

Communication

Spring 2024 Course Catalog

UMassAmherst

College of Social
& Behavioral Sciences
Communication

Comm 118 | Introduction to Interpersonal Communication and Culture

MWF | 12:20pm – 1:10pm

Benjamin Bailey

3 credits

In this class, we focus on acquiring a principled understanding of everyday, face-to-face interaction as the process by which we create, maintain, and manage social experience. Students acquire vocabulary and concepts to account for, analyze, and evaluate interpersonal communication in social and cultural context.

Communication majors must complete 3 of the following 5 courses: 118, 121, 122, 125, and 140.

Comm 121 | Introduction to Media and Culture

TuTh | 10:00am – 11:15am

Roopali Mukherjee

3 credits

Media play a central role in politics, economics, culture, and our everyday lives. Our key concern is to understand both the direct and subtle operations of media power in society today: How do media construct meaning? How do new communication technologies shape our most intimate and personal relationships? How and why do data-driven corporations track and monetize their users often without their consent or political accountability? This class introduces students to different media studies traditions including medium theory, political economy, representation, media effects, and audience studies that examine media as technologies, institutions, narratives, and their audiences / users.

Communication majors must complete 3 of the following 5 courses: 118, 121, 122, 125, and 140.

Comm 122 | Introduction to Media Industries and Institutions

TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm

Weiai (Wayne) Xu

3 credits

This course is an introduction to the process of media production, with a special focus on the institutional forces (i.e. market structures, industry practices, law and regulation, citizen activism, and audience dynamics) that shape the content of electronic media. We will consider a variety of historical, technological, economic, cultural, legal, political, and ethical factors that influence the production, distribution, and consumption of media texts in digital environments. We will take a case study approach, using examples of the U.S. television, film, news, and music industries to examine the dynamic interplay between national media systems and global media markets.

Communication majors must complete 3 of the following 5 courses: 118, 121, 122, 125, and 140.

Comm 125 | Introduction to Rhetoric and Performance Studies

MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm

Brendan McCauley

3 credits

This course provides an introduction to the major ideas and concepts of rhetorical and performance studies and their contributions to social action. Students will be introduced to the thinkers and movements in rhetoric and performance most significant to how we understand ourselves: the ways we represent and remember our pasts, live our presents (presence), and imagine our futures. Theories of rhetoric and performance will be connected to each other and to our communication practices to examine how theories can be deployed as part of the art of living our lives. Assignments in this course will also connect theory and practice: students will be quizzed on readings to assess knowledge of concepts and theory and will complete out of class assignments that require practical applications of concepts/theories to community contexts. Students will also be expected to be able to engage in critical assessment: of the theories and their applications, as well as of their own (students') commitment to the work of education and personal growth.

Communication majors must complete 3 of the following 5 courses: 118, 121, 122, 125, and 140.

Comm 140 | Introduction to Film Studies**Brendan McCauley****3 credits****TuTh | 2:30pm – 3:45pm****+ Lab Section: Tu | 4:00pm – 6:00pm**

This course offers an introduction to the study of film as a distinct medium. It introduces the ways in which film style, form, and genre contribute to the meaning and the experience of movies. Topics include film as industrial commodity, narrative and non-narrative form, aspects of style (e.g. composition, cinematography, editing, and sound), and the role of film as a cultural practice. Examples are drawn from new and classic films, from Hollywood and from around the world. This course is intended to serve as a basis for film studies courses you might take in the future.

Communication majors must complete 3 of the following 5 courses: 118, 121, 122, 125, and 140.

Comm 205 | Advanced Transfer Student Workshop**Marianne Neal-Joyce****1 credit****MW | 12:20pm – 1:10pm**

This is a graded introduction to the Communication major, designed to welcome advanced transfer students (Junior status) into the program and address some of their specific needs. This course recognizes and respects that you are familiar with college; the objective is to help you become more familiar with UMass as seamlessly and efficiently as possible so you can feel less like a transfer student and be prepared to be a UMass Communication student. Through class discussions and applied projects, this course will introduce you to the major's subject areas, the college and university's expectations, the field of Communication, and the opportunities in and around campus, including Honors, Internships, Community Service, Study Abroad, and Campus Media.

