

21462 MCOM1233 201 MWF 11-11:50 AM FA D202

A COMPLETE COPY OF THIS SYLLABUS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE UNDER MY PROFILE IN THE UNIVERSITY DIRECTORY, 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, ADA COMPLIANT.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Prerequisite: none.

Survey of the mass communication process and mass media, including print media, radio/recording, television, Internet, and emerging media. Students will learn about media issues, societal effects and trends.

Core Code: 090A - Cultural & Global Understanding

### WHY BE EXCITED ABOUT THIS COURSE

Author George Orwell said, "The people will believe what the media tells them they believe." Certainly, to some extent, that's true. So much is happening every day that we rely on newspapers, television, magazines, websites and social media to sift through it, to pick out what's important and then to talk about that. Objectively? Well, that's a topic worthy of discussion. Do they get it right? More discussion. What happens when they get it wrong? Ah, so many things to discuss, so little time.

You live in a world where, in the palm of your hand, you have access to more information than your parents when they were little had in all their books and libraries combined. But how do you choose what media to consume? How do you find the truth? "Whoever controls the media, the images, controls the culture," Allen Ginsberg, a poet, said. And with great power comes great responsibility. You have the power of the press in your hands with social media and the ability to create a website that can reach billions of people in an instant. How will you use that power or hold those with that power accountable?

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

As a result of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand and define mass communication.
- Understand and explain the function of the mass media.
- Analyze critically mass media and mass media messages.
- Demonstrate an understanding of media literacy and consumption of mass media.
- Understand the economic and social imperatives affecting message content, delivery and effects.
- Understand the influences of media content on cultural perceptions.
- Understand the characteristics of contemporary mass media, including the influence and roles of media history, media law and ethics, governmental regulation, and evolving technology.
- Analyze and discuss media message content using critical thinking skills.
- Understand media history and technology and their effects on contemporary messages.
- · Develop an increased understanding and awareness of media influences on perceptions of multiculturalism and diversity.
- Understand the evolving roles of social media messages on politics, behavior, and culture.
- Understand the effects of globalization and consolidation on the media.

### REQUIRED

- Kahoot! app, free
- A public X, Instagram OR Threads account, free
- Something to write notes on and with; transcribe onto computer later

### **RECOMMENDED**

- · Understanding Media and Culture: An Introduction to Mass Communication, free, https://open.lib.umn.edu/mediaandculture/
- The Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual (recent edition), \$20.95
   Or online version http://apstylebook.com/, \$26/year optional

### **GRADING**

- 40% Attendance, participation, weekly quizzes and daily grades (including current events)
- 10% Your editorial cartoon (Feb. 16) (cartoon and reflection)
- 10% Media law discussion (Feb. 23)
- 10% Photojournalism presentation and reflection (March 8) (Google slides)
- 10% Advertising discussion (April 5)
- 10% Movie presentation and reflection (April 12) (show trailer, discussion)
- 10% What's next (May 3)

# CRITICAL THINKING

includes:

- observation
- analysis
- interpretation
- reflection
- evaluation
- inferenceexplanation
- problem solving
- · decision making.
- Critical thinkers rigorously question ideas and assumptions rather than accepting them at face value. They will always seek to determine whether the ideas, arguments and findings represent the entire picture and are open

Read more at: https://www.skillsyouneed. com/learn/critical-thinking.html

to finding that they do not.

### **ONLINE CLASS**

When a class is labeled as an "ONLINE CLASS," the class does NOT meet in person. There is an online activity scheduled in lieu of meeting in person for that class.

### **FINAL EXAM**

There is NO final exam in this class.

### LAB CODES

D101 - Broadcast Lab:

3, 5, 1

For the student computers, please have them use the following credentials only.

