

MI 401 DIGITAL COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY
Michigan State University

Spring 2022

Mon 5:00-7:50pm

Jan 10-24: Zoom 992 4803 1884

Jan 31-April 25: CAS 165

Instructor: Dr. Keith Hampton

Email: khampton@msu.edu

Phone: (517) 432-6747

Office hours: Email to setup a Zoom appointment

All course correspondence, including grades, announcements, readings, etc.,
will be posted on D2L: <https://d2l.msu.edu/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This upper-level seminar provides an overview of recent research on the societal implications of new communication technologies (e.g., mobile phones, social media, etc.). New communication technologies are often regarded as a source of transformative change, responsible for undermining morality, destroying institutions, increasing surveillance and control, and for the decline of community. This course provides historical context and is based around the argument that communication technologies are inherently social networks, linking people, organizations, and communities, on- and off-line. Topics include mental health, community, inequality, relationships, collective action, and political engagement. This subject is heavily weighted towards reading and evaluating original empirical studies that focus on how recent technological innovations may be changing the way we interact with our environments and those around us. Students will learn to critically examine the impact of new communication technologies on society through in-depth seminars and independent research.

PREREQUISITE

MI 101 and completion of Tier I writing requirement.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Learn about the concept of digital communication and its social, economic, and political implications.
- Understand and be critically aware of the influence of new communication technologies on themselves, other individuals, social institutions and societies.
- Develop problem-solving and analytical skills in observing the social uses of new communication media.
- Critically review the theory, methodology, and findings of a research study published on the topic of new information and communication technologies.
- Apply appropriate theory and methods to the study of new forms of digital communication.

CLASS MEETING FORMAT

From Jan 10-24, this course is being offered in a fully synchronous online format (Zoom 992 4803 1884), from Jan 31 until the end of the semester this course is offered in person only (CAS 165).

At the discretion of the instructor, individual requests to attend class remotely may be granted to students who are in quarantine, are sick, are traveling, or out of the country. At the discretion of the University or the instructor, in the event of inclement weather, or a perceived risk to the safety of class participants or the community, this course may move to a fully online synchronous format.

In the event that the University decides to move this course to a fully synchronous online format, extending beyond January 24, the syllabus is subject to change. In particular, synchronous, online course lectures will include additional required, for credit, graded group work, including additional peer review of group members. The number and weight of other course work may be adjusted as deemed necessary by the instructor.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

All readings, files, and grades will be available from the course website: <https://d2l.msu.edu/>. Students are also required to use an online discussion system, <https://www.packback.co>. (There is no charge for MSU students to use Packback, if accessed through the provided links within d2l.)

In the event that this course is moved, temporarily or permanently, to a fully synchronous online format, students are required to have access to a computer and Internet connection to complete course assignments, as well as a webcam to attend the class remotely. Students will be required to use Zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/>).

GRADES

Final grades will be based on a short quiz (25 points), two exams (175 points x 2), contributing to an online discussion forum (200 points), a group project proposal presentation (50 points), a final group project presentation (25 points), a final group project (250 points), and class participation (100 points).

Your final grade is made up of 1000 points, assigned according to the following scale:

Points	Percentage	Grade
891-1000	90-100	4.0
821-890	83-89	3.5
741-820	75-82	3.0
691-740	70-74	2.5
661-690	67-69	2.0
621-660	63-66	1.5
600-620	60-62	1.0
< 600	< 60	0.0

Grading of Assignments and Presentations

A grade equivalent to a 4.0 will be awarded to an assignment that both fills the terms of the assignment and shows evidence of out-of-the-ordinary, creative, analytical, and interesting thought. A 3.0 will be awarded if the terms of the assignment have been fulfilled thoroughly and thoughtfully, with some evidence of originality and creativity. Assignments that merely fulfill the terms of the assignment will

receive a 2.0. Assignments that fail to fulfill the terms of the assignment will receive a grade equivalent to a 1.0. An assignment that does not approximate the terms of the assignment will receive a 0.0. All grades are final. Please do not ask to have your grade changed for reasons other than mathematical error. A grade of “incomplete” will not be assigned except in the most unusual, extreme (and generally emergency) circumstances.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

100 points; over semester, assigned by instructor for active participation in class.

