The NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication (MCC) is at the forefront of innovative scholarship and teaching in the study of global media and culture, digital media and new technologies, media history, visual culture, sound studies, network studies, and political communication.

In the rapidly changing landscape of digital media, mobile platforms, and global cultural flows, the study of media, culture, and communication is crucial to understanding and navigating an increasingly connected world. MCC’s faculty aim to equip students with a set of analytical and theoretical tools by which they can engage with ideas in their full complexity.

New York City is the University’s lab, but its horizons extend globally. MCC coursework is designed so that students can immerse themselves in the vibrant life of the city with opportunities to study abroad, if they so choose. Internships also help master’s students gain a foothold in a diverse range of media industries.
Faculty


Finn Brunton, Assistant Professor. B.A. 2002, UC Berkeley; M.A. 2006, Saas-Fee (Switzerland); Ph.D. 2009, Aberdeen (U.K.).

Lily Chumley, Assistant Professor. B.A. 2002, Reed College; Ph.D. 2011, University of Chicago.


JoEllen Fisherkeller, Associate Professor. B.A. 1985, California (San Diego); M.A. 1987, Ph.D. 1995, California (Berkeley).


Radha S. Hegde, Associate Professor. B.A. 1973, Madras (India); M.A 1975, Delhi (India); M.A. 1977, Ph.D. 1991, Ohio State.


Ted Magder, Associate Professor. B.A. 1982, Toronto; M.A. 1983, Carleton (Canada); Ph.D. 1988, York (Canada).


Helen Nissenbaum, Professor; Senior Faculty Fellow of the Information Law Institute. B.A. 1975, Witwatersrand (South Africa); M.A. 1978, Ph.D. 1983, Stanford.


Arvind Rajagopal, Professor. B.E. 1981, Madras (India); M.A. 1984, Kentucky; Ph.D. 1992, California (Berkeley).


Nicole Starosielski, Assistant Professor. B.A. 2005, University of Southern California; M.A. 2008, Ph.D. 2010, California (Santa Barbara).

Marita Sturken, Professor. B.A. 1979, Visual Studies Workshop; Ph.D. 1992, California (Santa Cruz).


Aurora Wallace, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Clinical Associate Professor. B.A. 1992, Carleton (Canada); M.A. 1994, Ph.D. 2000, McGill.
Media, Culture, and Communication

Master of Arts Program in Media, Culture, and Communication

The M.A. in Media, Culture, and Communication is an interdisciplinary program designed to expose students to media studies, cultural studies, and communication. The program is a rigorous engagement with contemporary theory and key debates in communication, media studies, and related fields of study such as Global and Transcultural Studies, Technology and Society, Visual Culture and Cultural Studies, Persuasion and Politics, and Interaction and Social Processes. The curriculum is flexible, allowing electives by advisement from across the University. Master’s students participate in academic conferences, study abroad, and practical fieldwork such as internships. The department has a robust list of internship partners and is dedicated to building relationships with professional organizations in New York City and beyond.

Dual-Degree Program in Media and Library Science

The department has partnered with Long Island University’s Palmer School to offer a dual-degree program in media and library science. In addition to an M.A. in Media, Culture, and Communication, students can earn an ALA-accredited Master of Science in Library and Information Science (M.S.L.I.S.). The program combines the rigorous study of critical theory with professional qualification to give graduates a competitive edge in the evolving fields of information science, digital humanities, curatorial studies, and data archiving.

This new 55-credit M.A./M.S.L.I.S. prepares students for highly sought-after positions as subject specialists/scholar-librarians in academic and research institutions or as archivists in libraries, media companies, museums, and other cultural institutions. Dual degree students take 17 fewer credits than would be required if they pursued each master’s separately.

Ph.D. Program in Media, Culture, and Communication

The doctoral program faculty is committed to interdisciplinary, theoretically sophisticated, multi-methodological, historical, and international comparative approaches to the study of media and culture. The program offers five overlap

ping and interrelated research areas that operate as guiding frameworks for intellectual inquiry and collaborative work across the department. Students are encouraged to take advantage of course offerings across all five areas: Global and Transcultural Studies, Technology and Society, Visual Culture and Sound Studies, Media Institutions and Politics, and Critical Theories of Media and Communication.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Trained to think analytically, Media, Culture, and Communication M.A. alumni are positioned to meet the challenges brought by changing technologies and systems of communication. They work in public policy, research, higher education, nonprofits, museums, marketing, public relations, social media, among other fields. Some students go on to doctoral study, law school, or business school.

