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# JOUR 4240 Comparative International Media Systems

# for undergrad students

## Instructor Contact

**Name: Dorothy Bland, Ph.D.**

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**Office Location: Sycamore Hall 210**

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**On-campus student office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. to noon in Sycamore 210, when not traveling.**

**Virtual student office Hours via Zoom: 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays**

**Zoom meetings link for 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays:** <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>

**Teaching Assistant’s Name: Lindsay Thompson**

**Pronouns: she/her**

**Email Contact: lindsaythompson2@my.unt.edu**

**Communication Expectations:** I will generally answer emails Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the order they are received. Please allow 24 hours for a response. Do not send multiple emails about the same issue as that will only delay a response. **When sending email, please include your name, student ID, course info (JOUR 4240/5150) and a brief synopsis of your issue or question**. If you have any questions, related to this course, you must contact me from your UNT email address. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal privacy law that protects your academic records. Any emails sent from your private accounts will be deleted. Our goal is to provide feedback on assignments and post grades a week after assignments are due.

You are encouraged to check Canvas regularly.

You are encouraged to read these [Online Communication Tips](about:blank) (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) the first week of class.

## Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

## Course Description

In this class, you will study mass media throughout the world with special attention to how media institutions contribute to building democracy. The comparison of digital, print and broadcast news systems, the sources and flow of international news and the challenges of globalism also are part of this course.

## Course Structure

This is a 100% online course and content will be delivered asynchronously over the course of the semester. There will be one module per week. Students will be expected to complete weekly quizzes and/or discussion posts as well as a variety of writing assignments. There will be four individual reflection papers, a mid-term exam and final team paper/project. Students will be assigned to groups in Canvas and each group will be expected to produce a final group multimedia project or academic research paper. Team members will decide the topic on a first-come, first-serve basis**. Each team will decide whether to produce at least a multimedia project or 20-page academic paper prior to Sept. 14. Should you elect to do a solo multimedia project or solo academic paper, the requirements will be the same and you must notify the instructor of the topic by Sept. 14.** The final page count excludes the cover page and reference lists. Yes, each multimedia project should have a reference list with APA citations. To ensure all teams are functioning, your professor will be available to meet with each team during student office hours or at a mutually agreed appointment time via Zoom. The sooner you start work on this final paper/project, the better.

## Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

Students enrolled in the course must have completed a minimum of 45 credit hours.

## **Course Technology & Skills**

### Minimum Technology Requirements

Provide a list of the minimum technology requirements for students, such as:

* Computer
* Reliable internet access
* Speakers
* Microphone
* Plug-ins
* Microsoft Office Suite
* [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

### **Computer Skills & Digital Literacy**

Provide a list of course-specific technical skills learners must have to succeed in the course, such as:

* Using Canvas
* Using email with attachments
* Downloading and installing software
* Using spreadsheet programs
* Using presentation and graphics programs

### Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email**: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability**: 8am-9pm

**Telephone Availability**:

* Sunday: noon-midnight
* Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
* Friday: 8am-8pm
* Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout**: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

### Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

* While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
* Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
* Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
* Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
* Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
* Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
* Proofread and fact-check your sources.
* Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to meet the following learning objectives:

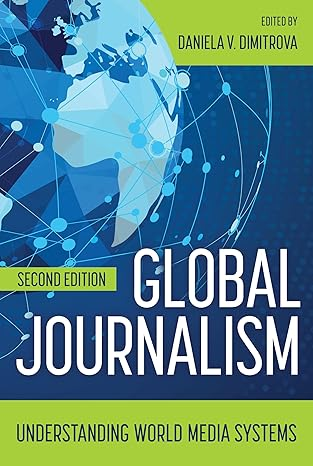
1. Recognize the journalism field’s most influential concepts and theories.
2. Identify major patterns of global and communication flows on multiple platforms.
3. Distinguish the salient components of the political economy of global communication.
4. Outline major media and press systems around the globe.
5. Describe the media landscapes of selected countries.
6. Compare journalism practices in selected countries.
7. Develop an awareness of the complexities of current issues in global communication.

## ACEJMC Statement of Student Learning Outcomes

In addition to the course objectives listed above, the Mayborn School of Journalism is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This extends to the Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism. National accreditation enhances your education here because it certifies that the School and Graduate Institute adheres to many standards established by ACEJMC. The following student learning outcomes are part of the standards for this class:

* Understand and apply the principles and laws of freedom of speech and press for the country in which the institution that invites ACEJMC is located, 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
* Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications
* Demonstrate an understanding of diversity in domestic society in relation to mass communications
* Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society
* Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
* Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity
* Think critically, creatively and independently
* Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work
* Write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences and purposes they serve
* Critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness
* Apply tools and technologies appropriate for the communications professions in which they work.

## Textbook and Other Materials



* *Global Journalism: Understanding World Media System* (2026, Second Edition) edited by Daniela V. Dimitrova (ISBN: 9781538193594 for paperback) (ISBN: 9781538193600 for electronic version). A copy of the book also is on reserve in the Willis LIbrary.
* Reliable and consistent access to the Internet as well as basic computer skills. Yes, there will be several videos to review and discuss. **All papers should be saved as .doc or .pdf documents. You should be familiar with the American Psychological Association style.**
* **For citations in discussion posts, papers and presentations, use American Psychological Association style. You are expected to cite information from class readings and videos in your assignments. If you are not familiar with APA style, here is a link from UNT libraries that you will find useful:** [**https://guides.library.unt.edu/citations-style-guides/apa**](https://guides.library.unt.edu/citations-style-guides/apa)**.**

Here is a quick video tutorial about APA style, 7th edition, for references from Chelsea Seburn of Smart Student on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWVOU9VZqyI>