Class meetings will be in a seminar format, there will be a limited amount of lecturing, instead students and instructor will explore key concepts through a guided dialogue. *Students are expected to have read all of the week’s readings in advance of the course meeting.* Participation grades will be based on demonstrated familiarity and critical reflection on the readings, involvement in classroom activities and exercises, and engagement in discussions. The participation grade is assessed above and beyond your attendance, just showing up for class will not earn you any participation points. You can expect that the instructor will call on students to provide a summary of specific readings and to provide a basic comparison to prior course content.

Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive on time. Missing or arriving late to more than two classes may result in an automatic zero for the participation grade. Students with a verified illness or who experience the loss of a loved one and receive an approved grief absence request are excused from class (the grief absence request form is available at <https://reg.msu.edu/StuForms/StuInfo/GriefAbsenceForm.aspx>).

In the event that the course is moved to a synchronous online format, or a student is given special permission to attend class remotely, students must attend class meetings through the provided course system (Zoom). In an effort to promote engagement, students are asked to appear on video for the duration of the class meeting. Students should display their full name in their Zoom profile. To ensure that all students feel free to share their thoughts and opinions, students should make every attempt to join the class from a space that is free from distraction. Students are expected to maintain behaviors consistent with a classroom setting. For example, students should not engage in activities such as jogging, cooking, etc. Unless a student is sick or has an approved accommodation from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, they should not join the class while lying in bed. Students joining remotely are expected to participate fully and should “raise hand” or use a similar means to indicate that they have a question or comment. Students who anticipate that their situation will make it difficult to follow these guidelines should communicate in advance with the instructor to reach a reasonable accommodation.

Students are responsible for getting course notes from their classmates, the instructor will not provide you with notes or slides. Lectures will not be recorded, and students are never granted permission to take still images, make audio or video recordings of the class. Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

GROUP WORK

A significant proportion of the final grade in this course will result from work that a student starts or completes as part of a small group. In most cases students in a group will receive the same grade for group work. However, the instructor reserves the right to vary individual grades for those who do not demonstrate an equal level of participation. Each student will also submit a confidential description of their work and the work of their team members. Individual work statements will be taken into account when deciding to give any team member a higher or lower grade. The course is designed so that all group work can be started during class time. During group workshops students will have the opportunity

to meet with their groups and to engage in a discussion with the instructor. While all group work can be started in class, it will not be possible to complete all group activities within the class period. Group members should exchange contact information to arrange meetings and coordinate research activities.

ASSIGNMENTS

Discussion Forum (Due the night before class by 11:59pm)

200 points; 8 weeks of participation for full credit (look for an email with info on how to sign up)

There are 15 weeks in this semester. There are assigned readings for 9 weeks and students are required to participate in this assignment for 8 of those weeks.

We will be using Packback (<https://www.packback.co>) to raise questions and discuss ideas with each other outside of regular class meetings. Students will need to setup an account using the link on d2l (look under Week 2 content). Packback is a discussion forum that is about asking big questions related to the course content. The goal is to start a discussion about the class readings before we meet. To participate, students must ask one good question (5 points per questions) and answer two questions that other students have posted (10 points per answer).

To receive full credit, the questions and answers that you post must have a minimum “curiosity score” of 60. Students will receive no credit for questions/answers with a curiosity score of less than 60. Students can receive credit for contributing a maximum of one question and two answers each week. The d2l gradebook will record a score for each week where readings are assigned, the lowest score is automatically dropped.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only those readings marked with an asterisk are suitable for discussion on Packback. Other assigned readings are generally not sufficiently “scholarly.” Students will not receive credit for Packback questions that focus readings that are not marked with an asterisk (although they can be part of an answer to a Packback question).

For each week that you choose to participate, you should post your question and your two responses by 11:59pm the day before class meets (e.g., Week 2 Packback posts are due by 11:59pm on Sunday, January 23).

Final Project (Due May 1 by 11:59pm)

250 points; one project submitted per group

Projects should deal with course themes and focus on a topic of interest. The topic must relate to the course content and must involve the collection of primary data (e.g., interviews, survey, observations, etc.) or the analysis of secondary data (e.g., content analysis, census data, etc.). There are a large range of possible topics, examples of possible topics/methods include:

- 1) A survey of students that explores gender differences in “internet addiction”.
- 2) An experiment that measures the consequences of not using a communication technology over a period of time.
- 3) A media diary that answers a hypothesis about the use of a specific technology and an outcome, such as frequency of physical activity.
- 4) Observations of how people use a communication technology in a public setting, such as a public park.
- 5) A survey of students’ awareness of privacy settings in their use of social media.
- 6) A content analysis of social media posts over time or by medium related to questions about political participation, affective content, or identity.

