

Course Catalog - Spring 2006

Communications

100 **Intro to Popular TV & Movies** Credit: 3 hours.

The goal of this course is for students to begin to develop a critical understanding of the role of popular movies and television in their own lives and in U.S. culture. We look at issues of the relationship of media to social violence, gender identities, sexual identities, adolescents, minority cultures, and the role of the U.S. media globally. We also consider some of the major media genres that characterize U.S. popular television and movies.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aLiterature and the Arts, and Western Compартv Cult course.

101 **Intro to the Media** Credit: 3 hours.

Introduces students to core issues in communication, ranging from the role of language in human history to political questions posed by electronic and digital technologies. Exploring key contemporary problems through timely readings, students learn and write about how the media affect everyday life. Prerequisite: Freshman or sophomore standing

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aAdvanced Composition course.

166 **Media Literacy** Credit: 3 hours.

Develops students' ability and skills to analyze, assess, and critically evaluate media images, words, sounds, and representations that comprise mass culture, and to understand the media's roles in the contemporary world. As part of their learning in the course, students prepare their own media, use logs and evaluate their exposure to media and advertising. Prerequisite: Freshman or sophomore standing

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aUIUC Social Sciences course.

199 **Undergraduate Open Seminar** Credit: 1 to 5 hours.

May be repeated up to 12 hours in separate semesters, if topics vary.

201 **Info Technology and Orgs** Credit: 3 hours.

Same as LIS 201. See LIS 201.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aUIUC Social Sciences course.

202 **Social Aspects Info Systems** Credit: 3 hours.

Same as LIS 202. See LIS 202.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aUIUC Social Sciences course.

250 **Latina/os on the Bronze Screen** Credit: 3 hours.

Same as LLS 250. See LLS 250.

264 **Media, Money and Power** Credit: 4 hours.

COMM 264: "Media, Money, and Power" is an introduction to the political economy of the media in the U.S. The purpose of the class is to acquaint students with a core understanding of how the media system operates, and with what effects, in a capitalist society. The course examines the role of advertising, public relations, corporate concentration, and government regulation upon journalism, entertainment, culture, and participatory democracy. The class also examines issues such as the Internet, globalization, and public broadcasting. Approved for S/U grading only.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for aHist&Philosoph Perspect, and Western Compартv Cult course.

317 **History of Communication** Credit: 3 hours.

Presents the nature and development of communication systems; history of communication media; history of journalism, advertising, and broadcasting; and communications in the modern world.

320 **Popular Culture** Credit: 3 hours.

Examines the critical literature on mass media entertainment; reviews significant contemporary issues and develops perspectives for understanding popular culture.

321 Film Culture Credit: 3 hours.

Introduces students to key issues of, major theoretical approaches to, and current debates about the cultural function of films. Course addresses theories of spectatorship, the politics of pleasure, the culture of entertainment, and the cinematic construction of race, class, and gender.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a Western Comparty Cult course.

322 Politics and the Media Credit: 3 hours.

Same as PS 312, and SPCM 325. See SPCM 325.

331 Media and Democracy Credit: 3 hours.

Studies the philosophical bases of the functions and the responsibilities of mass communications.

351 Social Aspects of Media Credit: 3 hours.

Explores media structures in relation to cultural content and social functions; examines problems of life and society as treated in mass-produced communications. Same as SOC 351.

352 Attitude Theory and Change Credit: 3 hours.

Same as PSYC 352, and SOC 300. See PSYC 352.

356 Sex & Gender in Popular Media Credit: 3 hours.

The course examines the notion that the mass media influence our development as gendered individuals, looking at those who argue for and against this notion. We consider different forms of feminist theory applied to the study of mass media, the history and scholarly criticisms of the media and their portrayal of women, and feminist attempts to create alternatives to mainstream media images. Throughout the course we consider representation of minorities in the dominant media and examine newly created alternative representations. Same as GWS 356.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for a Western Comparty Cult course.

