

Comparative International Media Systems

Thursdays | 6:30 - 9:20 p.m. | LIFE SCI A419

Readings, etc.

There is no required text for this class. Assigned readings will be posted as links and PDFs in our Blackboard course site. Please notify me of any bad/broken links right away (1-point extra credit on quizzes for first person to notify me via Twitter; 10 max).

You will need access to the **AP Stylebook** (2015 edition; available online — for free! — via UNT Libraries).

What to expect

Through this course, you can expect to learn how to critically examine international media, localize global stories for domestic audiences, and use social media to connect with your colleagues around the world. You can expect my respect. You can expect that I will challenge you to give and do your best. You can expect to laugh at my terribly corny jokes, too.



Course content learning objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

1. Recognize the field's most influential concepts and theories.
2. Identify the main patterns of global information and communication flows.
3. Distinguish the salient components of the political economy of global communication.
4. Outline the major media and press systems around the globe.
5. Describe the media landscapes of selected countries.
6. Compare the journalism practices of selected countries.
7. Develop an awareness of how complex and multi-sided the current issues in global communication are.





Where to find me

Dr. Meredith D. Clark

Office location: GAB 102-D

- Mobile: 940. 437.0059
- Skype: Meredith_D_Clark
- Twitter: @meredithclark
- Email:
Meredith.Clark@unt.edu

Virtual office hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays:

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

And by appointment.

If you have a quick question, shoot me a direct message (DM) via Twitter. It's the fastest and easiest way to reach me.

Syllabus credit: Adapted from JOMC 446 Global communication and comparative journalism, Dr. Lucila Vargas, UNC-Chapel Hill, spring 2014.

JOUR 5150, your learning will be assessed via:

Final paper	40 percent (see component breakdown)
International media stories	25 percent (cumulative)
Midterm and final exam	20 percent (10 percent each)
Q&Q	10 percent
Class participation	5 percent



THIS IS THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' SYLLABUS

Course Policies

Attendance and punctuality: Think of each class in this course as the equivalent of an assignment. You cannot earn an A in this class without consistent class attendance, punctuality, and active class participation. Please note that regular attendance to class with no participation in class discussion will earn you a ZERO in participation. Also, coming to class late or early may result in a penalty. However, since we all have unexpected emergencies, you can miss a single class session without being penalized. Each additional absence is subject to a two-point deduction on your final grade. If you are late, leave early, or are absent, please use your teammates as your first line of contact to obtain material/directives discussed in class that day. I will not re-cap the lesson.

Late assignments and make-up policy: All assignments are due at class time. Each student may submit ONE assignment for amnesty on Monday, Dec. 5. There will be **no** make-up for missed in-class exercises (i.e., quizzes, group work, etc.). Failing to meaningfully contribute to the team project will result in a grade of zero on in-class assignments. *If you miss a class meeting because you are ill, observing a religious holiday, or have another excused absence, proof of such is required from the Dean of Students office before the next class period.*

Evaluation and Grading Policies

For each assignment, be sure to read the guidelines thoroughly before you begin. Though grades are not negotiable, I give serious consideration to students' concerns about grades. If you have questions about a particular grade, you will need to talk to me within a week of receiving the grade. If you dispute a grade, you will need to submit (to me) a written statement within a week of receiving the grade.

Grading scale:

Major assignments and exams will be graded using a 0-100 scale. The 10-point scale for grades is as follows A = 90-100; B = 89-80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60; F = 60 or below

To evaluate your participation, I will consider miscellaneous class assignments, and especially taking part in class discussions and in-class teamwork. Because informed and meaningful participation in class activities is only possible after completing the assigned readings and assignments prior to class, failure to do so will result in a low grade. You cannot make up for poor participation in the first part of the semester by improving during the last weeks or by doing extra work.

What is "good" class participation?