The final project is due in the form of a short research paper. The research paper must include an introduction (1-2 pages), a literature review (4-5 pages), a methods section (2-3 pages), findings (3-4 pages), a conclusion (1-2 pages), and a bibliography. *The paper must be double spaced, have 1-inch margins, should be approx. 10-12 pages in length (excluding tables and bibliography), written in APA style, and submitted through D2L as a Word or PDF file (not by email).* Note: The final project for this course is a classroom exercise. As such, your group's project should not require IRB review (all projects must be approved by the instructor as part of the proposal presentation before students can collect any data for the project).

Many questions you might have about the final project, including specific expectations and a writing timeline can be answered by reading the Final Project Guide handout (on d2l, found in Contents → Handouts).

Project Proposal Presentation (Mar 14, in class)

50 points; meet all requirements on the presentation rubric for full credit.

The in-class presentation is as an opportunity for students to receive immediate feedback from the instructor and classmates on plans for their final project. This group presentation should be 10 minutes long, use PowerPoint (or something similar), and follow the format of a formal conference presentation. *A copy of your presentation must be given to the instructor before your presentation.* Presentations must include the following elements:

- A research question.
- A justification for why the question is of sufficient social importance and/or scientific relevance.
- A minimum of three citations and a brief review of key research in the area.
- Hypotheses (if appropriate).
- Research methods and procedure.
- Main strengths and weaknesses of your methods.
- A list of responsibilities assigned to each group member.

The group's topic and research method/procedure must be approved by the instructor at the time of the proposal presentation before data can be collected for the final project.

Final Presentation (Apr 25, in class)

25 points; update proposal presentation and include findings for full credit.

This is an opportunity to update the class on your group's project. This is also your final opportunity to receive feedback from the instructor in advance of submitting your final project paper. Group members will give a 5-7 minute presentation of their findings. Presentations must include the following elements:

- Research question.
- Hypotheses (if appropriate).
- Research methods and procedure.
- Findings
- Conclusion

EXAMS AND QUIZES

25 points, quiz on syllabus content: complete once at the start of the semester for full credit (may retake unlimited times before January 17).

175 points, exam #1: Complete in class on Feb 21

175 points, exam #2: Complete in class Apr 18

In-class exams may include multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer questions. Exams will cover all readings and class materials, this includes assigned readings, lectures, videos, any additional readings, and all other material discussed in class. Students may bring in one 4" x 6" card with notes into the exam (you can use both sides, any size print). *Exams will not be cumulative.* Any student who arrives late will not be allowed to take the exam. There is no final exam in this course.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED EXAMS

If you miss an exam, to be allowed to make up the exam, you must: 1) have an acceptable excuse, and 2) contact the instructor before the time of the exam/assignment. The only acceptable excuses to miss an exam or submit a late assignment are a) an illness that can be substantiated by a note from a medical professional, b) the death of a friend or family member accompanied by an approved grief absence request (the grief absence request form is available at <https://reg.msu.edu/StuForms/StuInfo/GriefAbsenceForm.aspx>), c) an accommodation related to a disability, d) a holiday related to your religion. Makeup exams may differ from the original exam in format as well as content. Students should pay close attention to due dates, late assignments will not be graded.

DISABILITY INCLUSION

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at <https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/>. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation ("VISA") form. Present this form to the instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester and again two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

POLICY ON RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

It is the policy of Michigan State University to permit students to observe holidays set aside by their chosen religious faith. If you plan on being absent from class on your religious holiday, notify the instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester and again two weeks prior to the date. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

STUDENT ATHLETES

If you plan on being absent from class, student-athletes must bring a team schedule to the instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester to verify the excused absences. Notify the instructor again two weeks prior to the date. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The consequences of scholastic dishonesty are very serious. Evidence of plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, facilitation, dishonesty, academic sabotage, criminal activity, or other violations of research or professional ethics will be dealt with severely – at a minimum students will receive a grade of "0.0" in the course. Students are expected to fulfil the spirit of the Spartan Code of Honor. "As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do." Student conduct that is inconsistent with the academic pledge will be addressed through existing policies, regulations, and ordinances governing academic honesty and integrity. MSU Policies, Regulations and Ordinances Regarding Academic Honesty and Integrity can be found at <https://msu.edu/unit/ombud/academic-integrity/>.

