

## MDIA 304

### Trimester 1 2016

29 February to 29 June 2016

20 Points

#### IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates:	29 February to 5 June 2016
Easter break:	24 to 30 March 2016
Mid-trimester break:	25 April to 1 May 2016
Last assessment item due:	1 June 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

#### CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

##### Lectures

Monday	09.00am-10.50am	77 Fairlie Tce FT77306
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<b>Tutorials</b>	tba
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Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the MDIA 304 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial instructions” and then follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and room for future reference. Tutorial rooms will be listed on myAllocator, Blackboard and on the noticeboard outside the administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace.

#### NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Dr Angi Buettner	<a href="mailto:angi.buettner@vuw.ac.nz">angi.buettner@vuw.ac.nz</a>	(04) 463 5070	Room 002, 81 Fairlie Terrace
Office hours:	Tba		

#### COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All further course-related information will be posted on the MDIA 304 Blackboard site.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

### PRESCRIPTION

This course initially introduces students to the history, theories, genres, and culture of news media; thereafter, it considers contemporary news texts and practices in terms of the contexts of globalisation, changes to the cultural field of journalism/media, and the advent of digital technologies.

### COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

Students passing the course should be able to:

1. Describe the practices within the field of news journalism
2. Critically analyse the transformation, in the digital age, of news culture and its practices
3. Critically reflect on the public sphere roles of journalism and news culture
4. Recognise the history of news culture within the wider context of the advent of communications and the culture industry.

### TEACHING FORMAT

There are weekly 2-hour lectures and 50-min tutorials. See the weekly schedule for details.

### MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are no mandatory course requirements beyond the need to achieve an overall pass mark of 50%.

### WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

### ASSESSMENT

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	First Essay Length: 1,500 words The essay covers material dealt with in lectures from weeks 1–4 (inclusive)	30%	1, 3	Due 2.00pm, 23 March 2016 (MDIA Drop Slot outside Administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace).
2	Second Essay Length: 1,500 words The second essay covers material dealt with in lectures from weeks 5–9 (inclusive).	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	Due: 2.00pm, 4 May 2016 (MDIA Drop Slot outside Administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace).
3	Take-home Assignment	40%	1, 2, 3, 4	Due 2.00pm, 1 June 2016 (MDIA Drop Slot outside

**School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies**  
**MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE MDIA 304**

<p>Length: 2,000 words (2 x 1,000 word essays)</p> <p>The take-home assignment covers material dealt in lectures during the whole course and especially weeks 10-11 (inclusive).</p> <p>There will be a recap of course material and workshop for the Take-home assignment in Week 11. Your tutors will be available for consultation on this assignment during this week's office hours and allocated tutorial times.</p>			<p>Administration office, 83 Fairlie Terrace).</p>
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### **Assessment information**

Specific or any additional assessment information and requirements will be posted on Blackboard and discussed during lecture and tutorial times.

### **Marking Criteria**

Assignments will take account of:

- evidence of relevant theoretical learning and application of concepts/methods
- overall rigour of analysis, appropriate use of sources/data and coherence of argumentation
- evidence of original thinking/synthesis and effort in sourcing material
- quality of writing including accurate expression and referencing.

### **Marking Scale**

A+ 90-100%, A 85-89%, A- 80-84%, B+75-79%, B 70-74%, B- 65-69%, C+ 60-64%, C 55-59%, C- 50-54%  
(Grades of C- and above are passes, otherwise: D 40-49%, E 0-39%).

## **SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK**

Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office: 83 Fairlie Terrace. Attach an assignment cover sheet found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the administration office.

## EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

### Extensions

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, email your Course Coordinator before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date. Tutors cannot grant extensions. **No assignment with or without an extension will be accepted after Wednesday 29 June 2016.**

### Penalties

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

## SET TEXTS

Allan, Stuart. Ed. *The Routledge Companion to News and Journalism*. Revised ed. Routledge, 2012.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz).

## RECOMMENDED READING

Please see on Blackboard.

## CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details: tba

## STUDENT FEEDBACK

The most recent student feedback survey on MDIA 304 did not indicate a need for any major adjustments to the course. However, as with all MDIA courses, MDIA 304 is updated each year based on feedback from students, tutors and academic staff, developments in media theory and media cultures, and the course co-ordinator's assessment of the course (including student engagement and achievement). Course content, design and assessment have been developed in consultation with other staff in the programme.

Specifically, this year new case studies have been integrated into lectures and workshops during tutorials to exemplify for, and practice with, students the work required in the assessments.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

[www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)
- School website: [www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms)

**COURSE PROGRAMME**

Week 1      29 February      Introduction: News Culture – no tutorials

Week 2      7 March      News Journalism: Genres and Mediums – tutorials

Week 3      14 March      News Culture and the Field of Journalism – tutorials

Week 4      21 March      News and the Public Sphere – tutorials

**First Essay due Wed 23 March by 2pm**

**Easter Break:** Thursday 24 to Wednesday 30 March 2016

**Week 5      28 March      No Lecture; no tutorials**

Week 6      4 April      News as Spectacle and Entertainment – tutorials

Week 7      11 April      News and Networks in the Digital Age – tutorials

Week 8      18 April      Sports, Celebrities, & Co. – tutorials

**Mid-trimester Break:** Monday 25 April to Sunday 1 May

Week 9      2 May      Politics – tutorials

**Second Essay due Wed 4 May by 2pm**

Week 10      9 May      War – tutorials

Week 11      16 May      Nature – tutorials

Week 12      23 May      Recap of all course material – and particularly Weeks 9 & 10 –

+ Workshop for Take-home Assignment – no tutorials

**Take-home Assignment available on Blackboard from Monday 23 May  
after lecture**

Week 13      30 May      **Take-Home Assignment due Wednesday 1 June by 2pm**

– no lectures or tutorials –