

The British Media & Community

JOUR 4210.003 and JOUR 5350

Summer 2016

London, England

Through the University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, USA

Instructor: Neil Foote

Email: foote@unt.edu

Phone: Number will be provided

General class information, assignments, syllabus and readings are available on Blackboard through learn.unt.edu. All assignments will be turned in through Blackboard except your blog.

Description

In this course, we will explore Great Britain's media system, including the press, magazines, broadcasting and online media, specifically through the prism of London's diverse and vibrant neighborhoods. We also will have on-going conversations about how the media covers current events, particularly the upcoming vote on whether the United Kingdom will leave the European Union. Instruction includes lectures, discussions, readings, presentations, field trips, guest speakers and blogging.

By the end of the class, students should have a firm grasp on the media system in Great Britain, its differences and similarities to the United States of America's media and have a cultural immersion experience. Concentration is on news media, but entertainment media and sports media also will be discussed.

Assignments

In this class you will have assigned, mandatory readings. Class discussion is a large part of this seminar class. You are expected to come to class prepared (with the readings completed) and ready to discuss the topics for that day. Part of the class will include visits to media organizations and other important Great Britain landmarks. Since this is a class on the British media, students are expected to read and watch the media on a daily basis and be prepared to discuss issues and current events.

UK / EU Vote Project

DUE: 6/27 - 11:59 p.m. Post on Blackboard

You will be broken into small groups and will work on specific readings and assignments related to the vote that will take place during our time in London. You also are expected to conduct research and make class presentations on your findings.

Neighborhood Profile Project

DUE DATES:

6/15 - 11:59 p.m. Proposal for Neighborhood Project Due on Blackboard

7/6 - 11:59 p.m. - FINAL Project Due on Blackboard

By the end of the first week, students will be divided into groups of two. You and your partner will choose a neighborhood that you will be responsible for during the course. Each student group is expected to keep up with what's going on in that neighborhood through its local media on a daily basis, become an expert on that community's media and other sources of information, and make a multimedia presentation on it at the end of the course. Additional information will be shared with you during the classes to help you better understand what is expected. You will be expected to:

- Visit the neighborhood several times during our time in London
- You are required to make observations about the neighborhood: e.g., its type housing, shops, residents, schools, physical appearance.
- You are required to talk to people in the community. You want to learn about how long they've lived in the community; what they like/dislike and why they've chosen to stay.

- You have the option to take photos, videos, capture natural sound or audio clips.

You can find information about London’s neighborhoods at the following sites:

- London City Government Site: <http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/londonfacts/londonlocalgovernment/>
- LondonTown.com: <http://www.londontown.com/LondonStreets/>
- AirBnB.com: <https://www.airbnb.co.uk/locations/london>
- London Mapper – A Social Media Atlas: <http://londonmapper.com>

If you find other sources, please share them.

Guidelines for Community Profile/Media Report

You and your partner need to learn as much as you can about your neighborhood, particularly the local media sources: in print, online, on air (radio/TV) or social (e.g. Facebook pages, Twitter handles, etc.). You should produce a 5- 7 -page double-spaced papers that includes:

1. GEOGRAPHY: A full description of the neighborhood (No rewrites of brochures, but in your own words based on your observations.
2. DEMOGRAPHICS (who lives there? Where do they work? Any information about income, education level, housing)
3. ISSUES: What do they care about?
4. MEDIA: How do they get informed about what’s going on? Is there a local newspaper? Magazine? Website? Social Media outlet? Who owns these outlets? Do they have political affiliations?

This report should include citations and references to all sources where you obtained information.

You will turn in your **double-space, typewritten paper** on Blackboard and it is due by **midnight Tuesday, July 5**. If time permits, you also will make a 5- to 7- minute presentation to the class on your project during the last week of class. You will share with your classmates and instructors what you discovered about the neighborhood and British media during this program.