1. Regularity in attendance.
2. Familiarity with assigned readings and current events.
3. Cooperation in creating a supportive learning atmosphere.
4. Sharing materials relevant to the class (during class time and online).
5. Demonstrated ability to engage in class discussions.

Q&Q (10 percent of course grade)

During the semester, the undergraduate students will participate in a series of five debates to strengthen their understanding about each topic we discuss. To foster interaction between graduate students and undergrads, for each debate day, each graduate student will select a quote from the reading and create a debate topic based on the reading, material we've covered in class, and current events. **Graduate student Q&Qs are due on the Sunday before each debate: Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 13 and Nov. 27.**

Research proposal (10 percent of course grade)

You will choose an issue or topic related to international media and globalization, such as — but not limited to — international sex trafficking, multinational business or the rise of new media technology. Using one or more of the theories/key concepts we learn in class, you will write an extensive content analysis on coverage of this issue in U.S. and international media (at least three sources).

The first part of this assignment is a research proposal of at least 300-450 words that will identify the problem you plan examine, list two to three potential research questions, provide a preliminary list scholarly sources you will use (at least 10), and identify media sources that you will use for your sample. Your proposal must also include a brief synopsis of your method, including information about how you will check for reliability and validity in your study. You will be expected to include a barebones schedule of progress for your research paper. The schedule should not be included in your word count.

Final paper (30 percent of course grade)

Your 20-page final paper (12-point font, double-spaced, Times New Roman; page count includes references) will analyze the past two years of international coverage on your chosen topic. Your discussion section should address the following questions: How well have the outlets covered this issue? Does the frequency and depth of reports keep readers reasonably well informed of major development? Have publications and news outlets chosen, or missed, appropriate angles? Featured original reporting, or relied heavily on the news wires? Identify problems or failings. How could coverage be improved?

You will receive additional instructions on the format of the final paper after I have reviewed your research proposal.

I encourage — but do not require — graduate students to submit their completed papers for research conferences. Three conferences of interest: The International Symposium for Online Journalism, held in Austin, Texas, April 15-16, 2017. The paper deadline is Jan. 6, 2017. If your paper is accepted, it is automatically published in the symposium journal. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's (AEJMC) Midwinter Conference is held annually at the University of Oklahoma in late February/early March.

Abstracts are usually due Dec. 1. The AEJMC Southeast Colloquium will be held March 9-11 at Texas Christian University. Full papers are due Dec. 12.

The Mayborn Graduate Institute often supports graduate research. The Toulouse Graduate School offers travel grants of up to \$500 to assist with expenses for presenting at research conferences. The deadlines are Oct. 1, Feb. 1, June 1.

**Midterm and final exam
(20 percent of course grade; 10 percent each)**

There will be two exams. The exams will be composed of multiple-choice questions and may be proctored online. The exams will test your understanding of the material presented in readings, team presentations, discussions, blog posts and lectures, including guest lectures. Be sure to review the study guide and the posted slides. The second exam will include two questions from each of the team presentations, so please review the Prezi/Power Points prepared by class members; they will be posted on Blackboard.

**International media stories
(25 percent of course grade)**

You will choose a country to follow for the semester. You'll also explore a related Texas ethnic community, and produce three stories about its affairs. You will generate three stories from this beat, ideally one news analysis, one feature story or profile, and one story about a trend or controversy. At least one article should also include an interview with a consular official about business ties between your beat and Texas; and – if you are a journalism major – at least one should incorporate a multimedia element, such as a photo essay, audio slideshow or short video (you do not have to create these yourself). All stories must include links, and at least one piece of captioned, credited art that helps to illustrate the story.