**User:** masscommstudent **PW:** Memphis13

### D202 - Journalism Lab:

5, 2, 4

(each number pressed separately)

### **NOTES**

- Unless otherwise indicated, material is due at the beginning of class.
- · Late work receives a grade of zero.
- I will not discuss grades in any fashion via electronic means. You must discuss grades in person or by videoconference.
- You may not submit material that has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in any other class unless you obtain my explicit
  written permission.
- ANY material (and ALL material) you write for this class should be considered publishable.
- Review and follow the Society for Professional Journalists Code of Ethics available online at http://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp and the NPPA Code of Ethics available online at https://nppa.org/code-ethics/

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

TENTATIVE SCHE	
Jan. 15	Martin Luther King's Birthday observed
Jan. 16	Classes begin
Jan. 16-19	WEEK 1: Course requirements; what are "the media"?; communication; marketable skills; Local media, regional media, national mdia: What are our choices? How do you consume them? Who owns them?
	WEEK 2: Fake news. Alternative facts. Distinguishing reality from fiction. Objectivity: The myth; news vs. public relations
	WEEK 3: Foundations of free speech in America, more on the First Amendment; A look back at Sept. 11, 2001 from a media perspective
Feb. 2	
	WEEK 4: History of print media: flyers, newspapers, books, magazines
Feb. 11	Super Bowl LVIII
Feb. 12-16	WEEK 5: The editorial cartoon
Feb. 14	•
Feb. 19	
	WEEK 6: Media law: free speech, libel, privacy, copyright; five cases you should know; Media ethics and a code of ethics
	WEEK 7: Media, politics and polls
March 1	
	Association of Texas Photography Instructors (Austin)
	Texas Independence Day
	WEEK 8: Photojournalism and fake photos
	Daylight saving time beings at 2 a.m.
March 11-15	NO CLASS: Spring break
	WEEK 9: Agenda-setting, gatekeeping and framing
March 25	·
	WEEK 10: Radio flashback: War of the Worlds
March 28-29	NO CLASS: Holiday break
March 28-29 March 31	NO CLASS: Holiday break Cesar Chavez Day
March 28-29 March 31 April 1-5	NO CLASS: Holiday break Cesar Chavez Day WEEK 11: History and ethics of advertising; manipulative advertising, kids and advertising, sex sells
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### **STATEMENTS**

As the instructor of record for this course, I reserve the right to change any part of this syllabus for any reason. The most current version of the syllabus will be maintained online. I reserve the right to drop — with an F — any students who have excessive absences, who miss assignments, who engage in disruptive behavior, have a poor attitude or who are not taking the class seriously.

### **VALUES**

The faculty, staff, and students of Midwestern State University will strive to uphold our shared values. We seek to engage others with respect, empathy, and joy (people-centered), cultivate a diverse and inclusive campus environment (community), always do the right thing (integrity), adopt innovative ideas to pioneer new paths (visionary), and value relationships with broader communities (connections).

If you see anyone in class struggling to uphold these values, share your concerns with the course instructor.

HTTPS://MSUTEXAS.EDU/ABOUT/VALUES-JOURNEY/.

### STUDENT CONDUCT

Classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to profit from the instruction will result in the removal of that student from class. Such students may be referred to the appropriate university departments including, but not limited to, the University Police, Office of the Dean of Students, Vinson Health Center or the Counseling Center.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, classwork, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure, loss of privileges, disqualification and/or dismissal.

Neither plagiarism, the use of someone else's thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in your own work without appropriate documentation, nor copyright violation in any form will be tolerated whether intentional or not. Both plagiarism and copyright violation involve the theft of intellectual property and will be considered not only a violation of the Student Honor Creed as well as University policy and applicable laws. To avoid any instances of plagiarism or copyright violation, credit the sources of all information appropriately and obtain written permission for the use of copyrighted works when necessary.

Fabrication and falsification are unacceptable. Falsification is the changing or omission of research results including misquoting a source. Fabrication is the construction and/or addition of

data, observations, or characterizations that never occurred including making up quotations from real or fictional sources.

Cheating and collusion are also unacceptable. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the university faculty or staff. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. The term "collusion" means collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit of that collaboration is not authorized by the faculty.

### **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

Since writing, design, photojournalism, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all assignments should be original work created by the student. Developing strong competencies in the areas covered in this course will prepare you for a competitive workplace.

AI-generated submissions, while they have a place in the academic environment and the workplace, are not permitted in this course and will be treated as plagiarism except and unless the assignment specifically calls for the use of generative AI.

However, AI is a tool that can be used for feedback and editing as indicated on individual assignments.

