular times and places. Starting in the 17th Century, this course will travel around the world, exploring what the evolution of fashion reveals about the creation of the modern world. The course will be organized around key themes of fashion and globalization, politics, gender, identity politics, and economics. Our goal is not just to use clothes as a window onto the past but understand how clothes as an example of material culture played an important role in shaping the world we live in today.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

HISTORY 387-0 History Adv Special Topics: The Cold War (1945-1991)

In last fifty years of the 20th Century the rivalry between the USA and the USSR brought the world to the brink of nuclear destruction. This course explores the Cold War as a military, political, ideological, and economic contest for global domination. We will examine how the Cold War started in the last days of WW2, spread around the world in a series of proxy wars before ending suddenly in 1991 with the breakup of the Soviet Union. Our primary focus will be on the America experience abroad and at home. Special attention will be given to the different ways popular forms of media responded to and, in turn, influenced the major themes of the Cold War.

Instructor(s): Christopher Sparshott
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration

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 first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 304-0 Exploring Environment Justice

This course begins by examining the philosophical foundations and history of the environmental justice movement and concepts such as justice, race and class. Sustainability and equality, whether socially, economically or environmentally, at the national, regional, and global levels, cannot be achieved unless the underlying causes of environmental and social inequity are understood and addressed. This course will focus on struggles in the Global South. Through case studies, readings, and films, we will examine the following questions: How is it that certain groups of people do not have access to basic resources, or are systematically burdened with pollution or environmental hazards to a greater extent than other groups? What are the social relations of production and power that contribute to these outcomes? What can be done? How do we define "environmental justice"?

Instructor(s): Rania El-Masri
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration

INTERDIS 379-0 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
- Students who completed INTERDIS 242-0 Topics in Science and Technology Studies: Our Electrified World **<u>should not</u>** enroll in this course
- Open for cross-registration

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

Comparative politics is the systematic study of domestic politics around the world. What are the politics and how do they work in this place? How do politics in this place relate to other cases and larger theories and patterns? This class takes an in-depth look at regime type (democracy, authoritarianism, and hybrid regimes) and political transitions, especially revolutions, through case studies that include India, Russia, and countries of the Arab Spring (Egypt, Tunisia, and Syria). 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): Abdullah Al-Arian
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Intro to Int'l Political Econ

This course is intended as an introduction to the field of international political economy. It is designed to give students a grasp of the interactions between politics and economics in shaping the global, regional and local dynamics, illuminating their increasing interconnectedness and interdependence in the era of globalization. Students will be introduced to key theories and analytical frameworks combining interdisciplinary tools that can be applied in a variety of social science disciplines. The course also will introduce students to some major issues of international political economy such as global governance, international financial institutions, multinational corporations, development aid, international trade, cooperation and conflict, among others.

Instructor(s): Tariq Dana
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration

POLI_SCI 309-0 Adv Topics in Political Theory: Islamism & Politics Mid East

This course focuses on the dynamics of politics and religion in the Middle East either by states or by non-state actors as from the turn of 20th century. It starts with examining notions of power, legitimacy, umma community and leadership in early Islamic tradition and politics; then proceeds to examine how and why these notions have evolved in time and space leading to political forms adopted and advocated by modern Islamism.The course approaches the understanding of Islam and politics in light of the emergence of nation-states in post-colonial Middle East. From this perspective, the course examines the gradual transformation in the political theory and practice of major Islamist trends from pan-Islamic utopia to nation-state focused politics. This journey takes us up until the Arab Spring and its Islamists'.The course combines themes and case studies. Themes include perceptions of history and nation, modernity and morality, democracy, women, non-Muslims, citizenship and constitution. Case studies cover states such as Saudi Arabia, Iran and Turkey; and 'moderate' parties such as the Muslim Brotherhood, the Tunisian El-Nahda and the Turkish AKP, 'resistance' movements such as Hamas and Hizbuallah; and 'Jihadist' groups like Al-Qaeda and Daesh (ISIS).

Instructor(s): Khaled Al Hroub
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Students who completed POLI_SCI 242-0 Topics in Political Science: Islamism & Politics Mid East **should not** enroll in this course
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

RELIGION 242-0 Topics in Religion Studies: Sufism

Sufism, sometimes referred to as "Islamic mysticism", has played a critical role in Muslim societies. This course provides an overview of the key doctrines of Sufism and considers their elaboration in dialogue with broader the broader intellectual, social and political history of Muslim civilizations.

Instructor(s): Zachary Wright
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students and sophomores
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

SOCIOLOGY 242-0 Topics in Sociology: Race and Racism

This course offers sociological understanding of race with special attention to the locals and migrants in the Middle East, North Africa and Asia. Themes include the meaning of race and racism as well as how social institutions shape individual's experiences based on their race.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud
Prerequisites: None
- Open to first year students, sophomores and ABP Dual Enrolled students
- Open for cross-registration
- Satisfies Middle East Studies Minor

SOCIOLOGY 387-0 Advanced Topics in Sociology: Globalization and Third World

This course examines the process of globalization especially as it occurs in countries with emerging economies in the global South. Discussion will focus on how global connectivity is created and sustained by various institutions and practices including market economy, multinational organizations and ideologies of universalism.

Instructor(s): Hasan Mahmud
Prerequisites: None
- Open to juniors and above
- Open for cross-registration