Week-by-week schedule (subject to change)	Lecture & Class discussion	In class & Team presentation	Homework
Week 1: Sept. 1	Class intro; Globalization & "The Danger of a Single Story"	<u>Paul Krugman talk: "The World is Flat" & The Danger of a Single Story</u>	<i>Theories of the Press and Manufacturing Consent readings</i>
Week 2: Sept. 8	Theories of the Press & Manufacturing Consent	Rapid prototyping: Global media issues	<i>Read: Gans' news values Q&Q due Sept. 11 by 11:59 p.m.</i>
Week 3: Sept. 15	U.S. news media news values	Debate No. 1 Research papers/stories	<i>CNN Effect reading; Research proposals due by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 19</i>
Week 4: Sept. 22	What is the CNN Effect?	Team presentation No. 1	<i>Read: World Press Freedom Index reports Q&Q due Sept. 25 by 11:59 p.m.</i>
Week 5: Sept. 29	Press Freedoms throughout the world	Debate No. 2 Team presentation No. 2	<i>Story No. 1 due Oct. 3 by 11:59 p.m.</i>
Week 6: Oct. 6		Twitter class: No F2F mtg Use #UNTJ4240	<i>Watch documentary: "Democracy on Deadline"</i>

Week-by-week schedule (subject to change)	Lecture & Class discussion	In class & Team presentation	Homework
Week 7: Oct. 13	Midterm	exam	<i>Reading on Transnational Advocacy Networks</i>
Week 8: Oct. 20	Transnational Advocacy Networks	Guest speaker Team presentations No. 3 & 4	<i>Reading on media in the Global South</i> Q&Q due Oct. 23 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 9: Oct. 27	Media in the Global South	Debate No. 3 Team presentation No. 5	<i>Reading on The Al Jazeera Effect, watch "Control Room";</i> Story No. 2 due Oct. 30 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 10: Nov. 3	The Al Jazeera Effect	Documentary: "The Square" Team presentation No. 6	Readings on Arab Spring;
Week 11: Nov. 10	Internet technology and liberation struggles	Documentary: "High Tech, Low Life" Team presentation No. 7	<i>Read "Reporting the World"</i> Q&Q due Nov. 13 by 11:59 p.m.

Week-by-week schedule (subject to change)	Lecture & Class discussion	In class & Team presentation	Homework
<p>Week 12: Nov. 17</p>	<p>Peace Journalism</p>	<p>Debate No. 4 Team presentation No. 8</p>	<p><i>Story No. 3 due Nov. 20 by 11:59 p.m.</i></p>
<p>Week 13: Nov. 24</p>	<p>Thanksgiving break</p>	<p>No class meeting</p>	<p><i>Global media ethics reading Q&Q due Nov. 27 by 11:59 p.m.</i></p>
<p>Week 14: Dec. 1</p>	<p>Global media ethics</p>	<p>Debate No. 5 Team presentation No. 9</p>	<p><i>Complete culture as entertainment reading; Research papers due by Dec. 4 at 11:59 p.m.</i></p>
<p>Week 15: Dec. 8 Last day of class!</p>	<p>Culture as entertainment</p>	<p>Semester in review. Team presentation No. 10</p>	<p><i>Prepare for final exam</i></p>

Week-by-week schedule (subject to change)	Lecture & Class discussion	In class & Team presentation	Homework
Week 16: Dec. 15 Final Exam	Final	exam	

MSOJ Grad Syllabus Statements

JOURNALISM REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

RE-TAKING FAILED JOURNALISM CLASSES

Students will not be allowed to automatically take a failed journalism course more than two times. Once you have failed a journalism course twice, you will not be allowed to enroll in that course for one calendar year after the date you received the second failing grade. Once a student has waited one calendar year after failing a course twice, the student may submit a written appeal to the director to be approved to enroll a third time. Students will not be allowed to re-take a failed journalism course more than three times.

TEXTBOOK POLICY

The Mayborn School of Journalism doesn't require students to purchase textbooks from the University Bookstore. Many are available through other bookstores or online.

FIRST CLASS DAY ATTENDANCE

Journalism instructors reserve the right to drop any student who does not attend the first class day of the semester.

OFFICE HOURS

I hold virtual office hours from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Face-to-face meetings can be scheduled by appointment at least one week in advance. I will respond to emails within 24 hours, Monday - Friday.

