

Special Topics Communication Courses

160AA-ZZ. Special Topics in Communication Investigation of current theory and research in a selected area of communication. Variable topics in media, interpersonal or organizational communication, depending on the instructor.

Fall 2019

Comm 160PF. Political Communication and the Feature Film (M. Stohl) Most of us look upon films as entertainment but film may also be a powerful way to convey political messages and a revealing portrait of the political culture. Films thus function as both an art form and, as with all media, as a means of political communication by transmitting cultural values, assumptions and questions. Through their narrative and action, films explore the myths, perceptions, and reality of the relationships between individuals and the most powerful social institutions, governments and corporations, and the media which present them to the public. Films, like political books, show "real" people responding to problems or pursuing a course of action. They address political dilemmas and often help set the public agenda and frame the discussion of "answers" about social and political issues and the responsibilities of those institutions and people who communicate those answers to the public.

This course will examine the ways that journalism and journalists are portrayed in popular fiction and film and the role of the press in a democratic society. We will do this by viewing a series of full-length feature films that depict major issues spanning the period from the 1920s to the present. Following each film showing, we will analyze and discuss not only the issues that these films raise but how (and how well) the filmmaker uses the medium to portray the role of journalism and journalists and how they perform their role and the implications for politics and democratic society.

Winter 2020

No Special Topics courses offered

Spring 2020

Comm 160DS. (Z. Matni)

Title and course description coming soon.

Comm 160ME. (R. Nabi)

Title and course description coming soon.

175AA-ZZ. Senior Capstone in Communication A project-based course in a specific topic area of communication designed to give students a chance to apply the skills and knowledge learned in the major and the opportunity to work intensively in groups on a real-world project.

No Senior Capstones offered in 2019-2020 Academic Year.