

University of Calgary
Department of Communication, Media and Film

COMS 203 (L01): New Media

WINTER 2023: January 10 to April 11 (excluding Feb. 21, 23, 24 AND April 7)

Lecture: TuTh 9:30 to 10:20

Labs Fridays 9:00-9:50 (B01 SA 235/ B05 EDC 264); 10:00-10:50 (B02 SA235/ B06 EDC264); 11:00-11:50 (B03 SA235/ B07 EDC264); 12:00-12:50 (B04 SA235/ B08 EDC264)

Instructor:	Maria Victoria Guglietti
Office:	SS 220
Email:	mvguglie@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours:	Friday 9:30-11:30 (Zoom or in person) or by appointment

Course Description

An introduction to the social, political and cultural aspects of new media. Examines the social factors that influence the use of new media, as well as the effects of new media on different spheres of social life. Topics include the historical development of new media; participatory cultures; copyright and Internet law; creative industries; and surveillance and governance in new media.

Additional Information

The weekly schedule of topics and readings can be found at the end of this outline or on D2L.

Students are responsible for reading and following all course and university policies discussed in this outline.

Objectives of the Course

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify and discuss past and present social factors that influence the development, governance and use of new media,
- apply the theoretical discussion of new media to their own everyday experience of new media.
- theoretically analyze new media phenomena,
- critically read academic studies on new media,

Textbooks and Readings

Flew, T. & Smith, R. (2021). *New media: An introduction*. (4th Canadian edition). Oxford University Press, 2021). **(mandatory)**

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to complete courses, University of Calgary students are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates, with current antivirus software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection, and a current and updated web browser;
- A webcam (built-in or external), and a microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone (for online synchronous courses only).

If you need access to other software programs to complete assignments, your instructor will provide relevant information and links.

If you have technical difficulties, contact IT support services. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/student-campus-services-information-technologies-it.html>

Policy on the Use of Electronic Communication Devices

The use of smartphones or other electronic devices is strictly limited to activities connected with the class.

Please familiarize yourself with the University’s policy on the recording of lectures, which is outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>, and carefully review the section on Instructor Copyright at the end of this outline.

Assignments and Evaluation

Weight	Assessed Components	Due
5%	<p>Participation (written reflection- 250 words max.): Students are expected to participate in tutorials by engaging in class discussions, actively listening, completing in-class activities and offering productive and thoughtful comments to in-class presentations. By the end of the term, students will complete a reflection assignment of their participation in tutorials of 250 words, outlining at least <u>two different ways</u> in which their participation contributed to their learning.</p> <p>Further instructions and a rubric will be posted on D2L.</p>	<p>April 6th by 11:59PM (D2L dropbox)</p>
25%	<p>Tutorial poster session: 5’ presentation (10%) + poster (15%)- groups of 5 members from the same tutorial.</p> <p>Students will apply two theoretical concepts discussed in class to a new media case study of their choice. The finding from this analysis will be shared with the class in a poster presentation. To this end, students will produce a digital (or non-digital) poster, which will be presented to the class in a 5’ oral presentation followed by a Q&A period. Students should be prepared to share this poster with the TA responsible for the tutorial.</p> <p>Students will form groups and sign in for a poster presentation date during the first three weeks of class. The dates available for presentations are the following: February 3rd, 10th, March 3rd OR 10th.</p> <p>Group members will receive the same grade on assignments; however, the instructor reserves the right to award differential grades based on group peer reviews or information indicating significantly uneven contributions by group members.</p> <p>Further instructions and rubrics will be posted on D2L.</p>	<p>February 3rd, 10th, March 3rd OR 10th. (in-class tutorial)</p>

