



Introduction to Media Studies

COM 215 – Wesleyan College

Syllabus

Summer 2023, May 29 - June 30

Professor Contact Information

Professor: TBA

Office Hours: by appointment

Contact Information: TBA

Text/ISBN: *Media, Society, Culture, and You: An Introductory Mass Communication Text* by Mark Poepsel

Policies and Procedures

Course Goals

To introduce students to the major theoretical, critical, and methodological approaches to media studies.

Credit Hours

3

Student Learning Outcomes

1. To introduce students to the study of media with a focus on the development of the analytical skills necessary to become knowledgeable media critics, informed media consumers, and successful media practitioners.
2. To understand basic techniques of image analysis, editing, narrative, etc. used in the construction of media texts.
3. To understand the role media play in constructing social reality and cultural meaning.
4. To learn the major schools of thought and methodologies for understanding media and the role of media in society.
5. To understand the nature of digital media and its influence on culture, identity, and society.
6. To develop the analytical skills necessary to critique and analyze a variety of media artifacts in various media platforms and to communicate that analysis in an academically sound and rigorous manner.



Participation and Grading

Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance in the following categories:

Assignments	Percentage
Discussions	25%
Activities	20%
Assignments	30%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

The grading scale in the class will be as follows:

- A=90-100%
- B=80-89%
- C=70-79%
- D=60-69%
- F=59% And Below

You may track your running point total throughout the term via our course site. Please be aware, however, that the course grade you see in the site will reflect only assignments and activities you have already completed and that your professor has graded.

Academic Integrity

Wesleyan's College expects student to show integrity in all of their work. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, inventing or falsifying information, turning in work for more than one class without authorization, or helping someone else are all violations of the Honor Code and are not tolerated. Any of these forms of cheating will not be tolerated and will be grounds for a grade of zero on the exam or assignment and a grade of F for the course, in addition to any penalties imposed by the Provost.

Potential Changes to Course Schedule

The following week-to-week schedule is a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary and will be announced in advance via announcement and/or e-mail. Students should check their course site announcements and emails at least once every twenty-four hours throughout the term to watch for updates regarding this course.



Course Schedule

Week 1

Chapter 1 Media, Society, Culture, and You
Chapter 2 Digital Culture and Social Media

Week 2

Chapter 3 Media Literacy and Media Studies Research
Chapter 4 Film and Bricolage

Week 3

Chapter 5 Television through Time
Chapter 6 Music Recording, "Sharing" and the Information Economy

Week 4

Chapter 7 Radio Broadcasting, Podcasting and "Superbug Media"
Chapter 8 Digital Gaming

Week 5

Chapter 9 Newspapers and Digital News
Chapter 10 Advertising, Public Relations and Propaganda

Civility in the Academic Community

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to treat one another with respect in all interactions both during class meetings and on the Moodle course site. Rude, disruptive and/or disrespectful behaviors as determined by a faculty member interfere with other students' rights and with the professor's ability to teach. Therefore, any student exhibiting unacceptable behaviors during a class meeting or Moodle collaborative activity will be asked to leave and will be counted absent for that class period or activity. Failure to cooperate with this process will result in disciplinary action that may include withdrawal from the class or dismissal from the College. Violations will be reported to the Provost.

Disabilities Statement

Wesleyan College is committed to equal education, full participation and access to facilities for all students. Any student who requires reasonable academic accommodations, use of auxiliary aids or facility access for a class must first register with Disability Resources by contacting Jill Amos, Director of Disability and Advocacy Services, jamos@wesleyancollege.edu or (478) 757-5219. If reasonable accommodations are established, students should request Accommodation Letters from Disability Resources then schedule an appointment to meet with the professor to determine how the accommodations will be implemented for each class as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations require advance notice to implement and will not be retroactively administered for the semester. Accommodations that decrease the integrity of a course will not be approved.



Privacy in Teaching & Learning Spaces

In order to promote an environment in which ideas may be freely expressed, the interior offices; in-person and virtual classrooms; and Moodle course sites at Wesleyan are private spaces. The unauthorized creation of photographic images, audio recordings, or video recordings of students or faculty in these spaces is considered to be disruptive behavior which may result in a student's removal from class according to the professor's discretion. The distribution of unauthorized images or recordings, or of class meeting recordings shared by a professor for instructional purposes, without the express written permission of the College is strictly prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action by the Provost of the College.