

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD**  
Department of Politics and International Relations

**Media, Public Opinion, and Politics**  
Optional subject for the MPhil in Politics  
Academic Year 2013-2014

Prof Robert G. Picard  
Dr Nael Jebri, DPIP Career Development Fellow  
Dr Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Reuters Institute Fellow

**Course Scope**

This course covers the functions, principles, theories, conceptual tools, and methods used for understanding the role of media in politics and policy. It explores the role of mediated communications by political actors, media firms, and individuals in both traditional and digital media, its roles in the development of public opinion, the role of media in images and perceptions of public figures and policies, its use and effects in elections, and how media constrain and compel policy.

**Specific Course Aims**

The course is intended to sharpen students' understanding of processes and functions of media in politics and government, elucidate theories and effects of media on public opinion and political processes, develop understanding of the practice and impact of political communication, mature appreciation of factors influencing news provision, advance comprehension of the roles played by media in various political and governmental undertakings, and to critically evaluate media performance in relation to politics and society.

**Learning Outcomes**

Students who complete this course should be able to:

- Compare and contrast uses and impact of media in politics and political activity in different settings
- Assess application of the range of theories and methodologies in the field of political communication
- Critically evaluate the uses and effects of media on political processes and citizens
- Apply theories and principles to developments and trends involving countries, levels of governance, and issues of interest to them

**Course Topics**

1. Roles, functions and influences of media on political communications
2. Effects of media on public opinion and political processes
3. Comparative political communication systems
4. Professionalism of media and politics
5. Media, political communications and elections
6. Media, political socialization and political behaviour
7. Media and foreign policy, security and conflict
8. Media, social movements and democratization

### **Course Delivery**

The course will be taught in eight two-hour sessions including lectures, mini-lectures, discussions, and group application exercises.

Students will be required to produce 2 essays of about 2500 words each. One essay will be a reflection about one of the course topics, while the second will be literature review and research proposal investigating media and politics. The second assignment gives students freedom to choose the topic, context, and methods and show mastery of literature and ability to apply theory and principles to contemporary issues.

### **Assessment**

Formal assessment will take place with a three-hour examination.

### **Relevant Journals**

*European Journal of Communication*  
*International Journal of Press/Politics*  
*International Journal of Public Opinion Research*  
*Journal of Communication*  
*Media, War & Conflict*  
*Political Communication*  
*Public Opinion Quarterly*

### **Recommended readings for the whole course**

Cook, Timothy. (2005). *Governing with the News: The News Media as a Political Institution*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. University of Chicago Press.

Dahlgren, Peter. (2009) *Media and Political Engagement: Citizens, Communication, and Democracy*. Cambridge University Press.

Graber, Doris A. (2009). *Mass Media and American Politics*. Washington: CQ Press.

Graber, Doris, Denis McQuail, and Pippa Norris, eds. (2007). *The Politics of News: The News of Politics*, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed. CQ Press.

Kuhn, Raymond. (2007). *Politics and the Media in Britain*. Palgrave Macmillan.

McNair, Brian. 2007. *An introduction to political communication*. 4th ed.. London: Routledge.

Oates, Sarah (2008). *Introduction to Media and Politics*. Sage Publications.

Rozell, Mark (ed.) (2003). *Media Power, Media Politics*. Rowman & Littlefield

Seib, Philip (2012). *Real Time Diplomacy: Power and Politics in the Social Media Era*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Wolfsfeld, Gadi (2011). *Making Sense of Media and Politics*. Routledge.

## Session Topics and Bibliographies

### 1. Roles, functions and influences of media on political communications

The first session presents an overview roles, functions, and influences of media and main themes and recent research in the study of political communications.

#### **Questions for discussion:**

What are the roles and functions of media in society and politics?

What factors influence media and news production (ideological, societal, individual, organization)?

How do media act as gatekeepers?

What are the rationales for media independence and media control?

#### **Essential Readings:**

Bennett, W.L. & Iyengar, S. 2008. A New Era of Minimal Effects? The Changing Foundations of Political Communication. *Journal of Communication*, 58(4), pp.707-731.