This course will meet twice a week for the first six weeks of the fall semester. The last day of classes will be Wednesday, March 09.

Comm 226 | Social Impact of Mass Media**Section 1: Instructor TBD****Section 2: Instructor TBD****MWF | 11:15am – 12:05pm****MWF | 12:20pm – 01:10pm****3 credits**

This course explores the influence of the mass media on the social world, particularly the media's impact on audiences. We will investigate various approaches utilized to determine if, when, and how media influence viewers, listeners, and readers. We will examine this issue from both scientific and cultural studies perspectives. Some of the questions we will consider include: How does television violence impact society and individuals? Can watching sex on television and film lead to teenage promiscuity? Are political advertisements and news coverage creating a more or less informed voter? How do people make sense of the media in their lives? The focus of this course is to understand how these questions are studied and what, if any, conclusions can be drawn from such research.

COMM 121 is highly recommended before taking this course. For questions about this class during registration, before this class starts, you can contact Course Director Professor Soo Young Bae (sooyoungbae@umass.edu).

Comm 245 | The Folklore of Alcohol**Stephen Olbrys Gencarella****4 credits****MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm****Gen Ed: SB**

This course examines the vast store of folklore inspired by and directed at alcoholic beverages and their cultural reach. Folklore means traditional expressive practices ranging from the verbal arts (such as stories and songs) to material culture (such as crafts and medicine) to customary activities (such as rituals and beliefs). The range of folklore herein is both global and ancient; that is, it concerns the entire history of alcohol, which necessitates attention to the entire history of humanity in a global perspective. Virtually all kinds of alcoholic beverages will be examined. Specific lectures will address cultural patterns and differences concerning alcohol in the negotiation of identity, community, and society.

Comm 248 | The Folklore of New England**Stephen Olbrys Gencarella****4 credits****MW | 4:00pm – 5:15pm****Gen Ed: SB**

This course examines the folklore of New England and adjacent regions. It introduces students to the fundamentals of the study of folklore, including notions of tradition, the vernacular, expressive culture, performance, storytelling, material lore, customs, folk groups, community, and worldview. It surveys folklore genres including legend, myth, folktale, folk songs and ballads, proverbs, folk medicine, superstition, folk arts and crafts, rituals, holidays, festivals, and foodways. It illustrates these ideas and provides a history of the folklore of New England, including the precolonial and colonial periods as well as those of immigrant and recent groups to the region. Throughout the semester, we consider issues of gender, race, class, ethnicity, and related manifestations of social diversity or lack thereof in New England. We also analyze the role that folklore plays in creating, maintaining, challenging, and changing social norms and values. As such, this course assumes a critical perspective on folklore and on the concept of New England itself.

Comm 260 | Public Speaking**Instructors TBD, 5 sections****3 credits****MWF | Various Times**

This course blends theory and practice in exploring public speaking. The theory of speech composition, presentation, and evaluation is discussed in relation to public discourse, civic engagement, and the ethics of persuasion. Students also practice and develop their own skills by giving several formal and impromptu speeches. Requirements include frequent in-class speaking assignments and related practices, including written analyses of speeches.

Comm 271 | Humor and Comedy in Society**Stephen Olbrys Gencarella****4 credits****MW | 5:30pm – 6:45pm****Gen Ed: SB**

This course examines humor as a significant form of creative expression in social and political life. In recent decades, scholars of all persuasions from the humanities, social sciences, and even hard sciences have examined this subject through a critical lens, leading to the development of an interdisciplinary field known as humor studies. This course provides an introduction to that burgeoning field. Topics include theories of humor, the differences and relationship between humor and comedy, the use of both in the redress of political and social tensions, the importance of the body in humor and comedy, and their role in the negotiation of identity and community.

