Registration for Steinhardt graduate students begins on Monday, November 12, 2007.

To find classes that are numbered E58.2XXX, choose “Media, Culture, and Communication” for course subject from the drop down menu. Then choose “All Graduate” from course level.

To find classes that are numbered E57.3XXX, choose “Media, Culture, and Communication” for course subject from the drop down menu. Then choose “All Graduate” from course level.

Albert is the official documentation regarding all courses. If you note any differences, Albert is correct and overrides any information here. Updated versions of this course list will also be available at http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/mcc/masters/Downloads.php

E58.2130 42568 4 pts  Topics in Digital Media  4:55 PM – 7:05 PM  Mon  Gabriella Coleman
Computers, especially in their networked dimension, have sparked a series of ethical, political, and social debates that often revolve around a series of stark and connected dualities: control and freedom; pleasure and exploitation; creativity and constraint. In this course we will approach topics in digital media via an historical angle that squarely addresses these dualities. To this end, we will often cross-cut readings on similar topics and material whose conclusion about the nature of computing will often vary considerably. The goal, however, is not to determine the correct or right side of these dualities but have students come away with a firm understanding of the following: 1) the history of computing and networking in light of the ways the authors as well as technologists/inventors construct or understand these dualities; 2) the various sources—technological, social, and political—that may shape or drive any of these elements; 3) unpack the political and social relationships, if any, between them and the stakes involved in how these authors represent the nature of computing and networking.

The course primarily concentrates on computers and networks and is roughly chronological, starting with the first digital computers and ending with our digital present. Particular topics we address are: cybernetics and liberalism; networks and the cold war; personal computers and online communities; hackers, the free software movement and intellectual property; labor, development, and computers; peer-to-peer knowledge production; computer gaming; and counter-globalization and computer networking.

[MA Area of Study > Technology and Society]

E58.2134 42859 4 pts  Media Archaeology  4:55 – 7:05 PM  Wed  Kafka and Galloway
Over the last decade or so, scholars in several disciplines have embarked on a series of media-archaeological excavations, sifting through the layers of early and obsolete practices and technologies of communication. The archaeological metaphor evokes both the desire to recover material traces of the past and the imperative to situate those traces in their social, cultural, and political contexts — while always watching our steps. This seminar will examine some of the most important contributions to the field of media archaeology and, most importantly, provide an ongoing research studio in which participants undertake archaeological projects of their own.

[MA Areas of Study > Technology and Society and Cultural and Visual Studies]

E58.2136 42649 4 pts  War and Media Theory  4:55 PM – 7:05 PM  Mon  Allen Feldman
Michel Foucault inverted Machiavelli when he declared, “politics is war pursued by other means.” The question of “other means” raises the issue of the mediatic infrastructure of war and the cultural-political framing of warfare as the media of history. Foucault’s statement highlights the largely untheorized relation between political violence and the technological under the rubric of a philosophy of means. Communication studies traditionally focus on how war is propagated by mass media. In contrast, this seminar proposes that war is an encompassing mode of political communication and ex-communication in itself by which media is militarized and violence is mediatized. I propose that a theory of modern war is in effect a philosophy of media.

Both September 11th and the Shock and Awe bombings of Iraq epitomized the temporal simultaneity of the global war event in which the technological representation of war—the truth claims of real time reportage and the perceptual affect of space/time compression—were part and parcel of the actual prosecution of military violence. Full spectrum dominance was equivalent to, and as strategically important, as territorial conquest.

We will examine how modern warfare has generated new visual cultures, new media networks, and new modes of witnessing and archiving the traumatic. This seminar proposes that the visual technology of war and the technologies of event dissemination are linked problems in the political history of representation. The triangulation of person, place and time as the basis of perceiving history can only be accounted for by a history of mediated perception—a history increasingly characterized by military technologies and a militarized visual culture, and their fashioning of the modern sensorium and modern memory. The seminar will examine the thesis that the “informatization” of contemporary consciousness can only be understood through a media theory of war.

[MA Area of Study > Cultural and Visual Studies]
also briefly take a comparative look at the way that media systems developed in a few other countries.

various campaign dynamics. Students can expect to complete bi-weekly research assignments, and an average reading load of 1-3 book

和技术性变化期间发生的这些变化使得美国媒体系统和结构的特定类型发展成为可能。在 tracing the historical roots of telegraphy, telephony, broadcasting, advertising, and film, we come to an understanding not only of American social and industrial history, but also the meanings and implications of current regulations, funding structures, aesthetic and narrative preferences, synergies and patterns of ownership. While this course will focus predominately on American media systems and culture, we will also briefly take a comparative look at the way that media systems developed in a few other countries.

