COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines a wide variety of issues that relate to the roles of information communication technologies (ICTs) in political, social, psychological, and cultural processes in community contexts, both physical and virtual. In so doing, this course reviews such topics as information communication technologies (ICTs), including social media and mobile technologies, and their relation to government, political parties, nonprofit/voluntary organizations, social movements, news media organizations, citizen journalism, public sphere, social capital, deliberation, and political/civic/community engagement. As such, this course sheds light on the democratic functioning of the information communication technologies (ICTs) for a healthy community to operate at local, regional, national, and global levels.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to guide you to comprehend various theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches at multiple levels regarding information communication technologies (ICTs), communities, and democracy with special emphasis on social media. You will be able to critically discuss current issues and problems in connection with the diverse theoretical and methodological understandings. Then, you will conduct various research projects regarding information communication technologies (ICTs), communities, and democracy, paying particular attention to the roles of social media in democratic societies. Finally, you will present your research in various conferences, which will result in journal publications and/or book chapters.

REQUIREMENTS

Response Paper

- Throughout the course, you will write weekly response papers.
- You will write a one or two-page response paper that will include your thoughts and comments on the readings for the topics.
- Then, you will post response papers to the Blackboard Website (hereafter Bb).
- The response papers are due by 1 pm on Wednesdays.

Discussion

- Throughout the course, you will participate in discussions on Bb every week.
• Every discussion should be based on the readings required.
• Beside your response papers, you have to post at least two discussions on Bb every week no later than 1pm on Wednesdays.
• Then, you have to reply to all of others’ discussions.
• Your participation in discussions will continue by 1pm on Thursdays.

Prospectus
• During the course, you will write a short 2-3 page prospectus for your term paper.
• Then you will post your prospectus on Bb no later than 1pm on October 7 (Wednesday), 2015.

Term Paper
• As you develop your term paper, you will consult with me in person during my office hours and/or by appointment.
• You will write a research proposal which includes a problem statement, thorough literature review, research questions, and research methods. However, you can also write a research paper which follows a journal article style with results and conclusions.
• Specific formats and guidelines will be given as you develop your projects.
• The term paper should have 15 pages minimum and 20 pages maximum excluding references, tables, figures, and appendix.
• Finally, your term paper is due by 1pm on December 1 (Friday), 2015.
• You will post your term paper on Bb. If Bb does not work, you can email your term paper to seungahn.nah@uky.edu.

Virtual Presentation
• While you are working on your term papers, you will present your projects in PowerPoint on Bb during the last two weeks.
• You will upload your presentation files no later than 1pm on December 2 (Wednesday), 2015.
• A specific format will be given prior to the virtual presentation on Bb.
• You will provide at least one feedback to each presentation.

Paper Format
• All papers (response papers, prospectus, and term papers) should be double spaced and typed in Times New Roman with 12 point font size.
• In addition, all papers should have one inch margins on all four sides of the papers.
• Prior to paper submissions, it is strongly recommended for you to meet with writing instructors in the University of Kentucky Writing Center (http://www.uky.edu/AS/English/wc/).
• For your academic writing, it is strongly recommended for you to read The Craft of Research (2nd ed.) by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams.
• Although there is no required academic writing style, it is strongly recommended for you to use the American Psychological Association (APA) (6th Ed.) style.
GRADING

1. Response paper: 20% (100pts)
2. Discussion: 20% (100pts)
   2-1. Post discussions 10% (50pts)
   2-2. Reply to discussions 10% (50pts)
3. Term Paper Prospectus: 10% (50pts)
4. Virtual Presentation: 10% (50pts)
   4-1. Virtual Presentation 5% (25pts)
   4-2. Feedback to Virtual Presentation 5% (25pts)
5. Final Paper: 40% (200pts)

Total 100% (500pts)

Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>450 – 500</td>
<td>90 – 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>400 – 449</td>
<td>80 – 89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>350 – 399</td>
<td>70 – 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>300 – 349</td>
<td>60 – 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>&lt; 299</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
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COURSE MATERIALS

Course Readings
- Course readings are available on the Blackboard Website.

Data Sources
- For your term paper, you could refer to secondary data sources as follows:
  - Social Science Data Analysis Network: [http://www.ssdan.net](http://www.ssdan.net)
  - General Social Survey: [http://webapp.icpsr.umich.edu/GSS/](http://webapp.icpsr.umich.edu/GSS/)
  - National Election Studies: [http://www.umich.edu/~nes/](http://www.umich.edu/~nes/)
  - The Social N’ Agricultural Resource Lab (“SNARL): [http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/KentuckyByTheNumbers/KYBTNIndex.htm](http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/KentuckyByTheNumbers/KYBTNIndex.htm)
  - Kentucky State Data Center: [http://ksdc.louisville.edu/](http://ksdc.louisville.edu/)
  - 2009 KY Communities Survey, Dept. of Community and Leadership Development, University of Kentucky [Available upon request]
COURSE POLICIES

- You are required to read all of the readings listed.
- You will learn from various interactions between instructor and students. You are strongly suggested to work together with your instructor and peer groups in order to develop your research projects.
- Academic integrity is essential. Any kind of plagiarism or cheating will not be accepted and tolerated on your assignments. For more information, visit the Ombud Website, http://www.uky.edu/Ombud

