

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** International Journalism and Media

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** Global News Analysis

**Course Code:** JRN 6210

**Course Leader:** Louise Byrne

**Student Engagement Hours:** **120**

Lectures: 22.5

Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5

Independent / Guided Learning : 75

**Semester:** FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits  
6 ECTS credits  
3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the main issues and key theoretical debates in the study of news produced by global media organizations. Students will explore the evolution of global news from the birth of world news agencies, through 24/7 satellite news and the so-called 'CNN effect', to the way that new global media producers are influencing news flow and contra flow between east and west. They will also look at how the internet and the 'networked society' are challenging the cultural hegemony of the global news producers and opening the way for 'glocalisation' of news media.

**Suggested Pre-requisites:** COM 3100

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To provide an introduction to development of global news, its structure and the shifting power relations in the flow of news around the world.
- To critically engage with the theoretical debates and substantive findings that inform the study of global news.
- To explore issues presented by the rise of the internet as a global news producer and distributor.
- To debate questions of audience news reception, understanding and beliefs.
- To enhance research and academic writing skills.

- To use a range of sources (academic books and journals, news articles, and the Internet) and to engage with journalistic and academic texts.
- To be aware of views other than their own and adapt behaviour to meet obligations in personal and/or group outcomes and/or opinions.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, a successful student should be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the development of global news, its structure and the shifting power relations in the flow of news around the world.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show a familiarity the development, structure and flow of news around the world  
*Assessed in all assessments.*
- Demonstrate a critical engagement with the theoretical debates and substantive findings that inform the study of global news.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show an ability to engage with the theoretical debates and substantive findings that inform global news analysis.  
*Assessed in all assessments.*
- Demonstrate an ability to explore issues presented by the rise of the internet as a global news producer and distributor.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show an ability to engage with issues presented by the internet and as a news outlet.  
*Assessed in all assessments.*
- Demonstrate an ability to explore questions of audience news reception, understanding and beliefs.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show a general ability to engage with theoretical debates around audience and global news.  
*Assessed in all assessments.*
- Demonstrate the ability to use a range of sources (academic books and journals, news articles, and the Internet) and to engage with journalistic texts.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show an ability to use a range of resources and information.  
*Assessed in all assessments.*
- Demonstrate an awareness of views other than their own and adapt behaviour to meet obligations in personal and/or group outcomes and/or outputs.  
**Relevant Threshold Criteria (to get the grade 'C')** – Students will show an ability to appreciate the views of other and work towards shared or group goals.  
*Assessed in all assessments.*

### **Programme Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

6Ai, 6Aiv, 6Ci, 6Civ, 6Dii, 6Div

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is located on the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

**Indicative Content:**

- Global news structure and organisation
- Theoretical debates in the study of news
- News as a commodity
- Foreign policy and global news
- Global news production and audiences
- Alternative journalism
- The ‘citizen journalist’ and global news

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

**Teaching Methodology:**

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

Lectures provide a framework for the course, and are designed to ensure students have an overview of main issues and concerns on a particular topic, receive clarification on the major points of debate understand the broad dimensions of core problems, and are aware of relevant literature in the specific area of concern. It is essential that lectures are supplemented with assigned readings; together, the readings and the lectures are designed to provide guidance for seminar discussion.

Seminar classes are based on the principle of active and student-directed learning, and are designed to be **Safe, Enjoyable, Managed, Inclusive, Necessary, Academic, Respectful & Stimulating**. The seminars provide an opportunity for discussion of contentious issues, addressing questions and exploring academic debates in more depth, group and sub-group discussion. They are encouraged to share their opinions freely, but must also maintain respect for the opinions of others. It is expected that students will participate regularly in discussions in a creative, competent and critical way, as the formulation of their own thoughts and clarification of their assumptions, often in contradiction to other students’ thoughts and assumptions, form a crucial part of the learning process. Students are expected to come to seminar classes prepared.

**Bibliography:**

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Key Texts:**

Paterson, C. and Sreberny A. (eds.) (2004) *International News in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. John Libby and Co.  
Williams, K (2011) *International Journalism Studies Key texts*. London: Sage.  
Zelizer, B. and Allan. S. (Eds.) (2002) *Journalism After September 11*. London: Routledge.