Also, here is a YouTube link from Scribbr to help you with in-text citations using APA style, 7th edition: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opp259YvaoE&list=TLPQMTkxMjIwMjBLCVDan1pG8w&index=2>

**Lindsay Thompson, our TA, also will do a review during our Zoom chat on Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Here’s the Zoom link:** <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>

**Starting in week 2 or (the week of Aug. 25), there will be a discussion post most weeks due on Fridays by 11:59 p.m. CT for submissions. Short quizzes also start that week and are due on Sundays by 11:59 p.m. as noted in the syllabus.**

The 2025 Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index was released in late May 2025 and you will find this a useful starting point for your country reflection papers. Here’s the summary link: [RSF World Press Freedom Index 2025: economic fragility a leading threat to press freedom](https://rsf.org/en/rsf-world-press-freedom-index-2025-economic-fragility-leading-threat-press-freedom)

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism released its latest Digital News Report in June 2025. Plan to read at least the executive summary. You will find it useful as you move through the semester and there will be at least five questions related to this seminal study on the mid-term exam. Here’s the link: <https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/digital-news-report/2025>

The Reuters Institute also held launch events on five continents over the summer of 2025. If you would prefer, you can watch the launch events, via this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3w5Z9IpKv0>

For Spotify fans or audio learners, here’s the link to the first audio episode about the Reuters Digital News Report 2025: [Digital News Report 2025. Episode 1: What you need to know. - Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism | Podcast on Spotify](https://open.spotify.com/episode/7JO3OaA3LOOxNFIEHsGLaS) (Note: there are at least six episodes on Spotify.)

As you begin research for your final paper/project, other resources and readings that you will find useful follow:

* Files of selected readings on Canvas.
* Course guide from UNT Librarian Doug Campbell: <https://guides.library.unt.edu/jour4240>
* Freedom House: <https://freedomhouse.org>
* Reporters Without Borders: <https://rsf.org/en>
* Global Journalist: <https://globaljournalist.org/>
* International Center for Journalists: <https://www.icfj.org/resources>
* International Women Media Foundation’s report titled “The Missing Perspectives of Women in COVID-19 News”: <https://www.iwmf.org/women-in-covid19-news/>
* Pew Research Center/Global: <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/>
* Pulitzer Prize website and international reporting coverage dating back to 1942: <https://www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/210>
* Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism: <https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/>
* Reuters Institute Journalism Media and Technology Trends and Predictions 2025: <https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/journalism-media-and-technology-trends-and-predictions>
* UNT electronic library at www.library.unt.edu. The following databases may be helpful to you in this class through library.unt.edu: Academic Search Complete, Access World News, Ad\*Access, ArticleFirst, Communication and Mass Media Complete, EBSCO Host, JSTOR, Lexis-Nexis Academic, PapersFirst via FirstSearch, Proquest Online, Sage Journals Online.

**The UNT Library catalog is accessible 24/7.**

**UNT Library walk-in hours are listed below:**

* Sunday: 1-10 p.m.
* Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
* Friday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
* Saturday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

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* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
* Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
* Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
* Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
* Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
* Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
* Proofread and fact-check your sources.
* Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

**Teaching Philosophy**

Every human has the potential to learn. My goal is to listen and help you develop skills to expand your knowledge of international communication systems in the media. I want to ignite curiosity and passion for learning in my students. I hope this class helps equip you for life and expands your world view. Get outside of your comfort zone.

**Course Requirements and Grading Scale**

The following grading scale (A-F) will be used to calculate the final grade. For example:

A = 900-1000

B = 800-899

C = 700-799

D = 600-699

F = 500-599

Grading will be based on assigned readings, quizzes, discussion posts, thorough research, clear writing and the skillful use of language (including grammar, mechanics and spelling). You are to cite all your sources in written assignments and the final paper and/or multimedia projects. Assignments will be graded on the following criteria unless a specific rubric is listed in Canvas:

* Quality of writing (50%)
* References to course-related readings or other research (30%)
* Proper use of grammar spelling and punctuation (20%)

**A more detailed rubric will be posted for the final team paper/project, and will include participation by each team member.**

## Course Assignments & Grading

|  | *Points* | *Percentage* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Introduction exercise with video or photo of you* | *50* | *5%* |
| *10 quizzes on current events & readings @10 points each* | *100* | *10%* |
| *10 discussion posts @ 10 points each and you are to respond to two peers* | *10* | *10%* |
| *Country reflection paper based on World Press Freedom Index* | *100* | *10%* |
| *Team Research Proposal* | *100* | *10%* |
| *“20 Days in Mariupol” or “2000 Meters to Andriivka” reflection paper* | *100* | *10%* |
| *Mid-term exam* | *150* | *15%* |
| *“COVID’s Hidden Toll” or “The Virus That Shook the World” reflection paper* | *100* | *10%* |
| *“A Year of War: Israelis and Palestinians” or “Netanyahu, America and the Road to War in Gaza” reflection paper* | *100* | *10%* |
| *Final team multimedia project or research paper* | *100* | *10%* |
| *TOTAL* | *1000* | *100%* |

**Quizzes**

About 100 points or 10 percent of your grade will be based on 10 multiple choice quizzes. You will have 20 minutes to take each of the quizzes so please make sure you have read the assigned materials and stay up on current events. The quizzes also will include some APA style questions.

**Discussion Posts**

About 150 points or up to 15% of your grade will depend on your participation in the Introduction exercise and 10 discussion posts that you will create to share what you are learning about the topics and issues covered in class this semester. Prompts will be posted by the professor to encourage more dialogue. **Please share your thoughts and respond to at least two other students in the class by 11:59 p.m. on the Fridays that discussion posts are due. Your discussion post should be at least 200 words.** Feel free to share your thoughts on issues discussed in class as well as links to news stories relevant to countries that you are following. Cutting and pasting without citations and quotation marks is plagiarism. You may also use visuals or audio if you like.

