Communication and Media Studies (COMS)

Communication and Media Studies (COMS) Courses

COMS 1001 [0.5 credit]
Foundations in Communication and Media Studies
An exploration of past and present media, patterns of change, and key approaches to their study.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMS 1000, COMM 1101.
Lecture and discussion groups.

COMS 1002 [0.5 credit]
Current Issues in Communication and Media
An exploration of communication and media in relation to contemporary political, technological and cultural issues, with a focus on Canada.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMS 1000, COMM 1101.
Lecture and discussion groups.

COMS 1003 [0.5 credit]
Digital Skills for Media Studies
This course is intended to build on and reinforce digital skills and strengthen students' capacity to navigate and adapt to different digital skills requirements in courses across our B.CoMS program.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): First-year standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Online/hybrid with labs and tutorials three hours a week.

COMS 2003 [0.5 credit]
Theoretical Foundations in Communication and Media Studies
The development of communication theory in the context of major social, economic and cultural periods and events. Emphasis on the central debates and traditions that have shaped and defined the field.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2101 (no longer offered) and COMM 2100 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 and COMS 1002, and second-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures and discussion groups three hours a week.

COMS 2004 [0.5 credit]
Introduction to Communication Research
Introduction to the scientific method as interpreted through major traditions in Communication and Media Studies. The course addresses the relationship between theory and evidence, research design, ethics and data management.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2000 (no longer offered), COMM 2001 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 and COMS 1002, and second year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures and discussion three hours a week.

COMS 2200 [0.5 credit]
Big Data and Society
How big data and small data shape society. Databases as a form of media. Topics may include: data policy and regulation, the politics and ethics of big data, data and decision-making, and data as discourse.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Second-year standing or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 2300 [0.5 credit]
Communication as Propaganda
How business, government, and civil society actors have used media messages to persuade, influence, and manipulate the public. The impacts of propaganda on individuals and society, the roles of different media technologies in facilitating propaganda, and public resistance to propaganda.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2301 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 or COMS 1002, or PAPM 1000, and second-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 2400 [0.5 credit]
Climate Change and Communication
The class examines the role of communication in shaping the relationship of climate change, science, politics, popular culture, social movements, technology, and societal transformation.
Prerequisite(s): Second year standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies or permission from the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture, three hours a week

COMS 2500 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Science
How expert knowledge (particularly scientific, medical, and technical) is communicated in the public realm. Topics may include scientific advances and new technologies, health risks, environmental/ climate change, and cultural/ ideological positioning of science.
Prerequisite(s): second-year standing or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 2501 [0.5 credit]
Media Law
A survey of laws that affect the Canadian media including the development of freedom of expression, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and statutory and common-law limitations on freedoms of the press, including publication bans, libel and contempt of court.
Also listed as JOUR 2501, MPAD 2501.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2501 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 or COMS 1002 or JOUR 1001 or JOUR 1002 or PAPM 1000, and second-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture three hours a week.

COMS 2504 [0.5 credit]
Language and Communication
Some of the central topics in the study of language and communication as pursued by linguists and philosophers, including the nature of meaning, the connections between language, communication and cognition, and language as a social activity.
Also listed as PHIL 2504, LING 2504.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2504 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): second-year standing.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 2600 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Culture
An introduction to the major industries, institutions, regulatory frameworks and key organizations responsible for cultural production in Canada.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2401 (no longer offered), COMM 2601 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 or COMS 1002 or JOUR 1001 or JOUR 1002, and second-year standing in Communication and Media Studies, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 2700 [0.5 credit]
Global Media and Communication
An introduction to global media and communication, with an emphasis on debates about media power and expansion, digitalization, technology transfer, and societal implications/changes. Students will investigate historical and contemporary contexts of global and transnational communication through a variety of approaches and perspectives.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3405/JOUR 3405 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 1001 or COMS 1002, and second-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3001 [0.5 credit]
Quantitative Research in Communication
An introduction to basic statistical methods in media and communication studies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3001 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 2004 and third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies, or third-year standing in BPAPM- or BGInS-related specializations and streams, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture and lab three hours a week.

COMS 3002 [0.5 credit]
Qualitative Research in Communication
An introduction to interpretive methods in media and communication studies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3002 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 2004 and third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies, or third-year standing in BPAPM- or BGInS-related specializations and streams, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures and discussion three hours a week.

COMS 3003 [0.5 credit]
Media and Crime
A critical exploration of the mediation of crime and violence in historical and contemporary contexts. Topics may include celebrity criminals, true crime media, news, photography, courtroom TV, victimhood, and vigilante justice.
Prerequisite(s): Third-year standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams) or third-year standing in Criminology and Criminal Justice (BA / Honours streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture three hours a week.

