

GLOBAL ECONOMY & SOCIETY

MODULE: Global Media and Citizenship

Course Syllabus 2023

PROFESSOR | Patricia Ferrante (pferrante@flacso.org.ar) **GUEST LECTURER** | Eugenia Mitchelstein

DATES AND TIME | Wednesdays from August 16 to September 13, 2023.

CREDIT HOURS (total) | 15 hours

1. INTRODUCTION

This course explores critical theories and case studies regarding global media (what is it, how it operates), social media (what kind of media are they, how the local and the global operate within them), participation and the status of information in the contemporary digital societies. It also discusses the increasing datafication of social, cultural, political and civic practices raises questions about our “digital self” and platformization of public values (van Dijck et al, 2018). Bringing these contemporary experiences into the discussion, this seminar aims to think about media, global media, media consumption and citizenship in today's connected world.

The expectation is to discuss together some aspects of the information era (Castells, 2001) and the platform society (van Dijck, Poell, and de Waaland, 2018) and relate them to the current state of media affairs.

This seminar seeks to discuss the transformations in media landscapes and citizenship practices with media, describing and analyzing how key actors produce, distribute, share and participate in information flows and set particular agendas

Core themes include:

- globalization of media in the digital age, media practices and media concentration;
- the construction of global agendas and citizenship participation in the digital age;
- global and local narratives.
- the status of the digital citizen: how we consume media.

2. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Final Paper: There will be a final essay paper on one of the main questions posed in class (80% of final grade). Deadline for submission: CHECK. Participation: Active participation in class is also required (20% of final grade).

3. SCHEDULE

(All texts are available in soft copy)

1- August 16 - What is global media: From radio amateurs and international news to a global information environment. New media in old power structures. Where and who is the audience: everyday media practices. Guest video class with Professor Jason Beech, Monash University (Australia). Conditions and challenges for a cosmopolitan citizenship.

Readings:

a) David Morley and Kevin Robins (1995), *Spaces of Identity. Global media, electronic landscapes and cultural boundaries*, Routledge, Chapters 1 and 2. b) Manuel Castells (2011), *Communication Power*, Oxford University Press. Ch 2. c) Tehri Rantanen (2005), *The media and globalization*, SAGE. Chapters 2 and 3. d) Fazal Rizvia and Jason Beech (2017). *Global mobilities and the possibilities of a cosmopolitan curriculum*, in *CURRICULUM INQUIRY*, 2017 VOL. 47, NO. 1, 125-134 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03626784.2016.1254500>.

2-August 23 - Ambient Culture. Fusion News. Old media, new media, social media. Guest lecturer: Eugenia Mitchelstein

Reading:

Mitchelstein et al (2020), *Incidental news consumption*, *Journalism*, 1-18. Matassi, Boczkowski and Mitchelstein (2019). *Domesticating WhatsApp: Family, friends, work, and study in everyday communication*, in *New Media & Society* 1-18.

3- August 30 - Media, politics and citizenship. The rise of media power in contemporary democracies. The changing relationship between media and governments. Citizenship practices with the media: a more informed citizen is a better citizen? The private sphere as the new public sphere in the digital age.

Readings:

a) Manuel Castells (2011), *Communication Power*, Oxford University Press. Chapter 1. b) Zizi Papacharissi (2010), *A private Sphere. Democracy in the digital age*, *Polity*. Chapters 4 and 6. c) Nick Couldry (2013), *Media, Society, World: Social Theory and Digital Media Practice*, *Polity*. Chapter 4. d) García Canclini, Néstor (2018). *Disposal and Reinvention: Citizenship in an Era of Electronic Capitalism*, in *Open Cultural Studies* 2(1):273-284. DOI: 10.1515/culture-

2018-0025

e) Winocur, R. e I. Dussel, “Memes production as parodic activism: Inclusion and exclusion in young people’s digital participation in Latin America”, in: Frau, D., S. Kotilainen, M. Pathak-Shelat., M. Hoechsmann, S. Poyntz (eds.), Handbook of Media Education Research, London, WileyBlackwellPubl, 2021, pp. 33-45.

4. September 6 - The platform society and data colonialism. If the internet was expected to trigger more just and participative democracies, descriptions of current platform societies and the datification of politics set new challenges.

Readings:

a) José van Dijck, Thomas Poell, and Martijn de Waal (2018), The Platform Society. Public values in a connective world. Oxford University Press, chapters 1 and 2.

b) Nick Couldy and Ulises Mejías (2019), The Costs of Connection How Data Is Colonizing Human Life and Appropriating It for Capitalism, Stanford University Press.

5- September 13. Discussing the role of social media.

In this final session we wrap up the seminar with a group discussion and guidelines for the final essay.

Reading for discussion:

Sakshi Ghai, Lucía Magis-Weinberg, MariyaStoilova, Sonia Livingstone, Amy Orben (2022), Social media and adolescent well-being in the Global South, Current Opinion in Psychology, Volume 46, 101318, ISSN 2352-250X,

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2022.101318>