**Reflection Papers**

The four reflection papers are worth up to 400 points or about 40% of your grade. Using the Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index as a starting point, each student will study media in a different country and write a reflection paper. Each paper should include key media outlets and press freedom rankings for 2025, a picture of that nation’s flag (including a citation for the source of the picture) and a locator map for where the country is on that continent. What key issues and/or challenges are journalists facing the news media in the country you select? How is the country ranked on the World Press Freedom Index in 2025 and how does that compare to the previous year? How does that country compare to the U.S. ranking on the World Press Freedom Index in 2025? How do the news media systems and audiences in the country you study operate differently from media systems in the U.S.? What are your key takeaways and why? **Each** **country reflection papers will be at least 500 words, excluding the reference list. Use APA style for your reference lists. Wikipedia is not an acceptable reference source for this class and you are not to have generative AI produce your papers. All papers will be run through a generative AI tool to check for similarity. If you use generative AI to produce any reflection paper or discussion post, you will earn a zero for that assignment.**

After your papers are graded, you are encouraged to share your reflection papers with others in your group, and some of that information may be useful for your final group paper. **If you would like to have a virtual group chat about your final group paper/project, you are encouraged to schedule a virtual student office hour meetup with the professor before Oct. 1.**

**Each student will view three other documentaries and write reflection papers of at least 500 words for each of the documentaries they choose by the deadlines as listed in the syllabus.** What did you learn? What did you learn about how the news media system operates in each country highlighted in each documentary? You should apply what you learned and tie your observations back to theoretical constructs and issues discussed in the readings. **Each reflection paper should have at least three references and use APA style. You have the option of picking three documentaries although six options are offered.** The documentaries selected for reflection papers are listed below:

* **Reflection paper 2:**Choose to watch and write about one of the two documentaries regarding the war in Ukraine. The options are *20 Days in Mariupol* [*https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/20-days-in-mariupol/*](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/20-days-in-mariupol/) *or 2000 Meters to Andriivka* [*2000 Meters to Andriivka (2025) | Based on True Story | New Hollywood Movie | Facts and Review*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnfkUuaxlI4)
* **Reflection paper 3**: Watch and write about *COVID’s Hidden Toll* from PBS Frontline on youtube.com: [COVID's Hidden Toll](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VXDqhKGBy8) or *The Virus That Shook the World*: [The Virus That Shook The World | FRONTLINE](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/the-virus-that-shook-the-world/)
* **Reflection paper 4:** Choose to watch and write about one of the documentaries regarding the Israel-Hamas War *See links that follow:A year of War: Israelis and Palestinians* [*A Year of War: Israelis and Palestinians (full documentary) | FRONTLINE*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBQ2Psg8HXQ) *or Netanyahu, America and the Road to War in Gaza,* [*https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/netanyahu-america-the-road-to-war-in-gaza/*](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/netanyahu-america-the-road-to-war-in-gaza/)
* Due dates for the reflection papers are in the tentative course calendar in this document.

**Mid-term Exam**

Your mid-term exam is worth 150 points or up to 15% of your grade.

**This is a reminder that up to 800 points or up to 80% of your grade is based on your individual performance.**

**Team Research Proposal and Final Multimedia Project or Paper**

Your team research proposal (up to 100 points) and final team research multimedia project or paper (up to 100 points) combined account for 200 points or up to 20% of your grade. In lieu of a comprehensive final written exam, a team final multimedia project or academic research paper is required for undergraduate students.

Teamwork is valued in virtual learning and work settings, and that is why your final exam involves teamwork. It can be a multimedia project or research paper for undergraduate students. **Assigned** t**eams for the final multimedia projects/papers will be posted on Canvas by Aug. 25 at 11:59 p.m., and each undergraduate team will produce a multimedia project or research paper that examines a topic related to global media systems.** The suggested topics serve as a catalyst for your work. Each team is expected to apply what you learned in your country reflection paper research, class readings and conduct additional research. The suggested topics for team multimedia projects and papers are listed below:

* + - 1. The role of citizen journalism in global news coverage
      2. Coverage of immigration issues in the Global South vs. the Global North
      3. Women’s impact on global journalism
      4. The CNN effect and contemporary humanitarian crises in five selected nations
      5. The Al-Jazeera effect and citizen journalism in five selected nations
      6. Peace journalism in five selected countries around the globe
      7. Solutions journalism in five selected countries around the globe
      8. Environmental journalism around the globe
      9. Education news coverage in the Global South vs. the Global North
      10. The production and distribution of news by transnational advocacy networks
      11. Internet technologies and liberation struggles
      12. How Generative AI is impacting news production around the globe
      13. Social change and the potential of community radio and podcasts
      14. Press freedoms around the globe
      15. Reporting in conflict zones
      16. News documentary storytelling in the global journalism movement
      17. News coverage of LGBTQ issues around the globe
      18. The political economy of media and media consolidation’s impact around the globe
      19. How Pulitzer Prize winning international coverage has evolved in the 21st century
      20. How major news agencies (e.g. – African News Agency, Xinhua News Agency, Associated Press, Reuters) based in the Global South differ from those based in the Global North
      21. How X, formerly Twitter, has impacted news media production and operations in five selected countries
      22. How Facebook has impacted news media production and operations in five selected countries
      23. How Instagram has impacted news media productions and operations in five selected countries
      24. How YouTube has impacted news media production ad operations in five selected countries
      25. How COVID-19 has impacted public service advertising in five selected countries
      26. Global lessons in crisis communication from COVID-19 in five selected countries