361 US Broadcasting and Telecom Credit: 3 hours.

Examines the history and principal issues of American broadcasting and the electronic media; the context of prior forms of mass communication and ideas about purposes and terms of control; the important social, economic, political, and cultural questions bearing on AM and FM radio, commercial television, public broadcasting, cable and new forms of electronic communication; issues in programming and service content; and basic legal and regulatory matters

365 Asian American Media and Film Credit: 3 hours.

Same as AAS 365 and CINE 365. See AAS 365.

375 Latina/o Media in the US Credit: 3 hours.

Examines the portrayal and participation of Latinas and Latinos in the U. S. media using a variety of interdisciplinary approaches. Addresses historical and political movements that have been critical to Latina/Latino print, broadcast, and electronic communication within the broader context of cultural diversity. Same as LLS 375.

377 Global Communications Credit: 3 hours.

Introduces students to the multiple dimensions of cross-national and comparative communications. Specific topics will vary according to instructor's focus, but may include human dimensions of global communication, intercultural communication, media impact, structure and processes of institutional communication (i.e. propaganda, diplomacy).

389 International Communications Credit: 3 hours.

Same as PS 389. See PS 389.

391 Special Topics Credit: 1 to 3 hours.

Presents special projects, research, and independent reading in communications for students capable of individual work under the guidance of a faculty advisor. May be repeated in the same or in multiple semesters, if topics vary. Prerequisite: Registration in the College of Communications or consent of college.

395 Honors Research Seminar Credit: 3 hours.

An honors research seminar open to qualified Media Studies' majors, and to other advanced students in the College of Communications. The seminar has two primary goals: (a) to introduce students to alternative research approaches used in the scholarly study of mass communication; and (b) to enable students to employ one or more of these methodological approaches in producing an independent research project on a topic of their own choosing. The seminar meets as a group only for the first several weeks of the term, to discuss different research methodologies used in mass communication research and to present topics to the class; and for the last two weeks of the term, to present completed projects to the larger group. Otherwise students meet regularly with instructor (and any other advisors they may have chosen from among the media studies faculty) to discuss and provide evidence of progress of their independent research papers. Prerequisite: At least 2 courses in Media Studies.

408 Cultural Analysis of Media Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as SPCM 408. See SPCM 408.

410 Media Ethics Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Surveys the major ethical problems in news, publications advertising, publications and entertainment media; includes case studies and moral reasoning on confidentiality, privacy, conflicts of interest, deception, violence, and pornography. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

419 Russian & East European Film Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as CINE 419, and SLAV 419. See SLAV 419.

423 Language Acquisition Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as LING 423, and PSYC 423. See PSYC 423.

425 Intro to Psycholinguistics Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as LING 425. See LING 425.

432 Commodifying Difference Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as LLS 435, AFRO 435, AAS 435, and GWS 435. See LLS 435.

435 Adv Interpersonal Comm Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as SPCM 435. See SPCM 435.

462 Telecom Management Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Examines problems and issues in telecommunications management; the role of management in operation of broadcasting, cable, and telecommunications industries; forces shaping products and services in commercial and non-profit media, i. e. , technology, markets, revenues, programming, and regulation; planning, accountability, and social responsibility. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of college or consent of instructor.

466 Film as Business Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Studies the filmed entertainment industry; the economic structures and policies of the production, distribution, and exhibition sectors; the nature of ownership patterns, investment, competition, and trade practices; filmed entertainment as a commodity in an international market system. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of college or consent of instructor.

468 Telecom Law and Policy Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Studies the histories, assumptions, and consequences of major legislative, regulatory, and judicial decisions in American broadcasting and telecommunications; social, cultural and economic background of federal communications law and regulation; administrative agency (FCC) practice and constraints; various regulatory and policy issues including fiduciary licensing, fairness doctrine, cable, public broadcasting, telematics, deregulation, and statutory revision process. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

470 Mind, Culture and Society Credit: 3 or 4 hours.

Same as ANTH 470, and LING 470. See ANTH 470.

491 **Literacy in the Info Age** Credit: 0 to 4 hours.
Same as LIS 491. See LIS 491.

