

Indiana University
Department of Telecommunications

Syllabus

T311 – Media History
Section #4059
Spring, 2001

Lectures: MW 4 - 5:15 p.m. Radio-Television Center 226
Instructor: Dr. Julia Fox
Office Hours: Mondays 12:30-2:30 p.m., Wednesdays noon-1 p.m.
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Readings:

There are two required texts for this course:

Craft, J., Leigh, F., & Godfrey, D. 2001. *Electronic media*. Wadsworth.

Hacker, D. 2000. *A pocket style manual*, 3rd ed. Bedford Books/St. Martin's Press.

Course Description: This course surveys the historical development of mediated communication suggesting linkages between past and present. Examines a variety of time periods and media forms: telegraphy, telephony, radio, television, and computer communication.

Intensive Writing: Normally, intensive writing sections are taught by faculty in small sections or by individual arrangement and include a series of written assignments evaluated with close attention to organization and expression as well as to substance and argument. To qualify for IW credit, students must write at least 5,000 words, not counting revisions (and excluding essay examinations and informal writing, e.g., journals or brief response statements). They should receive periodic evaluations of their writing, and they should be required to redraft one or more papers in light of the instructor's criticism. Ordinarily students will write a series of papers over the course of a semester, not one long term paper.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to adhere to and to be familiar with the policies and procedures pertaining to academic and personal misconduct, as detailed in the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, especially Part III: Student Misconduct and Part IV: Student Disciplinary Procedures. Copies of the code are available in the Office of Student Ethics and Anti-Harassment Programs, 705 East 7th Street. The code is also available on the internet at <http://campuslife.indiana.edu/code/index1.html>.

Attendance: Students are responsible for all material presented in class. Students must attend class in order to receive credit for one-minute papers. Students must be able to verify the

legitimacy of an absence in order to make up any work, including the exam or a missed deadline.

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Assignments: The first assignment is to talk with an older relative (e.g. parents, grandparents, aunts, or uncles -- although faculty will do if a family member is not available) and then write a paper about his/her early TV memories/viewing experiences. This assignment will be completed early on, and will serve as a diagnostic evaluation of students' writing abilities (it's also an interesting way to be introduced to the course topic!). A follow-up to that assignment will compare information learned in that conversation to information from the text and other sources regarding what television was like during that time period. Students will also write a research paper about an important event in telecommunications history that happened on (or near) their date of birth. That paper will be revised following the instructor's comments. Finally, students will write a comprehensive research/opinion paper about which decade they consider to be the most important in telecommunications history, addressing technology, policy and regulation, content, social effects, and economic impact. Further details regarding these assignment topics and writing guidelines will be distributed in class. Assignments must be turned in on or before their due date. Extensions may be granted, in advance, at the discretion of the instructor.

Exams: There will be one in-class exam, with an in-class review session before the exam.

One-minute papers: For credit but no letter grade, students will complete a one-minute paper at the end of each class (except for the day of the exam and the exam review). The papers can summarize the day's class, comment on an interesting or surprising point that was raised, or pose a question concerning the class material. Students must attend class in order to write a one-minute paper. Each one-minute paper will count as one percent of the final grade. A total of 15 one-minute papers are required.

Grading Policy: The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percent of Grade</u>
Early TV memories paper (2-3 pages)	10%
Early TV memories paper follow-up (2-3 pages)	10%
Birth date research paper (3-5 pages)	15%
Birth date research paper revision (3-5 pages)	10%
Most important decade paper (7-10 pages)	25%
Exam	15%
One-minute papers	15%
Total	100%

A final total percent below 60 is considered failing, 60-62% is D-, 63-66% is D, 67-69% is D+, 70-72% is C-, 73-76% is C, 77-79% is C+, 80-82% is B-, 83-86% is B, 87-89% is B+, 90-92% is

A-, 93-96% is A, and 97% and above is A+.

Extra credit: Up to five additional one-minute papers may be submitted for extra credit at one point apiece. Only one one-minute paper may be submitted per class. Students may also earn extra credit points through research participation.

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Date	Topic	Reading(s)
1/8	Course introduction	T311 syllabus; Electronic Media pp. 3-4
1/10	Writing Style	A Pocket Manual of Style
1/17	Research Resources	InfoTrac
1/22	Prior to the 20 th century	pp. 13-14, 34, 59-66, 215, 286, 333
1/24	1900-1910	pp. 14-16, 49, 66, 215
1/29-1/31	1910-1920	pp. 16-18, 19, 49, 62, 66, 333
2/5-2/7	1920s	pp. 18-28, 34-35, 49-50, 55, 63, 67, 74, 79-86, 122, 207, 234, 354
2/12-2/14	1930s	pp. 28-35, 49, 63, 67-68, 74, 85-88, 91, 107, 122, 128, 187, 207, 234, 334
2/19-2/21	1940s	pp. 32, 39-40, 43-45, 49, 52, 68, 72, 74, 87-90, 101-102, 122, 128, 187, 198, 207-208, 321, 334-335
2/26-2/28	1950s	pp. 41, 44-47, 50, 52, 55, 68, 74, 109, 112, 122, 128, 133, 167, 171, 175, 187, 193, 208-210, 225, 234, 315, 335-336
3/5-3/7	1960s	pp. 41-42, 46-48, 50-53, 68-70, 72, 73, 88-92, 108-109, 128, 170-171, 193, 209-210, 220, 298, 321, 326, 349-350, 354
3/19-3/21	1970s	pp. 8, 42-43, 48-50, 53-55, 63, 69-70, 72, 93, 104, 106-107, 110, 112, 122, 130, 135-137, 142, 161, 170-171, 193, 199-201, 210, 217, 235, 317, 324, 326, 356
3/26-3/28	1980s	pp. 7, 42-43, 49, 51-52, 55, 63, 72-74, 91, 93, 106-107, 109-110, 113, 122, 130, 133-134, 136-137, 150, 161, 170, 177, 193, 199, 201, 210, 218, 238, 315-316, 325-326, 335, 354-355, 356
4/2-4/4	1990s	pp. 10, 49, 52, 54-55, 71-73, 85, 92-95, 99, 109-110, 113-114, 126, 128-130, 133-135, 156, 161, 163, 169-171, 173, 175-178, 183, 185, 187-188, 193, 198, 211, 215, 219, 234-235, 238, 250, 308, 319-320, 326, 350-351, 355
4/9	Review for exam	None

4/11	Exam	none
4/16	Special topic: History of videodisc	pp. 326-327
4/18	Special topic: Portrayals of minorities	pp. 351-352
4/23	Special topic: TV and the presidency	pp. 354-355
4/25	Special topic: History of video game	none

Final Meeting: 5-7 p.m. April 30, 2001. Most important decade papers due.

