

Survey of Media

JRSM1700-002, C01

Fall 2017

1 p.m.-2:25 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday

100 Meeman Journalism

Instructor: Prof. Otis L. Sanford

Office: 318B Meeman Journalism Building

Office Hours: Monday, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Social background, scope, functions and organization of modern communication media, attention to all major mass communication media; philosophy and goals of modern journalism; impact on governmental, social and economic systems.

PREREQUISITE:

None

TEXTBOOKS:

Mass Communication: Living in a Media World, 6th edition, Ralph E. Hanson. CQ Press; ISBN 9781506358574

CLASSROOM FORMAT:

Lecture and discussion will be used in the teaching of the class, and students will be tested on lectures by the professor and guest speakers, as well as textbook readings.

GRADING:

A: 900-1,000 points

B: 800-899 points

C: 700-799 points

D: 600-699 points

F: 599 and below

There will be three major tests, each counting 200 points toward your final grade. You will be tested on only the material covered since the last test. There will be quizzes on some of the textbook readings you will be assigned. Each of these counts 25 points. There will also be a 30-point ethics quiz and four 50-point media assignments (specifics to be announced).

No laptops or any other electronic devices are to be used in class without express permission from the instructor. This especially includes texting and anything else that can possibly be done with an electronic device. Cell phones must be off and put out of sight during the length of the class. If any student is caught using a cell phone or another electronic device during class, there will be a grade penalty and your device may be confiscated until after class.

CO1 students enrolled in this class through the Fresh Connections program will also be assigned to write a special paper at the end of the semester related to mass media. Details will be discussed later. These students will also meet separately with the instructor to discuss their experience in this class.

TENTATIVE CLASS TIMETABLE: Because there will be many guest speakers from various communication disciplines coming to class, the entire semester cannot be outlined at once. Therefore, you will get a timetable in one-month portions, which is also subject to change. It is imperative that you attend each class session. You cannot make up missed quizzes. Plus, late assignments will NOT be accepted and a zero will be given. An assignment is late if it is turned in after 5 p.m. on the day that it is due. This is without exception. This class offers plenty of opportunities to earn points toward a good grade and there are too many students in the class for the instructor to offer makeup quizzes and assignments.

FIVE PILLARS OF JRSM1700

- *Professionalism:* Students discuss ethics and media law help students learn to conduct themselves professionally. Guest speakers often include professionalism in their talks.
- *Writing:* Students learn the importance of good writing skills in all segments of journalism and strategic media.
- *Multimedia:* Students discuss the importance of multimedia skills and how those skills are developed in the 21st century.
- *Critical Thinking:* Students analyze the criticism levied at the media, such as “fake news” and “alternative facts” and discuss what criticism may have some legitimacy and may need improvement. Critical thinking skills are developed through ethics discussion and in-class exercises; through question-and-answer sessions with guest speakers from the profession; and media effects class where questions, such as “Does the media reflect reality or create it?” and “Does media influence the values of individuals and society?” are discussed.
- *Media Literacy:* Students develop media literacy through lectures, discussions and guest speakers about newspapers, books, magazines, radio, TV, the internet, movies, advertising and public relations.

ASSESSMENT

PROFESSIONAL VALUES AND COMPETENCIES FOR JRSM1700:

- Understand and apply the principles and laws of freedom of speech and press, for the country in which the institution that invites ACEJMC is located, as well as receive instruction in and understand the range of systems of freedom of expression around the world, including the right to dissent, to monitor and criticize power, and to assemble and petition for redress of grievances;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications;
- Demonstrate an understanding of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and, as appropriate, other forms of diversity in domestic society in relation to mass communications.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society.
- Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity;

HOW PROFESSIONAL VALUES AND COMPETENCIES WILL BE MET:

Cognitive objectives to be mastered (ability to explain, analyze, understand, think critically):

- Recognize the role of media in influencing the political and cultural dynamics on the global stage.
- Develop a strong historical sense of how mass communication technologies originated and developed.
- Understand the variety of relationships between media and their audiences, including diverse audiences.
- Be sensitive to the needs of diverse and under-represented groups in programming and creating messages.
- Understand the ongoing government regulation of the U.S. Media as well as the constitutional principles that guide it.
- Recognize the ethical and philosophical issues that arise in media culture and understand the range of viewpoints regarding these issues.
- Understand the behind-the-scenes operations and decision-making processes of major mass communication industries.
- Understand how new technology affects the media and communication.
- Understand what's involved in preparing for and advancing a career in the changing media.
- Understand the allied fields of advertising and public relations and their relationship to media systems.
- Understand mass communication theories and their application to media professions.

Performance standards to be met (demonstrable skills, abilities, techniques, applied competencies):

- Earn a passing score on periodic tests and/or exams.
- Participate in one or more outside activities (e.g., attend FOI lecture, interview media professional, visit media organization, participate in applied research) at the discretion of the instructor.

HOW ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING WILL BE MET:

Awareness:

- Grow awareness of the First Amendment and basics of media law
- Recognize major divisions of mass media, including newspaper, magazine, TV, radio, the internet, books, movies, public relations and advertising.
- Aware of need for diversity in all areas of mass communication

Understanding:

- When ethical decision making is discussed throughout the semester as it applies to each media profession, students will be required to present justification for their opinions during discussion and class exercises to show they are not just repeating the instructor's lecture points, but showing understanding of the process.
- Discussion questions will be posed in class to stimulate critical thinking. Independent thinking is encouraged.