**All teams are encouraged to meet virtually before Sept. 9. Group assignments will be communicated via announcements on Canvas**. **The topics will be assigned on a first-come, first-pick basis so please post your team’s preference by Sept. 7 at 11:59 p.m. on the discussion board under “Team Topics” and include each team member’s name. If another team gets your first pick, then your team needs to pick another topic or one will be assigned to you. If you have another idea that is not on the list, please make a written pitch to the professor by Sept. 14 for consideration. If your team has not selected a topic by Sept. 14, the professor will assign topics to teams starting Sept. 15, 2025. All research projects or paper topics must be pre-approved by the professor and team topics will be loaded on Canvas the week of Sept. 16 as an announcement. If your team wants to schedule a time to discuss your proposal, please contact Dr. Bland at** [**Dorothy.bland@unt.edu**](mailto:Dorothy.bland@unt.edu) **or join us for virtual student office hours (6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays) on Zoom. Here’s the Zoom link to my Zoom room:** <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>

**Undergraduate Final Team Multimedia Project or Final Paper Expectations**

Each undergraduate team will have at least four participants at the start of the semester. Every member of the team is expected to conduct research and write a section of the paper. If for some reason, a team member fails to contribute, please notify the professor ASAP. If you fail to contribute and participate in virtual team meetups, then you cannot expect to pass your final. Each team is encouraged to schedule at least one virtual meetup by the third week of class to start work on your final research project. Each team is encouraged to schedule at least three virtual meetups during the semester. It is up to your team whether you use Zoom, Google Chat, GroupMe or whatever to communicate on your research. **If your team chooses to do a multimedia project, the presentation must be at least 10-15 minutes and include audio/video with a full reference list. If your team elects to produce a research paper, the team paper should be at least 20 pages in length, excluding the reference list and cover page. Papers should be double spaced and use Times Roman 12-point font. Students are encouraged to share their country reflection papers to enrich their research journey, and it is in your interest to connect your countries with your research topic when possible. Please include at least four examples in your final paper related to the countries you are studying. Please utilize APA style in citations and references. Wikipedia is not an acceptable reference. All finals will be run through a generative AI tool. Using generative AI to produce your final project or paper will earn you a zero on any final project or paper. The source of all images should be properly cited.**

The UNT Writing Center also has useful resources. Here’s the link: <https://writingcenter.unt.edu/resources>

**By Sunday, Sept. 21, at 11:59 p.m., each undergraduate team will submit at least a 600-word description of the proposed research project via Canvas, and the topic, names of all team members and your team number should be on the cover page. Failure to include this information will result in an automatic five-point deduction.** This proposal is worth up to 100 points for each team member and should be in narrative form. Each team proposal should have team member names, the research topic and date at the top of first page of the proposal. Your team proposal should be in Times Roman 12-point font, double-spaced and in narrative form. The questions below do not count for your 600-word description and the 30 references do not count in the 600-word description. Specific questions to address in the proposal include:

1. What is your exploratory research question?
2. Why is this topic important or significant for this class?
3. What key theoretical framework(s) do you plan to use and why?
4. What methods will you use to gather information? In addition to scholarly research, yes you may conduct interviews and use other resources. Remember UNT has more than 100 nations represented on campus.
5. What sources do you plan to use? **(Please include at least 30 preliminary references in APA style for undergraduate students. That reference list is in addition to the minimum word count listed above for the proposal. At least five relevant peer-reviewed academic journal articles are to be included in your reference list.)**  Remember every member of the team’s name should be on the proposal and final project or paper. If a team member fails to contribute, please let the professor know. A rubric for evaluating the final papers will be posted.

Undergrad students, your final team multimedia projects or papers should include the following sections:

* Cover page with title, team number, team member names and date of submission
* Introduction
* Literature Review including theoretical framework
* Research Question
* Methods
* Findings/Discussion
* Conclusion
* Reference List

If your team chooses to do a multimedia project, use whatever font you want. Your team paper should be in Times Roman 12-point font and double-spaced. Reminder: your final projects/papers are due Sunday, Dec. 7, by 11:59 p.m. All files are to be uploaded on Canvas under “final papers and projects.” No late projects or papers will be accepted, so please plan ahead.

**EXTRA CREDIT**

**You can earn up to 40 bonus points during the semester.** Examples of extra credit opportunities are listed below.

**For example, I understand some students would prefer some facetime. That’s why all students are encouraged to participate in Zoom chats scheduled for the following dates to address key topics:**

* **Tuesday, Aug. 19, at 6:30 p.m. – Meet with your professor and classmates to review syllabus.**
* **Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 p.m. -- TA Lindsay Thompson will review APA style. Also, plan to meet with your professor and classmates to chat about countries selected for the World Press Freedom reflection paper assignment. Each student should do a different country, preferably one outside your comfort zone.**
* **Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 6:30 p.m. – Librarian Doug Campbell to discuss library resources. Also, plan to meet with your professor and classmates to chat about your research proposals, midterm study guide and final paper/project expectations. (Each group is encouraged to schedule an additional group meeting via Zoom with the professor in October if there are additional questions about your research paper/project.)**
* **Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 6:30 p.m. -- Meet with your professor and classmates to chat about your midterm study guide and final paper/project expectations. (Each group is encouraged to schedule an additional group meeting via Zoom with the professor in October if there are additional questions about your research project/paper.)**

***Here’s the link for virtual Zoom chats, which is the same link for weekly virtual student office hours:***

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>

***If you participate in all four Zoom chats listed above, you will earn 20 bonus points and a screenshot will be taken of participants. That is five bonus points for each Zoom chat you participate in.***