Ph.D. graduates have assumed full-time academic positions at Carleton (Canada), CUNY, Drexel, Fordham, Hamilton, Manhattan Marymount, Michigan Technological University, NYU, The New School, Northeastern, Princeton, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Washington. Recent graduates have also taken postdoctoral fellowships at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Rutgers’ Center for Cultural Analysis, and Microsoft Research New England.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The M.A. degree program requires a minimum of 36 units. Program Requirements (8 units): Seminar in Media, Culture, and Communication MCCC-GE.2001 and one research course. Program Electives (16–20 units, with a minimum of 12 units in a specialization area). Electives (8–12 units): courses outside the department and internship credit. Culminating Experience (0–4 units): M.A. thesis, comprehensive exam, or professional writing course. Students must take a minimum of 18 units at the 2000 level in residence.

Students in the dual-degree program transfer nine NYU credits to Palmer LIU and eight Palmer credits to NYU in order to complete the required credits for the two degrees.

In addition, there are two tracks for dual-degree students: Mentorship and Internship.

The Mentorship Track includes a 160-hour mentoring arrangement in which subject specialists from NYU Libraries work with candidates to introduce them to the requirements of the field, offering the opportunity for hands-on experience within a theoretical framework. The program’s core is a series of required modules, which include Reference/Instruction, Collection Development, Digital Scholarship and Professional Development.

The Internship Track is designed for those students who are not focused on careers as subject librarians in research libraries. Their interests may lie in activities connected to archives, media entities, museums, or similar institutions. This track includes a series of internships totaling 160 hours in which students work with trained library professionals in libraries or institutions in the New York Metropolitan area that reflect their future career goals.

Two years of full-time coursework beyond a master’s degree or the equivalent is required. Students move quickly toward pursuing their dissertation research in the third year of study, accompanied by teaching and research opportunities that will help prepare them for academic positions in the fields of media studies, cultural studies, communication, and related disciplines.

The Ph.D. program requires 48 units of coursework for students with a master’s degree; 54 units are required for those admitted only with a bachelor’s degree. Core courses must be taken in sequence: Doctoral Core Seminar I MCC-GE.3100 (4 units, first year); Doctoral Core Seminar II MCC-GE.3200 (4 units, first year); Introduction to Communication Research MCC-GE.3101 (4 units, first or second year); Dissertation Proposal Seminar MCC-GE.3201 (1 unit, third year). Doctoral Research Colloquium MCC-GE.3400 is offered each term. Remaining courses are scheduled by advisement, including specialized elective courses inside the department (8–10 units); research and methods electives inside or outside the department (14–16 units); and theoretical or disciplinary foundational study outside the department (12 units). A minimum of 12 units from these remaining courses must be taken inside the department.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Prospective M.A. students must submit two letters of recommendation and scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in addition to meeting the Steinhardt School general admissions requirements for master’s-level study.

Prospective students interested in the dual degree program at NYU and LIU must apply separately for admission to each school. Students already enrolled in the Media, Culture, and Communication M.A. program must declare their intention to enroll in the dual degree program before completing 12 credits. Students already enrolled in the M.S.I.S. program at Palmer may apply for the MCC dual degree program as long as they have completed no more than 6 credits by the time they enter the program. Students already enrolled in either the Palmer School or NYU should consult with their advisor before submitting an application.

Requirements for the doctoral program include submission of a curriculum vitae; a statement of purpose essay; a master’s thesis or other writing sample offering evidence of sustained intellectual inquiry and research; transcripts, GRE scores; and three letters of recommendation. For both M.A. and Ph.D. applications, international students whose native language is not English or who did not receive a bachelor’s degree at an English-speaking college or university must also submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores.

See general admission section, page 167.

FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES
The Department of Media, Culture, and Communication offers all admitted doctoral students a complete funding and mentoring program. The Steinhardt Fellows program is designed to help Ph.D. students undertake full-time study and research, to participate in superior academic and scholarly experiences, and to complete their studies in a timely manner.