Readings will include works by Roland Barthes, Pierre Bourdieu, Michel de Certeau, Umberto Eco, Dick Hebdige, George Lipsitz, Toby Miller, Tania Modleski, David Morley, Janice Radway, Ellen Seiter, Lynn Spigel, and Raymond Williams, among others.

[MU Area of Study > Cultural and Visual Studies; MA Research Course]

The Spring, 2007 course will be a research-oriented course that will utilize the 2008 U.S. Presidential campaign as a foundation for exploring various aspects central to the study of political communication. As such, course content will include both lecture-based, scholarly material as well research-based seminar format discussion. Students will be introduced to prominent methods used to analyze a variety of forms of political campaign discourse and conduct team research projects that aim to understand the communication processes at work during the 2008 presidential election cycle. This will include analyses of the content and persuasive development of candidate speeches, the construction of candidate's political advertisements, the content and tone of coverage by the news media and public opinion about the candidates and their reception of candidate's campaign messages. Special attention will be paid to the role of race and gender within these various campaign dynamics. Students can expect to complete bi-weekly research assignments, and an average reading load of 1-3 book chapters/articles per week. A team summary of research findings will be the culminating assignment for the course.


[MU Area of Study > Persuasion and Politics; MA Research Course]

Students examine the processes and approaches to the study of communication theories, language and aspects of verbal and nonverbal communication with a particular focus on gender, race, and cultural identity.


[MU Areas of Study > Interaction and Social Processes and Global and Transcultural Communication]

How does journalism differ around the world? And to the extent that it does, why? Beyond the personal idiosyncrasies of individual journalists and media owners, which factors play the greatest role in shaping “national news cultures”: professional values and traditions, level and type of commercialism, government regulations, bureaucratic pressures or organizational dynamics, and/or audiences? Too much of our media criticism proceeds from hunches and assumptions, rather than real evidence, for the simple reason that it limits itself to a single national context (and often a single time period). Adequately sorting out the factors that shape our media environment can best be accomplished via comparative research. This course offers a conceptual roadmap to such a project as well as a close empirical look at the news media in a variety of national contexts. After a general consideration of the factors that structure news media systems and the roles that media play in democratic societies, the course incorporates (1) a survey of comparative methodologies: surveys, ethnographies, news content analyses, etc., and (2) national and comparative case studies, representing the major types of Western European journalistic “models” as well as some important non-European variants.

[MU Area of Study > Global and Transcultural Communication; MA Research Course]
This course will examine some key writings on the topic of religion, including Friedrich Nietzsche, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Emile Durkheim, Bertrand Russell long ago declared that religion belonged to the infancy of human history, in a statement that expressed the secular self-understanding of an enlightened European of his time. By comparison, at least from the time of Alexis de Tocqueville, it has been clear that in a country like the United States, religious affiliation has not diminished with the advance of historical time. If anything the movement has been in a contrary direction, with religion having increased in social and political influence, with effects that reverberate across the globe today.

The disparity between Continental and American perceptions reflects a failure to understand the place of religion in modern society, and to relate changes in religious practice to historical change. It is not simply in traditional, backward or disadvantaged societies that religion thrives, but in the very heart of modern society, so to speak. The legislative approach to sequester religion and keep it in its place, widely practiced, rarely has the desired results. Religion turns out to be mediated in new ways, to sacralize new forms of connection, to mark out new relations between the sacred and the profane.

This course will examine some key writings on the topic of religion, including Friedrich Nietzsche, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Emile Durkheim, Jacques Derrida and Talal Asad. The changing modes of religion’s mediation will be addressed by examining key historical controversies over the place of religion, including ‘The Scopes trial (Darwinism v. evolutionism), the Salman Rushdie blasphemy debates in the U.K., the
headscarf controversy in Europe, the Danish cartoon controversy, and debates over Al Qaeda, recent terrorism, and the war in Iraq, including
the growth of practices of political action and martyrdom that are apparently fueled and partly enacted via technological media.

[MA Areas of Study > Global and Transcultural Communication, Cultural and Visual Studies, and Persuasion and Politics]

E58.2286  42515  4 pts  Young People and Media Cultures  4:55 PM – 7:05 PM  Tues  JoEllen Fisherkeller
What roles do popular media play in society and culture, and in particular the experiences, thinking and values of young people? How should
we address the issues raised by the contemporary communication environment, and by the reality of young people's interactions with popular
media? In this course, we will consider these questions. We will focus on debates and issues raised by various media environments that
now characterize contemporary existence and young people’s growth and experiences. Most importantly, we will investigate how young
people actually use, value, and find meaning in multiple media in different social contexts, and discuss the social, cultural, and political
implications of these situations. Finally, we will propose some ways to deal with the issues raised by the course.