If you cannot make a Zoom chat, here are other extra credit opportunities:

* News Engagement Day is Oct. 7. There is a video contest sponsored by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. If you post your video, then you can earn 5 bonus points and a chance to win a cash prize. Please make sure you submit your video within 24 hours of the event to [dorothy.bland@unt.edu](mailto:dorothy.bland@unt.edu) to get the extra credit and tag it JOUR 4240 NED 2025. To learn more about News Engagement Day, go to [News Engagement Day - AEJMC Community](https://community.aejmc.org/aejmc-events/news-engagement-day#:~:text=Tuesday%2C%20October%207%2C%202025,and%20learn%20news%20reporting%20principles.)
* The 2025 Student Guide to Artificial Intelligence. Download the guide from Elon University and AAC&U at <https://studentguidetoai.org/>, read it and write a 200-word summary about what you learned by Oct. 12. What are the pros and cons from your perspective? You can earn 5 bonus points. Please make sure you submit your summary by the Oct. 12 deadline to [dorothy.bland@unt.edu](mailto:dorothy.bland@unt.edu) to get the extra credit and tag it #JOUR 4240 - AI Student Guide.
* The Mayborn has strong student media and lots of student orgs. Get at least one story published in the NT Daily or ntTV this semester. Another option: participate in a student org and write a 200-word summary about what you learned in that meeting to earn 5 bonus points. A photo of you at the student meeting must be submitted with your post. To earn the extra credit, send the link or content [dorothy.bland@unt.edu](mailto:dorothy.bland@unt.edu) by Nov. 16 to get the extra credit and tag it #JOUR4240 Student Org Extra Credit. This cannot be used for another class.
* The Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference is Oct. 24-25 at UNT in Denton. If you participate or assist with the conference and write a 200-word summary about what you learned with a photo of you engaged at the conference, you can earn five bonus points. To earn the extra credit, send the link or content [dorothy.bland@unt.edu](mailto:dorothy.bland@unt.edu) by Oct. 26 to get the extra credit and tag it #JOUR2310 #MaybornLitCon for Extra Credit. This cannot be used for another class.