### STUDENT HONOR CREED

"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception. Thus, We, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters. We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help

in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student. We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

WRITTEN AND ADOPTED BY THE 2002-2003 MSU STUDENT SENATE.

### **TITLE IX**

The professor considers this classroom to be a place where everyone will be treated with respect as a human being — regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

MSU officials strive to create and actively promote a welcoming and supportive environment in order to recruit, hire, retain, and support a culturally diverse faculty, staff, and student body. Midwestern State University officials are committed to providing an environment of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity. In accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits unlawful discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, age, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, veteran's status, disability, or citizenship. Retaliation against individuals who in good faith file a claim of discrimination or otherwise oppose discriminatory actions will not be tolerated.

At Midwestern State University, the Title IX Department conducts investigations into possible violations of MSU's Sexual Misconduct Policy, as well as oversees the university's primary prevention and education programming related to sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and sexual harassment.

Effective Jan. 1, 2020 SB212 creates a Class B misdemeanor offense for a person who is required to make a report of an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence or stalking, to report it but knowingly fails to do so.

The crime must allegedly have been committed by or against a student or employee of the institution and it must be reported, promptly, to the institution's Title IX coordinator or deputy Title IX coordinator.

### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES / SPECIAL NEEDS

The Americans with Disabilities Act is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services.

Students that need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, that need to share emergency medical information, or students that require special accommodations in the event of an emergency should contact the instructor.

### STUDENT PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits instructors from releasing information about students to certain parties outside of the university without the signed consent of the student. Thus, I will not discuss your academic progress or other matters with your parents or any other party. Do not have them call me.

HTTP://WWW.ED.GOV/POLICY/GEN/GUID/FPCO/FERPA/

### PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY

Cell phones and tablet devices must be silenced and put away. The first time the instructor sees a device, the student will be warned about the use of the device. The instructor will ask the student to leave the class and to visit with the instructor.

In an emergency requiring the use of a cell phone — on vibrate, notify the instructor and leave the class to handle the emergency.

Research has shown that students retain material better when they write it down. Hence, personal computers are permitted in class only for the purpose of taking notes only if the instructor approves in advance.

Students should never use only technology to record an interview but should instead supplement it with written notes.

### **ONLINE REQUIREMENTS**

This class will use some online instruction. All students should become familiar with the online learning management system Brightspace by D2L. As it has for more than 11 years, this course, as with all courses, will contain the minimum information in Brightspace:

- Syllabus
- Course communication
- Course schedule
- Gradebook
- Online faculty office hours

### **EMAIL**

University-assigned (my.msutexas.edu) email address will be required to receive all official communication from Midwestern State University.

Because of the increasing reliance and acceptance of electronic communication, email is considered an official means for communication with MSU Texas.

MSU Texas provides students with an email account upon admittance to the institution. This account is free of charge and remains available while students are enrolled or active within their degree program.

The university-assigned student email account is Midwestern State University's official means of email communication with all students. Students are responsible for all official information sent to their university-assigned email account. Students are expected to check their email regularly and are responsible for all information sent to them via their university-assigned email address.

Students may access their University-assigned email using any of the following procedures:

- Portal: Use of the myMSUTexas portal provides students with many resources and applications, including access to their university-issued email.
- Portal app: The myMSUTexas app is available for free in the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store.
- *Direct*: Login directly via Google mail. The instructor will NOT use the email system in D2L/Brightspace for this class.

### **ATTENDANCE**

The knowledge and skills students will gain in this course highly depend on participating in class learning activities. Because of that, I expect students to attend all class sessions. Attendance helps students learn the course material. Absent students cannot contribute their unique perspectives to class discussion or other group work, negatively affecting other students' learning opportunities. Attendance promotes professionalism. However, we all realize that, as adults, students should learn to be responsible for their own education and to manage their time.

Do NOT come to class if you are exhibiting any of the signs of the COVID-19 or the seasonal flu.

In the event of a planned absence, students should e-mail Dr. Wilson prior to the absence as a courtesy.

Students are responsible for making up any work missed on their own time, working with classmates.

Students will NOT be able to make up unannounced quizzes given in classes they miss. Students will NOT be able to make up any material missed for being late.