For your presentation, please include pictures. You are strongly encouraged to create a multimedia presentation (e.g. a photo sideshow, a short video, audio/visual slideshow) or infographic. Your stories may include links, charts or other graphics.

Graduate students: Instead of a 5-to 7-page paper, I expect a 10- to 12-page paper written in APA or Chicago style with in-depth analysis of the media outlet put in context comparatively with the U.S. media.

Online Journal Posts

Your personal blog will be the biggest grading component for the class. You should post at least **three 300- to 500-word posts** per week we are in London. Posts with multimedia are encouraged. You will receive a blog grade at the end of the course in the form of a comment on the blog; therefore, you need to enable the blog to receive comments. The grade will be based upon your analysis, facts, evidence and self-reflection. Each journal has a specific questions or scenarios that are tied to our readings and class discussions. You are expected to reflect on the material we discuss in class and write critically and intelligently about it. Links, hyperlinks and citations are expected to verify your work and let readers know where they can find further information. Photos and video are strongly encouraged. Specific topics may be assigned in class.

DUE DATES

- 6/13** - Journal #1
- 6/20** - Journal #2
- 6/28** - Journal #3
- 7/4** - Journal #4

SHADOW

7/7 - 11:59 p.m. Post on Blackboard

Grades

Your grade for this class will be based on the following:

Class participation (discussion, engagement, initiative):	200 points
Journal (4 points @ 50 points each)	200 points
UK Vote Project	100 points
Neighborhood/Media presentation proposal	50 points
Neighborhood/Media presentation paper & proposal	300 points
Shadowing	150 points
TOTAL POINTS	1,000 points

1000 – 900 = A

899 – 800 = B

799 – 700 = C

699 – 600 = D

599 – 0 = F

Syllabus (Subject to change; all changes will be announced in advance; some field trips will be announced on site instead of in this syllabus):

Week 1 (June 6-10)

Introduction to the British media: The press, "Fleet Street," the BBC and broadcasting, the tabloids.

Introduction to neighborhoods.

Monday, June 6 - Arrival

4:30 p.m. (Mandatory) London Orientation *ACCENT London Study Centre, 12 Bedford Square*

Tuesday, June 7

9.15 a.m. Students living in Farringdon meet ACCENT outside your flats to travel to Bedford Place

10 a.m. **London Walking Tour**

Students living in Bedford Place meet outside your flats for London Walking Tour with your London guide.

This tour will end at ACCENT

Free time for lunch

2 p.m. **London Orientation**

*ACCENT London Study Centre
12 Bedford Square*

An ACCENT staff member will meet you outside the flats and bring you to the ACCENT Center for a practical orientation of London that will cover issues related to living on a daily basis such as food, money, safety, transportation, etc. will be covered.

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting is mandatory.

3:30 p.m. **Welcome Tea**

British Museum

FREE TIME

Wednesday, June 8

Course Overview / Assignments/ Requirements

Defining Community and Understanding London

- READ online overview of the Great Britain and the British Media System from the BBC: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/country_profiles/1038758.stm. Link also is on Blackboard. (Click on ALL tabs, including Overview, Facts, Leaders, Media, Timeline and In Pictures.)

Thursday 9 June- Sunday 12 June

- **Free Weekend**

Week 2 – June 13 -16

Monday, June 13

Presentation:
Lexy Topping, The Guardian
ACCENT London Study Centre,
12 Bedford Square

- **DUE Journal #1 by 11:59 p.m.** Post on Blackboard. No Attachments. Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Tuesday, June 14

11 a.m.

NBC London Visit (Limited to 18 students)

Nancy Smith Operations Manager
NBC News
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8XZ
Chancery Lane is the best tube stop (Central Line)

Wednesday, June 15

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Class

9.15 a.m.

Lisette Johnson, BBC
ACCENT London Study Centre
12 Bedford Square

Class – Discussion of UK/EU vote
READ (on Blackboard or Online)

- The UK's EU Referendum: All you need to know: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-32810887>
- A Short Guide to the EU Referendum, <http://www.parliament.uk/commons-library>
- UK and the EU: Better off out or in? <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-32793642>
- **DUE by 11:59 p.m.:** Upload your neighborhood proposal with you and your partner's name to BlackBoard.