Norris, P. 2000. *A Virtuous Circle: Political Communications in Postindustrial Societies*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. Chapters (Ch2)

Strömbeck, J. (2005). In Search of a Standard: four models of democracy and their implications for journalism, *Journalism Studies*, Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 331-345.

Arnold S. de Beer and John C. Merrill (Eds.). *Global Journalism: Topical Issues and Media Systems (4th Edition)*. Pearson Education, Allyn and Bacon. 2004 (part 1: 2 Chapters)

Curran, J. & Aalberg, T. 2012. 'How Media Inform Democracy: Central Debates' in Aalberg and Curran (eds.) *How Media Inform Democracy*, Routledge, 2012, pp. 3-14.

#### **Further Readings:**

Althaus, S. (2003). When news norms collide, follow the lead: New evidence for press independence." *Political Communication* 20, 381-414.

Esser, Frank (1998) Editorial structures and work principles in British and German newsrooms, *European Journal of Communication* 13: 375-405.

Shoemaker, Pamela J. and Stephen D. Reese (1996) *Mediating the message. Theories of influences on mass media content*. 2nd Edition. White Plains: Longman.

Patterson, T. E. (2000). "The United States: News in a Free- Market Society", pp. 241-265 in R. Gunther & A. Mughan, eds., *Democracy and the Media*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

McQuail D (2005) *McQuail's Mass Communication Theory*. London: SAGE Publications Ltd (Ch 7)

Shoemaker. Pamela and Timothy Vos. *Gatekeeping Theory*. Routledge, 2009

### 2. Effects of media on public opinion and political processes

This session explores how media affect and build public opinion about political issues and developments and how choices and portrayals of issues affects the ways they are perceived.

#### **Questions for discussion:**

What roles to media play in setting political agendas?

How do media framing affect public perceptions of issues and developments

How does content of media influence cognitive reactions?

To what extent do media influence public opinion?

Are the media as powerful as perceived?

#### **Essential Readings:**

- McCombs, Maxwell and Reynolds, Amy (2009). How the news shapes our civil agenda. In: J. Bryant and M. B. Oliver (eds.). *Media effects. Advances in theory and research* (third edition). London: Routledge. p. 1-16.
- McLeod, D.M., Kosicki, G. M. & McLeod, J. (2002). Resurveying the boundaries of political communication effects. In Jennings Bryant and Dolf Zilmann (Eds.) *Media Effects: Advances in Theory and Research*. Mahwa, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.
- Scheufele, D. A & Tewksbury, D. (2007). Framing, Agenda Setting, and Priming: The Evolution of Three News Media Effects Models. *Journal of Communication* 57 (2007) 9–20.
- Walgrave, S. & P. van Aelst (2006). The Contingency of the Mass Media's Political Agenda Setting Power: Toward a Preliminary Theory. *Journal of Communication*, Vol. 56, pp. 88-109.
- Zaller, J. 1993. Elite Leadership of Mass Opinion. In *Taken by Storm*, ed. W. Lance Bennett and David L Paletz, 186-209. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**Further Readings:**