This course was formerly numbered COMM 297C. If you have taken COMM 297C you cannot take this course.

Comm 284 | Possible Futures: Science Fiction in Global Cinemas**Kevin Anderson****4 credits****F | 10:10 – 1:10pm****Gen Ed: SB, DG**

There are multiple growing concerns regarding issues of climate, class, race, gender identity, and the nature of democracy in our contemporary world. Science fiction has proven to be a thought-provoking genre to help raise awareness to many of these social and environmental issues. This course takes a global perspective on such pressing issues by examining science fiction films from around the world. As such, the course uses science fiction films as primary texts, accompanied by weekly readings. Students will engage in a critical analysis of the assigned films and readings in order to better appreciate what we can begin to anticipate regarding our future.

Comm 310 | Social Influence and Persuasion**Soo Young Bae****4 credits****TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm**

This course examines theories and key research findings in the field of persuasion and social influence through the lens of communication. We will examine theories in social psychology to understand the underlying process of persuasion and apply this knowledge to explain how attitudes and behaviors are spread through interpersonal and mass communication.

Taking COMM 121 (Intro to Media + Culture) or COMM 122 (Intro the Media Programming + Institutions) prior to enrollment in this course is highly recommended.

Comm 318 | Comparative Comm. Theory

TuTh | 5:30pm – 6:45pm

Briankle Chang

3 credits

Current approaches to communication theory. Emphasis on a comparative approach to communication problems, and on a critical analysis of theoretical foundations. Theories considered include: systems theory, 20th-century rhetorics, reductionism, ethnographic studies, critical indicators, and critical cultural studies. Prerequisite: COMM 118.

Comm 325H | Race, Media and Politics - Honors

TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm

Seth Goldman

4 credits

This course examines the changing role of "race" in American politics and society, focusing in particular on change over time in public opinion, media portrayals, and campaigns and elections. As we investigate these themes, we will analyze the impact of political communication on race relations, and evaluate strategies that could help to improve interracial relations in society. (Gen. Ed. HSDU)

Comm 331 | Program Process in Television

W | 10:10am – 11:00am

Jason May

+ Lab Sections: M | 1:25pm – 4:25pm

M | 10:00am – 1:00pm

F | 10:00am – 1:00pm

3 credits

Lecture, studio lab. This course introduces concepts and techniques of television production through weekly lectures and lab meetings. During the first seven weeks, basic field camera concepts and techniques, as well as other video production information, are introduced in the lecture. Students will join one of three lab groups. Under the supervision of their lab instructor, they produce a short program that puts the concept of the week to work. During the second half of the semester, students work on two major projects: first, a short, narrative piece shot in single-camera, post-production style; and second, a multiple camera piece shot in the production studio.

Course Eligibility*: Open to Senior, Junior and Sophomores

Comm 338 | Children, Teens, and Media

TuTh | 10:00am – 11:15am

Erica Scharrer

4 credits

In this seminar, we will explore the role of media (television, Internet, video games, mobile media, film, etc.) in shaping the lives of children and teens. We will consider how much time children devote to various media, what they think about what they encounter through media, and the implications of media for children's lives. We will draw on social science research to examine a wide range of topics, including: depictions of race, class, gender, and sexuality in ads, programming, and other media forms; the role of media in the development of adolescent identity; media uses and effects in the realms of educational TV and apps, advertising and consumer culture, violence, and sex; and the possibilities of media literacy, parental rules and dialogue, and public policies to shape children's interactions with media.