ATTENDANCE

One absence in the course is the limit without penalty toward your final grade, unless you have communicated with me from the beginning about an extraordinary problem. Coming to class late or leaving early may constitute an absence for that day. This is a seminar course, and it requires your attendance and participation each class meeting.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Students should meet with their Academic Advisor at least one time per long semester (Fall & Spring). It is important to update your degree plan on a regular basis to ensure that you are on track for a timely graduation.

- It is imperative that students have paid for all enrolled classes. **Please check your online schedule daily through late registration to ensure you have not been dropped for non-payment of any amount.** Students unknowingly have been dropped from classes for various reasons such as financial aid, schedule change fees, parking fees, etc. MSOJ will not be able to reinstate students for any reason after late registration, regardless of situation. It is the student's responsibility to ensure all payments have been made.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FALL 2016

Classes Begin.	Aug 29
Census.	Sept 12
Labor Day (no classes; university closed).	Sept 5
Beginning this date a student who wishes to drop a course must first receive written consent of the instructor.	Sept 13
Last day for student to receive automatic grade of W for nonattendance.	
Last day for change in pass/no pass status.	
Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the semester with a grade of W for courses that the student is not passing. After this date, a grade of WF may be recorded.	Oct 7
Beginning this date instructors may drop students with a grade of WF for nonattendance.	Oct 8
Last day to drop with either W or WF.	
Last day for a student to drop a course with consent of the instructor.	Nov 7
Beginning this date, a student who qualifies may request an Incomplete, with a grade of I.	Nov 14
Last day to withdraw (drop all classes).	
Last day for an instructor to drop a student with a grade of WF for nonattendance.	Nov 23
Thanksgiving Break (no classes, university closed).	Nov 24-27
Last Regular Class Meeting.	Dec 8
Reading Day (no classes).	Dec 9
Final Exams.	Dec 10-15
End of term.	Dec 16

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Understanding the academic organizational structure and appropriate Chain of Command is important when resolving class-related or advising issues. When you need problems resolved, please follow the step outlined below:

Individual Faculty Member/Advisor

Director, Mayborn Graduate Institute

Dean, Mayborn School of Journalism

OFFICE OF DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of North Texas and the Mayborn School of Journalism make reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

COURSE SAFETY STATEMENTS

Students in the Mayborn School of Journalism are urged to use proper safety procedures and guidelines. While working in laboratory sessions, students are expected and required to identify and use property safety guidelines in all activities requiring lifting, climbing, walking on slippery surfaces, using equipment and tools, handling chemical solutions and hot and cold products. Students should be aware that the University of North Texas is not liable for injuries incurred while students are participating in class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in the event of accidental injury. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider obtaining Student Health Insurance for this insurance program. Brochures for this insurance are available in the UNT Health and Wellness Center on campus. Students who are injured during class activities may seek medial attention at the UNT Health and Wellness Center at rates that are reduced compared to other medical facilities. If you have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, please be sure that your plan covers treatment at this facility. If you choose not to go to the UNT Health and Wellness Center, you may be transported to an emergency room at a local hospital. You are responsible for expenses incurred there.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or exams; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor, the acquisition of tests or other material belonging to a faculty member, dual submission of a paper or project, resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructors, or any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Plagiarism includes the paraphrase or direct quotation of published or unpublished works *without* full and clear acknowledgment of the author/source. Academic dishonesty will bring about disciplinary action which may include expulsion from the university. This is explained in the UNT Student Handbook. **Individual faculty should include penalties for academic dishonesty in their courses.**

MSOJ ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

The codes of ethics from the Society of Professional Journalists, American Advertising Federation and Public Relations Society of America address truth and honesty. The Mayborn School of Journalism embraces these tenets and believes that academic dishonesty of any kind – including plagiarism and fabrication – is incongruent with all areas of journalism. The school's policy aligns with UNT Policy

18.1.16 and requires reporting any act of academic dishonesty to the Office for Academic Integrity for investigation. If the student has a previous confirmed offense (whether the first offense was in the journalism school or another university department) and the student is found to have committed another offense, the department will request the additional sanction of removing the student from the Mayborn School of Journalism. The student may appeal to the Office for Academic Integrity, which ensures due process and allows the student to remain in class pending the appeal.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom, and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html.