- Bryant, Jennings and Mary B. Oliver. *Media Effects: Advances in Theory and Research*. Routledge, 2008.
- Dearing, James W. and Everett M. Rogers (1996). *Agenda-setting*. London: Sage.
- Entman, R. M. 1993. Framing: Toward clarification of a fractured paradigm. *Journal of Communication*, 43, 51-58.
- Katz, E. 1957. The Two-Step Flow of Communication: An Up-To-Date Report on an Hypothesis. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 21, no. 1 (March 20): 61 -78.
- Elihu Katz and Paul Felix Lazarsfeld, *Personal Influence: The Part Played by People in the Flow of Mass Communications*. Free Press 1955
- McCombs, Max and Donald Shaw (1972) 'The agenda setting function of the mass media', *Public Opinion Quarterly* 36: 176-187.
- McCombs, Max. *Setting the Agenda: The Mass Media and Public Opinion*. Malden, MA, Blackwell Publishing, 2004.
- Natalie Jomini Stroud and Kate Kenski. 2007. From Agenda Setting to Refusal Setting: Survey Nonresponse as a function of Media Coverage across the 2004 Election Cycle. *Public Opinion Quarterly* 71: 539-559.
- Scheufele, D. A. (1999). Framing as a Theory of Media Effects. *Journal of Communication*, Vol. 49, No. 1, pp. 103-122.
- Druckman, J. N. (2001). On the limits of framing effects: Who can frame? *Journal of Politics*, 63, 1041-1066.
- McQuail D (2005) *McQuail's Mass Communication Theory*. London: SAGE Publications Ltd. (Ch 19)
- Druckman J. N. & Nielsen, K. R. (2003) Framing and deliberation: How citizens' conversations limit elite influence. *American Journal of Political Science*, 74(4), 729-745.
- Weaver, D.H. Thoughts on Agenda Setting, Framing, and Priming. *Journal of Communication*. Vol. 57 No. 1, 142 - 147. (2007).
- Zaller, John R. (1992) *The Nature and Origins of Public Opinion*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### 3. Comparative Political Communication Systems

The second session provides a comparative, cross-national overview over media systems in different countries and the roles that media play in the political systems of developed democracies.

#### *Questions for discussion:*

- How are media similar and different in different systems?
- What are the fundamentals of comparative political communications?
- How does political parallelism affect communication?
- What is the role of media and political professionalism in systems?

#### **Essential Readings:**

- Hallin, Daniel C., and Paolo Mancini. 2004. *Comparing Media Systems. Three Models of Media and Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press (Ch4)
- Hallin, Daniel C., and Paolo Mancini. 2012(eds.) *Comparing Media Systems Beyond the Western World*. New York: Cambridge University Press.(Ch 1, 13)
- Esser, Frank and Barbara Pfetsch (2004). *Comparing Political Communication: Theories, Cases, and Challenges*. New York: Cambridge University Press (Ch2,14)
- T. Aalberg, P. Aelst and J. Curran, 'Media System and the Political Information Environment: A Cross-National Comparison', *International Journal of Press/Politics*, 15 (3), 2010, 255-271.
- Benson, Rodney (2004). Bringing the sociology of media back in. *Political communication*, 21: 275-92.

#### **Further Readings:**

- Arnold S. de Beer and John C. Merrill (Eds.). *Global Journalism: Topical Issues and Media Systems (4th Edition)*. Pearson Education, Allyn and Bacon. 2004.
- Benson R and Hallin D (2007) How States, Markets and Globalization Shape the News: The French and U.S. National Press, 1965-79. *European Journal of Communication* 22(1): 27-48
- Esser, Frank and Barbara Pfetsch (2004). *Comparing Political Communication: Theories, Cases, and Challenges*. New York: Cambridge University Press
- Esser, Frank and Hanitzsch, Thomas (eds.) (2012). *Handbook of comparative communication research*. New York: Routledge.
- Hanitzsch, Thomas, and Claudia Mellado. 2011. "What Shapes the News Around the World? How Journalists in Eighteen Countries Perceive Influences on Their Work." *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 16 (3) (July 1): 404 –426.  
doi:10.1177/1940161211407334.
- Jakubowicz, Karol and Miklós Sükösd (eds.) (2008) Post-Communist Countries. *Finding the right place on the map: Central and Eastern European media change in a global perspective*. Bristol, UK: Intellect Books, Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- Kelly, Mary, Mazzoleni, Gianpietro and McQuail, Denis (2004). *The media in Europe; the Euromedia handbook* (third edition). London: Sage.
- Levy, David A. L, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, eds. 2010. *The Changing Business of Journalism and Its Implications for Democracy*. Oxford: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford.
- Norris, Pippa (2009). Comparative political communications: common frameworks or Babelian confusion? *Government and opposition*, 44(3): 321-40. (books reviews)
- Rugh, William. 2004. *The Arab press: News media and political process in the Arab world*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press.

