Current Issues of Mass Media
Faculty of Journalism,
Lomonosov Moscow State University
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Course Features
- Entire course conducted in English
- Lectures and seminars delivered by influential scholars from around the world
- Provides students with an understanding of the functions of mass media in society

Main Topics
- Media and Journalism Studies
- Communication Theories
- Mass Communication and Mass Culture
- Normative Theories of Mass Media
- Globalization and Media
- Media Effects
- Sociocultural Effects
- Journalism and Public Opinion
- Role and Functions of Journalists
- Intercultural Communication
- International Communication
- Media Regulation
- Media Sociology
- Media Psychology
- Regional Studies

Course Description

Current Issues of Mass Media is a Master's level course offered in Semesters II and III aimed at introducing students to the variety of approaches, standpoints, and diverse theoretical and practical experiences of scholars all over the world working in the sphere of media and communications.

The course was offered for the first time in 2011. Since then, numerous academics and practitioners from more than twenty countries have visited the Faculty of Journalism to give lectures in the Current Issues of Mass Media course. Students gain fresh perspectives on global tendencies in media and journalism studies, learn about the transformation of media landscapes in different countries in the 20th and 21st centuries, and analyze the challenges and opportunities facing mass media today.

All lectures and seminars in the Current Issues of Mass Media course are conducted in English.

Contacts

If you have any questions regarding the Current Issues of Mass Media course, please contact the course coordinator, Dr. Anna Gladkova, Director of the Office of International Affairs

Faculty of Journalism
Lomonosov Moscow State University
125009, 9 Mokhovaya Street, Room 107

Tel. +7 (495) 629 52 76
Fax +7 (495) 629 49 54
E-mail: gladkova_a@list.ru
Speakers in 2018

Nicolas Turenne (France)
Nicolas Turenne has doctoral degree in computer science. He is a researcher at INRA (National Institute of Agricultural Research) in the Interdisciplinary Laboratory of Science Innovation Societies at the University of Paris-Est. He specializes in extracting and managing knowledge from texts using stochastic and relational models. He is also co-editor-in-chief of the journal Open Acess JDMDH (Journal of Data Mining & Digital Humanities).

Lecture ‘Text mining. From automatic text analysis to knowledge’ (February 2018)

Lev Manovich (USA)
Lev Manovich is Professor at The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY) and Director of Cultural Analytics Lab. He is also Director of Cultural Trends Lab, University of Tyumen (Russia). Besides that, Professor Manovich works as Research Scientist at University of California, San Diego (UCSD), Professor of Cultural Analytics at European Graduate School (EGS) and Faculty member at Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture, and Design Moscow. He authored many books and research articles in English, Russian and many other languages, including ‘The Language of New Media’, ‘Software Takes Command’, ‘Instagram and Contemporary Image’, ‘AI Aesthetics’, etc.

Lecture ‘How to see one billion images? Using computer vision, data visualization and artificial intelligence to analyze user-generated media’ (March 2018)

Vladimir Bacisin (Slovakia)
Vladimir Bacisin has PhD in economic forecasting. During his academic career Dr. Bacisin gave lectures in Slovakia, Russia, Ukraine, Sri Lanka, Great Britain. He authored five monographs, 270 papers, and more than 5000 press articles. Dr. Bacisin is also the founder of ‘Investor’ monthly journal. He is a visiting professor at Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, a member of the Banking Rehabilitation on Commission under the Government of Slovakia, and a Chairman adviser of the Export Import Bank.

Lecture ‘How to write about finances’ (March 2018)
Branko Tosovic (Serbia)

Branko Tosovic is Professor Emeritus at the Institute for Slavic Studies, University of Graz. His research interests include grammar, stylistics, general and comparative linguistics, correlations between various Slavic languages, Internet discourse and many other topics. Professor Tosovic authored many research articles and books, which were published in all Slavic countries, and also in Austria, Germany and Japan. In 2000, he founded the Slavic linguistic portal ‘Gralis’ which contains a number of monolingual and multilingual corpuses (Gralis-Korpus) together with several online programs for those studying Slavic languages.

Lecture ‘Current state of Internet stylistics’ (March 2018)

Sabine Fischer (Germany)

Sabine Fischer is Professor at the University of Arts Berlin / University of St. Gallen, the University of Art and Design in Basel and at the School of Design in Bern. She is often invited to give guest lectures in universities abroad. She works as a Science Adviser for University of Applied Sciences Berlin, the Macromedia University of Applied Sciences in Munich and the School for Political Design. She studies idea design, digital transformation and economy dynamics.

