# Course Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the course</th>
<th>Media in Contemporary Politics and Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title of the Academic Programme</td>
<td>Comparative politics of Eurasia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of the course</td>
<td>elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites</td>
<td>General social or political theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECTS workload</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total indicative study hours</td>
<td>Directed Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Course Overview

Media and other means of communication are more and more pervasive in our societies. Different spheres of society – from politics to healthcare to culture – are leaving more and more “digital traces” that are becoming available globally. The society has not yet found ways to cope with and make use of this abundance of channels of communication / information storage and the huge data they carry. However, this phenomenon is already influencing elections, mobilizing grassroots initiatives, and changing political regimes.

The goal of this course is to get acquainted with the latest findings in the sphere of media-political relations and to learn to analyze empirical evidence in this sphere.

## Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

- To understand relation between politics, communication and media / ICTs in a comparative perspective
- To see how communication and its content are getting increasingly important
- To understand the structure of media industries and to gain critical distance towards them
- To practice team work

## Teaching and Learning Methods

Lectures, seminars, including reading classes and team work sessions

## Content and Structure of the Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Topic / Course Chapter</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Directed Study</th>
<th>Self-directed Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>Tutorials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Comparative &amp; global vision of communication and politics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Democracy performance and media control</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Comparing media systems</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Media &amp; ICT regulation worldwide</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Creating a media policy design</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Media and political participation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Media and elections</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Study Hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Experimental research on online censorship</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fake news, online deception and other harmful content</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>E-participation, e-government, e-democracy and open governmental data</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Media, war and conflict</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Designing an online experiment for political communication comparative research</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Designing a web application &amp; service for e-participation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total study hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>32</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Indicative Assessment Methods and Strategy

- **80% - class work**
- **20% - final exam or an essay**
  - Class work is either team work or reading class
  - Those who attend all classes and are graded for all tasks can be exempt of the final exam

### Readings / Indicative Learning Resources

- **Mandatory**
  - **Comparative & global vision of communication and politics**
  - tba
  - **Democracy performance and media control**
  - **Comparing media systems**
  - **Media & ICT regulation worldwide**
  - tba
  - **Creating a media policy design**
  - tba
  - **Media and political participation**
  - tba
  - **Media and elections**
Experimental research on online censorship


Fake news, online deception and other harmful content
tba

E-participation, e-government, e-democracy and open governmental data
tba

Media, war and conflict


Designing an online experiment for political communication comparative research
tba

Designing an online experiment for political communication comparative research
tba

Optional

- Howard P.N., Agarwal S.D. Hussain M.M. When Do States Disconnect Their Digital Networks? Regime Responses to the

- Thompson J.B. Political Scandal: Power and Visibility in the Media Age. Polity 2000


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicative Self-Study Strategies</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>+/-</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading for seminars / tutorials (lecture materials, mandatory and optional resources)</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments for seminars / tutorials / labs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-learning / distance learning (MOOC / LMS)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project work</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for the exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic Support for the Course**

Academic support for the course is provided via LMS, where students can find: guidelines and recommendations for doing the course; guidelines and recommendations for self-study; samples of assessment materials

**Facilities, Equipment and Software**

(If required) computer class for seminars

**Course Instructor**

Olessia Koltsova