COMS 3100 [0.5 credit]
Introduction to Political Management
Introduction to the field of political management. The institutional, legislative and ethical context in which party strategists, campaign managers, pollsters, lobbyists and civil society operate. Related administrative and communications skills.
Also listed as POLM 3000, PSCI 3410.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3100 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third-year standing.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3108 [0.5 credit]
Media Industries and the Network Society
Examines the theoretical frameworks and major issues and debates relating to media industries and institutions in Canada and internationally.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3108 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3109 [0.5 credit]
Communication, Culture and Identity
Examines the relationship between media, communication, and identity categories. The course explores identity formation as a cultural phenomenon including questions of race, ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3109 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third-year standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams) or in the Minor in Critical Race Studies, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3110 [0.5 credit]
Comic Books and Graphic Novels
The history, political economy, and culture of comics as a distinct medium of communication, and the relationship between comic book publishing and other cultural industries.
Prerequisite(s): Third year standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies or permission from the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture, three hours a week

COMS 3111 [0.5 credit]
Racism and Digital Media
Explores the historical, social, and systemic underpinnings of racism in relation to digital media. The course considers the emergence of digital media and its impact on racism. Students will learn about several relations, from World War II computers, to Web 2.0, to activism, and more.
Prerequisite(s): Third year standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission from the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture, three hours a week

COMS 3302 [0.5 credit]
Political Communication
Examines the relationship between various kinds of communication and political activity in a variety of contexts. Case studies will be drawn from speeches, political campaigns, and debates, using a variety of media forms, from photographs to web sites.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3302 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3308 [0.5 credit]
Critical Studies in Advertising and Consumer Culture
A critical analysis of major constructs and basic mechanisms of advertising, social marketing and other aspects of consumer culture. The course examines the social, political-economic and cultural implications of consumer culture.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3301 (no longer offered) and COMM 3308 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures and discussion groups three hours a week.

COMS 3310 [0.5 credit]
Critical Perspectives of Public Relations
A critical examination of key aspects of public relations, including histories of PR, media representations of PR, gender and public relations, and the role of PR in business, politics and civil society.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4304 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3311 [0.5 credit]
Media and Communication in Regional Contexts
Provides a historical overview of the development of media technologies, and an understanding of the place of media within the political, regulatory, and legal activities of different international regions (e.g., Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, etc.).
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3400 [0.5 credit]
Ethical Controversies in Media and Communication
Explores ethical problems and controversies relating to research in media and communication. Focuses on rights and responsibilities of researchers and practitioners as relates to media consumers, producers, and professional communicators in an age when communication circulates quickly within and across borders and other boundaries.
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3401 [0.5 credit]
Communications Regulation in Canada
Examines historical and contemporary issues in the regulation of communication practices and institutions in Canada.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3401 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations),or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3403 [0.5 credit]
Communication, Technology and Culture
Examines the relationship between communication technology and society, including factors that contribute to changes in the collection, storage and distribution of information and their cultural implications.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3403 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture three hours a week.

COMS 3404 [0.5 credit]
Music Industries
An introduction to the structure and history of the music industries.
Also listed as MUSI 3403.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3404 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): second year standing.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3406 [0.5 credit]
Media Audiences and Users
Examines the role of audiences in contemporary media industries. Topics include history of audience studies, ratings and the audience commodity, active audience theory, and media fandom.
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3407 [0.5 credit]
Comparative Media Studies
The comparative study of one or more media organizations and/or types of media content with reference to their operation, audiences, and impacts.
Also listed as JOUR 3407.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3407 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): Third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3410 [0.5 credit]
Visual Media and Communication
Examines the central importance of visual imagery in contemporary media, culture and everyday life. Draws connections between historical/contemporary explanations of ‘the visual,’ and how texts and technologies reflect the context and cultural values of the environments that produce them, and the challenges for regulation.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3411 [0.5 credit]
Media and Social Activism
Examines links between media and activism through the lens of past and present social movements and protest events. Addresses leading theories that help conceptualize various types of activist movements, with a focus on the role of media in shaping activist identity and political opportunity.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3412 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Health
The concept of health as a sociocultural phenomenon; the many ways that health issues are communicated, defined, represented, and framed.
Prerequisite(s): third year standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 3500 [0.5 credit]
Current Issues in Communication and Media Theory
Examines theoretical debates and issues facing the field of Communication and Media Studies today.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 2101, COMM 2102 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 2003 and third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations and streams), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures and discussion groups three hours a week.