#### **4. Professionalism of Media and Politics**

This session explores the increasing role of media in politics in developed democracies and the response of other political actors to that development.

##### **Questions for discussion:**

What are the characteristics of the relationship between media and politics in post-modern democracies?

How has mediatisation affected politics? What are its logics?

How do political image management and spin doctors affect media portrayals of politics?

How and why has the focus of politics shifted from parties to political individuals?

##### **Essential Readings:**

Adam, Silke and Michaela Maier (2010). Personalization of Politics --Towards a Future Research Agenda. A Critical Review of the Empirical and Normative State of the Art. *Communication Yearbook*, 34, 214-257.

Blumler, Jay G. and Kavanagh, Denis (1999). The third age of political communication. *Political communication*, 16(3): 209-30

Chadwick, A. 2011. The Political Information Cycle in a Hybrid News System: The British Prime Minister and the "Bullygate" Affair. *International Journal of Press/Politics* 16 (1): 3 –29.

Cook, T. 1998. *Governing with the News*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Esser, F., C. Reinemann & D. Fan (2001). Spin Doctors in the United States, Great Britain, and Germany: Metacommunication about Media Manipulation. *Harvard International Journal of Press/Politics*, Vol. 6, No.1, pp. 16-45.

Strömbäck, Jesper. 2008. "Four Phases of Mediatization: An Analysis of the Mediatization of Politics." *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 13 (3) (July 1): 228–246.

Thompson, J.B. 2000. *Political Scandal*. Cambridge: Polity Press, parts of chapter 4, pp. 96-118.

##### **Further Readings:**

Bennett, W. Lance, and Robert M. Entman, eds. (2001). *Mediated Politics: Communication in the Future of Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Norris, P. (2000). *A Virtuous Circle. Political Communications in Post-industrial Societies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Graber, D. A. & Smith, J. M. (2005) Political communication faces the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *Journal of communication*, 55(3), 479-507.

Iyengar, A. (2001) The method is the message: The current state of political communication research. *Political communication*, 18(2), 225-229

Meyrowitz, J. 1985. *No Sense of Place: The Impact of Electronic Media on Social Behavior*. New York: Oxford University Press, parts of chapter 14, pp. 268-292.

Sellers, Patrick J. 2010. *Cycles of Spin: Strategic Communication in the U.S. Congress*. Communication, Society, and Politics. Cambridge ; New York: Cambridge University Press.

## 5. Media, Political Communications and Elections

This session focuses on the use of media and other forms of communications and their effects on elections

### **Questions for discussion:**

What is the media logic in coverage of campaigns?

What are the characteristics of election coverage in post-modern democracies?

What roles do campaign communications play in elections?

How does media coverage affect voting behaviour?

### **Essential Readings:**

- Brants, K. & P. van Praag (2006). Signs of media logic: Half a century of political communication in the Netherlands. *Javnost –the public* Vol.13, No.1, pp.25 -40.
- Kaid, Lynda & Jesper Stömbäck (eds) (2009) *Election news coverage around the world*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum (Ch 5, 26)
- Norris, P. (2000). *A virtuous circle. Political Communications in Post-industrial Societies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (Ch 7, 8).
- Popkin, S.L. 1991. *The reasoning voter: communication and persuasion in presidential campaigns*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, chapter 1, pp. 7-21.
- Schulz, W. & R. Zeh (2005). The changing election coverage of German television: A content analysis 1990-2002. *Communications*, Vol. 30, No. 4, pp. 385-407.