Consistent with MSU's efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, MSU now provides instructors with a number of tools that compare a student's work with multiple sources. These tools compare each student's work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a "similarity score." The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student's work. All submissions to this course may be checked using these tools.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE INSTRUCTOR

The instructor is here to help, please ask questions, share your ideas, and visit often during office hours. However, keep in mind that when seeking advisement and support, email is no substitute for a live meeting. Students seeking help with the content of this course should consult with the instructor at the start of class, during office hours, or by requesting a separate appointment. Plan ahead and consult in advance of any due dates. The instructor may take up to 24 hours to respond to email requests and many not respond over weekends or holidays. Do not expect a detailed response by email to requests for advice or review of materials (some things are still best done live!).

Limits to confidentiality

Essays, journals, and other materials submitted for this class are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student record policies. However, students should be aware that University employees, including instructors, may not be able to maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues to protect the health and safety of MSU community members and others. The instructor must report the following information to other University offices (including the Department of Police and Public Safety) if you share:

- Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child;
- Allegations of sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual harassment; and
- Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In almost all cases, it will be your decision whether you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling and Psychiatric Services.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This portion of the syllabus is subject to change as the course evolves. The instructor may add or remove material based on the interests and pace of the class. At times, the instructor will distribute new and timely material that appears in the news or has been recently published. It is your responsibility to learn of any changes by regularly attending class, visiting the course website, and reading your email.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only those readings marked with an asterisk are suitable for discussion on Packback.

WEEK 1 (Jan 10): Introduction

The following materials can be found on d2l.

- Due Jan 17: Read the course syllabus in detail. And complete the “Syllabus Quiz” (this is an open book quiz on the content of the syllabus. You can retake any question you get wrong to improve your grade before the due date).
- Watch the “How Do Students Use Packback?” video.
- Prepare to submit your first question and your first two answers on Packback ahead of the next class meeting (you can skip one week, but are strongly advised to participate in Week 2).

Note: There is no class meeting on January 17 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

WEEK 2 (Jan 24): Harmful Effects?

Parks, M. (2021, May 18). Facebook Calls Links to Depression Inconclusive. These Researchers Disagree. <https://www.npr.org/2021/05/18/990234501/facebook-calls-links-to-depression-inconclusive-these-researchers-disagree?ft=nprml&f=1001>

*Grace, L. (2019, Oct 9). Games blamed for moral decline and addiction throughout history. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/games-blamed-for-moral-decline-and-addiction-throughout-history-123900>

*Turkle, S. (2012, April 21). The Flight From Conversation. *New York Times*. <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/22/opinion/sunday/the-flight-from-conversation.html>

*Twenge, J. (2017, September). Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation? *The Atlantic*. https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/09/has-the-smartphone-destroyed-a-generation/534198/?utm_source=fbb

*Walther, J. (2019). Facebook doesn't fool me – but I worry about how it affects you. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/facebook-doesnt-fool-me-but-i-worry-about-how-it-affects-you-117296>

*McPherson, M., Smith-Lovin, L., & Brashears, M. E. (2006). Social Isolation in America: Changes in Core Discussion Networks over Two Decades. *American Sociological Review*, 71, 353-375.

WEEK 3 (Jan 31): Foundations

Davis, J. (1994). Affordances. <https://www.instagram.com/p/CYXMbKfMIDI/>

Colleran on Bicycle Morals. (1899, May 16). *Chicago Daily Tribune*.

Wants the Electric Lights Put Out. (1888, Nov 25). *The New York Times*.

*Putnam, R. (1995). Tuning In, Tuning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America. *Political Science and Politics*, 28(4), 664-683.

*Norris, P. (1996). Does Television Erode Social Capital? A Reply to Putnam. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 29:474-480.

*Hampton, K. & Wellman, B. (2021). All the Lonely People? The Continuing Lament about the Loss of Community. In L. Lievrouw and B. Loader (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Digital Media and Communication*. Abingdon, UK. Routledge. 281-296.

*Pontes, H. M., Kuss, D. J., & Griffiths, M. D. (2015). Clinical psychology of Internet addiction: a review of its conceptualization, prevalence, neuronal processes, and implications for treatment. *Neuroscience & Neuroeconomics*, 4, 11-23.

