

Faculty of Economic, Social and Political Sciences



COMU2137 Deontology and critical analysis of journalism

[30h] 3 credits

Teacher(s): Jean-François Dumont, Benoît Grevisse
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

The course aims to sensitise students to the conditions of production that structure and determine all journalistic work, and to place this reflection in the framework of a deontological approach in a situation of operationalisation. It will also seek to provide students with an understanding of the basis, norms and ethical reasoning of Belgian and international journalistic deontology.

Students are advised to complement their studies in this field by following Course COMU2107 (Communications law).

Main themes

The course aims to sensitise students to the conditions of production that structure and determine all journalistic work, and to place this reflection in the framework of a deontological approach in a situation of operationalisation. It will also seek to provide students with an understanding of the basis, norms and ethical reasoning of Belgian and international journalistic deontology.

Content and teaching methods

Content

The course offers reflection on the problems that 'arise in journalism in the framework of newspapers, radio and television. It will address a number of key issues in this field including:

- information circuits from source to recipients;
- the principles of selecting information;
- the mechanisms of 'misinformation';
- the origins and basis of deontology;
- the relationship between the press and the law;
- the systems and norms of journalistic self regulation.

Methodology

Lectures, case analyses, and personal work completed by students (this will be based on an annotated bibliography provided to students).

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Pre requirements: There are no pre-requirements for following this course. Students are nonetheless advised to complement this course by going on Course COMU2107 (Communications law).

Assessment: Students will be expected to demonstrate their deontological analytical thinking in individual work, in addition to acquiring an understanding of the topics taught on the course.

Support: Learning documentation, and a reading portfolio in particular, will complement the lectures.

The course will also include the exercise of deontological and ethical thinking, and a large number of cases will be presented during the course to this end. Some of them will take the form of audio-visual projections.

Other credits in programs

COMU21/AM	Première licence en information et communication (Analyse des médias)	(3 credits)	
COMU21/J	Première licence en information et communication (Journalisme)	(3 credits)	
COMU21/RP	Première licence en information et communication (Relations publiques et communication d'organisation)	(3 credits)	
COMU22/AM	Deuxième licence en information et communication (Analyse des médias)	(3 credits)	
COMU22/J	Deuxième licence en information et communication (Journalisme)	(3 credits)	
COMU22/MS	Deuxième licence en information et communication (Médiation des savoirs)	(3 credits)	
COMU22/RP	Deuxième licence en information et communication (Relations publiques et communication d'organisation)	(3 credits)	
COMU2M1/AM	Master en information et communication (option analyse des médias et théories de la communication)	(3 credits)	Mandatory
COMU2M1/J	Master en information et communication (option journalisme)	(3 credits)	Mandatory
COMU2M1/MS	Master en information et communication (option médiation des savoirs)	(3 credits)	Mandatory
COMU2M1/RP	Master en information et communication (option relations publiques et communication d'organisation)	(3 credits)	Mandatory