CONFERENCES AND JOURNALS

Conferences
- Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR): http://www.aoir.org/
- Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T): http://asis.org
- International Conference on Communities and Technologies: http://comtech.community
- International Communication Association (ICA): http://www.icahdq.org/
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC): http://www.aejmc.org/
- National Communication Association (NCA): http://www.natcom.org/nca
- American Sociological Association (ASA): http://www.asanet.org/index.ww
- American Political Science Association (APSA): http://www.apsanet.org/
- Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR): http://www.mapor.org/
- American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR): http://www.aapor.org/
- World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR): http://www.unl.edu/WAPOR/

Journals
- Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication (JCMC): http://jcmc.indiana.edu/
- Mass Communication and Society: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/HMCS
- New Media & Society: http://newmediaandsociety.com/
- The Information Society: http://www.indiana.edu/~tisj/
- International Journal of Communication: http://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc
- Political Communication: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/10584609.asp
- First Monday: http://www.firstmonday.org/
- Television and New Media: http://tvn.sagepub.com/
• Information, Communication and Society: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/1369118x.html
• Social Movement Studies: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14742837.asp
• International Journal of Press-Politics: http://hij.sagepub.com
COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1 (Aug 26): Course Overview AND Q & A
- Introduce yourself on Bb
- Review syllabus

PART I. THEORIES OF COMMUNITIES AND TECHNOLOGIES

Week 2 (Sept 2): Theoretical Foundations of ICTs & Communities

Week 3 (Sept 9): The Public Sphere and Communities

Week 4 (Sept 16): Social Capital and Communities
  http://jcmc.indiana.edu/vol8/issue3/prell.html

**Week 5 (Sept 23): Communication Infrastructure and Communities**


**Week 6 (Sept 30): Physical vs. Virtual Communities: Networked Communities**


**PART II. TECHNOLOGIES AND COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION**

**Week 7 (Oct 7): Community Computer Networks & Community Technology Centers**


**Week 8 (Oct 14): Imagined and Virtual Communities**

• Fernback, J. (2007). Beyond the diluted community concept: A symbolic interactionist perspective on online social relations. *New Media & Society, 9*(1), 49-69.

**Week 9 (Oct 21): Rural vs. Urban Communities: The Digital Divide and Inequality**


**Week 10 (Oct 28): Nonprofit and Social Movement Communities**


**Week 11 (Nov 4): Civic Engagement and Community Development**


**Week 12 (Nov 11): Citizen/Community Journalism and Community Building**

• Nieman Reports (2005). *Citizen journalism*. The Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. [Online available] [http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/reports/05-4NRwinter/05-4NFwinter.pdf](http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/reports/05-4NRwinter/05-4NFwinter.pdf)

**Week 13 (Nov 18): Ethnic, Transnational, and Global Communities**


\textbf{Week 14 (Nov 25): Thanksgiving!}

\textbf{THEME III: THEORIES AND PRACTICES}

\textbf{Week 15 (Dec 2): Virtual Presentation and Feedback 1}
• Presentation and Feedback on Bb

\textbf{Week 16 (Dec 9): Virtual Presentation and Feedback 2}
• Presentation and Feedback on Bb
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (Aug 26-28)</td>
<td>Course Overview and Q &amp; A</td>
<td>-Happy Semester!</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 (Aug 31-Sept 4)</td>
<td>Theoretical Foundations of ICTs &amp; Communities</td>
<td>-Response Papers and Discussions Due by 1pm on Wednesdays</td>
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<td>3 (Sept 7-11)</td>
<td>The Public Sphere and Communities</td>
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<td>4 (Sept 14-18)</td>
<td>Social Capital and Communities</td>
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<td>5 (Sept 21-25)</td>
<td>Communication Infrastructure and Communities</td>
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<td>6 (Sept 28-Oct 2)</td>
<td>Physical vs. Virtual Communities: Networked Communities</td>
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<td>7 (Oct 5-9)</td>
<td>Community Computer Networks &amp; Community Technology Centers</td>
<td>-Prospectus DUE by 1pm on Oct 7 (Wed)</td>
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<td>8 (Oct 12-16)</td>
<td>Imagined and Virtual Communities</td>
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<td>9 (Oct 19-23)</td>
<td>Rural vs. Urban Communities: The Digital Divide and Inequality</td>
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<td>10 (Oct 26-30)</td>
<td>Nonprofit and Social Movement Communities</td>
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<td>11 (Nov 2-6)</td>
<td>Civic Engagement and Community Development</td>
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<td>12 (Nov 9-13)</td>
<td>Citizen/Community Journalism and Community Building</td>
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<td>13 (Nov 16-20)</td>
<td>Thanksgiving!</td>
<td>-Academic Holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 (Nov 23-27)</td>
<td>Ethnic, Transnational, and Global Communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 (Nov 3-Dec 4)</td>
<td>Virtual Presentation and Feedback I</td>
<td>-Presentation Files DUE by 1pm on Dec 2 (Wednesday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 (Dec 7-11)</td>
<td>Virtual Presentation and Feedback II</td>
<td>-Term Paper DUE by 1pm on Dec 11 (Friday)</td>
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