



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	CMNS 253	Course Title	Introduction to Information and Communications Technology and New Media			
Credit Value	3	Department	Social Sciences			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Total
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	This course explores developments in the use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) in digital media. Much more than simple tools that facilitate our use of media platforms, ICTs are now distinct spaces in which part of our lives take place. This course critically analyzes the cultural, economic, political, and social shifts related to our use of technology as well as our understanding of its nature. Students will employ different methods, as well as critiques, of the use of news and social media platforms in order to strengthen a holistic approach to new media in the digital context. Social issues that arise from the use of technology will also be discussed.					
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 100, CMNS 110, CMNS 130 is recommended					
Initial Articulation Targets	UBC	SFU	UVic	UNBC	TRU	
	ARTS 2 nd (3)	CMNS 253 (3)	SOSC 2XX (1.5)	ENGL 1XX (3)	CMNS 2XXX (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the history of technologies of communication • Evaluate the Canadian and global social dynamics that shape mediated communication in the Canadian context and abroad • Assess specific digital communications platforms and dynamics to understand their social impact • Interpret the relationship between different agents in digital media and the meaning of their interactions to the development of technology • Apply understandings of ICT and New Media to create meaningful projects using digital media 					
Content	<p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital media and the information society • History of digital media and the internet • Information and online circulation dynamics • The hybrid media system and the connected society • Media contradictions in the digital world (convergence and deconvergence) • Innovation, disruption, and intellectual property • Online labour and the platformization of business 					



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital media and social issues (including how social media is used to influence populations) Surveillance, censorship, and ICTs <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p>		
Methods of Instruction	Lectures, class debate and discussions, audiovisual presentations, small groups working in online platforms, regular critical reflections on media they consume applying concepts from the course, individual work on academic assignments.		
Required Textbook(s)	<p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Poepsel, M. (2017). Media, society, culture, and you. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. https://press.rebus.community/mscy/front-matter/overview/</p>		
Required Equipment and Technology	<p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office 365 Student email 		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	In-Class Activities and Debates	5-15%	
	Reflective journal of media consumption	10-15%	
	Multimedia activity (news podcast)	10-20%	
	Midterm examination	15-25%	
	Paper	15-25%	
Final examination	20-25%		
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	Caio Cardoso, Ph.D., Alexander College	Consultant(s), if applicable	Samantha May, Ph.D., Department Head of Social Sciences, Alexander College
Dean's Approval	Barbara Moon, Ph.D., Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	February 17, 2021
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	February 17, 2021	First Term Offered	Fall 2021
Last Review Date	February 17, 2021	Next Review Date	February 17, 2026
Revision History	September 1, 2024 – English prerequisite increased to ENGL 100, effective Fall 2024		



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