COURSE DETAIL

THE TRUTH: A POLITICAL HISTORY OF PRESS AND POPULISM
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University – University College Utrecht
Program(s) University College Utrecht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science History Film & Media Studies
UCEAP Course Number 134
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE TRUTH: A POLITICAL HISTORY OF PRESS AND POPULISM
UCEAP Transcript Title HIST:MEDIA&POPULISM
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course focuses on the surprisingly long history of facts and truths in the public sphere. Study how politicians and philosophers devised ways to counter populism without touching the vital democratic principles of freedom of speech or the right to vote. In this course, conduct a research project that explores the intricate relationship between press (media) and politics through analyzing the power of rumor, researching how representative political systems in the past have tried to avert the dangers of fake news and information, and researching news media in all ages in digitized collections across the globe or in the physical archives in The Netherlands. The course answers questions such as what is public opinion? Where and when does it take shape? If freedom of speech is a necessary condition for representative democratic systems, does it automatically breed populism? Did people in the past assess the information that they had to base their political opinions on differently than we do today? The course has entry requirements.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
UCHUMHIS38

Host Institution Course Title
THE TRUTH: A POLITICAL HISTORY OF PRESS AND POPULISM

Host Institution Course Details
https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/course/UCHUMHIS38/2025/SEM2

Host Institution Campus
Utrecht University

Host Institution Faculty
University College Utrecht

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Humanities

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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