CMM 331G
International Journalism

Number of ECTS: 6

Course Prerequisite
HUM 101G & CMM 102G

Course Description
This course focuses on understanding foreign correspondents’ and international news’ role in society. The course analyzes the direction, flow and pattern of foreign correspondents’ coverage, as well as the impact of new technologies on the quantity, frequency and speed of international news reporting. It also addresses the political, social and economic consequences of international journalism and the challenges related to it. The course takes an international approach, contrasting differences in journalistic cultures and approaches. Moreover, it discusses the impact of global trends on journalistic practices. Finally, the main challenges of communicating from abroad are candidly discussed with several guest speakers.

Course Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students should have acquired the following knowledge, skills and attitudes:

Knowledge
- Know and understand the main theories and concepts of international journalism;
- Understand the role of foreign correspondents in news production, and the political, social and economic consequences of international news coverage;

Skills
- Able to apply and contrast theories of international journalism on specific case studies;
**Attitudes**
- Have a critical attitude towards international news coverage, taking into account current theories of international journalism.

**Course Materials**

**Textbook**
A Reader provided by the instructor; Handouts

**Course Assessment**

The final grade will be based on the following:
- News Event Analysis 40% (35% paper, 5% class presentation)
- Mid-Term Exam 30%
- Final Exam 30%

**Grading Scale of Vesalius College**

Vesalius College grading policy follows the American system of letter grades, which correspond to a point scale from 0 – 100. All assignments (including exams) must be graded on the scale of 0-100. To comply with the Flemish Educational norms, professors should on request also provide the conversion of the grade on the Flemish scale of 0-20. The conversion table below outlines the grade equivalents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>Scale of 100 (VeCo Grading Scale)</th>
<th>Scale of 20 (Flemish System)</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-100</td>
<td>17.0-20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>81-84</td>
<td>16.1-16.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-80</td>
<td>15.3-16.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>14.5-15.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>69-72</td>
<td>13.7-14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>66-68</td>
<td>13.1-13.6</td>
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<td>F</td>
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**Academic Honesty Statement**

Academic dishonesty is NOT tolerated in this course.

Academic honesty is not only an ethical issue but also the foundation of scholarship. Cheating and plagiarism are therefore serious breaches of academic integrity.
Following the College policy, cheating and plagiarism cases will be communicated in writing to the Associate Dean and submitted to the Student Conduct Committee for disciplinary action.

If you refer to someone else’s work, appropriate references and citations must be provided. Grammar, spelling and punctuation count, so use the tools necessary to correct before handing in assignments.

Please consult the Section “Avoiding Plagiarism” in the College Catalogue for further guidance.

**Course Schedule**

Week 1  Introduction: Journalism and globalization

Week 2  Theoretical frameworks: News values, news flows, agenda setting and framing

Week 3  **Discussion and explanation of news event analysis**

Our news and their news? Foreign correspondents as gatekeeping mediators and translators between cultures

Week 4  The influence of new media on international journalism and foreign correspondents

Week 5  Radio journalism: podcasts & interviews

The role of citizens in foreign news

Week 6  The changing role of foreign news and its correspondents. Are foreign correspondents redundant?

Week 7  **Mid-Term Exam**

Week 8  Freedom of the press & media regulation around the world

Week 9  Professional values, ethics and norms in a changing global context

Week 10  **INDEPENDENT WORK ON RESEARCH PAPER**

Week 11  War & peace journalism

Week 12  **News event analysis due (21/11/2019, 23:59h)**!

Presentations and discussion of research papers
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>Newsroom visit to international news department VTM (Main Flemish commercial broadcaster); Optional</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Development journalism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Course wrap up: Summary and conclusions</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
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