The department’s financial package for Ph.D. students includes funding and teaching opportunities sufficient to cover tuition and fees, health insurance, and an annual stipend for a five-year period. For further details, please visit steinhardt.nyu.edu/mcc/doctoral/funding. Students are expected to maintain satisfactory progress toward their degree completion and to achieve a set of benchmarks in their trajectory through the program in order to receive funding.

See general financial aid section, page 167.

RESEARCH FUNDING
Graduate students may apply for department funding to participate in academic conferences. Applications are available on the department website. Below are select opportunities for funding:

The LeBoff Fellowship
The Phyllis and Gerald LeBoff Doctoral Fellowship is designed to attract and foster exceptional talent. The faculty designate one student to be the LeBoff Fellow at the time of admission. All applicants to the Ph.D. program in Media, Culture, and Communication (MCCD) who submit an application for admission are automatically considered for this funding. No scholarship application is required.

LeBoff Research Fund
The Phyllis and Gerald LeBoff Research Fund provides support to doctoral students for dissertation research. Students who have successfully defended their dissertation proposals can apply; funding is available for travel, supplies or services.

Mitchell Leaska Scholarship for Master’s Students
This award honors the legacy of Mitchell Leaska, a distinguished professor at NYU Steinhardt for nearly 40 years. Media, Culture, and Communication master’s students are eligible to apply for funds to support the preparation and presentation of original scholarly work at conferences. Additionally, there are a variety of councils and working groups around the University that hold funding competitions.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Students attend special events throughout the year and are invited to present their original research at the department’s annual Neil Postman Graduate Conference. Internships in a wide array of media and communication positions are available to master’s students through the department’s online internship database. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the full academic and professional resources of the University and metropolitan area.

The University and department offer graduate summer and January internships abroad programs to explore globalization, global visual culture, and media and culture in other countries. Locations have included Amsterdam, Beijing, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, London, Paris, Prague, and Shanghai. These courses typically examine the social, economic, political, and cultural implications of global media and culture in relation to the site of study. Courses integrate lectures, seminars, and site visits and deploy a comparative approach. Courses vary year to year. Recent topics have included Transnational Communities and Media Cultures (London); Visual Culture and the Politics of Memory (Buenos Aires); Censorship, Social Movements and Alternative Media (Paris); and Global Food Cultures (Hong Kong).

Please be advised that licensing agencies and fieldwork placement facilities in your field of study may require that you undergo a criminal background check, the results of which the agency or facility must find acceptable prior to placement or licensure.
Courses

The courses listed herein are to be offered in 2013–2015.

NOTES TO COURSES
1Pass/fail basis.

MEDIA, CULTURE, AND COMMUNICATION/MCC-GE

Seminar in Media, Culture, and Communication
MCC-GE.2001 40 hours: 4 units. Fall.

The Psychic Life of Media: History and Theory
MCC-GE.2005 40 hours: 4 units.

Censorship in American Culture
MCC-GE.2010 40 hours: 4 units.

Amateur Media
MCC-GE.2024 40 hours: 4 units.

Race and Media
MCC-GE.2025 40 hours: 4 units.

Media and the Environment
MCC-GE.2027 40 hours: 4 units.

Architecture as Media
MCC-GE.2030 40 hours: 4 units.

Seminar in Media Criticism I and II
MCC-GE.2100, 2101 40 hours: 4 units each term.

The Politics of the Gaze: Sensory Formations of Modernity
MCC-GE.2112 40 hours: 4 units.

Advanced Issues in Nonverbal Communication
MCC-GE.2115 40 hours: 4 units.

Media Policy and Regulation
MCC-GE.2120 40 hours: 4 units.

Evolution of Technology
MCC-GE.2125 40 hours: 4 units.

New Media Research Studio
MCC-GE.2129 40 hours: 4 units.

Topics in Digital Media
MCC-GE.2130 40 hours: 4 units.

Game Studies
MCC-GE.2131 40 hours: 4 units.

Visions and Revisions of Cyberspace
MCC-GE.2132 40 hours: 4 units.

Digital Media and Materiality
MCC-GE.2133 40 hours: 4 units.

Media Archaeology
MCC-GE.2134 40 hours: 4 units.