**Note: All extra credit points will be posted in December on Canvas before final grades are calculated.**

**JOUR 4240 Tentative Course Calendar**

**Reminders: The professor reserves the right to amend the syllabus as necessary.**

**Again, discussion posts will be due by 11:59 p.m. Fridays.**

**Quizzes, reflection paper assignment and exams will typically open by noon on Mondays and will be due by 11:59 p.m. the following Sunday unless otherwise stated.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WEEK** | **WEEKLY TOPICS & MATERIALS** | **DISCUSSION BOARD** | **QUIZZES, REFLECTION PAPERS, TESTS** |
| **Week 1**  **Aug. 18-24** | Topics: Course introductions, syllabus and ethics readings.  Read the syllabus, other articles for the week, and complete your introduction.  Read: Preface of *Global Journalism* textbook, pp. xi-xvi plus Chapter 7, pp. 85-95 on ethics.  Read International Federation of Journalists Global Charter of Ethics:  <https://www.ifj.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Global_Charter_of_Ethics_EN.pdf> | Introductions of up to 100 words (including short 1-minute video or photo of you) are worth up to 50 points. Your post is due Friday, Aug. 22, by 11:59 p.m.  What’s your name and major?  Why are you taking this class? What do you want to learn?  What is in your media diet? What is your theme song? | **For up to 40 bonus points this semester, read your syllabus for details and deadlines.**  ***All students are invited to join us for Zoom chat on Tuesday, Aug. 19, starting at 6:30 p.m. to get to know your peers.***  ***This is an extra credit opportunity worth 5 bonus points.***  ***Here’s the link for virtual student office hours on Tuesdays this semester:***  Here's the link: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382> |
| **Week 2**  **Aug. 25-Aug. 31** | Topics: Key theories, international news flows and technology  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook*,* Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-56 | Discussion Post #1 is due Aug. 29.  Spin the globe. Which country in the World Press Freedom Index would you like to study and why? Remember first come, first serve. | Short Quiz #1 on Syllabus, APA style, readings and current events.  (Your list of country picks should be loaded by Aug. 31 in discussion posts. If you do not pick a country, one will be assigned to you starting Sept. 1.) |
| **Week 3**  **Sept. 1-7** | Topics: Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index, Media Freedoms and Journalism Culture Around the Globe  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook*,* Chapters 5-6, pp. 57-97  Read this 2025 Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index (WPFI) article:  [RSF World Press Freedom Index 2025: economic fragility a leading threat to press freedom | RSF](https://rsf.org/en/rsf-world-press-freedom-index-2025-economic-fragility-leading-threat-press-freedom)  Read this article summarizing highlights from the Reuters Institute:  [20 findings from the Reuters Institute’s research in 2023 still relevant in 2024 | Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (ox.ac.uk)](https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/news/20-findings-reuters-institutes-research-2023-still-relevant-2024) | Discussion Post #2 is due by Friday, Sept. 5 at 11:59 p.m. | Short Quiz #2  Write 500-word reflection paper on news media in the country of your choice from the Word Press Freedom Index. Each person is encouraged to do a different country with at least three sources. The paper is due Sunday, Sept. 7 by 11:59 p.m. Upload your paper on Canvas. |
| **Week 4**  **Sept. 8-14** | Topics: Media in Sub-Saharan Africa  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook*,* Chapter 8, pp. 101-117  Read WPFI 2025 index summaries for Ghana, South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria. | Discussion Post #3 due by Friday, Sept. 12 at 11:59 p.m. | ***All students are invited to join us for Zoom chat on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 p.m. to share your country insights from WPFI with peers. This is worth 5 points extra credit for your participation. Here’s the link for virtual student office hours:*** <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>  Quiz #3 due on Sunday, Sept. 14.  Each team to post research topic for final project or paper on discussion board with team member names by Sunday, Sept. 14 at 11:59 p.m. If your team does not post by the deadline, one will be assigned to your team. |
| **Week 5**  **Sept. 15-21** | Topics: Media in the Middle East and Northern Africa  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook*,* Chapter 9, pp. 117-132  Read WPFI 2025 summaries for Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Ethiopia. | Discussion Post #4 due by Friday, Sept. 19 at 11:59 p.m. | Short Quiz #4  Team research proposals are due by Sunday, Sept. 21, at 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 6**  **Sept. 22-28** | Topic: War in Ukraine documentary viewing and response.  See info posted in Syllabus for documentary viewing choices.  Also, did you know World News Day is Sept. 28?  [World News Day 2025: Journalism IS the Line - WAN-IFRA](https://wan-ifra.org/2025/07/world-news-day-2025-journalism-is-the-line/) | **No discussion post this week.** | ***All students are invited to join us for Zoom chat on Tuesday, Sept. 23, starting at 6:30 p.m. to discuss team research proposals, midterm study guide, and final paper expectations.***  ***This is a 5-point extra credit opportunity. Here’s the link for virtual student office hours:***  <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>  Individual assignment: Write 500-word minimum reflection paper after viewing the Ukraine War Paper is due by Sunday, Sept. 28, at 11:59 p.m. Upload your paper on Canvas. |
| **Week 7**  **Sept. 29-Oct. 5** | Topics: Media in Central and Eastern Europe plus Russia  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook*,* Chapter 10, pp. 133-152  Chapter 16, pp. 227-242  Read WPFI Index 2025 summaries for Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Bosnia. | Discussion Post #5 due by Friday, Oct. 3 at 11:59 p.m. | Short Quiz #5 due by Sunday, Oct. 5, at 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 8**  **Oct. 6-12** | Topics: Diversity and Women in Global Journalism plus the Role of Public Diplomacy and Generative AI in Global Journalism  Read: “The Chilling: Global Trends in Online Violence Against Women” pp. 1-15 from ICFJ. <https://www.icfj.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/The%20Chilling_POSETTI%20ET%20AL_FINAL.pdf>  Read: Global Journalism Textbook chapters 17 and 18, pp. 243-267. | Discussion Post #6 due by Friday, Oct. 10 at 11:59 p.m. | ***All students are invited to join us for Zoom chat on Tuesday, Oct. 7, starting at 6:30 p.m. to discuss midterm study guide and final paper expectations.***  ***This is a 5-point extra credit opportunity. Here’s the link for virtual student office hours:***  <https://unt.zoom.us/j/9018868382>  **Complete Midterm Exam by Sunday, Oct. 12, by 11:59 p.m.** |
| **Week 9**  **Oct. 13-19** | Topics: Media in Western and Northern Europe  Read: *Global Journalism* textbook  Chapter, 11, pp. 153-168  Read: WPFI Index 2025 summaries for the United Kingdom, Germany, Norway, and Spain. | Discussion Post #7 due by Friday, Oct. 17 at 11:59 p.m. | Short Quiz #6 due by Sunday, Oct. 19. |
| **Week 10**  **Oct. 20-26** | Topics: COVID-19 Around the Globe  Watch: *COVID’s Hidden Toll* or *The Virus That Shook the World* documentary from PBS. | **No discussion post this week.** | Quiz #7 due by Sunday, Oct. 26 at 11:59 p.m.  Individual assignment: Write 500-word minimum reflection paper on COVID-19 after viewing the film and include update on news coverage of COVID-19 in the country you studied for your country reflection paper. Your COVID-19 paper is due Sunday, Oct. 67 by 11:59 p.m. Upload your paper to Canvas. |
| **Week 11**  **Oct. 27-Nov. 2** | Topics: Media in Asia and the Pacific    Read: *Global Journalism*, Chapter 12, pp. 169–182.  Read: China’s Pursuit of a new world media order. <https://rsf.org/sites/default/files/en_rapport_chine_web_final.pdf>  Read: WPFI Index 2025 summaries for China, United Arab Emirates, Japan, India and New Zealand. | Discussion Post #8 due by Friday, Oct. 31, at 11:59 p.m. | Quiz #8 due by Sunday, Nov. 2, by 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 12**  **Nov. 3-9** | Topics: Media in Latin America, the Caribbean and North America.  Read: *Global Journalism*, Chapter 13-14, pp. 183-210.  Read: WPFI Index 2025 summaries for Mexico, Brazil, Haiti and Canada. | Discussion Post #9 due by Friday, Nov.7, at 11:59 p.m. | Quiz #9 due by Sunday, Nov. 9, by 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 13**  **Nov. 10-16** | Topics: Citizen Journalism and choose from one of two documentaries for reflection paper*: A Year of war: Israelis and Palestinians* or *Netanyahu, America and The Road to the War in Gaza.* See links in syllabus. | **No Discussion Post this week.** | Individual assignment: Write 500-word minimum reflection paper about the film you chose and lessons learned by Sunday, Nov. 16, at 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 14**  **Nov. 17-23** | Topics: International News Agencies, Reuters Reports including the Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2025 and Reuters Institute Journalism, Media and Technology Trends and Prediction  Read: *Global Journalism*, Chapter 15, pp. 213-226  Read: Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2025  [Digital News Report 2025 | Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism](https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/digital-news-report/2025)  Executive summary of Reuters Journalism, Media and Technology Trends and Predictions 2025.  [Journalism, media, and technology trends and predictions 2025 | Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism](https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/journalism-media-and-technology-trends-and-predictions-2025) | Discussion Post #10 due by Friday, Nov. 21, at 11:59 p.m. | Quiz #10 due by Sunday, Nov. 23, by 11:59 p.m. |
| **Week 15**  **Nov. 24-Nov. 30**  **NO CLASS**  **FALL BREAK** |  |  |  |
| **Week 16**  **Dec. 1-7** | Work on final team papers and/or projects. | **No discussion post this week.** | **All final team projects and papers are due by Sunday, Dec. 7, at 11:59 p.m. on Canvas. Only one team project or paper per undergraduate team should be submitted with all members who contributed on the cover sheet with your team number and topic.** |
|  | **CONGRATULATIONS 2025 GRADS!** |  |  |