Prerequisites: COMM 121

Comm 339 | Media and Public Policy

TuTh | 1:00pm – 2:15pm

Martha Fuentes-Bautista

3 credits

This course provides students with media policy literacy and critical knowledge on evolving debates on media and technology policy in the United States, and its implication for democracy and the development of media systems. We will examine laws, policies and regulations affecting legacy and digital media, including universal service, net neutrality, free speech, access to information,

advertising, online privacy, data protection and intellectual property. Students are introduced to practices of public interest advocacy and media technology policy-making, identifying stakeholders and vested interests in this process. By the successful completion of this course, students will be able to: Explain how media law and media policy are constituted, and analyze substantive issues on the contemporary media and technology policy agenda in the U.S.; Understand the socio-political relations and political-economic context that surround key media policy debates.

Comm 345 | Contemporary World Cinema

MW | 04:00pm – 6:00pm

Anne Ciecko

3 credits

This course offers an overview of recent filmmaking from around the world including narrative fiction feature films, documentary, short-form work, and other digital/audiovisual media. Developing tools of film analysis and criticism, we will explore representational strategies and issues of context: current events, cultural, political, social, historical, and economic circumstances that impact the production, exhibition, marketing, distribution, and reception of films. All undergraduates are welcome. No prior background in film studies is required, only an openness to diverse cultures and representations.

Comm 346 | Introduction to Studio Directing

Thu | 10:00am – 2:00pm

Jason May

3 credits

Students will learn the process of directing programs in a studio environment, as well as practice principles of set design, lighting design; sound design, pickup + mixing; graphic design in the TV studio environment. The course will be a combination of analytics, technical understanding, and a hands-on learning experience. We will analyze various programs and their corresponding formats. Then, we will work on a long show format project as a class.

Comm 360 | Music, Culture, and the Moving Image

M | 10:10am – 1:10pm

Kevin Anderson

Gen Ed: SB, UD

4 credits

This course explores the relationship between music and the moving image across multiple forms of media, including Film and Television, Documentaries, Music Videos, Video Games, Commercials, Broadcasts (e.g. news, sports), and Social Media (e.g. TikTok). The scope of the material studied includes examples from multiple cultures and points in the history of the moving image, paying particular attention to hybrid and cross-cultural blends of image and music, and the ways in which this marriage of image and sound produce cultural and emotional meanings.

Students will be exposed to a wide variety of international, cultural, and historic pairings of music with moving images, and will emerge from the course with a thorough foundation in the following: how and why music pairs with the moving image; how and why the relationship between music and images has varied across time and cultures; and the ways in which psychological states, cultural-historical markers, and emotional appeal are targeted through the pairing of sonic and visual stimuli.

Comm 373 | Global Media Flows

MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm

Seyram Avle

3 credits

From Hollywood to Bollywood, Korean Dramas to Netflix Originals, media finds transnational and diasporic audiences around the world and are remade, re-used, and remixed. This course will unpack theories of globalization and other processes facilitating the cross-border flow of various media. Case studies and assignments will be focused on the production, distribution, and reception of entertainment media from different parts of the world. In addition to reading responses and a midterm paper, students will complete a group project on a country and media product of their choice.

Comm 375 | Writing as Communication

MWF | Various Times

Instructors TBD, 7 sections

Junior Year Writing

3 credits

Exploration of the types of writing associated with the discipline of communication. Development and improvement of the student's writing, research, and critical thinking skills.

You must have fulfilled your CW Gen. Ed. requirement to enroll in this course.

For questions about this class during registration, before class starts, you can contact Course Director Associate Professor Stephen Gencarella (solbrys@comm.umass.edu).

Comm 390STA | DIY Media & Social Change

TuThur 1:00pm – 2:15pm

Joel Saxe

3 credits

Do-it-yourself media has radically transformed our cultural landscape. Creativity, passion, and determination allows anyone to be a maker. While the term originates in the 1970s UK punk and US hip hop movements, and has been incorporated into mainstream commercial culture, its independent, grassroots spirit has been a critical element in contemporary movements for social change. Over the last decade, online media has allowed the explosion of creative-maker content and the mobilization of political opinion in ways that challenge previous paradigms of public communication and social change.

Junior & Senior Communication majors only.