Lecture ‘Idea design. The idea of an idea’ (March 2018)

Massimo Ragnedda (UK)

Massimo Ragnedda is Senior Lecturer at Northumbria University Newcastle. Prior to joining the University of Northumbria, he worked at the University of Sassari (Italy) from 2006 to 2012 as a lecturer and supervisor for research. He teaches Mass Communications and specializes in a number of fields, including digital divide and digital media studies. Dr. Ragnedda is also co-vice chair of the Digital Divide Working Group at IAMCR which aims at contributing to theoretical understanding of inequality in access to information and media in the new digital environment. He authored and edited ten books, including ‘The Digital Divide: The Internet and Social Inequality in International Perspective’, ‘The Third Digital Divide: A Weberian Approach to Digital Inequalities’, ‘Digital Inclusion: An International Comparative Analysis’, as well as numerous articles in English, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese.

Lecture ‘Three levels of the digital divide’ (April 2018)
 Speakers in 2018

Pal Tamas (Hungary)
Pal Tamas is a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Professor and Director of the Center on Social Politics at Corvinus University of Budapest, Honorary Professor of the Faculty of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University. He is a specialist in the field of social transformations in post-Soviet countries. He was invited as a visiting professor to Cambridge University, Wesleyan University, Concordia University, and the British Academy for the Humanities and Social Sciences in London. Professor Tamas is an honorary doctor at the Russian Academy of Sciences.

*Lecture ‘Current issues of the society development’ (April 2018)*

Anne van Marsenille (Belgium)
Anne van Marsenille is Professor at IHECS institute in Brussels. She teaches intercultural and organizational communication, and also leads courses on informal learning of the English and Dutch languages in Brussels. Her studies are focused primarily on intercultural communication and methodology of language learning.

*Lecture ‘Intercultural communication: Comparative lines between Russia and Belgium’ (April 2018)*

Gregory Simons (Sweden)
Gregory Simons is Associate Professor based at the Institute for Russian Studies, Uppsala University. He gives guest lectures and delivers special courses on topics such as Russian mass media; terrorism; public diplomacy; the relationship between politics, information and armed conflict; and crisis management. At the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University Professor Simons teaches an undergraduate course in English on Mass Media and Contemporary Armed Conflict. Besides that, he also teaches at the Department of Communication Sciences at Turiba University in Riga.

*Lecture ‘Mass media coverage of Russia as a moral panic’ (April 2018)*

Salla Nazarenko (Finland)
Salla Nazarenko is Master of Social Sciences and Executive Director at ‘Physicians for Social Responsibility’, Helsinki. She has rich practical experience working as Executive Director and Project Leader for Finnish Foundation for Media, Institute for War and Peace Reporting, as well as other international projects in different years. Her research interests include propaganda and Eastern European studies.

*Lecture ‘Patriotism in TV journalism in Georgia and Russia’ (May 2018)*
Rafael Carrion Arias (Spain)

Rafael Carrion Arias works at the Department of Philosophy of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He has taught and researched at the Department of General Linguistics and Theory of Literature of the University of Granada, and before at the Faculty of Philosophy of the UNED (Madrid) as a co-translator in the Spanish edition of the complete works of F. Nietzsche. He has collaborated in Moscow with the Institute of International Literature M. Gorki (Russian Academy of Sciences) and in Berlin with the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften in the critical edition of Marx and Engels works. He is also an associated researcher at the Centre Marc Bloch/Humboldt Universität zu Berlin.

*Lecture ‘The problem of digital piracy: A critical approach’ (May 2018)*

Michael Meyen (Germany)

Michael Meyen is Professor in the Institute for Communication on Science and Media Research at the Ludwig-Maxmillians-University Munich. In 1990s, he started his career as a journalist. In 2001, Professor Meyen defended postdoctoral dissertation at the University of Leipzig entitled ‘Usage and image of the daily media in Germany in the 1950s’. In 2015, he developed and founded the DGPUK newsletter (German Association of Communication on Science). His research interests include media freedom, media systems, media discourses, the history of media and communication, and the history of communication research.

*Lecture ‘Media freedom: Journalists’ autonomy around the globe. An empirical study of 46 media systems’ (October 2018)*

Harrie Kiekebosch (The Netherlands)

Harrie Kiekebosch is lecturer in journalism and researcher in ‘Smart Cities’ research group, Saxion University of Applied Sciences. Since 1980s, he has been working for different newspapers, radio and TV channels as a journalist. In 2006, he started his own digital news platform, a startup which he sold in 2016 to De Persgroep. The research group Kiekebosch currently works for is now finalizing a research on how communication between government and the society can be improved in the digital world.

*Lecture ‘How to involve the society in choosing content, how to use their knowledge and how to inform and inspire them to take part in the life of their own society’ (October 2018)*
Owen V. Johnson (USA)

Owen V. Johnson is Associate Professor at the Indiana University, School of Journalism. He is a specialist on Central and East European media history and on topics in U.S. journalism history including World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle and the historical development of the college press. Dr. Johnson is co-author of 'Eastern European Journalism: Past, Present and Future'. He also published ‘Slovakia 1918-1938: Education and the Making of a Nation’ and numerous articles in ‘Journalism Quarterly’, ‘Journalism History’, ‘Journalism Educator’, ‘Studies on East European Social History’, and other books and journals on mass media and sociocultural development in Russia and Eastern Europe, as well as articles on journalism history in the United States.