The Mayborn School of Journalism requires that students respect and maintain all university property. Students will be held accountable through disciplinary action for any intentional damages they cause in classrooms. (e.g., writing on tables). Disruptive behavior is not tolerated (e.g., arriving late, leaving early, sleeping, talking on the phone, texting or game playing, making inappropriate comments, ringing cellular phones/beepers, dressing inappropriately).

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available **Nov. 21 - Dec. 6** to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For the spring 2016 semester you will receive an email on **Nov. 21 (12:01 a.m.)** from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

FINAL EXAM POLICY

Final exams will be administered at the designated times during the final week of each long semester and during the specified day of each summer term. Please check the course calendar early in the semester to avoid any schedule conflicts.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

As you know, your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the my.unt.edu site www.my.unt.edu. If you do not regularly check EagleConnect or link it to your favorite e-mail account, please so do, as this is where you learn about job and internship opportunities, MSOJ events, scholarships, and other important information. The website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward your email: <http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR F-1 STUDENTS TAKING DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in multiple on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Advising Office. The UNT International Advising Office has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, students should contact the UNT International Advising Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email international@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in an event of emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at www.my.unt.edu. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) ensuring you know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas, determining how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and identifying where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, your instructor will communicate with you through Blackboard regarding assignments, exams, field trips, and other items that may be impacted by the closure.

STATEMENTS OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Statement of Student Learning Outcomes, UNT Mayborn School of Journalism

Since 1969, the UNT Department of Journalism (Mayborn School of Journalism effective September 1, 2009) has been accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This national accreditation also extends to the Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism, the only accredited professional master's program in Texas. About one-fourth of all journalism and mass communication programs in the United States are accredited by ACEJMC. National accreditation enhances your education here, because it certifies that the department and graduate institute adhere to many standards established by the council. Among these standards are student learning outcomes, covered by journalism courses in all sequences.

This course, JOUR 5150, will help to meet the student learning outcomes that have been checked by your professor, Dr. Meredith Clark.

Each graduate must:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications
- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society
- Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
- Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity
- Think critically, creatively and independently
- Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work
- Write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences and purposes they serve
- Critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness

Statement of Student Learning Outcomes, UNT Mayborn School of Journalism

Since 1969, the UNT Department of Journalism (Mayborn School of Journalism effective September 1, 2009) has been accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This national accreditation also extends to the Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism, the only accredited professional master's program in Texas. About one-fourth of all journalism and mass communication programs in the United States are accredited by ACEJMC. National accreditation enhances your education here, because it certifies that the department and graduate institute adhere to many standards established by the council. Among these standards are student learning outcomes, covered by journalism courses in all sequences.

This course, JOUR _____, will help to meet the student learning outcomes that have been checked by your professor, _____.

Each graduate must:

- 🍏 Understand and apply the principles and laws of freedom of speech and press for the country in which the institution that invites ACEJMC is located, as well as receive instruction in and understand the range of systems of freedom of expression around the world, including the right to dissent, to monitor and criticize power, and to assemble and petition for redress of grievances
- 🍏 Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications
- 🍏 Demonstrate an understanding of diversity in domestic society in relation to mass communications
- 🍏 Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society
- 🍏 Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
- 🍏 Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity
- 🍏 Think critically, creatively and independently
- 🍏 Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work
- 🍏 Write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences and purposes they serve
- 🍏 Critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness
- 🍏 Apply basic numerical and statistical concepts
- 🍏 Apply tools and technologies appropriate for the communications professions in which they work