

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:		US credits: 3/0/3								
CN 2408 ISSUES IN CONTEXT – LEVEL 4 (Updated Spring 2019)		UK CREDITS: 15								
PREREQUISITES:	WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing WP 1111 Academic Writing WP 1212 Academic Writing and Research CN 2301 Contemporary Mass Communication									
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	Historical observation, social theory, and examination of media artifacts as tools for understanding social change. The retreat of tradition and its impact on institutions, individuals and relationships at different levels of society.									
RATIONALE:	This course helps students understand how historical perspectives and social theories can provide systematic explanations for social change. They examine how media treatment of issues reflects contemporary perceptions of the individual and society. They also receive guidance in writing annotations of academic articles. It is important for communication and media students to appreciate the importance of history and theory as tools of understanding society. Such an understanding is a pre-condition for students themselves to be able to develop their own ideas and a coherent understanding of the relationship between the media and wider society.									
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to: 1. Understand how Westerners' perceptions of their societies have changed over the past several decades, especially since the end of the Cold War. 2. Understand how historical perspectives and sociological theories attempt to provide coherent explanations of social change. 3. Identify social trends and outlooks as they are reflected in the mass media.									
METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Class lectures, discussions and film viewings; in-class workshops, homework assignments, and other group work. ➤ Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their instructor, where they can ask questions, see their exam paper, and/or go over lecture material. ➤ Use of a blackboard site, where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, announcements, and other resources. ➤ Peer tutoring is also available to students who choose to get additional help. 									
ASSESSMENT:	<p>Summative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Research paper: 1300-1500 words</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final examination (2-hour, comprehensive): essay questions</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Bibliographical annotations – Annotations of peer-reviewed articles, 100 words each</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commentary piece</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table>		Research paper: 1300-1500 words	40	Final examination (2-hour, comprehensive): essay questions	60	Bibliographical annotations – Annotations of peer-reviewed articles, 100 words each	0	Commentary piece	0
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<p>INDICATIVE READING:</p>	<p>REQUIRED READING:</p> <p>Fukuyama, Francis. <i>The End of History and the Last Man</i>. Avon. 1992.</p> <p>Furedi, Frank. <i>Culture of Fear Revisited</i>, Continuum, 2006.</p> <p>Giddens, Anthony. <i>The Third Way</i>, Polity, 1998.</p> <p>Klages, Mary. "Postmodernism". Retrieved from www.colorado.edu/.../ENGL2012Klages/pomo.html, October 16, 2010.</p> <p>Rees, Matthew C. "The Structure of Scientific Revolutions at Fifty" <i>TheNewAtlantis.com</i>, Fall, 2012</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING:</p> <p>Beck, Ulrich. "The Silence of Words and Political Dynamics in the World Risk Society", <i>Logos</i>, 1.4, 2002.</p> <p>Fukuyama, Francis. "The West Has Won", (2001) retrieved from www.guardian.co.uk/.../afghanistan.terrorism30, October 7, 2010.</p> <p>Hammond, Philip. <i>Media, War & Postmodernity</i>. Routledge, 2007.</p> <p>Pearson, Geoffrey. <i>Hooligan: A History of Respectable Fears</i>, Macmillan, 1983.</p> <p>Stevens, Mitchell. "We're All Postmodern Now", <i>Columbia Journalism Review</i>, pp. 60-64, 2005. Retrieved from Communication & Mass Media Complete database.</p> <p>Thompson, Kenneth. <i>Moral Panics</i>. Routledge, 1998.</p> <p>Selected articles from the international media.</p>
<p>INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</p>	<p>REQUIRED MATERIAL:</p> <p>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</p> <p>Film: "Love Actually", Richard Curtis, director, 2003.</p> <p>Film: "Mystic River", Clint Eastwood, director, 2003.</p>
<p>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p>All presentations using proper English</p>
<p>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p>Microsoft Word</p>
<p>WWW RESOURCES:</p>	<p>www.cjr.org www.time.com www.newsweek.com www.nationalreview.com www.nyt.com www.washingtonpost.com</p>

	www.thetimes.co.uk www.ft.com www.theguardian.co.uk www.economist.com
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Political and Social Change since the End of the Cold War <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Then and now: politics and society pre- and post-Cold War and Fukuyama's "end of history" thesis. 1.2. Furedi's dynamic of social fragmentation and "culture of fear". 1.3. Giddens's "Third Way". 1.4. Responses of the traditional forces of left and right to the post-Cold War situation. 1.5. Redefining right, left and center. 1.6. Implications for the news media of the dissolution of the Cold War frame. 1.7. Kuhn's paradigms. 2. Shifting perceptions of the individual, society and the future <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Globalization theories' expressions of social anxieties and expectations; the growing importance of security in a world of "manufactured risks". 2.2 Postmodernism and the Enlightenment outlook. 3. Trends in Contemporary Social Debate Reflected through the Media. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Risk and safety as the basis for deciding what behaviors are acceptable and unacceptable at the individual, organizational and policy-making levels. 3.2. Emotion in public life and the media. 3.3. Journalism and the challenge to "objectivity". 3.4. Framing