Thursday, June 16

1:30 p.m.

CBS London (Limited to 18 students)
Deb Thomsen
Building 10, First floor
566 Chiswick High Road
DJT@cbsnews.com
Across the street from the Gunnersbury tube station
London W4 5XS

Week 3 (June 20 – 23)

Monday, June 20 – Class Discussion – UK/EU Vote - Field assignment

- **DUE Journal #2 by 11:59 p.m.** Post on Blackboard. No Attachments. Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Tuesday, June 21

Manchester & Liverpool Trip
8 a.m. Leave apartments to travel to Euston independently
TBD Meet at Euston Train Station
TBD Train departs
Arrive in Manchester
12.30 p.m. BBC Media City Tour 1
3 p.m. BBC Media City Tour 2

5 p.m. Coach departs from Manchester to Liverpool
 6 p.m. Arrive in Liverpool and check into hotel
 Best Western Hallmark Hotel Liverpool Feathers
 117-125 Mount Pleasant
 Liverpool
 L3 5TF

Wednesday, June 22

10 a.m. Meet outside your hotel for walking tour of Liverpool
 12.30 p.m. Free time for lunch
 1.30 p.m. Tate Liverpool and Museum of Liverpool visit
 TBD Meet at Liverpool train station
 TBD Train departs

Thursday, June 23

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
 12 Bedford Square

9.30 a.m. Jonathan Foyle
ACCENT London Study Centre
 12 Bedford Square

- **UK/EU Vote - Field assignment.** You will be given specific assignments that will spread you around London to learn more about what people are talking and thinking about this pivotal moment in the UK's history.

Week 4 (June 27 – 30)

Monday, June 27

- 10 a.m. **Street Art tour of Shoreditch**
- **DUE BRExit Assignment.** Post on Blackboard. No Attachments. Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Tuesday, June 28

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
 12 Bedford Square

- **READ:** Media Moguls and Elite Power, Political Economy Research Center, By Des Freedman, February 2015: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/media/documents-by-section/.../PERC-2-Freedman-Elites.pdf>
- **DUE Journal #3 by 11:59 p.m.** Post on Blackboard. No Attachments. Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Wednesday, June 29

9.15 a.m. **Hampton Court Visit**
 Meet outside of Foyles Bookshop in Waterloo station at 9.15 a.m. for train to Hampton Court

30 a.m. Train to Hampton Court – you can get any off peak train

Thursday, June 30

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
 12 Bedford Square

- **DISCUSSION:** Your Reports on Brexit Vote / Analysis of media coverage
- **DISCUSSION:** What makes British media different than anyone else?

Week 5 (July 5 - 8)

Monday, July 4

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
12 Bedford Square

- Special Class Project – Field Assignment
- **DUE Journal #4 by 11:59 p.m.** Post on Blackboard. No Attachments. Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Tuesday, July 5

Stonehenge and Bath trip

9 a.m. Meet outside your apartments for coach pick up
11 a.m. Arrive at Stonehenge
12.15 p.m. Depart Stonehenge
1.15 p.m. Arrive in Bath
1.15 p.m. – 2 p.m. Free time for lunch
2.10 p.m. Entrance to Roman Baths
3.45 p.m. Free time in Bath – suggested ideas Royal
Crescent, Pulteney Bridge, Fashion Museum
5 p.m. Depart Bath

Wednesday, July 6

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
12 Bedford Square

- Class presentations on neighborhoods & Shadowing project

Thursday, July 7

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Class**
ACCENT London Study Centre
12 Bedford Square

- Class presentations on neighborhoods & Shadowing project
- Class wrap up

5.30 p.m. Farewell dinner

Friday, July 8

Departure by 10 a.m.