### **Further Readings:**

- Della Vigna, S. and Kaplan, Ethan. The Fox News Effect: Media Bias and Voting, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 2007, Vol. 122, pp. 1187-1234
- Druckman, J. N., & Parkin, M (2005). The impact of media bias: How editorial slant affects voters. *Journal of Politics*, 67, 1030-1049.
- Jackson, Robert A. and Carsey, Thomas M. (2007). US senate campaigns, negative advertising and voter mobilization in the 1998 midterm election. *Electoral studies*, 26: 180-95.
- Kleinnijenhuis, Jan., Anita M. van Hoof and Dirk Oegema (2006) Negative News and the Sleeper Effect of Distrust. *Press/Politics* 11(2): 86-104.
- Kleinnijenhuis, J., & Fan, D. P. (1999) Media coverage and the flow of voters in multiparty systems: The 1994 national elections in Holland and Germany. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 11 (3), 233-256
- Miller, J. M. & Kronsnick, J. A. (2000) News media impact on the ingredients of presidential evaluations: Politically knowledgeable citizens are guided by a trusted source. *American Journal of Political Science*, 44(2), 301-315
- Norris, Pippa, John Curtice, David Sanders, Margaret Scammell, and Holli Semetko (1999) *On Message: Communicating the Campaign*. London: Sage.
- Nielsen, K. 2012. *Ground Wars: Personalized Communication in Political Campaigns*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. (Ch 1)
- Rhee, June W. (1997) Strategy and Issue Frames in Election Campaign Coverage: A Social Cognitive Account of Framing Effects., *Journal of Communication* 47(3): 26–48.
- Strömbäck, Jesper and Shehata, Adam (2007). Structural biases in British and Swedish election news coverage. *Journalism studies*, 8(5), 798-812.
- Van Zoonen, L. 1998. A day at the zoo: political communication, pigs and popular culture. *Media, Culture & Society* 20, no. 2 (April 1): 183 -200

## 6. Media, Political Socialization and Political Behaviour

This session focuses on how the public experiences and engages with politics and the influences of media on those interactions.

### **Questions for discussion:**

How do media socialize the public toward politics?

How do media affect knowledge and interpretation of politics?

To what extent are trust, cynicism, and participation influenced by media?

Does the type of news affect public behaviour?

### **Essential Readings:**

Curran, James, Shanto Iyengar, Anker Brink Lund, and Inka Salovaara-Moring (2009) *Media System, Public Knowledge and Democracy: A Comparative Study*. *European Journal of Communication* 24: 5-26

Jebiril, N., de Vreese, C. H., & Albaek, E. (forthcoming). Infotainment, cynicism and democracy: The effects of Privatization vs. personalization in the news. *European Journal of Communication*, accepted for publication

Price, V., Tewksbury, D., & Powers, E. (1997). Switching trains of thoughts: The impact of news frames on readers' cognitive responses. *Communication Research*, 24, 481-506.

Prior, M. 2005. News vs. Entertainment: How Increasing Media Choice Widens Gaps in Political Knowledge and Turnout. *American Journal of Political Science* 49, no. 3: 577-592.

Scheufele, D.A. (2002) Examining differential gains from mass media and their implications for participatory behavior, *Communication Research* 29: 46–65.

### **Further Readings:**

Baum, M. A. & Jamison, A. S. (2006). The Oprah effect. How soft news help inattentive citizens vote consistently. *Journal of Politics*, 68, 946-959.

Barabas, J. & Jerrit, J. (2009). Estimating the causal effects of media coverage on policy-specific knowledge. *American Journal of Political Science* 53(1), 73-89.

Brants, Kees (1998) Who's afraid of infotainment? *European Journal of Communication* 13(3): 315-35.

Delli Carpini, M.X., & Keeter, S. (1996). *What Americans know about politics and why it matters*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Cappella, Joseph N. and Kathleen Hall Jamieson (1997) *Spiral of Cynicism: The Press and the Public Good*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Couldry, Nick et al (2010). *Media Consumption and Public Engagement*. London: Palgrave MacMillan.

Eliasoph, N. 1998. *Avoiding Politics: How Americans Produce Apathy in Everyday Life*. Cambridge, U.K: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-22.

Esser, F., de Vreese, C. H., Stromback, J. et al. (2012). *Political Information Opportunities in Europe: A Longitudinal and Comparative Study of 13 Television Systems*. *International Journal of Press/Politics*.