## Course Policies

Our goal is to help you grow and learn. To ensure an optimal learning environment, you are encouraged to:

* Communicate with your classmates and me frequently. (Teams will be formed the first week for group papers or projects.)
* Check the Canvas site for announcements and assignments regularly. (If UNT closes for any reason, including inclement weather, you will be responsible for assignments posted on the website.)
* Turn in assignments when they are due, and not ask for extra credit later.
* Read, watch and/or listen to class materials. Failure to do so may result in a low or no grade for any posting, assignment, quiz, or exam. Technical difficulties are not an excuse for missed deadlines.

**This is a reminder that making up missed work, including exams, will only be allowed in the case of documented illness, family emergency or official UNT functions. Work is not an excused absence. If you have a job that conflicts with the class, you need to handle that conflict or drop the class. A documented illness requires a note from a physician or nurse that states the student was too ill to attend class, even in an online setting. Documentation for a family emergency requires a note from a relative explaining the emergency and should include a phone number so that the instructor can verify the note. You are responsible for turning in such documentation immediately upon your return to class. Late assignments will not be accepted unless extenuating circumstances are documents as noted above.**

**You are responsible for checking your grades on Canvas in a timely fashion. If you believe a grade was entered incorrectly, you must contact the professor within a week after the assignment was due. I will not look for “missing” assignments at the end of the semester.**

**Submission of class materials**

**All work must be turned in through Canvas. Please do not send me regular assignments through email.** If you have any problems, please let me know immediately.

## Teaching Philosophy

My goal is to expand your world view about mass media and encourage you to learn. To best benefit from this course, you are encouraged to stay connected to global news by checking a variety of news sources such as *The Wall Street Journal*, Associated Press, *The New York Times*, CNN and any other news app you choose. There is a good amount of reading and videos, so please schedule a block of time for weekly readings and manage your time. Meeting deadlines is an important part of being a media professional.

## Course Technology & Skills

### Minimum Technology Requirements

Minimum technology requirements for students include use of a computer, reliable internet access, Microsoft Office Suite. Here is a link to [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements).

### Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

You are expected to be able to use the following tools:

* Canvas
* Email with attachments
* Basic presentation program such as Google Slides, PowerPoint or Prezi.Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email**: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In-Person**: Sage Hall 130

## Additional Course Policies

## Attendance PolicyThis is an asynchronous class, so you are encouraged to work on your readings and other assignments each week. It is imperative that you participate each week. One absence on a quiz 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.

### Examination Policy

Tests will be timed so you are encouraged to study in advance. Should a student lose Internet connection during an exam, students are to contact the Student Helpdesk and document the remedy ticket number before contacting me.

### Assignment Policy

Due dates for assignments are outlined earlier in this syllabus, and there will be a weekly reminder posted in announcements. Again, all papers should be saved as a .DOCX file and uploaded in Canvas under the assignments tab.

Yes, Turnitin software will be used for assignment submission so you are encouraged to check your work before submission It is not acceptable to use Wikipedia or Generative AI to compose your reflection papers or final papers/projects.

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Instructor Responsibilities and FeedbackAs your professor, I want to help students grown and learn. I am happy to answer questions about assignments and will share additional resources as necessary.

* Our goal is provide timely feedback and grade papers within a week after they are submitted.

Syllabus Change PolicyAt the professor’s discretion, this syllabus is subject to change. In the event changes are needed, students will be notified via announcements in Canvas.

## **UNT POLICIES**

## **JOURNALISM COURSE REGISTRATION**

### · 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 all foundational courses. 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.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### This is a 100% online course and you are expected to participate in discussions and meet deadlines on a regular basis. Missing one week’s assignment can impact your final grade.

### **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 [UNT Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements) (<https://financialaid.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 have been unknowingly 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.

## A green and white calendar with white text AI-generated content may be incorrect.

## **Accreditation**

### The Mayborn, which is one of over 100 journalism programs across the world that are accredited, is renewing its credentials this year. Accreditation is important to you because it means your degree is more valuable than one that comes from an unaccredited school.

### Accreditation has profound benefits. Accredited programs may offer scholarships, internships, competitive prizes, and other activities unavailable in non-accredited programs.

### Accreditation also provides an assurance of quality and rigorous standards to students, parents, and the public. Students in an accredited program can expect to find a challenging curriculum, appropriate resources and facilities, and a competent faculty.

### Accreditation is our promise to our students that you will receive the best education possible in journalism and mass communication. With today’s technology, anyone can present information to a mass audience. But not all are trained in the creation of ethical messages that reach and serve diverse audiences that our standards uphold. What you learn in an accredited program makes you more marketable and your degree more valuable!

### The Mayborn School’s accreditation is determined by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) through an extensive evaluation process. Accreditation by the ACEJMC council means we embrace the value of a broad, multidisciplinary curriculum that nurtures critical thinking, analytic reasoning and problem-solving skills that are the essential foundation for all mass communication education.