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117-125 Mount Pleasant

Liverpool

L3 5TF

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- Class wrap up

5.30 p.m. Farewell dinner

Friday, July 8

Departure by 10 a.m.

JOURNALISM REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

JOURNALISM COURSE REGISTRATION

- Registration will begin on the dates noted in the schedule of classes each semester. The system is a live, first come/first serve program.
- By registering for this course, you are stating that you have taken the required prerequisites according to your catalog year and major/minor status. If the instructor later determines that you haven't taken and passed these requirements, then you may be dropped at any point in the semester. If you have questions about your prerequisites, please see an advisor.
- A journalism major enrolled in any restricted 3000 and 4000 level classes must have taken and passed the GSP test, all foundational courses, and Math 1680/1681. Students must earn and maintain a 2.5 UNT and/or overall GPA (depending upon catalog year) to be eligible for major-level courses.

RE-TAKING FAILED JOURNALISM CLASSES

Students will not be allowed to automatically take a failed journalism course more than two times. Once you have failed a journalism course twice, you will not be allowed to enroll in that course for one calendar year after the date you received the second failing grade. Once a student has waited one calendar year after failing a course twice, the student may submit a written appeal to the director to be approved to enroll a third time. Students will not be allowed to re-take a failed journalism course more than three times.

TEXTBOOK POLICY

The Mayborn School of Journalism doesn't require students to purchase textbooks from the University Bookstore. Many are available through other bookstores or online.

FIRST CLASS DAY ATTENDANCE

Journalism instructors reserve the right to drop any student who does not attend the first class day of the semester.

Office Hours

I'm available to you immediately after class or by appointment. My virtual office is always open; just email me at foote@unt.edu, and I will respond within 24 hours, except on weekends.

Attendance

One (1) absence in the course is the limit without penalty toward your final grade, unless you have communicated with me from the beginning about an extraordinary problem. Coming to class late or leaving early may constitute an absence for that day. This is a seminar course, and it requires your attendance and participation each class meeting.

FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) UNDERGRADUATES

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per semester. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so has the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financial.aid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with your MSOJ academic advisor or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

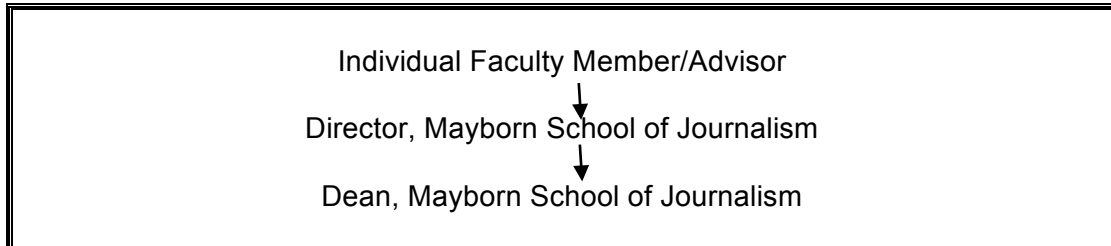
All first-time-in-college students at UNT are required to schedule an appointment with their Academic Advisor and receive an advising code to register for classes both fall and spring semesters of the first year in college. ALL students should meet with their Academic Advisor at least one time per long semester (Fall & Spring). It is important to update your degree plan on a regular basis to ensure that you are on track for a timely graduation.

- It is imperative that students have paid for all enrolled classes. **Please check your online schedule daily through late registration to ensure you have not been dropped for non-payment of any amount.** Students unknowingly have been dropped from classes for various reasons such as financial aid, schedule change fees, parking fees, etc. MSOJ will not be able to reinstate students for any reason after late registration, regardless of situation. It is the student's responsibility to ensure all payments have been made.

