COURSE DETAIL

MEDIA, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY
Country France
Host Institution UC Center, Paris
Program(s) French in Paris,Food, History, and Culture in Paris
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Sociology Political Science Film & Media Studies Communication
UCEAP Course Number 117
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title MEDIA, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY
UCEAP Transcript Title MEDIA/POL&SOCIETY
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units 3.30

Course Description

This course explored and analyzes major institutions, actors, and trends in contemporary French and European Media and attempts to situate them in the larger contexts of “unifying” Europe and “globalized” world-media-scene. Students examine the operational schemes, performances, and internal decisional and power structures of different branches of French media: print national & regional press, specialized magazines, the publishing industry, advertising, radio, television, and the Internet. The course attempts a specific analysis regarding the international and French implications of the growing potential of social networks and “New Media.” Students review aspects of the growing confusion –both in terms of competition and compatibility—between “new” and “old” media and their political, social, and cultural impacts. In the domain of social and political presence students study and question practices of newsgathering, deontological principles and constraints, media performance under pressure of time, context, profit-making-structures, politics, violence, ethics, and ideologies. The course examines forms and styles of “information,” editorial policies and the variety of notions of “Democratic pluralism” and “freedom of expression” across the French and European Media landscapes. We will try to define, decode, and interpret distinctions between “news,” “commentary,” and “analysis” as they are being treated on the French and European media scenes. The course analyzes what all these may mean, encourage, cultivate, or block in terms of politics, society, culture, and media during “high times” of political turmoil, violent crisis, or social unrest. In the domain of entertainment and “services” offered by the Media, students examine different variations of publishing, broadcasting, and “accompanying” practices over the last 20-30 years. We may attempt a parallel analysis of possible interaction between these two domains (News/Entertainment), following political and ideological lines and some study of the dynamics of change along the ambitions, the strategies and the priorities of the media industries alongside “public demand.”

Language(s) of Instruction
English

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Host Institution Course Details https://uceap.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/DocumentLibrary/IQD6BCYK64x4QYIBzwpJCS8VAWlV…
Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2025-2026

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