Students who miss class due to Universitysponsored events such as field trips or athletics, should visit with the course instructor in advance and will be required to complete the assigned work on or before the due date. Students should submit an official notification form before the absence.

Exams (all of which will be available in D2L/ Brightspace for an extended period of time), projects and stories with advance deadlines will not be accepted late. Plan ahead.

After a warning, a student with more than four absences may be dropped from the course by the instructor or summarily given a failing grade. Students who are late to class will be counted as absent.

### **CAMPUS CLOSURES**

In the event of a campus closure due to weather or other circumstance, the instructor will communicate with the students regarding how and what to complete during any class periods missed. Online assignment deadlines will NOT be extended neither will the deadlines for long-term assignments.

### **GRADING**

Grading is on a scale of:

≥90	A	Excellent
80-89	В	Good
70-79	С	Satisfactory
60-69	D	Passing
<60	F	Failing

Semester grading follows the same scale. Grading will be determined from specific assignments, projects, written exams, quizzes, a final exam, and class attendance. Assignments are due when announced and will not be accepted late. Any assignment turned in after the deadline receives a grade of zero. Written exams will include material covered in the class and may include, but may not be limited to, multiple choice, short answer and essay questions.

The instructor reserves the right to add, adjust, or cancel assignments as the course progresses. The method of obtaining the final grade will remain essentially the same: the total points achieved will be divided by the total points possible to obtain a percentage, and a grade will be assigned according to a percentage scale.









Part of working in the mass media is getting new experiences. These are some photos with students at MSU—Texas and with my dog, Koda.

# **INSTRUCTOR: BRADLEY WILSON, PHD**

An associate professor at Midwestern State University, Bradley received his doctoral degree in public administration with research work in media agenda-setting and local governments. He teaches various reporting and other mass communication classes although his particular area of interest is visual communication.

He got his start working as a photojournalist for a weekly newspaper in Austin. Along the way, he has worked as an executive director, public information officer and director of marketing for various companies.

Dr. Wilson is the editor of the national magazine, *Communication: Journalism Education Today*, for the national Journalism Education Association.

In 2020, the Scholastic Journalism Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication gave him the David Adams Educator of the Year Award.

He has received the Gold Key from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the Pioneer Award from the National Scholastic Press Association, the Star of Texas from the Association of Texas Photography Instructors, the Trailblazer Award from the Texas Association of Journalism Educators and the Carl Towley Award from the Journalism Education Association. In 2014, the National Press Photographers Association named him the Robin F. Garland Educator of the Year and the College Media Association named him a him a Distinguished Adviser for newspaper advising at a four-year college or university. In 2017, he received the Edith Fox King Award for contributions to scholastic journalism in Texas.

Publications he advised at North Carolina State University for a decade, including a yearbook, a daily newspaper, a literary magazine, a 25,000-watt radio station and video outlet won numerous awards including six Gold Crown awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (four for yearbook and two for literary magazine) and nine Pacemaker from the Associated Collegiate Press (four for yearbook and five for literary magazine).

He worked for more than 20 years as an emergency medical technician – intermediate, the last 11 of them at Cary Area EMS where he was awarded that organization's highest honor, Squadsperson of the Year, and life membership. He plays euphonium and other low-brass instruments and has been active in numerous community bands.

# THOUGHTS TO LIVE BY

Lack of planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part | Good publications are never finished; you only run out of time. | Don't think in terms of filling space or time. Think in terms of providing information. | Web first. Get it online. | Fair. Accurate. Then first. | Don't forget your primary audience. With every story you tell, remember who you're working for. | Respect is earned. | Want to be a better writer? Read.

# **CONTACT**

**OFFICE** 

FAIN D207

**OFFICE HOURS** 

MWF 10:30 - 11 a.m. MW noon - 1 p.m. F 10 - 11 a.m. TR 11 a m - 12:30 p m

TR 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Or by appointment.

**PHONE** 

W: 940/397-4797

E-MAIL

bradley.wilson@ msutexas.edu

**MORE INFORMATION** bradleywilsononline.net



FACEBOOK Bradley Wilson



X (TWITTER) @bradleywilson09



INSTAGRAM: wilsonbrad83



SNAPCHAT wilsonbrad15



# Dr. Wilson's schedule

SPR

# FAIN D207

**OFFICE HOURS** 

MWF 10:30 - 11 a.m. MW noon - 1 p.m.