WEEK 4 (Feb 7): Strong Ties / Weak Ties

*Hampton, K. N., Sessions, L., & Ja Her, E. (2011). Core Networks, Social Isolation, and New Media: Internet and Mobile Phone Use, Network Size, and Diversity. *Information, Communication & Society*, 14(1), 130-155.

*Burke, M., & Kraut R. (2014). Growing Closer on Facebook: Changes in Tie Strength Through Social Network Site Use. *CHI 2014*. Toronto, ON. (read summary by Burke)
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/facebook-data-science/growing-closer-on-facebook/10152086044728859?fref=nf>

*Gergen, K. J. (2010). Mobile Communication and the New Insularity. *QWERTY* 5(1), 14-28.

*Cacioppo, J. T., Cacioppo, S., Gonzaga, G. C., Ogburn, E. L., & Van der Weele, T. J., (2013). Marital Satisfaction and Break-Ups Differ across On-Line and Off-Line Meeting Venues. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Group workshop: Picking a research question.

WEEK 5: (Feb 14) Intimacy

Note: This week's class meetings deal with controversial issues about sex and pornography. If you are likely to be troubled by this topic, you should contact the instructor before the start of the class.

Jeltsen, M. (September 5, 2019). When Teens Are Treated Like Child Pornographers For Sexting. Huffpost. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/teens-child-pornography-sexting_n_5d6ff6d1e4b09bbc9ef8f108?ncid=NEWSSTAND0001

Belluz, J. (2017, November 13). Tinder and Grindr don't want to talk about their role in rising STDs. <https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2017/11/13/16620286/online-dating-stds-tinder-grindr>

Jones, M. (2018, Feb 7). What Teenagers Are Learning From Online Porn. *The New York Times Magazine*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/07/magazine/teenagers-learning-online-porn-literacy-sex-education.html>

*Zimbardo, P., Wilson, G., & Coulombe, N. (2016, April 13). How Porn is Messing With Your Manhood. *Skeptic*. https://www.skeptic.com/reading_room/how-porn-is-messing-with-your-manhood/

*Mitchell, K. J., Finkelhor, D., Jones, L. M., & Wolak, J. (2012). Prevalence and Characteristics of Youth Sexting: A National Study. *Pediatrics*.

*Holloway, I. W., Dunlap, S., del Pino, H. E., Hermanstynne, K., Pulsipher, C., & Landovitz, R. J. (2014). Online Social Networking, Sexual Risk and Protective Behaviors: Considerations for Clinicians and Researchers. *Current Addiction Reports*, 1(3), 220-228.

WEEK 6 (Feb 21): Exam #1

Note: The exam will be held at the start of the class, and then the class will meet as scheduled.
Group workshop: Designing your study.

WEEK 7 (Feb 28): Mental Health

Jargon, J. (2021, Oct 19). Teen Girls Are Developing Tics. Doctors Say TikTok Could Be a Factor. *The Wall Street Journal*. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/teen-girls-are-developing-tics-doctors-say-tiktok-could-be-a-factor-11634389201>

*Samuel, A. (2017, August 8). Yes, Smartphones are Destroying a Generation, but not of Kids. *JSTOR Daily*. <https://daily.jstor.org/yes-smartphones-are-destroying-a-generation-but-not-of-kids/>

*Hunt, M. G., Marx, R., Lipson, C., & Young, J. (2018). No more FOMO: Limiting social media decreases loneliness and depression. *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, 37(10), 751-768.

*Orben, A. (2020). Teenagers, screens and social media: a narrative review of reviews and key studies. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 55(4), 407-414.

*van Rooij, A. J., Ferguson, C. J., Colder Carras, M., et al. (2018). A weak scientific basis for gaming disorder: Let us err on the side of caution. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 7(1), 1-9.

*Hampton, K. N., Lu, W., & Shin, I. (2016). Digital Media and Stress: Cost of Caring 2.0. *Information, Communication & Society* 9(9), 1267-1286.

*Hampton, K. N., Lu, W., & Shin, I. (2022). Restrictive Parenting and Access Inequalities More Problematic for Adolescent Self-Esteem than Heavy Social Media Use: Evidence from Rural America. Working Paper.

WEEK 8 (March 7): SPRING BREAK (No Class).**WEEK 9 (March 14): Proposal Presentations**

Presentations: Project proposal.