Comm 393B | S-Intermediate Video Art Production

MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm

Ayanna Dozier

3 credits

This is an intermediate video production theory course for students interested in exploring a wide range of approaches to narrative, documentary and experimental videomaking. Students will gain experience in production and postproduction techniques and will learn to think about and look critically at the moving and still image. The class will concentrate on the development of individual approaches to directing, performance, text, sound and image. Students will complete several collaborative and individual projects for the course and will also write responses to critical readings and weekly screenings. The course will include workshops in non-linear editing, cinematography, and lighting.

Junior & Senior Communication majors only.

Comm 394DI | Youth, Democracy and the Entertainment Industry

TuTh | 04:00pm – 5:15pm

Joel Saxe

3 credits

Integrative Experience

The entertainment industries are inordinately focused on young people as they represent tremendous market force. How do the imperatives of this market-driven media culture correspond with principles of democracy? Topics to be considered include commercialism & youth identity, culture jamming, global youth protests, race/class inequities, generation debt, urban youth, strategies for organizing youth resistance - all with an eye towards visioning a media system truly guided by principle of democracy. Assignments will integrate arts and media making through projects in visual illustration and blogging.

Comm 409 | Communication, Tech, and Work

MW | 5:30pm – 6:45pm

Seyram Avle

3 credits

This course will examine the different ways that communication and digital technologies are shaping notions of work and labor. We will engage with ongoing debates on topics such as the sharing economy (e.g., Uber;Lyft driving), microwork (e.g., Amazon Mechanical Turk), microcelebrity (e.g. YouTube stars and Instagram influencers), tech entrepreneurship both in Silicon Valley and other parts of the world, as well as the work that goes into making popular consumer technologies like the iPhone. By the end of the course, you should have a critical understanding of the economic and social forces underlying shifts in digital labor, communication, technology, and work. The coursework includes digital assignments, reading responses, and a research paper.

Comm 414 | Studying Everyday Talk
Benjamin Bailey
4 credits

MW | 2:30pm – 3:45pm
Integrative Experience

This course combines reading and discussion with application of theoretically informed methods in the study of everyday social interaction. We will: 1) Read and discuss representative studies of social interaction and communicative behavior in cultural context. 2) Do graduated classroom and field exercises to assemble methodological tools and accumulate data for your final paper. The final paper will be based on accumulated data - especially recordings and transcripts - from your field site. Satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-Comm majors.

Comm 416 | Screen Cultures: Messaging
Brendan McCauley
3 credits

TuTh | 1:00pm– 2:15pm

Screen Studies is a site where film, television, media and cultural studies come together to address a digital age. We'll track the evolving forms of screens alongside the changing nature of our relationships with them. We begin by addressing what is specific to each screen medium, and then expand beyond the screen to look at the cultures that form around screens and their impact on our daily lives, politics, and identities. This course will survey para-social relationships with branded YouTube celebrities, pop-cultures, subcultures, fan-cultures, and cancel-cultures. This is an advanced level course with a focus on developing a research project throughout the semester. You will be trained in methods for textual analysis of traditional media, and also for digital media and platform analysis. We will end by learning video editing software and then producing video essays that explore a specific screen culture of your choosing.

Comm 426 | Media Violence
Erica Scharrer
3 credits

TuTh | 1:00pm– 2:15pm
Integrative Experience

The concerns, controversies, theoretical perspectives, and bodies of knowledge stemming from interdisciplinary literature pertaining to media violence will be examined critically in this course. We will discuss cross-disciplinary definitions of violence, how violent various media forms are, how gender, sexuality, and race are represented in violent media, and how audience members are affected by violent images. We will use the literature to examine these and other related topics. We will make larger connections to the study of social problems and the ways in which individuals think of themselves, others, and the world around them.

If you have taken COMM 497S: ST-Television Violence, you cannot take COMM 426. This course serves as an Integrative Experience (IE) requirement for BA-COMM majors.

