

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
TUESDAY- THURSDAY 10-11:30AM
PS 2410 WAO MASS MEDIA AND POLITICS
INSTRUCTOR: DR. D. WEST OA3019 Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT
Telephone: 705-330-4008, 2647**

This course focuses on the relationship between media and politics in Canada. It is designed as an introduction to Media Studies which encourages students to analyze, interpret and understand the various media and their influence on the process of politics, gender and sexual representation, multiculturalism, civic engagement, international relations, among other general themes. Students are required/encouraged to participate in class discussions and through the preparation of their assignments.

GRADING

Book Review40%

A 5-7 page review of the required text that includes at least 6 outside references. (due on April 5th)

Documentary Review30%

A 5-7 page review of one of the documentary films viewed in class (due on February 16th)

Essay..... 30%

A 5-7 page essay related to entire course content – topic will be determined with class participants (due on March 22)

REQUIRED TEXT

Hedges, Chris. *Empire of Illusion: The End of Literacy and the Triumph of Spectacle*. Toronto. Knopf, 2009. Available at LU Alumni Bookstore

Articles posted on Desire2Learn

READING/CLASS DISCUSSION SCHEDULE

Week 1 – Introduction - Course administration

Media – Chris Hedges

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHnjclgde8c>

Week 2– Understanding Media

Media <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImaH51F4HBw>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcqB2TESg8g>

<http://www.cbc.ca/archives/categories/arts-entertainment/media/marshall-mcluhan-the-man-and-his-message/gzowski-interviews-mcluhan.html>

<http://marshallmcluhanspeaks.com/>

Week 3 - Understanding Media

Media – The Corporation

<https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/the-corporation/>

Week 4 - Understanding Media

Media – The Corporation

<https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/the-corporation/>

Week 5 – Media and Social Issues

Media – <https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/big-sugar/>

Week 6 –Media and Social Issues

Media – Media That Matters – Global Thoughts

<https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/silk-roads/>

Week 7 – Media and Social Issues

Media – <https://topdocumentaryfilms.com/no-logo-brands-globalization-resistance/>

Week 8 – Media and Social Change

Media – Chosen by students

Week 9 – Media and Social Change

Media – Chosen by students

Week 10 – Alternative Media

Media – Chosen by Students

Week 11 – Research Week

Week 12 – Final Thoughts