COMS 3800 [0.5 credit]
Special Topic in Communication and Media Studies
A selected topic not ordinarily treated in the regular course program. The choice of topic varies from year to year. Check with the Communication and Media Studies program regarding the topic offered.
Prerequisite(s): third-year standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lecture three hours a week.

COMS 3999 [0.0 credit]
Co-operative Work Term
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

COMS 4001 [0.5 credit]
Sport and/as Media
A critical exploration of the culture and political economy of sport including cultural norms and questions of representation in and around sports across an array of media.
Prerequisite(s): Fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission from the School of Journalism and Communication.
Seminar, 3 hours a week

COMS 4002 [0.5 credit]
Media Fandom
Examines media fans as audiences. Topics may include fan cultures, digital fandom, identity, and audience labour.
Prerequisite(s): Fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission from the School of Journalism and Communication.
Recommended: COMS 3406: Media Audiences and Users.
Seminar, 3 hours a week

COMS 4004 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Discourse
Examines the development of theory and methods related to discourse and its use in the analysis of images and texts.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4004 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4305 [0.5 credit]
Media and Religion
Critical examination of the ways religion mediates communicative practices, engages with media technologies, and is mediated in mainstream or popular culture. Topics may include: secularization and post-secularization; the politics of representation; religious organizations as communicative actors; fundamentalism.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4306 [0.5 credit]
Media and Conflict
Media representations of conflict such as war and terrorism, and how they influence the collective imagination.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4306 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4311 [0.5 credit]
Environmental Communication
Examines environmental, animal, and earth observing media and pays special attention to the production of visual materials. The course explores the influence of media systems on the production, dissemination, and meaning of environmental observations and looks at sites of contemporary environmental contention.
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year Honours standing and enrollment in Communication and Media Studies or in the Minor in Environmental and Climate Humanities, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4312 [0.5 credit]
Crisis and Risk Communication
Examines crises and risks from the perspective of communication. The course explores the role of various media in shaping risk perceptions and constructions of crisis, the politics of crisis and risk management, symbolic dimensions in crisis construction, and ethical dilemmas.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4313 [0.5 credit]
Screen Studies
Issues in the past, present and future of film, television and related media. Screens are examined as media that represent and shape values and culture, as technologies that are produced and purchased, and as objects that are regulated through policy.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4315 [0.5 credit]
Communication and the Built Environment
How communication occurs in conjunction with the built environment, with special attention to cultural artefacts such as houses, schools, factories, prisons, office buildings, roads, parks, and the urban (and suburban) environment. Various models, theories, and philosophies of the built environment are considered.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4316 [0.5 credit]
Indigenous Media in Global Contexts
Overview of Indigenous global media exploring film and film festivals, television networks, media arts, and the Internet. We will discuss struggles over mediated self-representation as well as debates over what constitutes Indigenous media relating to aesthetics, community affiliation, and identity.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4317 [0.5 credit]
Digital Media and Global Network Society
A critical and analytical understanding of the way digital media are reshaping society and are shaped by societal structures and forces; on the implications of digital media on various aspects of social life globally, including culture, politics, law, privacy, journalism, and collective organizing/social movements.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4337 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Public Affairs Strategies
This hands-on course teaches students how to develop, design, and execute a public affairs strategy. Emphasis on understanding the interaction between public institutions and stakeholders and how effective public affairs strategies can be designed to help organizations achieve goals through public or opinion leader persuasion.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Also listed as PAPM 4000.
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4401 [0.5 credit]
Global Internet Policy and Governance
Public interest and policy battles over critical internet resources and implications for development of the internet, citizens' rights and freedoms, the economy, and democratic culture; common carriage, privacy, security and surveillance, access, speech rights, and diversity of information sources.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4401 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4403 [0.5 credit]
Digital Media Industries
Key approaches to the study of media as industries and how economics, markets and technologies intersect with social choices, politics and power to shape how decisions are made about the design, ownership, organization and control of media.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4403 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4405 [0.5 credit]
The Networked Self
How notions of identity are changing as we conduct our lives through networked media and communication such as social media, online search, the Internet of Things, and wearable devices. Subjectivity, personhood, posthumanism, algorithmic control, and privacy.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4406 [0.5 credit]
Open Government and Communication
The contemporary open government movement; how communication can be used to improve governance and to foster a more collaborative relationship between governments and citizens. Access to information, the challenges of open data, expectations of transparency, and models of citizen engagement/consultation.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Fourth-year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM and BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4407 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Critical Data Studies
Theoretical perspectives, ethical problems, and contemporary issues relevant to communication and data studies. Students will critically examine the rise of ‘big data’ and ‘datafication’ as socio-technical phenomena that have become a crucial part of our communication landscape.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Fourth-year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4408 [0.5 credit]
Creative Work
Contemporary trends affecting creative work in cultural industries. How careers in the arts, culture and media are increasingly desirable as a way for individual workers to find personal fulfillment and as a means of reinvigorating post-industrial economies.
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4410 [0.5 credit]
Mobile Media
Critical examination of the history, development, and expansion of mobile media and its impact on culture, connectivity, and practice; locative media practices, geo-coding, wireless communication, mobile technologies, and user experience in everyday life.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4411 [0.5 credit]
Algorithmic Culture
The ways in which computerized algorithms engage in the traditional work of culture: the sorting, classifying, and hierarchizing of people, places, objects, and ideas to produce new habits of thought, conduct, expression, and material outcomes.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4412 [0.5 credit]
Game Studies
Games as media. The history of gaming and mediated play in terms of technology and form, industry, labour, gender and subcultural practice.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4501 [0.5 credit]
Digital Media Production
This workshop introduces practice-based tools and techniques relevant in contemporary professional communication, such as basic web development, podcasting, and digital photography.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4502 [0.5 credit]
Storytelling in the Digital Age
In this workshop students learn to write compelling stories for the digital age. They engage with examples of great storytelling across print and online platforms, from magazines and newspapers to blogs and podcasts, to gain a deeper understanding of what makes some stories stand out.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4503 [0.5 credit]
Visualizing Social Media: Hashtags, keywords, & conversations
This workshop introduces a range of methods and practices in data mining and analytics. Techniques include data and text mining, data analysis (including sentiment and social network analysis), data visualization and modeling. Opportunity to work with analytics and mapping software on students' own projects.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): COMS 3001 and fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4504 [0.5 credit]
Engaging the Public: Stakeholders, participation & consultation
This workshop introduces the challenges of conceptualizing and conducting public consultations. This includes audience or participant selection, a range of consultation techniques and formats, marketing and communication, analysis, as well as an awareness of policies and regulations governing consultations.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4505 [0.5 credit]
Professional Writing and Speaking
In this workshop students develop skills in professional written communication, such as press releases, blogs, op-eds, policy briefs, and speeches. Students will also hone their public speaking skills presenting their written work in different formats.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4506 [0.5 credit]
Event Management and Community Partnerships
This workshop introduces the stages of event management for potential community partners. This includes conceptualization, marketing and sponsorships, production and financing, to risk management.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing in B.Co.M.S. Honours and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4507 [0.5 credit]
Professional Communication Research
Students will work in a team-based environment to carry out empirical research in support of current faculty-led projects. In addition to learning advanced research techniques, students will develop project management and collaborative research skills.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4000 (no longer offered), COMM 4002 (no longer offered), COMS 4006 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): COMS 3001 or COMS 3002, and fourth-year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BPAPM related specializations), and permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Workshop three hours a week.

