



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MEDIA
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Selected Topic Courses – Spring 2009

Online Journalism Workshop (SMPA 132.10). Taught by Jason Osder and Michael Shanahan. Online Journalism Workshop will help students learn how to produce multimedia news stories using video, photo slide shows, graphics, mapping and text. The course recognizes the dramatic changes in journalism and reflects SMPA's commitment to preparing students for that new reality. Applicants must fill out a brief questionnaire available at the 4th floor SMPA reception desk, or the 5th floor Broadcast Center. SMPA students will have taken SMPA 110 and SMPA 112, or *have equivalent multimedia experience*. www.onlinejournalismworkshop.com

Public Diplomacy (SMPA 150.10). Taught by SMPA's Public Diplomacy Fellow Mark Taplin, a Senior U.S. Diplomat on assignment from the State Department to GWU. The theory and practice of public diplomacy: informing, influencing, and establishing dialogue with international publics and institutions. A conceptual and historical examination of public diplomacy, current practices, and contemporary issues, including international information dissemination, educational and cultural exchange, and international broadcasting.

Politics and the Internet (SMPA 194.15). Taught by Adam Green. Blogs, online activism, YouTube, Facebook - all of these are changing the nature of journalism and politics. As blogs increasingly rival traditional newspapers for readership, and as YouTube videos increasingly impact elections, understanding the Internet's role within the political landscape is crucial to the study of modern political communication. This class will examine this new landscape including conversations with some of the leading actors in online politics.

Radio News: History & Practice (SMPA 195.10) Taught by Michael Freedman. A lecture and lab course which explore's America's first form of electronic journalism from its creation in the early 20th Century to today's digital age. The class will study the underpinnings of today's news formats, listen to historic broadcasts, learn radio writing techniques, write and record newscasts, and visit Washington offices of national media organizations.

Media Law in the Digital Age (SMPA 195.12). This course is taught by Barbara Wall, the General Counsel for the Gannett Corporation, and one of the country's best informed experts on legal development in the internet arena.

History of Investigative Journalism (SMPA 195.80). Taught by Mark Feldstein. The history of investigative reporting in the United States from colonial times to the present. What is investigative reporting? How has it evolved over the years? What are its strengths and weaknesses? And why does it matter? Students examine historical works and primary source material involving political and social exposés from 18th century pamphlets and 19th century newspapers to 20th century television documentaries and 21st century blogs.

Globalization & Media (SMPA 195.60). Taught by Lee Huebner. This three credit course will include a Spring Break trip to Paris—featuring panels, speakers, and field trips—with journalists, executives, government officials, scholars and others who bring a unique international perspective to major media issues. The program will be chaired by Professor Lee Huebner, Director of SMPA. Because most of the classroom hours will take place in Paris, the class will meet only a few times before and after the trip to discuss readings to draw conclusions. The class meeting time will be on Wednesdays: 9:35 to 10:50 am. The central purpose of the class will be to explore these developments. Departmental registration required.

Washington Post Seminar (SMPA 196.11). The program consists of weekly seminars at the Washington Post conducted by executives, editors and reporters to bring real life experience and immediacy to the journalism classroom experience. The course, which meets for 90 minutes starting at 12:30 p.m. on Fridays, is team-taught at the Post by the newspaper's award-winning staff. Departmental registration required. All SMPA graduate and undergraduate students can apply, but students with demonstrated journalism interest will receive preference. Applicants should submit a departmental registration form completed for the course and a resume to Prof. Al May through the SMPA secretaries by Nov. 15.