WEEK 10 (March 21): Social Media

*Marwick, Alice E. and danah boyd. (2010). I Tweet Honestly, I Tweet Passionately: Twitter Users, Context Collapse, and the Imagined Audience. *New Media & Society*.

*Eslami, M., Rickman, A., Vaccaro, K., Aleyasen, A., Vuong, A., Karahalios, K., Hamilton, K., & Sandvig, C. (2015). "I always assumed that I wasn't really that close to [her]": Reasoning about Invisible Algorithms in News Feeds Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Seoul, Republic of Korea. (pp. 153-162).

*Patton, D. U., Lane, J., Leonard, P., Macbeth, J., & Smith Lee, J. R. (2017). Gang violence on the digital street: Case study of a South Side Chicago gang member's Twitter communication. *New Media & Society*, 19(7), 1000-1018.

*Ramirez, F., Denault, V., Carpenter, S., & Wyers, J. (2021). 'But her age was not given on her Facebook profile': minors, social media, and sexual assault trials. *Information, Communication & Society*, 1-17.

Group workshop: Data collection

WEEK 11 (March 28): Search and News

Darcey, O. (2021, January 8). Analysis: TV providers should not escape scrutiny for distributing disinformation. *CNN*. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/08/media/tv-providers-disinfo-reliable-sources/index.html>

*Lewis, Seth, Nechushtai, Efrat. (2018). Google News serves conservatives and liberals similar results, but favors mainstream media. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/google-news-serves-conservatives-and-liberals-similar-results-but-favors-mainstream-media-102389>

*Bakshy, E., Messing, S., & Adamic, L. A. (2015). Exposure to ideologically diverse news and opinion on Facebook. *Science*, 348(6239), 1130-1132.

*Terren, L., & Borge-Bravo, R. (2021). Echo Chambers on Social Media: A Systematic Review of the Literature. *Review of Communication Research*, 9, 99-118.

*Guess, A. M., Nyhan, B., & Reifler, J. (2020). Exposure to untrustworthy websites in the 2016 US election. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 4(5), 472-480.

*Boczkowski, P.J., Mitchelstein, E. & Matassi, M. (2018). News Comes Across When I'm in a Moment of Leisure: Understanding the Practices of Incidental News Consumption on Social Media. *New Media & Society* 20(10), 3523-3539

WEEK 12 (April 4): Political Engagement / Collective Action

Hagenah, I. (October 4, 2019). How The Women-Only Facebook Group Minbar-Shat Helped Overthrow The Sudanese Government. *Elle*. <https://www.elle.com/culture/career-politics/a29355590/minbar-shat-facebook-sudan-revolution/>

Fletcher, R. (2018, April 16). Shamed in his dog's death, Jeremy Quaille took his own life. *CBC News*. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/jeremy-quaile-knightley-dog-death-calgary-1.4602948>

*Gladwell, M. (2010, October 4). Small Change: Why the Revolution Will Not be Tweeted. *The New Yorker*. <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2010/10/04/small-change-malcolm-gladwell>

*Clarke, K., & Korhan K. (2018). Launching Revolution: Social Media and the Egyptian Uprising's First Movers. *British Journal of Political Science*, 1-21.

*Hampton, K. N., Shin, I., & Lu, W. (2017). Social media and political discussion: when online presence silences offline conversation. *Information, Communication & Society*, 20(7), 1090-1107.

*Kasra, M. (2017). Vigilantism, public shaming, and social media hegemony: The role of digital-networked images in humiliation and sociopolitical control. *The Communication Review*, 20(3), 172-188

WEEK 13 (April 11): Digital Inequality

Brandom, Russell. (2019, March 28). Facebook Has Been Charged With Housing Discrimination by the US Government. *The Verge*. <https://www.theverge.com/2019/3/28/18285178/facebook-hud-lawsuit-fair-housing-discrimination>

*Robinson, L., Cotten, S. R., Ono, H., Quan-Haase, A., Mesch, G., Chen, W., Schulz, J., Hale, T. M., & Stern, M. J. (2015). Digital inequalities and why they matter. *Information, Communication & Society*, 18(5), 569-582.

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WEEK 14 (April 18): Exam #2

Note: The exam will be held at the start of the class, and then the class will meet as scheduled.

Group workshop: Prepare presentation.

WEEK 15 (April 25): Final Presentations

Presentations: Final Project.