

JOURNALISM AND SCREEN STUDIES (JASS)

JASS 503 Issues in Cyberspace 3 Credit Hours

This course will explore some of the current social, political, legal, and technological issues associated with the use of new media technology to move ideas and information in a democratic society. Examples of areas to be explored include the Internet and World Wide Web, privacy, the future of the mass audience, and the meaning of the First Amendment in the 21st century. (YR).

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Rackham or Graduate

JASS 506 History & Theory of Documentary 3 Credit Hours

This course surveys the history of European and American documentary and explores its ethical, aesthetic, legal and economic issues. Students study documentary's central moments, forms and artists; the changing theoretical approaches to documentary making; and the range of documentary purposes (informational, educational, propagandistic, entertainment). The course also provides historical and theoretical background for those students who wish to pursue their interest in documentary in the script-writing and production courses also offered in the Communications (Journalism and Screen Studies) Discipline. The graduate course includes a substantial additional research paper, for example on one particular documentary producer, on ethical issues in documentary or on the use of documentary as a political tool.

Prerequisite(s): COMP 106 or COMP 220 or COMP 270 or Composition Placement Score with a score of 40 or Composition Placement Score with a score of 107 or COMP 280

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Rackham or Graduate

JASS 536 Memoir and Travel Writing 3 Credit Hours

A course in narrative nonfiction that focuses on memoir and travel writing. Reading involves several books as well as classic essay-length examples. Assignments include both short and analytical papers and the writing and revising of three original articles, based on research, interviews, memory, and observation, and drawing on literary techniques. In addition to these assignments, graduate students must prepare a substantial critical analysis focusing on a particular writer or theme, and present their work to the class as well as in writing. (YR).

Prerequisite(s): COMP 106 or COMP 220 or COMP 270 or Composition Placement Score with a score of 40 or COMP 280

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Rackham or Graduate

JASS 557 American Cinema 3 Credit Hours

This course will analyze how Hollywood as the nation's dream factory has manufactured fantasies and cultural myths that have constructed the image of American citizenship, both for Americans and non-Americans. It will establish the ideological function of Hollywood texts as providing unifying symbols for a fragmented society. Students who elect the course for graduate credit will do additional graduate-level work as outlined in the course syllabus.

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 248 or HUM 248 or JASS 248

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Rackham or Graduate

JASS 577 Ethnographic Film 3 Credit Hours

This course will analyze ethnographic films as a medium for the construction of meaning in and across cultures. It will teach students to understand how putatively "real" content of documentary film creates a mixture of fantasy, news and "science". Covering texts as varied as National Geographic photographic layouts, traditional ethnographic films made by anthropologists, and auto-ethnographies of cultural groups such as Native Americans and the Trobriand Islanders of Papua New Guinea, the course will aim to deconstruct such oppositions as indigene vs. alien, us vs. them, and self vs. other. (AY)

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 248 or HUM 248 or JASS 248 or ANTH 101

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Level is Rackham or Graduate

* An asterisk denotes that a course may be taken concurrently.

Frequency of Offering

The following abbreviations are used to denote the frequency of offering: (F) fall term; (W) winter term; (S) summer term; (F, W) fall and winter terms; (YR) once a year; (AY) alternating years; (OC) offered occasionally