Media, Memory, and History
MCC-GE.2135 40 hours: 4 units.

War and Media Theory
MCC-GE.2136 40 hours: 4 units.

Politics of Digital Media
MCC-GE.2138 40 hours: 4 units.

Issues in Organizational Communication
MCC-GE.2140 40 hours: 4 units.

The Cultural Analysis of Design
MCC-GE.2143 40 hours: 4 units.

Methods in Interpreting Popular Culture
MCC-GE.2145 40 hours: 4 units.

The Sitcom
MCC-GE.2146 40 hours: 4 units.

Reality and Documentary TV
MCC-GE.2147 40 hours: 4 units.

The Television Business
MCC-GE.2148 40 hours: 4 units.

Cultural History of Television
MCC-GE.2149 40 hours: 4 units.

Origins of Modern Media: 1880–1950
MCC-GE.2150 40 hours: 4 units.

Media Activism
MCC-GE.2153 40 hours: 4 units.

Activist Art and Creative Activism
MCC-GE.2155 40 hours: 4 units.

The Communications Revolution and Culture in America
MCC-GE.2157 40 hours: 4 units.

Transnational Communities and Media Culture
MCC-GE.2165 40 hours: 4 units.

The Global City and Media
Ethnography: Practice-Led Media Research
MCC-GE.2166 40 hours: 4 units.

Transnational Media Flows
MCC-GE.2167 40 hours: 4 units.

Globalization, Memory, and Visual Culture
MCC-GE.2169 40 hours: 4 units.

Communication and Persuasion:
Film Classics of Propaganda
MCC-GE.2170 40 hours: 4 units.

Screening History: The Construction of American History in Hollywood Films
MCC-GE.2171 40 hours: 4 unit.

Research for Communication Professionals
MCC-GE.2173 40 hours: 4 units.

Professional Writing and Research Applications
MCC-GE.2174 Variable Credit: 1–4 units.

Political Communication
MCC-GE.2175 40 hours: 4 units.

Communication Processes: Gender, Race, and Cultural Identity
MCC-GE.2182 Borisoft. 40 hours: 4 units.

Comparative Media Systems
MCC-GE.2184 40 hours: 4 units.

Critical Issues in Conflict Resolution
MCC-GE.2185 40 hours: 4 units.

The Languages of Communication: From Cave Painting to Print
MCC-GE.2190 40 hours: 4 units.

Print, Media, and Modernity
MCC-GE.2191 40 hours: 4 units.

Media Events and Spectacle
MCC-GE.2200 40 hours: 4 units.
Courses, continued

Mediating the Bio-Political Body
MCC-GE.2201 40 hours: 4 units.

Public Sphere Formation
MCC-GE.2202 40 hours: 4 units.

Global Media and International Law
MCC-GE.2204 40 hours: 4 units.

Dis/ability Studies: Art, Media, Philosophy
MCC-GE.2206 40 hours: 4 units.

Globalization and Gender
MCC-GE.2210 40 hours: 4 units.

Decolonization and Its Aftermath
MCC-GE.2211 40 hours: 4 units.

History of Consumer Culture
MCC-GE.2215 40 hours: 4 units.

Communication and the Culture Industries
MCC-GE.2220 40 hours: 4 units.

World Communication: Principles, Politics, and Law
MCC-GE.2225 40 hours: 4 units.

Contemporary Theory and Research in Globalization
MCC-GE.2229 40 hours: 4 units.

Language and Culture
MCC-GE.2232 40 hours: 4 units.

Internship: Communication Studies
MCC-GE.2235 40 hours: 1-4 units.

Communication Environments: Macroanalysis
MCC-GE.2251 40 hours: 4 units.

Communication and Persuasion: Sociological Propaganda
MCC-GE.2265 40 hours: 4 units.

Communication and Political Propaganda
MCC-GE.2270 40 hours: 4 units.

Middle East Media and Cultural Politics
MCC-GE.2275 40 hours: 4 units.

Internet 2: Explorations in Performance and Communication
MCC-GE.2280 40 hours: 4 units.

Information, Law, and Policy
MCC-GE.2282 40 hours: 4 units.

Religion and Media
MCC-GE.2284 40 hours: 4 units.

