

# British Media & Society

JOUR 4210.002 and JOUR 5350.002, Summer 2017

UNT Mayborn School of Journalism Study Abroad in London, England

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## **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 special election, Britain's ever-changing demographics and recent acts of terrorism. 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 may also be discussed.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

In this class you will have assigned, mandatory readings or video viewings. Class discussion is a large part of this seminar class. You are expected to come to class prepared (with the readings completed or videos watched in their entirety) and ready to discuss the topics for that day. The class will also include visits to media organizations and important Great Britain landmarks, and students are required to attend all group excursions unless notified that a particular excursion is not mandatory. Since this is a class concerned with the British media, students are expected to read and watch a variety of British media on a daily basis and be prepared to discuss issues and current events.

All of your written assignments will be submitted in the form of publications to original blogs you must create for this summer British experience. Students are responsible for creating their own original blogs using a blogging platform of their own choosing.

## **BLOG POSTS**

There are four “minor” blog posts and four “major” blog posts and one blog post documenting your professional shadow experience. The instructor will issue detailed guidelines for each of these assignments. The “minor” posts are shorter (300 words or more) and will consist of observations on topics of your choosing. The “major” blog posts are longer (500 words or more) and will be on topics specified by the instructor. The last of these “major” blog posts will be a neighborhood profile (750 words or more) and will bear a heavier weight in your final grade.

### **Notes on the “Neighborhood Profile” (Major Blog Post #4) Due Friday, June 30**

Your fourth major blog post is valued twice as much as the other three major posts. This is a reflection of the heightened expectations for the amount of research and reporting you will put into this post. You will choose one neighborhood to focus on for a “neighborhood profile.” You are 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 classes to help you better understand what is expected.

### **Here are some basic expectations for your neighborhood profile**

- Visit the neighborhood several times during our time in London
- You are required to make observations about the neighborhood: e.g., the type of 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, and especially what issues concern them most about their country and their communities. \_\_\_\_\_
- You must include photos in your post and you are encouraged to include videos, audio (including natural sound) or charts and graphs.

### **Notes on the “Professional Shadow Experience”**

Students are required to set up their own professional “shadow” (externship) experience in a professional field of their choosing during this semester.

## BLOG POST DUE DATES

All blog posts are due by 11:59 pm on the due date, but there's no need to wait until then! Do yourself a favor and publish your posts early in the week – especially if you will be traveling on the weekend. *Lack of internet access during your travels is not a valid excuse for a late assignment.*

### MAJOR POSTS

- 11 June (Sunday) - Major Blog Post #2
- 16 June (Friday) - Major Blog Post #2
- 23 June (Friday) - Major Blog Post #3
- 30 June (Friday) - Major Blog Post #4 (AKA "Neighborhood Profile" Blog Post)

### MINOR POSTS

- 16 June (Friday) - Minor Blog Post #1
- 23 June (Friday) - Minor Blog Post #2
- 30 June (Friday) - Minor Blog Post #3
- 7 July (Friday) - Minor Blog Post #4

### SHADOW POST

- 7 July (Friday) - Shadow Experience Blog Post

**Graduate students:** In addition to the blog posts detailed here, graduate students must complete an additional project coordinated with the instructor.

## GRADES

- 300 points = **First three major blog posts** (3 @ 100 points each)
- 200 points = **Neighborhood Profile (fourth and final major blog post)**
- 100 points = **Shadow experience blog post**
- 300 points = **Minor blog posts** (4 @ 75 points each)
- 100 points = **Class participation** (discussion, engagement, initiative):
  
- 50 points = **Extra credit** for those who have at least two minor posts in each of at least three weeks

**TOTAL = 1,050 points possible towards the final grade:**

- A = 1050 – 900 points**
- B = 899 – 800 points**
- C = 799 – 700 points**
- D = 699 – 600 points**
- F = 599 – 0 points**

# **MSOJ SYLLABUS STATEMENTS**

## **JOURNALISM REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES**

### **(Statement for JOUR 1210, 2000, 2300 and 2310 syllabi only)**

For journalism majors, not minors: This is a foundational (formerly called pre-major) class. Once you have completed all foundational requirements you will have access to upper-level journalism courses after visiting the Office of Student Advising. If you have questions about what your foundational requirements are, please see an advisor.

### **(Statements for all JOUR courses)**

#### **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 will not hold traditional office hours during our time in London, but I will be available to you Monday-Thursday throughout our planned activities. My virtual office is always open; just email me, and I will usually respond within hours.

## **ATTENDANCE**

One 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 2017 5W1, 10W and AOP Sessions

Last day for all graduate students new to UNT and all former graduate students (those who have not been enrolled at least once during the 12 months prior to Summer and/or who have received a degree from UNT since their last enrollment) to submit graduate admission applications for 5W1, 10W, and AOP session regular registration. Graduate applications received after this deadline must be accompanied by all official transcripts.

\*Graduate programs have varied deadlines. Please refer to college/departmental information in the [Graduate Catalog](#) for additional admission deadlines. For timely application processing, submit your application to the Toulouse Graduate school by this date.

Graduate students who submit applications after this date, if accepted, will register during late registration and pay a \$50 late registration fee.