Readings include: Buckingham, David. After the Death of Childhood: Growing up in the Age of Electronic Media (Polity Press, 2000);
Fisherkeller, JoEllen Growing Up with Television: Everyday Learning among Young Adolescents (Temple University Press, 2002); Packet of
Readings that focus on children and youth in media cultures.

[MA Areas of Study > Interaction and Social Processes and Cultural and Visual Studies]

E58.2165  4 pts  Transnational Communities and Media Cultures  Jan 6 – 19, 2008  Radha Hegde
This course examines the emergence of transnational communities, recent patterns of migration, and the role of media forms and practices in
redefining culture and national belonging. We will explore how media practices define culture and identity for diasporic groups within the
landscape of global cities. What role do media play in the (re)imaging of cultural politics, nationalism, and everyday life in the context of
global relocations? How do technology and media enable new configurations of cultural resistance and identification within (and between)
different immigrant groups? What does this mean in terms of negotiating the global and local in various aspects of immigrant lives? Through
field trips, field work, discussion, and lectures, students will be exposed to contemporary issues and research. January Intersession Study
Abroad; see http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/study_abroad/programs/transnational_communities for details.

[MA Area of Study > Globalization and Transcultural Communication]

E58.2900  0 – 1 pts  MA Thesis in Media, Culture, and Communication
Access code required. Submit an MA Thesis application (with faculty sponsor and student signatures) plus a one-page MA Thesis Proposal to
the Graduate Advisor by 12/12/07. See the MA Thesis guidelines and application on the MA Downloads page.

E58.2300  1 – 4 pts  Independent Study
Access code required. Submit an Independent Study application (with faculty sponsor and student signatures) plus a one-page Independent
Study Proposal to the Graduate Advisor by 1/25/08. See the Independent Study guidelines and application on the MA Downloads page.

Primarily for doctoral students

E57.3110  42752  4 pts  Special Topics in Visual and Cultural Studies  4:55 – 7:05PM  Tues  Marita Sturken
Theories of Visual Consumption and Consumerism: this course will focus on a genealogy of theories of consumption and consumerism,
including visual consumption and reception, cultural consumption, and consumerism more broadly. The aim of this particular course is to
chart the history of how consumerism has been theorized since the nineteenth century, and to make clear the connections between the
literature on consumerism/consumption and the literature on visual consumption and the relationship of modernity and visuality. The course
will thus trace an arc from the literature on nineteenth-century practices of visual consumption and the rise of consumer society to
contemporary debates about the relationship of consumerism to philanthropy, neoliberalism and global capitalism, and theories of cultural
resistance in the context of new media practices.

For doctoral students

E57.3200  42565  4 pts  Doctoral Seminar II  2 – 4:10 PM  Tues  Arvind Rajagopal

For doctoral students

E57.3400  42907  1 pt  Doctoral Research Colloquium  TBA
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<tr>
<td>2:00 - 4:10 pm</td>
<td>E58.2150 The Origins of Modern Media: 1880 -1950 (Murray)</td>
<td>E57.3200 Doctoral Core Seminar II (Rajagopal)</td>
<td>E58.2275 Middle East Media and Cultural Politics (Tawil Souri)</td>
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<td>4:55 - 7:05 pm</td>
<td>E58.2136 War and Media Theory (Feldman)</td>
<td>E57.3110 Doctoral Seminar: Special Topics in Cultural and Visual Studies (Sturken)</td>
<td>E58.2182 Comm Processes: Gender, Race, and Cultural Identity (Borisoff)</td>
<td>E58.2284 Religion and/as Media (Rajagopal)</td>
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<td>7:15 - 9:25 pm</td>
<td>E58.2175 Political Communication (McIlwain)</td>
<td>E58.2184 Comparative Media Systems (Benson)</td>
<td>E58.2145 Methods in Interpreting Popular Culture (Sturken)</td>
<td>E58.2200 The Mass Mind (Fallica)</td>
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MCC graduate registration contact: mary.taylor@nyu.edu and (212) 998-5130. Last updated 11/15/2007; see up-to-date information at [http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/mcc/masters/Downloads.php](http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/mcc/masters/Downloads.php).