

**GLOBAL COMMUNICATION  
SPRING 2023 – MASARYK UNIVERSITY**

**CLASS TIME:**

Wednesdays from 4:00pm (1600)

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Catherine Luther

Fulbright-Masaryk University Distinguished Scholar

*E-mail:* [cluther@utk.edu](mailto:cluther@utk.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to past and current understandings of global press/media systems. Discussion of how international press coverage is often impacted by the intersections between the press, political structures, and culture will take place. The challenges that misinformation and disinformation pose at a global level will also be discussed.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Students will be familiar with existing models designed to explain press/media systems from different parts of the world.
- Students will understand the distinction between misinformation and disinformation and the role that social media play in their propagation.
- Students will be able to explain the intersections between the press, politics, and culture
- Students will understand the work of foreign correspondents and how it has shifted over the past few decades.

**Required Readings:**

A selection of academic journal articles has been uploaded onto the Masaryk University course online site.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on the following:

	<i>POINTS</i>	<i>%</i>
Class Participation (including discussion of reflection papers):	45	17.0%
Mini-Exam #1 (open notes/readings):	60	24.5%
Mini-Exam #2 (open notes/readings):	60	24.5%
Reflection Paper #1:	45	17.0%
Reflection Paper #2:	45	17.0%
<i>TOTAL</i>	255	100.0%

**Class Participation:** Each student is expected to be punctual and attend every class session. Students will be asked to participate in a class discussion of the assigned reflection papers. Details regarding this discussion will be provided in class.

**Reflection Papers:** Students will be asked to complete two reflection papers (1-2 pages in length). Details will be provided in class.

**Exams:** Two “open-book” exams will be administered in class. The first will be on Wednesday, April 5 and the second will be on Wednesday, May 10. (Note that the second exam will not be cumulative.)

The main purpose of the exams is to test your general understanding of the material covered and how you have approached the subject in a critical manner.

### **Course Schedule and Readings**

**Week 1 (Wednesday, Feb. 15):** Introductions; Meaning of Global Communication

**Week 2 (Wednesday, Feb. 22):** Models of Media Systems – Implications of Digital Media

Reading:

Mancini, P. (2020). Comparing Media Systems and the Digital Age. *International Journal of Communication*, 14, 5761-5774.

**Week 3 (Wednesday, Mar. 1):** National Identities, Culture and News Coverage

Reading:

Golan, G.J., Waddell, F., & Barnidge, M. (2021). Competing identity cues in the hostile media phenomenon: Source, nationalism, and perceived bias in news coverage of foreign affairs. *Mass Communication and Society*, 24(5), 676-700.

**Week 4 (Wednesday, Mar. 8):** Propaganda, Public Diplomacy, & Disinformation

Reading:

Woolley, S.C., & Howard, P.N. (2018). Introduction: Computational Propaganda Worldwide. In *Computational propaganda: Political parties, politicians, and political manipulation on social media*.

***DUE: Reflection Paper #1***

**Week 5 (Wednesday, Mar. 15):** Propaganda, Public Diplomacy, & Disinformation (cont.)

Reading:

Stetka, V., Mazak, J., & Vochocova, L. (2021). ‘Nobody tells us what to write about’: The disinformation media ecosystem and its consumers in the Czech Republic. *Javnost – The Public*, 28(1), 90-109.

**Week 6 (Wednesday, Mar. 22):** Discussions of Reflection Papers

No Reading

**Week 7 (Wednesday, Mar. 29):** Work of Journalists in a Global Context

Reading:

Moon, R. (2021). When journalists see themselves as villains. The power of negative discourse. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 98(3), 790-807.

**Week 8 (Wednesday, April 5):** *Mini-Exam #1*

**Week 9 (Wednesday, April 12):** Work of Journalists in a Global Context (cont.)

Reading:

Zhang, S.I., & Zhang, X. (2018). Foreign correspondents: A case study of China in the digital and globalization age. *Journalism Studies*, 19(12), 1804-1824.

**Week 10 (Wednesday, April 19):** The Press & Digital Media in North Atlantic Nations

Reading:

Nechushtai, E. (2018). From liberal to polarized liberal? Contemporary U.S. news in Hallin and Mancini's typology of news systems. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 23(2), 183-201.

***DUE: Reflection Paper #2***

**Week 11 (Wednesday, April 26):** The Press & Digital Media in Middle Eastern Nations

Reading:

Badr, Z. (2021). More or more of the same: Ownership concentration and media diversity in Egypt. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 26(4), 774-796.

**Week 12 (Wednesday, May 3):** The Press & Digital Media in Asian Nations

Reading:

Wu, S. (2020). When new media operates within a state-mediated press system: Assessing new media's impact on journalism crisis perceptions in Singapore and Hong Kong. *Information, Communication & Society*, 23(4), 572-587.

**Week 13 (Wednesday, May 10):** *Mini-Exam #2* (Last Day of Class)

**NOTE:** The instructor reserves the right to revise or amend this syllabus as necessary. Students will be notified in class and by email if revisions are needed.