35%	Take-home midterm exam: individual take-home assignment- open book, max. length (1200 words max.- Q&A format). The midterm will consist in the analysis of an academic study of new media considering the theories studied in class from Week 1 to Week 5 (included). The midterm will evaluate students' critical reading skills (identification, contextualization, interpretation, connection and evaluation) and their understanding of the theoretical discussion of new media introduced in class. Further instructions will be posted on D2L on February 2 nd .	Feb. 16 th by 11:59PM (D2L dropbox)
35%	Final analysis: individual- written- length 900-1200 words Students will demonstrate their ability to apply three theoretical concepts studied in class after the midterm to explain the dynamics and characteristics of a new media case study of their choice. Further instructions will be posted on D2L.	April 13 th by 11:59PM (D2L dropbox)

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

Note: You do not need to complete all assignments and exams in order to receive a passing grade in the course

Submission of Assignments

Please submit all assignments by uploading them to the designated D2L dropbox. Include your name and ID number on all assignments. Be sure to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to submit the proper version.

Private information related to individual students is treated with the utmost regard by University of Calgary faculty. Student assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty, and personal information is collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. Please note that instructors may use audio or video recording for lesson capture, assessment of student learning, and self-assessment of teaching practices.

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with a partial letter grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late. An assignment received two days after the deadline will receive an automatic 0.

***The Day of Grace:** One day of grace is available to all students to cover unforeseen problems that prevent them from meeting a deadline such as computer crashes, vehicle breakdowns, lack of printer ink or money, unexpected family obligations, etc. Students may use this day ONLY ONCE during the semester. **Students using this day of grace must upload the assignment by 11:59PM the next calendar day** to avoid a late penalty and write "grace" on their subject line. It should be noted that assignments handed in this manner may be returned 1-2 classes later than those submitted on the due date.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. For the full policy on Student Accommodations, see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students seeking accommodation for transient illnesses (e.g., the flu) or another legitimate reason should contact their instructors.

Expectations for Writing

Department policy directs that all written assignments and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization and proper documentation of research sources. For further information, please refer to the *University of Calgary Calendar* section on writing across the curriculum:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Grading & Department of Communication, Media and Film Grade Scale

The following table outlines the grade scale percentage equivalents used in the Department of Communication, Media and Film. Final grades are reported as letter grades. For components graded using percentages or numerical scores, those values will be used directly in calculating the final course grade, while for components graded using letter grades, the letter grades will be converted to the midpoint values listed in the final column of the table below in calculating the final course grade.

In this course, final grades are reported as letter grades. All assignments will receive a percentage grade.

Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Dept of CMF grade scale equivalents*	Letter grade % equivalent for calculations*
4.00	Outstanding performance	A+	96 - 100%	98.0%
4.00	Excellent performance	A	90 - 95.99%	93.0%
3.70	Approaching excellent performance	A -	85 - 89.99%	87.5%
3.30	Exceeding good performance	B+	80 - 84.99%	82.5%
3.00	Good performance	B	75 - 79.99%	77.5%
2.70	Approaching good performance	B-	70 - 74.99%	72.5%
2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance	C+	65 - 69.99%	67.5%
2.00	Satisfactory performance	C	60 - 64.99%	62.5%
1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance	C-	55 - 59.99%	57.5%
1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D+	53 - 54.99%	54.0%
1.00	Minimal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D	50 - 52.99%	51.5%
0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.	F	0 - 49.99%	0%

* Column 4: If percentages are used to calculate final grades, then grades falling within these ranges will be translated to the corresponding letter grades. Column 5: These percentage equivalents will be used for calculating final grades unless an alternative method of final grade calculation is outlined above.

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. These requirements apply to all assignments and sources, including those in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. **In-text citations must be provided, and readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin.** Wording taken directly from a source must be enclosed within quotation marks (or, for long quotations, presented in the format prescribed by the documentation style you are using). Paraphrased information must not follow the original wording and sentence structure with only slight word substitutions here and there.