Application:

- Each student will interview a media professional and write an informal paper on what you learned. This is not a writing class, so you will not be graded on writing proficiency. Content and student's obeying the rules set for the assignment will determine the grade.
- There will be four smaller media assignments. Specifics to be announced throughout the semester.

DEPARTMENT POLICIES

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT:

All students in the Department of Journalism and Strategic Media are required to develop and maintain an active portfolio of their work. Undergraduate students are to begin the portfolio in JRSM 3900 and contribute to it from every course thereafter. The portfolio should contain samples of the student's work from his/her courses and/or professional experience and should develop as the student builds skills. Portfolios will undergo a final, external review while students are enrolled in the capstone course for their majors.

Students may use any type of web hosting for their portfolios, but it must have an independent and professional URL. The department requires students to use WordPress to build their portfolio sites. Students are encouraged to consider purchasing a URL and hosting if they plan to use the portfolio for a long term, but must keep the portfolio active for six months following graduation from the University of Memphis.

Students should have a professional email address they plan to use throughout their professional life, via a common email service, such as Gmail or Yahoo.

All portfolios must contain the following items:

- Samples of work from courses and/or professional activities. (Example: Broadcasting students must include a video reel)

- A current résumé
- A personal profile
- Contact information/means of contact
- Social media links

Students might wish to include a blog, video reels, photograph galleries, SoundSlides presentations, design PDFs, audio files, and Storify pieces as examples of professional work. The professional work should ultimately be tailored to the career the student seeks after graduation. Thus, each student's portfolio should show a unique blend of work.

EMAIL:

You must have your UM email account activated. If you are using another provider such as Google, you are required to have your UM email forwarded to that account. Go to the <http://iam.memphis.edu> website to implement forwarding of UM email. You are required to check your email daily. You are responsible for complying with any email sent to you by your professor or the University.

MOBILE PHONES AND LAPTOPS:

Some classes require a tablet, laptop or a smartphone. Others do not. Your instructor will set the policy for her/her specific class.

ATTENDANCE:

Class attendance is mandatory in the Department of Journalism and Strategic Media. You may be assigned a failing grade for the semester for nonattendance, or habitual late arrival. No late work will be accepted without prior arrangements, which are acceptable to your professor. Students may not be permitted to make up any missing work unless it is for an absence because of illness or other catastrophic emergency such as a death in the family that can be documented (e.g. with a doctor's note or a copy of the newspaper obituary). This is a professional program for journalists who are expected to understand and comply with deadlines. If you have some problem making it to class on time make arrangements to fix the problem or consider taking another class. You should consider this class your "job" in the educational process and be on time just as you would elsewhere.

CHEATING:

In addition to university-wide policies stated in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, the Department of Journalism and Strategic Media considers making up quotes from sources, turning in substantially the same assignment for credit in two different courses, or a student receiving any assistance from others for work assigned to be done on his/her own, as acts of cheating punishable to the degree determined appropriate by the course instructor and department chair. That may include grade reductions or seeking dismissal of the student from the university.

Further, as this is a journalism/mass communication class, students are expected to comply with copyright law, and must have sufficient permission to use any copyrighted materials used in creative projects, unless otherwise informed in cases of exercises or reproduction.

“Your written work may be submitted to Turnitin.com, or a similar electronic detection method, for an evaluation of the originality of your ideas and proper use and attribution of sources. As part of this process, you may be required to submit electronic as well as hard copies of your written work, or be given other instructions to follow. By taking this course, you agree that all assignments may undergo this review process and that the assignment may be included as a source document in Turnitin.com’s restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. Any assignment not submitted according to the procedures given by the instructor may be penalized or may not be accepted at all.” (Office of Legal Counsel, October 17, 2005)

ONLINE SETEs:

You are urged to complete the SETEs evaluation of this course. Once your instructor has posted your grade, you can immediately see that grade, provided you completed a teacher evaluation for that class. How to access your evaluation forms: Log in using your UUID and email password; click on the gray “Student” tab; complete an evaluation for each course listed and hit the “Submit” button at the bottom of the form. It will only take a few minutes of your time. We take the evaluations very seriously and use them to improve courses and instructional quality. Your feedback is essential and will be appreciated.

DEADLINES:

Remember there’s a reason “DEAD” makes up half the word “deadline.” All deadlines are firm. This is journalism and strategic media. If you get into trouble, talk to your instructor. Exceptions will be made for reasonable circumstances if the student notifies the instructor prior to the due date.

AP STYLE AND GRAMMAR:

All written work in this class should follow the AP Stylebook and accepted rules of grammar and punctuation. If you don’t know the style for a particular phrase, look it up or ask your classmates or the instructor.

DISABILITY:

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact your instructor privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 901-678-2880 in 110 Wilder Tower Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

DIVERSITY:

Students are required to respect the differences of others and treat all persons with respect. Discriminatory, derogatory and threatening language or behavior will not be tolerated. Further, students are expected to consider their work through a diverse mind. Mass communications reach a mass audience, and students should be aware of how those messages are received by a diverse audience.

WEATHER POLICY:

Always check with local media and the University of Memphis website regarding inclement weather. If the university is closed or classes are canceled, this course will not meet. However, students will still be responsible for that day’s work.