

COMM2002 - History of Communication Syllabus

Spring 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor	Email	Office Location & Hour
Mesut Bostan, Asst. Prof.	mesut.bostan@marmara.edu.tr	A.621 & Wednesday 11:30-12:20 (appointment by email)

General Information

Course Meeting Location and Times

Lecture I: (ILT A103 & Wednesday 08:30-09:20)

Lecture II: (ILT A103 & Wednesday 09:30-10:20)

Discussion: (ILT A103 & Wednesday 10:30-11:20)

Description

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the history of communication from the earliest forms of human communication to the present day. In this course, we will try to show the relevance of the past to the present by bringing history into media studies and the media into history. Students will examine how communication technologies and media have evolved over time, and how they have shaped human society and culture.

Required Text

Briggs, A., Burke, P., & Ytreberg, E. (2020). *A Social History of the Media*. Wiley.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic
[Week 1]	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication in History, History in Communication• Media of Communication before Print• From Orality to Literacy and Secondary Orality• Media in an Expanded Sense
[Week 2]	Printing in Its Contexts (I) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Spread of Print• The Effects of Print• An Unacknowledged Revolution?• Physical Communication• The Speed of Communication• Oral Communication• Contexts of Literacy• Languages of Communication• Visual Communication• Multimedia Communication
[Week 3]	Printing in Its Contexts (II) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Survival of the Manuscript• Censorship• Clandestine Communication

Week**Topic**

- Print in Consumer Society
- Five Kinds of Reading
- The Print Revolution Revisited
- Propaganda
- Print Was Everywhere
- Journals and Newspapers

[Week 4]**The Media and the Public Sphere in Early Modern Europe (I)**

- The Rise of the Public Sphere
- Politics in Florence
- Five Clusters of Events
- The Reformation
- The Sorcerer's Apprentice
- Books and Pamphlets
- Other Media
- The Conservative Dilemma
- Significance of the Reformation
- The Wars of Religion
- Iconoclasm
- The French Wars of Religion

[Week 5]**The Media and the Public Sphere in Early Modern Europe (II)**

- The Revolt of the Netherlands
- The English Civil War
- From the Restoration to the 'Glorious Revolution
- A Proliferation of Print
- Seventeenth-Century France
- Enlightenments
- The French Revolution
- After Revolution
- Conclusion

[Week 6]**Technologies and Revolutions**

- The Industrial Revolution
- Invention

Week**Topic**

- From Canals to Railways
- Gas
- Bacon's Dream
- Critics of Industrialization
- The Dismal Science
- Democracy
- Class
- The Steam Press
- Books and Periodicals
- Exhibitions
- Electricity

[Week 7]**New Processes and Patterns**

- Railways
- Steamships
- Postal Communication
- Telegraphy
- Regulating Communications
- The Telephone
- Radio
- Sound Recordings
- Photography
- Films
- Television
- Physical Communication

Midterm**[Week 8]****Information, Education, Entertainment (I)**

- Sport
- Newspapers
- The Popular Press
- Critics of the Press
- Journalists
- W. T. Stead and Arthur Evans

Week

Topic

- The Twentieth Century
- The USA
- The Decline of Newspapers
- Media in Competition
- Radio
- The Role of Reith
- Radio in the USA
- Other Systems

[Week 9]

Information, Education, Entertainment (II)

- The Division of Labour in Broadcasting
- Programmes
- The Rise of FM
- The Influence of Radio
- The Rise of Television
- The British Model
- The Explosion
- Debates
- Media Research
- Debate Renewed
- Landmarks in Entertainment
- Education
- Information
- The Information Society
- Coexistence and Convergence

[Week 10]

Media Convergences (I)

- Computers
- Transistors
- Miniaturization
- Japan
- The PC
- Cornucopia
- Broadcasting
- Debating Change

Week**Topic**

- Global Communications
- Institutions
- Communications about Communications
- Games
- The PC Explosion
- Virtual Reality
- Microsoft
- Convergence

[Week 11]**Media Convergences (II)**

- Exploring Space
- Cables and Satellites
- Viewdata
- VCRs
- Mobile Phones
- The Internet
- A New Age?
- Globalization
- Learning at a Distance

[Week 12]**The Return of the Social (I)**

- Everyday Mobility and Gaming
- Mediated Selves and Intimate Lives
- Algorithms
- Facebook
- Transformations of Digital Publics
- Coda: Fragmentations and Collectives

[Week 13]**The Return of the Social (II)**

- Facebook
- Transformations of Digital Publics
- Coda: Fragmentations and Collectives

[Week 14]**General Overview**

Exam Schedule

Date	Exam
TBA	Midterm
TBA	Final

Grading

Midterm %50 + Final %50

Attendance

You are obliged to attend %70 of the classes to pass the course.