- May 15** No applications for graduate admission for the 5W1, 10W, and 8W2 sessions will be accepted after June 1.
- May 15** Last day for graduate students to request change of major in the [Toulouse Graduate School](#) prior to 5W1, 10W, and 8W2 session registration.
- Last day for all undergraduate students new to UNT to submit undergraduate admission applications for 5W1 and 10W session regular registration. Any undergraduate applications received after this deadline must be accompanied by all official transcripts and test scores. The student must meet the stated admission requirements and will register during late registration and pay a \$50 late registration fee.
- No applications for undergraduate admission for the 5W1 and 10W sessions will be accepted after May 30.
- Individual exceptions to the stated undergraduate admissions requirements cannot be considered after this date.
- May 22** **NOTE:** Students who hold a bachelor's degree or higher must apply to the [Toulouse Graduate School](#) before they may continue enrollment.
- Payment deadline for registration that has occurred between 7:00 a.m., March 13 through 4:30 p.m., June 2.
- June 2** Payment arrangements must be completed by 5:00 p.m., or your registration request will be canceled. To pay your bill, go to [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu).
- Payment deadline for late registration that has occurred between 7:00 a.m., June 3 through 4:30 p.m., June 5.
- June 5** Payment arrangements must be completed by 5:00 p.m., or your registration request will be canceled. To pay your bill, go to [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu).
- Important Dates for 5W1 Session**
- June 5** First Class Day.
- June 8** Census.
- June 9** Beginning this date a student who wishes to drop a course must first receive written consent of the instructor.
- Last Day for student to receive automatic grade of W for nonattendance.
- Last day for change in pass/no pass status.
- June 15** Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the semester with a grade of W for courses that the student is not passing. After this date, a grade of WF may be recorded.

**June 16** Beginning this date instructors may drop students with a grade of WF for nonattendance.  
Last day to drop with either W or WF.

Last day for a student to drop a course with consent of the instructor.

Last day to Withdraw (drop all classes).

**June 28**

Last day for an instructor to drop a student with a grade of WF for nonattendance.

**June 29**

Beginning this date, a student who qualifies may request an Incomplete, with a grade of I with their instructor.

**July 6**

Last Regular Class Meeting.

**July 7**

Final Exams.

#### **Important Dates for 10W Session**

**June 5**

First Class Day.

**June 14**

Census.

**June 15**

Beginning this date a student who wishes to drop a course must first receive written consent of the instructor.

Last Day for student to receive automatic grade of W for nonattendance.

Last day for change in pass/no pass status.

**June 28**

Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the semester with a grade of W for courses that the student is not passing. After this date, a grade of WF may be recorded.

**June 29**

Beginning this date instructors may drop students with a grade of WF for nonattendance.

Last day to drop with either W or WF.

Last day for a student to drop a course with consent of the instructor.

Last day to Withdraw (drop all classes).

**July 18**

Last day for an instructor to drop a student with a grade of WF for nonattendance.

**July 25**

Beginning this date, a student who qualifies may request an Incomplete, with a grade of I with their instructor.

**August 10**

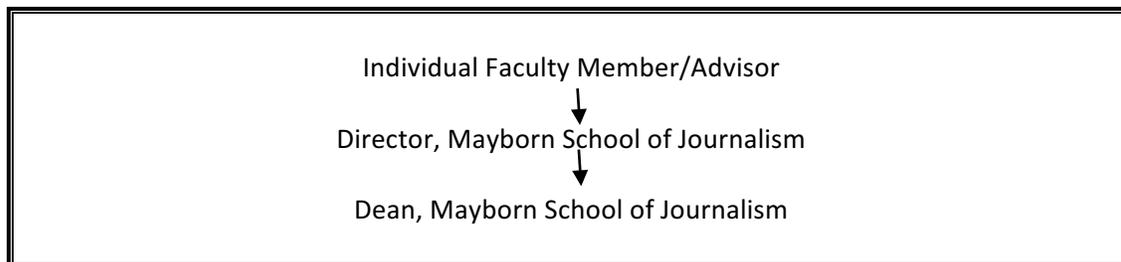
Last Regular Class Meeting

**August 11**

Final Exams.

## 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.

### **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.

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).

### **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](http://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/>

### **COURSES IN A BOX**

Any MSOJ equivalent course from another university must receive prior approval from the MSOJ academic advisor to insure that all MSOJ degree plan requirements are met. For example, courses that are taken online or from a program that offers course material via CD, booklet, or other manner of correspondence must have prior advisor approval.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR F-1 STUDENTS TAKING DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in

multiple on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Advising Office. The UNT International Advising Office has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

**Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, students should contact the UNT International Advising Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email [international@unt.edu](mailto:international@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.**

### **DROPPING AN ONLINE COURSE**

A student needing to drop an online course should send their instructor an email with their name, student ID#, reason for dropping a course, and date you are sending the email. This *must be done prior to the UNT deadline to drop a course*.

If approved, the instructor will contact the MSOJ Undergraduate Office in GAB 102 where you may obtain a signed drop form. **It is your responsibility to turn in the completed drop slip to the UNT Registrar's office before the deadline to make sure you have been dropped from the course with a "W".** If you are taking only online courses and your instructor approves the drop, please contact the MSOJ head advisor for instructions.

### **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](http://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 **Apr. 17 – May 4** to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For the fall 2016 semester you will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. 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](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

### **Acceptable Student Behavior:**

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 Dean of Students 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.deanofstudents.unt.edu](http://www.deanofstudents.unt.edu)

### **SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & ASSAULT**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs:

[http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources\\_0](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

## 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.