## **Adobe Access**

### UNT has a contract with Adobe. The following link contains all the information that students will need to purchase a subscription, and opt-out of an existing agreement that is at a higher price:<https://cvad.unt.edu/cvad-it-services/it-services-adobe-cloud-access.html>

### The email address for students to ask questions or report problems is adobe@unt.edu.

## **JOURNALISM EQUIPMENT CHECK OUT**

### Checkout length for the **Canon Mirrorless Camera, Batteries, Lighting Gear, Mirrorless Tripods, Individual Lenses, and Accessories** can be checked out up to 72 hours.

### To checkout a **Canon Mirrorless Camera and items listed above** longer than 72 hours, the Professor for the course will need to approve the request.

### Checkout length for the **Panasonic Video Camera, Batteries, SDXC, and Tripods** can be checked out up to 24 hours.

### To checkout a **Panasonic Video Camera and items listed above** longer than 72 hours, the Professor for the course will need to approve the request.

### Please send extended reservations approval from the Professor to the following email: **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu**

### **Journalism Equipment Room - Location and Contact Information**

### The Journalism equipment room is located at **Chilton Hall 410 S. Ave. C, Room 155.**

### Equipment room phone number is **940-565-3580.**

### Equipment room email is **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu.**

### Equipment room supervisor can be reached at **ladaniel.maxwell@unt.edu**

### **Journalism Equipment Room - Operating Hours**

### Monday/Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### Tuesday/Thursday: 9 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### Friday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

### Sat-Sun: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### **Journalism Equipment Room - Agreement Form**

### Anyone who plans to check out equipment during the semester must complete the checkout agreement form found below:

### <https://forms.office.com/r/q9fakNFTM8>

### This form should be completed prior to checking out equipment and only needs to be done once per semester.

### **Journalism Equipment Room - Late Returns/Abuse of Checkout Policy**

### For every hour the student is late; a ban will be placed on the student's account accumulating the same amount of time.

### A **ban** restricts the student from checking out any equipment within the Journalism Equipment Room.

### For example, if the student returns equipment 2 hours late, a 2 hour ban will be placed on the student's account.

### If the student returns equipment 72 hours late, a 72 hour ban will be placed on the student's account.

### If you are going to be late or unable to return equipment that you checked out on time, please email **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu** or **ladaniel.maxwell@unt.edu**

### 

## **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 steps outlined below:

### 

|  |
| --- |
| Individual Faculty Member/Advisor   Associate Dean, Mayborn School of Journalism  Dean, Mayborn School of Journalism |

## **OFFICE OF DISABILITY ACCESS**

### 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 Access (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 website for the Office of Disability Access (<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.

### The penalty for academic dishonesty is a zero for that assignment. If you have more than one violation, you will be referred to the academic integrity committee and may fail 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 06.003 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.

## **FINAL EXAM POLICY**

### In lieu of a final exam, your team’s multimedia project or paper is due bySunday, Dec. 7, at 11:59 p.m. and should be uploaded on Canvas.

## **ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

### As you know, your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the [My.UNT site](http://www.my.unt.edu/) ([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 so do, as this is where you learn about job and internship opportunities, MSOJ events, scholarships, and other important information. Visit the [Eagle Connect website](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/) for more information (<http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>) including tips on how to forward your email.

## **Courses in a Box**

### Any MSOJ equivalent course from another university must receive prior approval from the MSOJ academic advisor to ensure 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) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

## **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). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials. If Canvas is not accessible during the emergency, contact me via email or phone for more information. Students should confirm that their Eagle Alert contact information is correct via the myUNT portal.

## **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. You will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (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](http://www.spot.unt.edu/) ([www.spot.unt.edu](http://www.spot.unt.edu/)) or email spot@unt.edu. Spots survey dates:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Survey Administration Dates** |
| [Regular Academic Session](https://vpaa.unt.edu/spot/calendars/fall-calendars/fall-regular.html) | November 11 - December 04 |
| [8W1](https://vpaa.unt.edu/spot/calendars/fall-calendars/fall-8w1.html) | September 30 - October 09 |
| [8W2](https://vpaa.unt.edu/spot/calendars/fall-calendars/fall-8w2.html) | December 02 - December 11 |

## **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 on the [Dean Of Students website](http://www.deanofstudents.unt.edu/) ([www.deanofstudents.unt.edu](http://www.deanofstudents.unt.edu/)).

## **Classroom Policies**

### 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).

## **SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, & 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.

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### [UNT’s Dean of Students’ website](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0) (<http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0>) offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT’s Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

## **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

### UNT provides mental health services to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

### 1. [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center#programs)

### (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center#programs>)

### 1800 Chestnut St. (Chestnut Hall)

### 940-565-2333

### M-Th, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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### 2. [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) – Free to UNT Students

### (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)

### 801 N. Texas Blvd., Suite 140 (Gateway Center)

### 940-565-2741

### M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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### 3. [UNT CARE Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) – Free to UNT Students

### (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)

### Dean of Students, University Union

### 940-565-2648

### careteam@unt.edu

### 

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### 4. [Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)

### (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)

### 940-565-2333

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### 5. [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) – Free to UNT Students

### (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

### 940-369-8773

### If at any time you are feeling alone or in jeopardy of self-harm, reach out to any of the following:

### · National Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255

### · Denton County MHMR Crisis Line 800-762-0157

### · Denton County Friends of the Family Crisis Line (family or intimate partner violence) 940-382-7273

### · UNT Mental Health Emergency Contacts

### o During office hours, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m: Call 940-565-2741

### o After hours: Call 940-565-2741

### o Crisis Line: Text CONNECT to 741741

### o [Live chat](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/): ([http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/))

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