MTS 501
Introduction to Graduate Research in
Media, Technology & Society

Fall 2008
Tuesday 2-5pm
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Description: This course is an introduction to graduate research in the Media, Technology & Society Program (MTS). It is designed to acquaint students with the research practices and professional norms that typify this field of study and offer them a sampler of the research methods in common use. It also introduces students to selected “canonic” works, as well as the research of current MTS faculty.

Reading: There are three required text books. These are listed below and are available at the Norris Bookstore. There are also a number of chapters and journal articles that will be assigned during the quarter. For your convenience copies of these (or links to electronic copies) are available on the course web site. It is accessible through Northwestern’s Blackboard (Bb) (https://courses.northwestern.edu/).


In addition, you should buy and learn to effectively use ONE of the following style manuals:


Turabian, K. A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (current edition).


Grades: Your grade is based on two exercises and a paper. The first two exercises will each count for 10% of your grade. The final paper and presentation will count 80%.

Schedule of Classes

September 23 / Introduction

September 30/ Jen Light


October 7 / Noshir Contractor


October 14 / James Ettema


Ettema, J. S. "News as Culture" manuscript in progress.


Exercise 1 Due: Introductory Paragraphs

October 21 / Peter Miller


October 28 / Beth Pardoe

Read:


November 4 / James Webster

Read: TBA

Exercise 2 Due: Citation Indices

November 11 / Pablo Boczkowski

Read: TBA

November 18 / Darren Gergle

Read:


November 25 / Consultations

December 2 / Presentations

Final Paper Due: Writing an Abbreviated Proposal

Students with Disabilities
In compliance with Northwestern University policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. Request for academic accommodations need to be made during the first week of the quarter, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made. Students are encouraged to register with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) for disability verification and for determination of reasonable academic accommodations.

For more information, visit: http://www.northwestern.edu/disability/

Academic Integrity at Northwestern
Students are expected to comply with University regulations regarding academic integrity. If you are in doubt about what constitutes academic dishonesty, speak to the instructor before the assignment is due and/or examine the University web site. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating on an exam (e.g., copying others’ answers, providing information to others, using a crib sheet) or plagiarism of a paper (e.g., taking material from readings without citation, copying another student’s paper). Failure to maintain academic integrity on an assignment will result in a loss of credit for that assignment at a minimum. Other penalties may also apply. The guidelines for determining academic dishonesty and procedures followed in a suspected incident of academic dishonesty are detailed on the website.

For more information, visit: http://www.communication.northwestern.edu/programs/undergraduate/policies_procedures/academic_integrity/