NYU Steinhardt
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication

MCC-UE 1304 Global Media and International Law

Course Description
This course examines the legal and regulatory instruments designed to manage the flow of media and cultural products across international borders. It provides an historical overview of the various institutions and actors involved in global media regulation and administration, and assesses the various principles and practices that might be said to constitute regimes of global media governance. The course pays special attention to the early regulation of the post, telegraph, and radio as precursors of the current regulatory regimes for broadcasting, telecommunications, satellites, trade in media products, and Internet protocols.

Student Learning Objectives
Basic understanding of the history of global media governance, from postal systems in the 19th century to the Internet;
Knowledge of the rules and regulations underpinning media networks, as well as the application of those rules;
Analytical and critical skills to assess the various legal and political principles and practices of global media administration and regulation;
Research techniques focusing on legal texts, as well as international regulatory instruments and governance institutions.

Readings: Required Texts
Readings, both secondary and primary, as assigned in syllabus and available via NYU Classes Consult Global and Transcultural Communication Research Guide, Bobst Library at http://nyu.libguides.com/content.php?pid=30915&search_terms=global

Evaluation

% Final Grade

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<th>Evaluation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation (attendance, participation in class discussion and on-line)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Summary / Review Essay (due: Feb 12)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Special Exhibits: Background Research Project</td>
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<td>Research Proposal (due: March 14)</td>
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<td>Midterm Test March 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Report on current legal and regulatory issue (due: April 24, by 8:00am)</td>
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<td>Class Presentation of Research Report</td>
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<td>Final Take-Home Test May 13</td>
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Grading Rubric

A  Excellent. Student exhibits exemplary creativity through historical research and analysis. Writing and data presentation is lucid, engaging, and nearly error free.

B  Good. References to the course material are well chosen and topical. Analysis is present, but largely rehearsed from class lecture and discussion. Writing and data presentation is clear and has very few mistakes.

C  Satisfactory. References to the course material are well chosen and topical, but work is primarily descriptive, with little or no analysis. Work consists mostly of underdeveloped ideas, off-topic sources or examples, inappropriate research, or anecdotes.

D  Unsatisfactory. Student does not engage with the material according to course expectations. Substantial problems exist in student's work.

F  Fail. Student does not submit work, or work is below unsatisfactory level.

School and Course Policies

Students with Disabilities

Students with special needs, either with physical and/or learning disabilities, should register with the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980, 240 Greene Street, www.nyu.edu/csd.

Religious Observances

Students with religious observances that may interfere with the class schedule should to see me at the beginning of the semester to talk about alternative arrangements.

Late Submission

Deadlines are set to coincide with the flow of the semester, and your research projects are designed to provide us with course material. The deadlines are sacrosanct. Please notify the instructor as soon as you think you will miss a deadline for submitting assigned work. Late assignments may be downgraded by up to 5% a day.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

“Academic integrity is the guiding principle for all that you do […] you violate the principle when you: cheat on an exam; submit the same work for two different courses without prior permission from your professors; receive help on a take home courses without prior permission from your professors; or plagiarize. You plagiarize when, without proper attribution, you do any of the following: copy verbatim from a book, article, or others media, download documents from the Internet; purchase documents; paraphrase or restate someone else’s facts, analysis, and/or conclusions” (See School of Education Bulletin, 2004-6, p. 174). Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstance and will result in a failure of the assignment and possible failure of this class.
Detailed Class Schedule

Jan 28       Introduction: Global Media and International Law

Jan 30       Internet Filtering & Global Media Flows: Some Current Issues
Wu, Tim. World Trade Law of Censorship and Internet Filtering. 7 Chicago Journal of International Law. 263 (Summer 2006)

Feb 4 & 6    International Law: an Introduction
Koskenniemi, Martti. The Politics of International Law. 1 European Journal of International Law. 4 - 32 (1990)

Feb 11       International Law and International Polities

Summary & Review Essay of Keohane and Koskenniemi: due Feb 12 at 12 noon

Feb 13       Global Media and International Law: Setting the Stage

Feb 18       Research Project
Guest:       Bobst Research Librarian

Feb 20, 25, 27 Postal and Telegraph Networks: Historical Foundations
Williamson, F.H. The International Postal Service and the Universal Postal Union. Journal of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. 68 – 78. Vol. 9 (1), Jan 1930
Treaty Concerning the Formation of a General Postal Union, Berne (1874)
International Telegraph Convention, St Petersburg (1875)
Convention for Protection of Submarine Cables, (1884)

Mar 04, 06, 11 Radio: National Sovereignty and “Innocent” Passage
Hershey, Amos. The International Law of Aerial Space. 6 American Journal of International Law, 1912, 381


International Wireless Telegraph Convention, Berlin 1906
International Radio Convention, Washington 1927

**Mar 13 Mid-Term Test**

**Mar 25, 27** Proposition: Freedom of Information: fighting words and human rights


Whitton, John. Radio after the War. *Foreign Affairs,* Vol. 22 (2), 309-17, 1944


International Convention Concerning The Use Of Broadcasting In The Cause Of Peace, Geneva, 1936

**April 1, 3 Satellites and UNESCO**


Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1967)

**April 8 Trade in Cultural Products: Elgin Marbles and other National Treasures**


**April 10 Trade in Media: the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the World Trade Organization & UNESCO**


Magder, T. Gambling, the WTO and Public Morals: a short review of Antigua vs. the US.” *Television and New Media.* 7(1), 2006, 52-67
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1947
General Agreement on Trade in Services, 1994

April 15, 17    Internet and Governance

April 22    No Class
April 24, 29    Student Research Reports
April 01, 06    Student Research Reports
May 08    Review