Comm 427 | Media Literacy
Allison Butler
4 credits

TuTh | 10:00am – 11:15pm
Integrative Experience

This course will provide an overview of the theories, tensions, and debates within the study of critical media literacy as it applies to K-12 classrooms and community organizations. Current practical and analytic research in this area will be examined. This course has a required civic engagement component; students will work with and on behalf of youth in the community on media literacy-related projects.

This course is one of the required courses for the Media Literacy Certificate and satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-Comm majors.

This course was formerly numbered COMM 497ZZ. If you have already taken COMM 497ZZ, you cannot take this course. This course serves as an Integrative Experience (IE) requirement for BA-COMM majors.

Comm 433 | Advanced Television Production & Direction**Tu | 02:55pm – 07:00pm****Jason May****3 credits**

Intensive workshop course in advanced concepts and techniques of studio-based television production, with a focus on the elements of post-production shows in a late show format. Students will analyze the processes involved in the creation of these programs, along with the critical analysis of programming content. Under the supervision of the instructor, several teams of students will script, produce, and execute a 25-30 minute show following specific parameters. Post-production editing and field camera work will be involved.

Prerequisites: COMM 331 or COMM 397B.

Comm 441 | Intermediate Digital Filmmaking**Tu | 12:45pm– 3:45pm****Kevin Anderson****3 credits**

A hands-on introduction to single-camera filmmaking using digital video camcorders and non-linear editing. Production assignments will foster student skills in the art of visual storytelling: from pre-production, shot composition and lighting to continuity editing and post production audio.

Comm 444 | Film Styles & Genres**M | 1:25pm – 2:15pm
+lab M | 2:30pm – 5:15pm****Shawn Shimpach****3 credits**

Why do we put certain films into categories? What constitutes a film genre, how do we recognize it, and what do we do with it? This course examines these questions and more by considering a specific genre over the course of the semester. We will learn to think of genre as a way of comparing and contrasting different films. Genre will also be thought of as a way of creating expectations and measuring experience and meaning. The power of film genre is that it allows us to understand film as a text and film as a social practice at the very same time.

Comm 445 | Screenwriting**TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm****Bruce Geisler****3 credits**

An examination of the art, craft, and business of screenwriting from theoretical and practical perspectives. Topics include screenplay format and structure, story, plot and character development, dialog and scene description, visual storytelling, pace and rhythm, analysis of professional and student scripts and films.

This course was formerly numbered as COMM 493E. If you have already taken COMM 493E you cannot take this course.

Comm 446 | Film Documentary**Tu | 2:30pm – 4:30pm
+lab Tu | 4:45pm – 5:45pm****Bruce Geisler****3 credits**

We will view, analyze, and discuss films from the recent past and present from a filmmaker's perspective, along with some limited hands-on work in pre-production techniques. Students will view, analyze, and critique works from modern documentary masters such as Betsy West + Julie Cohen ('RBG'), Michael Moore ('Where to Invade Next'), Questlove ('Summer of Soul'), Robert Kenner ('Food Inc.'), and others to further their understanding of the documentarian's art and craft.

Comm 447 | Advanced Light & Camera/Digital Media**Th | 02:30pm – 05:45pm****Robbie Leppzer****3 credits**

This course is a workshop-style class in digital film production, in which we will take a deep dive into advanced techniques and aesthetics of cinematography, lighting, sound recording and editing. Through hands-on exercises and production of two short films, students will develop a solid practice in the technical skills needed to create visually and aurally compelling moving images and sound. Students will learn how to manage and organize large amounts of raw footage, edit sequences and create engaging story structures using Adobe Premiere.

