

Jour 401-01
Global Communication
Fall 2007
Instructor: Dr. Nishan Havandjian
Office: 21-104A
Office Hours: MW: 11:00am-12:00noon
 W: 2:00-3:00pm
 T: 11:00-12:00noon

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Course Content: Course looks at international communication as practiced by other nations and their media from a holistic approach which takes into consideration a particular country's social, economic, political and cultural specificities. Major international issues and conditions will be discussed and analyzed from the different perspectives of international media.

Course is divided into three parts:

Part I: Looks at the process of international communication; the players in the field, foreign correspondents and the role of cultural values in news reporting; different media ideologies and freedoms around the world; international news flow and concerns of developing countries; electronic media (radio and TV news, motion pictures and documentaries, satellite TV) as international communication reaching out to other cultures.

Part II: Looks at some representative media systems around the world and the current issues which concern them: Britain and France; Israel and the Arab World; Sub Saharan Africa; Latin America.

Part III: Looks at particular international issues that are generating interest or controversy around the world. This part will be your class presentations in a seminar setting. Class will be divided into groups of three. You will receive a separate instruction sheet for the presentations once groups are formed.

A fast breaking major international news event may necessitate some changes in the syllabus.

Class requirements:

Class presentation: 300pts

Final: 300pts. Open book.

Class participation: 300pts.

1. Students will choose a particular country whose media/news they will monitor at least twice a week. Students are expected to bring to each class session an article they have downloaded from the media of the country they have chosen. The article should be recent and not older than 2-4 days. It is up to the students to choose the articles they feel are the most important for the people of that country. The downloaded news should be about that country. For example news about British soldiers in Iraq in the UK press is OK. However, news about presidential elections in France in British press is not OK, unless it is tied to Brit-Fr relations. Students are expected to have read the articles (highlighted) before coming to class. Students will be randomly asked about the event they have chosen and explain it to their classmates. No late articles. You don't have to follow the same event every time nor the same publication, if there is more than one in English. No governmental publications (.gov), no celebrity news.
2. Students will receive several handouts pertaining to global communication issues. There will be a number of written assignments based on those handouts where students will deploy critical analysis to dissect material they have researched to supplement the handouts.
3. Attendance is required of all students. This is a seminar and not a strict lecture class. Your participation and involvement is crucial. You have the right to one unauthorized absence. But if you missed material during that absence, it is up to you to get info from your classmates. Papers cannot be turned late because of that unauthorized absence. Illness excuses require a doctor's concurrence.

Total points: 900pts

Unauthorized absences will result in the deduction of 50 pts from your total for each absence.

A= 860+

B= 780+

C= 680+

D= 620+

No make ups for missed assignments or tests. All work must be turned in on time.

Part I

Weekly Topics:

Sept 17: the importance of international communication in world affairs. Players in the field; round up of international news. English as the global language of communication. Global awareness test. Media ideologies around the world.

Sept 24: Global news flow. Concerns of emerging nations and their efforts to gain access to the world media spectrum. Freedom of the press around the world. Global media examples. Foreign correspondents and cultural norms. Examples of work by foreign correspondents.

Oct 1: War in Iraq: U.S vs. Foreign coverage. Docu: about wounded U.S. soldiers seen from U.S perspective.

Oct 8: international film: reflecting cultural values. International motion picture. Excerpts of representative international movies with emphasis on women's issues.

Oct 15: International radio and TV: trying to capture the heart and mind of the rest of the world. Video clips: examples of global broadcasting.

Part II:

Oct 22: The European media: Issues concerning the British and French media.
Latin American media

Oct 29: African media: refugee and ethnic cleansing issues. AIDS situation.
Documentary: *The Orphans of Nkindla*

The Middle Eastern Dilemma. Conflict and the media. Islam and the West

Part III:

Nov 5: Class presentation, I

Nov 7: Class presentation, II

Nov 14: Class presentation, III

Nov 19: Class presentation, IV

Nov 26: Class presentation, V

Nov 28: Class presentation, VI

Final exam: open book. Includes class discussions, videos, class presentations. You will receive the questions in advance and are expected to turn in your answers no later than the prescribed final time

Since this is a seminar, you are encouraged to voice your opinion at any time. It will count part of your class participation. **Cell phone off please.**