Integrating Media Education in School and Community Work
MCC-GE.2285 40 hours: 4 units.

Young People and Media Cultures
MCC-GE.2286 40 hours: 4 units.

Global Youth Media
MCC-GE.2287 40 hours: 4 units.

Interpersonal Communication
MCC-GE.2290 40 hours: 4 units.

Values Embodied in Information and Communication
MCC-GE.2295 40 hours: 4 units.

Independent Study
MCC-GE.2300 Variable credit: 1-4 units.

Global Media and International Law
MCC-GE.2304 40 hours: 4 units.

Internet Governance
MCC-GE.2305 40 hours: 4 units.

Sound Studies
MCC-GE.2310 40 hours: 4 units. Social Life of Paper
MCC-GE.2344 40 hours: 4 units. Global Food Cultures
MCC-GE.2351 40 hours: 4 units.

Topics in Globalization
MCC-GE.2380 40 hours: 4 units.

Global Consumer Culture
MCC-GE.2381 40 hours: 4 units.

International Development
MCC-GE.2382 40 hours: 4 units.

Censorship, Social Movements and Alternative Media
MCC-GE.2383 40 hours: 4 units.

Media and Cultural Globalization in France
MCC-GE.2384 40 hours: 1 unit.

Topics in Visual Culture and Cultural Studies
MCC-GE.2400 40 hours: 4 units.

Visuality and Modernity
MCC-GE.2401 40 hours: 4 units.

Political History of Visual Display and Representation
MCC-GE.2402 40 hours: 4 units.

Visuality and Globalization
MCC-GE.2403 40 hours: 4 units.

Modernity and Climate Change
MCC-GE.2404 40 hours: 4 units.

Communism and The Cold War
MCC-GE.2405 40 hours: 4 units.

Semiotics
MCC-GE.2406 40 hours: 4 units.

Visual Culture Methods
MCC-GE.2420 40 hours: 4 units.

Research in Visual Culture
MCC-GE.2422 40 hours: 4 units.

Video Game Theory
MCC-GE.2450 40 hours: 4 units.

Biz Lab: Business & Economics of the Video Game Industry
MCC-GE.2451 40 hours: 4 unit.

Thesis in Media, Culture, and Communication
MCC-GE.2900 Variable credit: 0–4 units.
### Doctoral Courses

**Special Topics in Critical Theory**  
MCC-GE.3010 40 hours: 4 units.

**Suspicion and Interpretation**  
MCC-GE.3011 40 hours: 4 units.

**Fetishism**  
MCC-GE.3012 40 hours: 4 units.

**Marx**  
MCC-GE.3013 40 hours: 4 units.

**Special Topics in Media History**  
MCC-GE.3030 40 hours: 4 units.

**Documents, Documentary, Data, Database**  
MCC-GE.3031 40 hours: 4 units.

**Doctoral Seminar in Culture and Communication I, II**  
MCC-GE.3100, 3200 40 hours: 4 units each term.

**Introduction to Communication Research**  
MCC-GE.3101 40 hours: 4 units each term.

**Special Topics in Cultural and Visual Studies**  
MCC-GE.3110 40 hours: 4 units.

**Theories of Visual Consumption and Consumerism**  
MCC-GE.3111 40 hours: 4 units.

**Deleuze’s Aesthetics**  
MCC-GE.3113 40 hours: 4 units.

**Special Topics in Global and Transcultural Communication**  
MCC-GE.3130 40 hours: 4 units.

**Transcultural Media**  
MCC-GE.3131 40 hours: 4 units.

**Mapping the Transnational**  
MCC-GE.3132 40 hours: 4 units.

**Special Topics in Technology Studies**  
MCC-GE.3150 40 hours: 4 units.

**Heidegger and Deleuze**  
MCC-GE.3151 40 hours: 4 units.

**AudioVision: Sound and Listening in Film and Other Media**  
MCC-GE.3152 40 hours: 4 units.

**The Politics of Code**  
MCC-GE.3153 40 hours: 4 units.

**Science and Technology Studies**  
MCC-GE.3154 40 hours: 4 units.

**Dissertation Proposal Seminar**  
MCC-GE.3201 40 hours: 1 unit.

**Doctoral Research Colloquium**  
MCC-GE.3400 10 hours: 1 unit.