Lecture ‘A historical perspective on digital transformation of the mass media’ (October 2018)

Philip Seib (USA)

Philip Seib is a Professor of journalism and public diplomacy and Professor of international relations at USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. He served from 2009–2013 as director of USC’s Center on Public Diplomacy and as vice dean of USC’s Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism 2015–2016. He is author or editor of numerous books, including ‘Headline Diplomacy’; ‘New Media and the New Middle East’; ‘The Al Jazeera Effect’; ‘Toward A New Public Diplomacy’; ‘Global Terrorism and New Media’; ‘Al Jazeera English’; ‘Real-Time Diplomacy’; ‘The Future of Diplomacy’; and ‘As Terrorism Evolves’. He is editor of a book series on international political communication, co-editor of a series on global public diplomacy, and was a founding co-editor of the journal Media, War & Conflict.

(October 2018)

Jean-Claude Soulages (France)

Jean-Claude Soulages is Professor at the Department of Information and Communication Sciences at the University Lumier Lyon 2 (ICOM) and researcher at the Center Max Weber UMR 5283. His research concerns the construction of identities (national, social, gender, etc.) on mass media, in advertising discourse and digital news media in connection with social imaginaries. Professor Soulages is responsible for the current research project JADN (Journalism at the time of the digital technology) which involves various universities (Curitiba, Lyon, Bordeaux, Beirut). The project is funded by the Institute of the complex systems Rhône-Alpes, and aims at studying four editions of ‘Huffington Post’ (France, Brazil, USA, Lebanon) in their regional contexts.

Lecture ‘New context in mass communication. Disruptions and convergences in the digital world’ (December 2018)
Lectures in 2018
Interest from the students, good atmosphere, many questions – everything was amazing!

Anne Van Marsenille (Belgium)

It was quite fascinating to have students from all over the world in my class. Russians and Chinese, of course, but also students from the Netherlands and even from my home town Munich. In this class, students do not just learn from the lecturers but from one another, too.

Michael Meyen (Germany)

It was interesting to experience a truly international atmosphere: most of the students were from Russia, Asia or other parts of the world. The Faculty of Journalism team organized everything just perfectly and things worked out well. Some students came over afterwards and we had a brief chat about the contents of the lecture. It was a rewarding experience.

Salla Nazarenko (Finland)

I am glad that in the last few years I had an opportunity to give lectures in the building of the Faculty of Journalism, where I was working as a teacher of Serbo-Croatian language from 1985 to 1988. I am pleased to know that some of my students have achieved very notable results in their careers as journalists

Branko Tosovic (Serbia)

My lecture was followed by very interesting questions from the students. I felt very welcomed at the Faculty of Journalism, and I hope to develop collaboration between our institutions in the future.

Jean-Claude Soulages (France)
The Faculty of Journalism gives a unique opportunity to learn about mass media in different countries. Moreover, the course helps to improve your English skills and learn some special terminology which is very important if you want to be a part of international academic community.

Ivan Fedorov, student

You need to have a broad outlook to become a good journalist. From this point of view, ‘Current Issues of Mass Media’ course is a good opportunity to learn not only about the theory of communication, but also about lifestyles and mentality of people from different countries.

Galina Shilova, student

The lectures within the course were so interactive, creative and bright! Teachers from all over the world presented their approaches and ideas that were amazing and even provocative sometimes. I learned a lot about the role of mass media in different countries and some similarities with Russian media.

Anna Dobrova, student

During the course we covered a wide range of topics, from the history of media to the digital divide in modern societies. I feel more motivated to write my MA thesis now.

Elena Dugina, student
Dr. Anna Gladkova works at the Faculty of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University. Dr. Gladkova holds the position of Senior Researcher at the Chair of Media Theory and Economics. In 2012, she successfully defended her PhD thesis and published over 40 academic articles in Russian and international academic journals since then. Besides her work as Senior Researcher, Dr. Gladkova holds the position of Director of the Office of International Affairs at the Faculty of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University (since 2014). In 2014, she was awarded ‘Russian International Education Administrators’ grant from Fulbright. Dr. Gladkova is also Executive Editor of the academic journal ‘World of Media. Journal of Russian Media and Journalism Studies’ (since 2012), co-author and co-teacher of several lecture courses conducted in English and co-vice chair of the Digital Divide Working Group in IAMCR (since 2016).

Ivan Aslanov is a degree seeking student at the Faculty of Journalism, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia. He graduated from the Baltic Federal University at 2014 (specialist degree in journalism). His research field includes internet cultures, language of internet communication studies and methodology of media research. He is affiliated a Chair of Sociology of Mass Communication and certified as teacher and mass media researcher (thesis topic: “Texts of network communication as manifestation of mass consciousness”).