

166-277 Media, Politics and Society

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	2 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2009.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week Total Time Commitment: Not available
Prerequisites:	Recommended: 12.5 points of Level 1 Sociology or Politics and International Studies
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	Students who have previously completed 166-107 'Media, Politics and Society' at Level 1 are not permitted to enrol in this subject.
Core Participation Requirements:	*
Contact:	Dr. Tim Marjoribanks tkmarj@unimelb.edu.au
Subject Overview:	This subject examines the ways in which news is constructed in the media, the social organisation of the media and the media as site of contested power. The media is a crucial political and social actor in an era in which information is becoming an increasingly valuable resource. We will undertake a critical analysis of television, Internet and newspaper reporting in the Australian and global contexts, analysing issues including the processes by which stories come to be considered 'newsworthy', and how political and social issues are represented in the media. We will also focus on the social organisation of the media, uncovering patterns of ownership, regulation, struggle, and new communication systems. Students who complete this subject should be able to assess the influence of different interests in media construction of news; be able to critically evaluate media representations of political and social relations; and understand the media as a site of power and resistance.
Objectives:	Students who successfully complete this subject should... # be able to assess the influence of different interests in media construction of news; # be able to critically evaluate media representations of political and social relations; # be familiar with the social organisation of the media.
Assessment:	A response paper of 1000 words 25% (due during the first half of the semester), a take-home test of 1000 words 25% (due mid-semester) and a written essay of 2000 words 50% (due during the examination period).
Prescribed Texts:	Prescribed Texts: A subject reader will be available.
Breadth Options:	This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses: # Bachelor of Biomedicine (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/J07) # Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/F04) # Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/A04) # Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/M05) # Bachelor of Science (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/R01) # Bachelor of Engineering (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2009/355-AA)

	You should visit learn more about breadth subjects (http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html) and read the breadth requirements for your degree, and should discuss your choice with your student adviser, before deciding on your subjects.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # demonstrate critical thinking and analytic skills, through research and written communication; # be able to communicate knowledge intelligibly and economically, both orally and in writing; # display awareness and understanding of the social, ethical and cultural contexts of the media and of our place as researchers; # have gained experience in using basic research tools; # be familiar with theoretical approaches to the media.
Notes:	<p><i>Formerly available as 166-006 and 166-107. Students who have completed 166-006 or 166-107 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.</i></p> <p>Available as a Breadth Subject.</p>
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	Political Science Major Politics & International Studies Politics and International Studies Politics and International Studies Sociology Sociology Sociology Sociology Major