

COMM200 Communication and New Media - Section 201 Spring 2020

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:30-3:45 P.M.
Corboy Law Center Room L09
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Office hours: Directly after class, by appointment

Required TEXT: ***Understanding New Media 2nd Edition***. By Eugenia Siapera, (2018) London. Sage Publications.

Recommended Reading:

Become aware of recent developments in new media, communication and technology.

Make it part of your daily routine to visit the following websites (or follow them on social media, download their apps, etc.)

- The New York Times' technology section - <https://www.nytimes.com/section/technology>
- The New York Times' media section - <https://www.nytimes.com/section/business/media>
- Wired Magazine - <https://www.wired.com/>
- Hot Pod <https://hotpodnews.com/>
- Tube Filter <https://www.tubefilter.com/>

Loyola students can access the New York Times online – for free – through this link: <http://www.libraries.luc.edu/nytimes>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the ways technology affects personal, cultural and mass communication through examining the historical, societal and ethical implications of newer and interactive forms of media.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students use audio, video and digital tools to research and produce essays, projects, and presentations that analyze the impact of technology on communication and society.

COURSE RATIONALE:

The central thesis of this course is that New Media is capable of doing great good and great harm to almost all facets of social, political, and environmental life on Earth as we know it.

The very ubiquity of New Media in our daily lives makes it all too easy to become passive consumers or worse yet unwitting products ourselves within a field changing at a speed unimaginable at the start of the 21st century. To effectively navigate today's new media environment one must research, analyze, critique and experiment within the ever-changing landscape, in order to best understand and utilize the technology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Explain and critique how we, human society are shaping and are shaped by digital communication technology;
2. Discuss how these new digital technologies have implications for identity construction, community building, our environment and more;
3. Describe and analyze the ways we tell stories with digital communication technology;
4. Reflect on the role technology plays in your own sense of identity and community;
5. Create artifacts that demonstrate your role as a responsible, and ethical producer/consumer of media.

COURSE WORK:

To obtain a passing grade in this course students are required to:

1. Work individually and collaboratively.
2. Show up and be actively engaged.
3. Pitch, present, create, and execute a solo project (podcast) onto the web.
4. Work with a partner to research and formulate a position about a new media subject matter, debate this position with another pair of students coming from the opposite perspective.
5. Work with a team of three students to execute a dynamic and fully researched multi-media presentation about an important, socially relevant new media topic.
6. Write a reflection paper on your final team presentation project.

GRADING:

Students will be graded based on their completion of:

Assignments	Percentage of final grade
Point-Counterpoint Debate Project	20%
Solo Podcast Project	25%
Final Presentation Team Project	30%
Weekly Discussion Board Participation	15%
Attendance/Professionalism	10%

All of the above assignments will be graded on a 100 point scale, except the weekly discussion board, these will be worth 10 points per week.

Sakai Gradebook will be used – you should be able to see your grade standing throughout the term.

Assignment descriptions on Sakai will also list the grading Rubric per each individual assignment.

ASSIGNMENT AND FINAL GRADE SCALE:

Grade Criteria	Letter Grade	Points
Performs at the highest level and demonstrates full and uncompromised commitment and effort. Delivers all assignments with 100% requirements fulfilled	A	100 – 94
	A-	93 – 90
Performs at a high level and demonstrates consistent and effective achievement in meeting course and assignment requirements	B+	89 – 87
	B	86 – 84
	B-	83 – 80
Meets the basic requirements of the course and the assignments	C+	79 – 77
	C	76 – 74
	C-	73 – 70
Performs at a level sub-par to basic requirements, though meeting some minimum standards.	D+	69 – 67
	D	66 – 60
Fails to meet minimum course requirements	F	59 or less

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance and class participation are critical. It is not enough to simply show up.

You will be expected to be a regular participant in all we do. Repeated unexcused absences will greatly affect your final grade. If you are unable to make class, it is important to call or e-mail the instructor beforehand. **If you have more than three absences during the semester, your grade will be reduced by 10 points**, you will lose the 10% of your final grade associated with attendance/professionalism, unless medical documentation proves the necessity of the absence. This does not apply to student athletes or others who must miss class because of university business, but proper documentation must be provided.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

School of Communication Statement on Academic Integrity:

A basic mission of a university is to search for and to communicate the truth, as it is honestly perceived. A genuine learning community cannot exist unless this demanding standard is a fundamental tenet of the intellectual life of the community. Students of Loyola University Chicago are expected to know, to respect, and to practice this standard of personal honesty.

Academic dishonesty can take several forms, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, copying another student’s work, and submitting false documents. Academic cheating is a serious act that violates academic integrity. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, such acts as:

- Unauthorized collaboration, or the use in whole or part of another student’s work, on homework, lab reports, programming assignments, and any other course work which is completed outside of the classroom

- Falsifying medical or other documents to petition for excused absences or extensions of deadlines
- Any other action that, by omission or commission, compromises the integrity of the academic evaluation process

Students who commit an act of plagiarism, whether deliberately or accidentally, will still be held responsible. Ignorance of academic rules, or failure to fact check work, sources and citations, is not an acceptable defense against the charge of plagiarism. It is true that every thought probably has been influenced to some degree by the thoughts and actions of others. Such influences can be thought of as affecting the ways we see things and express all thoughts. Plagiarism, however, involves the taking and use of specific words and ideas of others without proper acknowledgement of the sources, and includes the following:

- Submitting as one's own material copied from a published source, such as print, Internet, CD-ROM, audio, video, etc.
- Submitting as one's own another person's unpublished work or examination material
- Allowing another or paying another to write or research a paper for one's own benefit
- Purchasing, acquiring, and using for course credit a pre-written paper

The above list is in no way intended to be exhaustive. Students should be guided by the principle that it is of utmost importance to give proper recognition to all sources. To do so is both an act of personal, professional courtesy and of intellectual honesty; any failure to do so, whether by intent or by neglect, whether by omission or commission, is an act of plagiarism. A more detailed description of this issue can be found at: <http://luc.edu/english/writing.shtml#source>

In addition, a student may not submit the same paper or other work for credit in two or more classes without the expressed prior permission of all instructors. A student who submits the same work for credit in two or more classes without the expressed prior permission of all instructors will be judged guilty of academic dishonesty, and will be subject to sanctions described below. This applies even if the student is enrolled in the classes during different semesters. If a student plans to submit work with similar or overlapping content for credit in two or more classes, the student should consult with all instructors prior to submission of the work to make certain that such submission will not violate this standard.

Plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will result minimally in the instructor's assigning the grade of "F" for the assignment or examination. The instructor may impose a more severe sanction, including a grade of "F" in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty must be reported by the instructor to the chairperson of the department involved, and to the Dean of the School of Communication.

The office of the Dean of the School of Communication may constitute a hearing board to consider the imposition of sanctions in addition to those imposed by the instructor, including a recommendation of expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. In the case of multiple instances of academic dishonesty, the Dean's office may convene a separate hearing board to review these instances. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the hearing board to the Dean of SOC. If the student is not a member of the SOC, the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled shall be part of the process. Students have the right to appeal the decision of any hearing board and the deans of the two schools will review the appeal together. Their decision is final in all cases except expulsion. The sanction of expulsion for academic dishonesty may be imposed only by the Provost upon recommendation of the dean or deans.

Students have a right to appeal any finding of academic dishonesty against them.

The procedure for such an appeal can be found at:

http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicgrievance.shtml

The School of Communication maintains a permanent record of all instances of academic dishonesty. The information in that record is confidential. However, students may be asked to sign a waiver which releases that student's record of dishonesty as a part of the student's application to a graduate or professional school, to a potential employer, to a bar association, or to similar organizations. *The School of Communication policy is based entirely on and is consistent with the Academic Integrity Policy of the College of Arts & Sciences.

STUDENTS IN NEED OF ACCOMMODATIONS:

Any student that needs special accommodation during exams or class periods should provide documentation from the Student Accessibility Center confidentially to the instructor. The instructor will accommodate that student's needs in the best way possible, given the constraints of course content and processes. It is the student's responsibility to plan in advance in order to meet their own needs and assignment due dates.

Managing Life Crises and Finding Support:

Should you encounter an unexpected crisis during the semester (e.g., securing food or housing, addressing mental health concerns, managing a financial crisis, and/or dealing with a family emergency, etc.), I strongly encourage you to contact the Office of the Dean of Students by submitting a CARE referral (LUC.edu/csaa) for yourself or a peer in need of support. If you are uncomfortable doing so on your own, please know that I can submit a referral on your behalf – please email me or talk to me after class.

To learn more about the Office of the Dean of Students, please find their websites at LUC.edu/dos or LUC.edu/csaa. Or you may contact them directly at 773-508-8840 and at deanofstudents@luc.edu

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- Students are expected to be actively engaged in class discussions.
- No late assignments will be accepted.
- All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced and proofread.
- Turn off cellphones and other electronic devices. Laptops are welcome for taking notes.

A Note About Finals

As we will work together and commit to the class, delivery of your final group projects will be during the last two weeks of the semester, freeing you to concentrate on your other finals.

There will be no final written examination test.

However, your final exam time is scheduled for **Saturday May 2 at 4:15pm.**

At that time your short reflection papers related to your final group presentations will be due to be delivered electronically as a PDF upload to Sakai.

Course Calendar

Week One:

Jan. 14 Introduction to course, syllabus, assignments, readings. Screen appropriate subject matter.	Jan. 16 More in depth discussion into New Media – the past decade. Screening.
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Week Two:

Jan. 21 Introduction to Point-Counterpoint Debate, brainstorm subjects to debate	Jan. 23 Continue Point-Counterpoint, form debate teams
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Week Three:

Jan. 28 Point-Counterpoint Debates	Jan. 30 Point-Counterpoint Debates
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Week Four:

Feb. 4 Point-Counterpoint Debates	Feb. 6 Point-Counterpoint Debates
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Week Five:

Feb. 11 Podcasts and other individualized forms of expression and outreach	Feb. 13 1000 Fans and amplification of message
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Week Six:

Feb. 18 Solo Pitches	Feb. 20 Podcasts examples and workday
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Week Seven:

Feb. 25 Podcast Presentations	Feb. 27 Podcast Presentations
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Spring Break March 2-7, no classes.

Week Eight:

Mar. 10 Finally the book and its social subject matter	Mar. 12 Book cont – Final project teams
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Week Nine:

Mar. 17 Final Presentation Team meeting with Instructor	Mar. 19 Final Presentation Team meeting with Instructor
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Week Ten:

Mar. 24 Team Pitches and brainstorm	Mar. 26 Workday
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Week Eleven:

Mar. 31 Workday	Apr. 2 Final Team Presentations
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Week Twelve:

Apr. 7 Final Team Presentations	Apr. 9 Final Team Presentations
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Week Thirteen:

Apr. 14 Final Team Presentations	Apr. 16 Final Team Presentations
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Week Fourteen:

Apr. 21 Final Team Presentations	Apr. 23 Course wrap up
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Week Fifteen:

Finals Week, April 27 to May 2 - no classes scheduled.

Saturday May 2 – Online Submission of Reflection Paper for Final Presentation Due 4:15pm

COURSE CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH NOTIFICATION