

Vesalius College

Course description

Course title: eGovernance and ICT policies in the EU

Course code: CMM 321E

Teacher responsible: Dr Jamal Shahin, Adjunct Associate Professor

Course description:

Examines the impact of new Information and Communications Technologies on society, with a focus on the political impact of the Internet, and the changes this has encouraged in our understanding of democracy. Discusses in detail the impact of the Internet on changing patterns and modes of governance, particularly in the European Union. Examines and critically analyses the changing role of government in terms of Communications Policies, and focuses on the role of public administrations in communicating with citizens and civil society in general.

Course objectives:

CMM 321E helps students to understand the role of ICT in society, particularly in EU policymaking.

The course will start with a brief overview of ICT and Information Society Policies. There will be a focus towards the end of the course on the idea of 'embedded publishing', which concentrates on the way public administrations are becoming information and service providers that are enmeshed in local, national, and global networks. The major focus of the course will be the European Union, with reference provided to other regions of the world.

By the end of the semester students should:

- have acquired insights into basic political concepts
- be able to demonstrate the impact of the Internet on communication patterns in society
- have acquired writing skills (summary writing, structure, content, proper English)
- be able to meet deadlines
- be prepared for advanced communications courses
- be prepared for academic writing in 300-level courses, including research paper

Grade weighting scheme:

Short essay	15%
Long essay	30%
Mid-term exam	10%
Final Exam	25%
Participation, individual presentation and group work	20%

Used course material (handbooks, readers, readings, newspapers, magazines) and references:

The core text to be used will be:

Andrew Chadwick (2006) *Internet Politics*, Oxford University Press

however, much use will be made of internet resources and other reading material.

There is a blog in place: <http://jamal.shahin.org/tags/cmm321/>. which shall be used during the course.