Important Dates for SUMMER 1 Session

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Understanding the academic organizational structure and appropriate Chain of Command is important when resolving class-related or advising issues. When you need problems resolved, please follow the step outlined below:



OFFICE OF DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of North Texas and the Mayborn School of Journalism make reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

COURSE SAFETY STATEMENTS

Students in the Mayborn School of Journalism are urged to use proper safety procedures and guidelines. While working in laboratory sessions, students are expected and required to identify and use property safety guidelines in all activities requiring lifting, climbing, walking on slippery surfaces, using equipment and tools, handling chemical solutions and hot and cold products. Students should be aware that the University of North Texas is not liable for injuries incurred while students are participating in class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in the event of accidental injury. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider obtaining Student Health Insurance for this insurance program. Brochures for this insurance are available in the UNT Health and Wellness Center on campus. Students who are injured during class activities may seek medical attention at the UNT Health and Wellness Center at rates that are reduced compared to other medical facilities. If you have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, please be sure that your plan covers treatment at this facility. If you choose not to go to the UNT Health and Wellness Center, you may be transported to an emergency room at a local hospital. You are responsible for expenses incurred there.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or exams; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor, the acquisition of tests or other material belonging to a faculty member, dual submission of a paper or project, resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructors, or any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Plagiarism includes the paraphrase or direct quotation of published or unpublished works *without* full and clear acknowledgment of the author/source. Academic dishonesty will bring about disciplinary action, which may include expulsion from the university. This is explained in the UNT Student Handbook. **Students in this class face receiving a lower grade or will be dropped from the class.**

MSOJ ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

The codes of ethics from the Society of Professional Journalists, American Advertising Federation and Public Relations Society of America address truth and honesty. The Mayborn School of Journalism embraces these tenets and believes that academic dishonesty of any kind – including plagiarism and fabrication – is incongruent with all areas of journalism. The school's policy aligns with UNT Policy 18.1.16 and requires reporting any act of academic dishonesty to the Office for Academic Integrity for investigation. If the student has a previous confirmed offense (whether the first offense was in the journalism school or another university department) and the student is found to have committed another offense, the department will request the additional sanction of removing the student from the Mayborn School of Journalism. The student may appeal to the Office for Academic Integrity, which ensures due process and allows the student to remain in class pending the appeal.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom, and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html.

The Mayborn School of Journalism requires that students respect and maintain all university property. Students will be held accountable through disciplinary action for any intentional damages they cause in classrooms. (e.g., writing on tables). Disruptive behavior is not tolerated (e.g., arriving late, leaving early, sleeping, talking on the phone, texting or game playing, making inappropriate comments, ringing cellular phones/beepers, dressing inappropriately).

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING (SPOT)

Student Perceptions of Teaching (Spot) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available towards the end of the semester to

provide students a chance to comment on how this class is taught. Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course.

FINAL EXAM POLICY

Final exams will be administered at the designated times during the final week of each long semester and during the specified day of each summer term. Please check the course calendar early in the semester to avoid any schedule conflicts.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

As you know, your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the my.unt.edu site www.my.unt.edu. If you do not regularly check EagleConnect or link it to your favorite e-mail account, please do so, as this is where you learn about job and internship opportunities, MSOJ events, scholarships, and other important information. The website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward your email: <http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in an event of emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at www.my.unt.edu. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) ensuring you know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas, determining how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and identifying where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, your instructor will communicate with you through Blackboard regarding assignments, exams, field trips, and other items that may be impacted by the closure.

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

STATEMENTS OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Statements of Student Learning Outcomes

- Understand and apply the principles and laws of freedom of speech and press for the United States and Great Britain, as well as receive instruction in and understand the range of systems of freedom of expression around the world, including the right to dissent, to monitor and criticize power, and to assemble and petition for redress of grievances.
- Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they will work.
- Demonstrate an understanding of gender, race ethnicity, sexual orientation and, as appropriate, other forms of diversity in domestic society in relation to mass communications
- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of groups in a global society in relationship to communications.
- Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
- Work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity.
- Think critically, creatively and independently.
- Write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences, and purposes they serve.
- Apply current tools and technologies appropriate for the communications professions in which they work, and to understand the digital world.