Eveland, W. P., Jr., & Scheufele, D. A. (2000). Connecting news media use with gaps in knowledge and participation. *Political Communication*, 17, 215–237.

Iyengar, S., & Hahn K.S. (2009). Red media, blue media: Evidence of ideological selectivity in media use. *Journal of Communication*, 57,19-39.

Iyengar, S., Curran, J., Brink Lund, A., Salovaara-Moring, I, Hahn, K.S. & Coen, S. (2010). Cross-national versus individual-level differences in political information: a media systems perspective. *Journal of elections, public opinion and parties* 20(3), 291-309.



- Mutz, D. C., & Reeves, B. (2005). The new videomalaise: Effects of televised incivility on political trust." *American Political Science Review*, 99, 1-15.
- Prior, Markus (2003) Any good news in soft news? The impact of soft news preferences on political knowledge. *Political Communication* 20: 149-171.
- Scheufele, D.A. (2002) Examining differential gains from mass media and their implications for participatory behavior, *Communication Research* 29: 46–65.

## 7. Media and the politics of international conflict and foreign policy

### **Questions for discussion:**

- What roles to media play in foreign policy and public diplomacy?  
 What do secrecy, censorship, and propaganda affect coverage and public perceptions?  
 What are the effects of international broadcasters on foreign policy making, public diplomacy and conflicts?  
 What are the roles of media and common features of coverage of conflicts?

### **Essential Readings:**

- Entman, Robert M. 2004. *Projections of Power: Framing News, Public Opinion, and U.S. Foreign Policy*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Ch1)
- Figenschou, Tine Ustad 2005. Courting, Criticism and Bombs. The Bush Administration's Troubled relations with Al Jazeera Channel from September 11 to the War in Iraq. In Nohrstedt, Stig A. & Ottosen, Rune (eds.) 2005. *Global War Local Views. Media Images of the Iraq War*. Gothenburg: NORDICOM
- Nohrstedt, Stig A. (2009) *New War Journalism. Trends and Challenges* In Nordicom review no 1 2009
- Nohrstedt, Stig A and Ottosen, Rune (2010) *Brothers in arms or peace? The Media Images of Swedish and Norwegian Defence- and Military Co-operation* In Conflict & Communication online October 2010

### **Further Readings:**

- Baum, Matthew. 2003. *Soft News Goes to War: Public Opinion and American Foreign Policy in the New Media Age*. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press.
- . 2010. *War Stories: The Causes and Consequences of Public Views of War*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Der Derian, James. 2009. *Virtuous War: Mapping the Military-industrial-media-entertainment Network*. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge.
- Dimaggio, Anthony (2009) *When Media Goes to War. Hegemonic Discourse, Public Opinion, and the Limits of Dissent* New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Edwards, George C., and B Dan Wood. 1999. Who influences whom? The President, Congress and the Media. *American Political Science review* 93 (2):327-344
- Hoskins, Andrew, and Ben O'Loughlin. 2009. *Television and terror : conflicting times and the crisis of news discourse*. Basingstoke ; New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- . 2010. *War and media : the emergence of diffused war*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Livingstone, S. (1997) "Clarifying the CNN Effect: An Examination of Media Effects According to Type of Military Intervention", The Joan Shorenstein Centre, Harvard University, Research Paper 1-18.
- Lynch, Jake and Johan Galtung (2010) *Reporting Conflict: new directions in peace journalism* St. Lucia: University of Queensland Press.
- Kamalipour, Y. and Snow, N. (2004) (Eds) *War, media, and propaganda : a global perspective*. Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield

- Keeble, R., Tulloch, J and Zollmann, F. (eds.) (2010) *Peace Journalism, War and Conflict Resolution*. New York, Peter Lang.
- Kempf, Wilhelm & Luostarinen, Heikki (2002) *Journalism and the New World Order vol. II , Studying War and the media* Gothenburg: Nordicom, 35 pages, (chapters 1, 2, 3 and 6)
- Lynch, Jake and McGoldrick, Annabel (2005) *Peace journalism*, Stroud: Hawthorn Press.
- Ottosen, Rune (2005) (Eds.) *Global war – local News. Media Images of the Iraq War*. Gothenburg. Nordicom.
- Robinson, Piers (1999). The CNN effect: can the news media drive foreign policy? *Review of international studies*, 25: 301-9.
- Seib, Philip M. (2002) *The Global Journalist: News and Conscience in a World of Conflict* Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield
- Wood, D, and J Peake. 1998. The dynamics of foreign policy agenda-setting. *American Political Science review* 92 (1): 173-183.
- Wolfsfeld, Gadi (1997). *Media and political conflict; news from the middle east*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **8. Media, social movements and democratization**

This session focus on the roles of media and digital media in populist political movements and democratization processes.

#### **Questions for discussion:**

- What roles do media and communications play as organizing and mobilization tools?  
Does the interactive power of digital media and social networks alter politics?  
What is the role of media in transitions to democracy?

#### **Essential Readings:**

- Bennett, W. Lance, and Alexandra Segerberg. 2012. The Logic of Connective Action. *Information, Communication & Society* 15 (5): 739–768.  
doi:10.1080/1369118X.2012.670661.
- Bennett, L. (1998). The Media and Democratic Development: The Social Basis of Political Communication. In Patrick H. O’Neil (Ed.) *Communicating Democracy: The Media and Political Transitions*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Hindman, M. S. 2008. *The Myth of Digital Democracy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, chapter 1, pp. 1-19. University Press, New York/Cambridge
- Muzammil M. Hussain. 2011. The Role of Digital Media, *Journal of Democracy* 22(3)
- Norris, P. (2006) The role of the free press in promoting democratization, good governance, and human development. Paper for the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting: Chicago: 20-22.
- Voltmer, k. and Rowsley, G. (2009) The Media. In Christian W. Haerpfer et al. (eds.) *Democratization*. New York: Oxford University Press Inc.

#### **Further Readings:**

- Benkler, Y. 2006. *The Wealth of Networks: How Social Production Transforms Markets and Freedom*. New Haven: Yale University Press, chapter 1, pp. 1-28.
- Bennett, W. L., Breunig, C., & Givens, T. (2008). Communication and political mobilization: Digital media and the organization of anti-Iraq war demonstrations in the U.S. *Political Communication*, 25, 269-28
- Bennett, W. L.. Introduction: Communication and Civic Engagement in Comparative Perspective. *Political Communication*, Volume 17, Number 4 (October 1, 2000), pp. 307-312.

- Bimber, Bruce. 2003. *Information and American Democracy*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Bridgmon, Phillip, and Mark Milewicz. 2004. *E-Politics: Technology in American Government*. Dubuque IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Fell, D. (2007) The Role of the Media and Political Communication after Democratic Transition. *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 3, No.1: 167-169.
- Goldman, E. 2006. Search Engine Bias and the Demise of Search Engine Utopianism. *Yale Journal of Media and Technology* 8:188-200.
- Loveless, M. (2010) Understanding Media Socialization in Democratizing Countries: Mobilization and Malaise in Central and Eastern Europe. *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 42, No. 4: 457-474(18).
- McConnell, P. & Becker, L. (2002) "The Role of the Media in Democratization". Paper presented to the International Association for Media and Communication Research at the Barcelona Conference.
- Norris, Pippa. 2008. *Driving Democracy: Do power-sharing institutions work?* Cambridge
- Randall, Vicky. (Ed.) (1998) *Democratization and the Media*. London: Frank Cass.
- Swanson. D.L.. The Homologous Evolution of Political Communication and Civic Engagement: Good News, Bad News, and No News. *Political Communication*, Volume 17, Number 4 (October 1, 2000), pp. 409-414
- Voltmer, K. (2008) Comparing Media Systems in New Democracies: East Meets South Meets West, *Central European Journal of Communication*, 1/1.