Comm 490STA | Adv Digital Cinematography**Th | 11:30am – 2:30pm****Robbie Leppzer****3 credits**

This course is a workshop-style “hands-on” class in digital film production, in which we will take a deep dive into advanced techniques and aesthetics of cinematography. Utilizing a state-of-the-art high-end professional 4K camera, students will learn how to master technical settings, including exposure, aperture, shutter speed, focus, ISO, depth of field, white balance, gamma assist, recording formats and codecs. Visual composition, lenses, camera support and various filming techniques will be examined, along with workshops on lighting and basic audio recording and editing in Adobe Premiere. Through hands-on exercises and production of two short films, students will develop a solid practice in the technical skills needed to create visually compelling moving images. With an emphasis on documentary techniques, students with an interest in all film genres will be welcome.

Comm 490STB | Creator Cultures & Industries**MW | 10:00am – 11:15am****Alkim Yalin Karakilic****3 credits**

In this course we explore the emerging and dynamic landscape of creator cultures and industries. Over the past decade, user-generated content has grown into a profitable industry of social media entertainment. Bloggers, influencers, YouTubers, and live-streamers have all turned into a new creative class by monetizing on their authentic self-branding on social media. Being a creator is a desirable profession for many due to its guiding logic of creativity, perceived autonomy, and glamorous lifestyle. However, creators are constantly affected by algorithms, platform governance, and overall changes in the industry, finding themselves in a precarious situation. In this course, we will examine case studies that illustrate how creators perform their identities, navigate the ever-changing platform economy, participate in politics, and pushback against exploitative platforms and industry norms.

Comm 491G | S-Feminist Media Justice**M | 4:00pm – 6:45pm****Ayanna Dozier****4 credits**

This course will explore media justice work through a feminist lens and engage with communication strategies and media tools to subvert media misrepresentation and marginalization. Through community-based research; community service learning projects, students will develop action-research media analysis, work with community partners on digital media empowerment, and promote media advocacy for policy change.

Comm 491S | Introduction to Semiotics**TuTh | 02:30pm – 03:45pm****Briankle Chang****3 credits**

Semiotics is the study of meaning within society. It deepens our understanding of culture, communication and philosophy, and provides us with a theoretical and practical framework for analyzing the world. The course will introduce and develop the semiotic approach, using literature, politics, film, TV, music, and our everyday surroundings and conversations.

Comm 494BI | Countercultural Films**Bruce Geisler****3 credits****W | 12:20pm – 2:20pm****+lab W | 2:30pm – 4:30pm****Integrative Experience**

An exploration of the counter-cultural movements of the 1960s and 70s and later, hosted by someone who was there and lived to tell the tale. Through the medium of documentary and fiction films, we will delve into the musical, sexual, artistic, political and spiritual upheavals that rocked America and Europe back then and that continue to reverberate today. This course satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-Comm majors.

Comm 494KI | News and Public Opinion**Soo Young Bae****4 credits****TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm****Integrative Experience**

This course is designed to offer a framework for understanding the processes involved in news production and its impact on public opinion. We will examine various social forces that shape news content, including individual, political, economic, and institutional factors. We will also examine research and theory on the implications of today's new media environment, with a focus on its relationship with citizens' engagement in public life.

This course was formerly numbered COMM 497NP. If you received credit for taking COMM 497NP, you cannot receive credit for taking this class. This course serves as an Integrative Experience (IE) requirement for BA-COMM majors.

Comm 494NI | Nonverbal Communication**Alena Vasilyeva****3 credits****TuTh | 11:30am – 12:45pm****Integrative Experience**

This course examines the role of different kinds of nonverbal behaviors (i.e., body orientation and posture, gaze direction, gestures, space, etc.) in establishing a joint focus of attention, coordinating turn-taking, conveying meaning, sustaining institutional realities, telling stories, and navigating interpersonal relationships. We will investigate nonverbal behaviors both in ordinary face-to-face conversations and in a variety of professional settings, including courtrooms, doctors' offices, and the workplace. Satisfies the Integrative Experience requirement for BA-COMM majors.

Please check SPIRE for updated course eligibility (e.g., “Open to First-Years and Sophomores Only”).