COMS 4602 [0.5 credit]
Children, Youth and Media
Historical and contemporary ways in which children and youth relate to the media and popular culture.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4602 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4603 [0.5 credit]
Diaspora and Communication
The impact of various forms of diasporic communication on the shaping of contemporary national and international society.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4603 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4604 [0.5 credit]
Media, Gender and Sexuality
Critical examination of the intersection of media and gender, including constructions of femininity, masculinity, and other issues of sexuality.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3601 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4605 [0.5 credit]
Media, Race and Ethnicity
Critical examination of how issues of race and ethnicity intersect with contemporary media.
Precludes additional credit for COMM 3602 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4606 [0.5 credit]
Global Media and Popular Culture
Key theories and concepts that have shaped the study of global media and its impact on popular cultures around the world.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4607 [0.5 credit]
Communication and Food
Food in and as communication. Food and identity, food and culture, food environments, food systems, food politics, and food and community development.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4608 [0.5 credit]
Sound Studies
How hearing and listening practices have changed over time, and the role of sound technology in shaping our understanding of each other, our world, and ourselves.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies, or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4800 [0.5 credit]
Special Topic in Communication and Media Studies
A selected topic not ordinarily treated in the regular course program. The choice of topic varies from year to year. Check with the Communication and Media Studies program regarding the topic offered.
Prerequisite(s): fourth year Honours standing in Communication and Media Studies or permission of the School of Journalism and Communication.
Lectures three hours a week.

COMS 4908 [1.0 credit]
Honours Research Essay
The Honours Research Essay (HRE) provides eligible students with an opportunity to complete an independent research essay under the supervision of a faculty member. The HRE must be completed over two consecutive academic terms, beginning in the fall term.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for COMM 4908 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): fourth year honours standing in Communication and Media Studies (including BGInS related specializations), with a CGPA of 10.0 or higher, or permission of the Undergraduate Supervisor.
Unscheduled.