For information on citation and documentation styles (MLA, APA, Chicago, IEEE, etc.), visit the Student Success Centre resource links at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support> or the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) Research and Citation Resources at https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/resources.html

If you need help with your writing or have questions about citing sources, consult your instructor or visit the Student Success Centre, Taylor Family Digital Library. To book an appointment, go to <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

Instructor Intellectual Property & Copyright Legislation

Course materials created by the instructor (including lectures, course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

To ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes & electronic versions of textbooks), all students are required to read the *University of Calgary Policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright* at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> and the requirements of the *Copyright Act* (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the *University of Calgary Calendar* at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Research Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants, including surveys, interviews, or observations as part of your university studies, you are responsible for obtaining research ethics approval and for following university research ethics guidelines. In some cases, your instructors may apply for course-based research ethics approval for certain assignments, and in those cases, they must review and approve your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, please see

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/arts-researchers/resources-researchers-and-instructors/ethics>

Deferrals of Course Work and Requests for Reappraisal

For university regulations and procedures related to deferral of term work, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>

For information about deferrals of final examinations, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>

For information about requesting a reappraisal of course work or of a final grade, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

Student Support Services and Resources

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information about student support services and resources, including Wellness and Mental Health Resources, Student Success programs and services, the Student Ombuds Office, the Student Union, and Safewalk. For resources on D2L, Zoom, Yuja, etc., see <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/resources-for-students/>. (Find the topic menu under the icon to the left of the ELEARN banner.)

Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings

	Tuesdays 2:00-2:50AM PF 118	Thursdays 2:00-2:50AM PF 118	Fridays Tutorial SA109
Week 1 Jan. 10, 12 (L) &13(T)	Topic: Introduction to class and assignments. Assignment: sign in for groups.	Topic: New Media Literacy In-class discussion	NO TUTORIAL
Week 2 Jan. 17 &19 (L) 20 (T)	Topic: Introduction to New Media (chapter 1)	Topic: Introduction to New Media (chapter 1)	Topic: Reading new media studies
Week 3 Jan. 24 & 26 (L) 27 (T)	Topic: History of New Media (Chapter 2)	Topic: History of New Media (Chapter 2)	Topic: Reading new media studies
Week 4 Jan. 31 & Feb. 2 (L) 3 (T)	Topic: Approaches to New Media (Chapter 3) Midterm instructions posted on D2L	Topic: Approaches to New Media (Chapter 3)	Assignment: In-class poster presentation
Week 5 Feb. 7 & 9 (L) 10 (T)	Topic: Mobile New Media (Chapter 4)	Topic: Mobile New Media (Chapter 4)	Assignment: In-class poster presentation
Week 6 Feb. 14 & 16 (L) 17 (T)	Topic: Q&A midterm	NO CLASS-TIME DEDICATED TO MIDTERM	NO TUTORIAL

		Assignment: Midterm due by 11:59PM (D2L)	
Week 7 Feb. 21 & 23 (L) 24 (T)	READING WEEK		
Week 8 Feb. 28 & Mar. 2 (L) 3 (T)	Topic: Social Networks (Chapter 5)	Topic: Social Networks (Chapter 5)	Assignment: In-class poster presentation
Week 9 Mar.7 & 9 (L) 10 (T)	Topic: Digital Creativity (Chapter 6)	Topic: Digital Creativity (Chapter 6)	Assignment: In-class poster presentation
Week 10 Mar.14 & 16 (L) 17 (T)	Topic: Truth and Post-Truth (Chapter 7)	Topic: Truth and Post-Truth (Chapter 7)	Topic: Analysis Preparation
Week 11 Mar. 21 & 23 (L) 24 (T)	Topic: The Global Knowledge Economy (Chapter 8)	Topic: The Global Knowledge Economy (Chapter 8)	Topic: Analysis Q&A
Week 12 Mar. 28 & 30 (L) 31 (T)	Topic: Governance (Chapter 9)	Topic: Governance (Chapter 9)	NO TUTORIAL
Week 13 April 4 & 6 (L) 7 (T)	Topic: The Future? (Chapter 10)	Topic: The Future? (Chapter 10) Assignment: Participation reflection due by 11:59PM (D2L)	NO TUTORIAL- GOOD FRIDAY
Week 14 April 11 (L)	Topic- Q&A final analysis	Final analysis due April 13th by 11:59PM (D2L)	