F 10 - 11 a.m. TR 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Or by appointment.

PHONE

W: 940/397-4797 E-MAIL bradley.wilson@ msutexas.edu **MORE INFORMATION** 



**Bradley Wilson** FACEB00K



X (TWITTER) bradleywilson09



INSTAGRAM wilsonbrad83



vilsonbrad15 SNAPCHAT

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8 a.m.					
9 a.m.	Emerging Media 23436   MW 9-10:20 a.m.   D202	Research and Service	Emerging Media 23436   MW 9-10:20 a.m.   D202	Research and Service	Research and Service
10 a.m.					Office D207 text or call me
	Office		Office		סלטו, נפגו טו עמון ווופ
11 a.m.	Mass Media & Society 21462   MWF 11 a.m noon   D202	<b>Office</b> D207, text or call me	Mass Media & Society 21462   MWF 11 a.m noon   D202	Office D207, text or call me	Mass Media & Society 21462   MWF 11 a.m noon   0202
noon	Office		Office		Research and Service
	D207, text or call me	Advertising	D207, text or call me	Advertising	
1 p.m.	Research and Service	23U36   IK IZ.3U - Z p.M.   1BA	Research and Service	23U36   IM IZ.3U - Z p.m.   IBA	
2 p.m.		Publication Design 21994   TR 2:30 - 3:20 p.m.   0202		Publication Design 21994   TR 2:30 - 3:20 p.m.   0202	
3 p.m.					
		Research and Service		Research and Service	
4 p.m.					
5 p.m.	Office D207, text or call me				
6 p.m.					
7 p.m.					



### **Department of Mass Communication**

Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts 3410 Taft Blvd. | Wichita Falls, TX 76308-2099 o: 940-397-4670 http://www.mwsu.edu/academics/finearts/masscomm/

### **EQUIPMENT AGREEMENT**

As the prices of replacement equipment and repairs continue to increase, it becomes more and more imperative that students exercise proper case in using the equipment. Before being allowed use of this equipment, each student agrees to handle the equipment with proper care and agrees to cover the cost of repairs and/or replacement if he/she is found to be negligent. The chair of the department will make the final determination regarding determination of negligence and any amount owed to the department. Failure to sign and to return this form in a timely manner will result in the student being denied access to equipment.

### **EQUIPMENT**

By my signature below, I agree to be liable for all equipment in my care, including, but not limited to, computers, printers, keyboards, jump drives, scanners, cameras, tapes, video-editing equipment, carrying cases, digital recorders, microphones, and all peripherals that may be used. This agreement covers equipment used in the TV-2 Studio, Broadcast Lab, Journalism Lab, *The Wichitan* office and in connection to any class offered in the department. The total replacement cost of these items can run in the thousands of dollars and I may be held responsible for equipment replacement should any parts be damaged, stolen, lost or otherwise returned not working.

- Food and beverages must be kept away from the equipment.
- Smoking is prohibited in all campus buildings and can cause damage to equipment as well as jeopardize the health of others.
- In short, if I break it, I buy it.

I understand that any abuse or misuse of equipment may result in suspension of privileges to use the department's equipment, blocks on registration or graduation, and/or assessment of replacement/repair costs.

I understand that I am obtaining the above-mentioned equipment for the purpose of coursework or research associated with Midwestern State University.

### AFTER HOURS ACCESS

I also understand that my ID card may allow me access to labs, offices, the TV-2 studio and/or the D-wing of Fain Fine Arts Center during non-business hours. I understand that anyone not specifically approved by the chair of the department is prohibited from using the facilities, and I agree not to grant such individuals access to any facility. As such, I agree not to prop open any outside doors, and I agree to follow all fire and police codes as well as applicable local, state and federal laws. I understand that I am responsible for any and all damages that might occur while on the premises and that university officials can track electronically who is on the premises and when if electronic ID card access is used. I understand that failure to follow these rules may result in a permanent suspension of my privileges of access during non-business hours.

I accept the terms of use of mass communication equipment.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	TUL TUL Jan
DATE	M-NUMBER	
		mweu odi