POSC 4371-101 Marquette University Media and Politics in the United States Spring 2016 MW 2 – 3:15

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Course Objectives:

This course will explore the role of the media in American politics, especially the influence of the media on Americans' political attitudes, beliefs, and behavior. Particular attention will be paid to the relationship between media the public and government_including the formation of public policy. The course_will also examinately.	
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Required Books:	E 85

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Each student will be conducting a news analysis on an issue of their choice. This involves following media coverage of an issue in a variety of sources over a period of time, and writing an essay summarizing and analyzing your findings. Specific requirements will be distributed in class. Also, in addition to the hard copy of the essay that is turned in to the instructor, students are required to electronically submit their essays to D2L.

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Those who are involved in university sanctioned activities should submit a schedule of anticipated absences within the first 2 weeks of class, and also come talk to the instructor well in advance of any other university sanctioned activity that will result in a missed assignment/quiz/exam.

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Grading Scale:			
93-100	A		
88-92	A/B		
83-87	В		
43-4) 1/2	
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73-77	C C/D		
69-72 61-68	C/D D		
60 and below	F		

Course Schedule

Wed., Jan. 20 – Course Introduction

Mon., Jan. 25 – Overview of Media and Politics in the U.S *Media Politics*, "Image is Everything" Ch. 1

Wed., Feb. 3 - Press Freedom

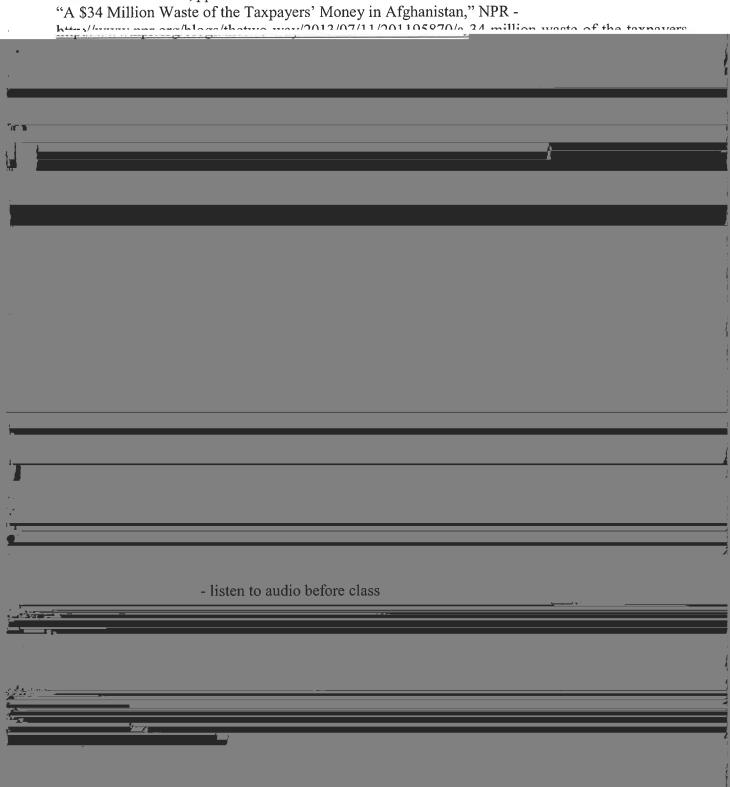
- "Terrorism, Censorship, and the First Amendment," (D2L)
- "Julian Assange and the New Wave," The Economist, 7/2011 (D2L)
- "Government Phone Surveillance for Dummies," The Atlantic, June 2013 (D2L)
- "Legislative Protection of News Sources: the Constitution Privilege and its Limits," *Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press* (D2L)

Media Effects Research and Theory

Mon.	Feh. 8 News and Public Opinion
7H -	Media Politics, "News and Public Opinion" Ch. 8 "Models of Media Influence" (D2L) http://publ "What you know depends on what you watch: Current events knowledge across popular news sources," Fairleigh Dickinson University, 2012 icmind fdu.edu/2012/confirmed/
Wed.	, Feb. 10 – Media Consumption and Knowledge
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Mon., Feb. 29 – What gets Reported

Media Politics Ch. 3, pp. 65-89



Mon., Apr. 4 – Advertising

Media Politics, Ch. 6 pp. 160-180

"In Defense of Negativity," John Geer (D2L)

Quiz #7

Wed., Apr. 6 - Campaign Finance

Media Politics, "Campaigning through the Media" Ch.6 pp. 181-186



Voters (D2L)

Trevor Potter on The Colbert Report – video in class

Mon., Apr. 11 – Candidates and Communication Skills

Media Politics, Campaigning through the Media," Ch. 6 pp. 186-190

"McKinley's Front Porch Campaign," William Harpine (D2L)

Wed., May 4 - Evaluating Media Politics

Media Politics Ch. 11 in its entirety

TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE IN WWP 484 ON WE