512 **History of Libraries** Credit: 2 or 4 hours.
Same as LIS 512. See LIS 512.

520 **Seminar Semantics** Credit: 4 hours.
Same as PHIL 520. See PHIL 520.

524 **Dev Psycholinguistics** Credit: 2 or 4 hours.
Same as LING 524, and PSYC 524. See PSYC 524.

525 **Psycholinguistics** Credit: 2 or 4 hours.
Same as LING 525, and PSYC 525. See PSYC 525.

560 **Feminist Media Studies** Credit: 4 hours.
Addresses major areas of theoretical debate or interest in the broad topic of "Feminist Media Studies" and looks in depth at a number of theoretical issues which define it. Develops an understanding of historical, psychoanalytic, interpretive, and social scientific approaches to the study of film and television texts, their reception, and their production. Readings are extensive and directed toward illustrating the range of theoretical and empirical approaches applied to addressing questions of central interest in the field. Viewings will emphasize some lesser-known historical texts central to theoretical debates in the field. Viewings and readings are focused on "popular" film and television. Same as GWS 560. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

563 **World Broadcasting** Credit: 4 hours.
Studies the broadcast systems used by the nations of the world; alternative and mixed systems; international organizations, agreements, exchanges, and problems; broadcasts to and from other countries; implications of such new developments as satellites; and mass and non-mass uses. Prerequisite: Consent of department

568 **Political Economy of Comm** Credit: 4 hours.
Analyzes the structure, policy, and behavior of such media of communication as newspapers, magazines, books, postal service, telegraph, telephone, broadcasting, and film; special emphasis on their relationships to political order and the economy. Prerequisite: Consent of College of Communications.

570 **Popular Culture** Credit: 4 hours.
Examines problems of cultural analysis related to the media of communications and the social implications of communications research.

571 **Proseminar I** Credit: 4 hours.
Addresses the mass media of communications, their role as social institutions, and their control and support. Examines evolution of research on mass media content, audience, and effects. Prerequisite: Consent of College of Communications.

572 **Proseminar II** Credit: 4 hours.
Addresses the problems of communications, including the individual as a communicating system, symbolic processes, analysis of messages, psycholinguistics, and language as social behavior. Prerequisite: Consent of College of Communications.

573 **Freedom of Expression** Credit: 4 hours.
Examines the development of the Anglo-American press system and the idea of freedom of the press; explores contemporary mass media and their implications for freedom and democracy.

574 **Communications Systems** Credit: 4 hours.
Analyzes the structure and development of communications systems, the role of communication in social change,

political movements, and formal organizations.

575 *Cult Studies and Crit Interp* Credit: 4 hours.

Explores the history, applications and limitations of various theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of contemporary culture and popular media. Examines debates and issues within cultural studies and with other schools of thought. The impact of cultural studies across the disciplines. Same as EPS 575. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

577 *Philosophy of Technology* Credit: 4 hours.

Introduces students to those thinkers who understand technology philosophically as a central component in modern culture. Examines major perspectives on the nature of technology, rooted in Norbert Weiner, Karl Marx, and Martin Heidegger. Links media technologies, information systems, and global communications background problems and basic issues to technology more generally. Develops instrumentalism, feminist and critical approaches, ethical concerns, alternative technologies in the context of technology as a cultural activity.

580 *Advanced Interpretive Methods* Credit: 4 hours.

Same as SOC 580. See SOC 580.

590 *Special Topics* Credit: 2 to 8 hours.

May be repeated in the same or in multiple semesters, if topics vary.

592 *Quantitative Methods* Credit: 4 hours.

Introduces the methods of empirical research in the behavioral sciences applicable to research problems in human communication, with emphasis on studies of mass communication. Lectures, readings, and laboratory practice.

593 *Qualitative Methods* Credit: 4 hours.

Introduces qualitative concepts and strategies in the social sciences and humanities which apply to research problems in mass communications.

599 *Thesis Research* Credit: 0 to 16 hours.

May be repeated to a maximum of 16 hours. Approved for S/U grading only.