

POLITICAL JOURNALISM AND PUBLIC OPINION

GRADUATE LEVEL | WORKLOAD: 60h | UFPR

PROFESSOR

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UFPR, Edf. Pedro I, Room 520

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Thursdays, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Theories of Journalism and Theories of Democracy. Political Journalism and the concept of social field. Journalistic organizations, political institutions, and public opinion. Journalism organizations as political actors. The relationship between news coverage and opinion. Journalism and elections. Political Journalism and media effects.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Based on the premise that different social, cultural, political, and economic configurations are associated with variations regarding how journalism organizations and professionals work, this course offers an overview of Journalism Studies considering the recent international research. We focus on understanding the political role of journalistic organizations to deconstruct an instrumental perspective of news and editorial activities. One holds that the idea of "independence" claimed by commercial journalism does not necessarily mean rejecting ties with political and economic elites. I.e., the notion of "independence" can be reinterpreted to indicate the possibility that some media outlets will choose whom to align with according to the convenience of each moment. In addition to examining production routines in newsrooms, this course also draws on reflections from Political Economy and Theories of Public Opinion.

- Journalism Studies: Contemporary approaches and systematizations;
- Principles, routines, and Journalistic cultures: A comparative perspective;
- Political Economy of Journalism;
- Public opinion and the political role of Journalism.

CLASSROOM METHODOLOGY PROCEDURES

Each week, students will be expected to:

1. Attend the lectures.
2. Read mandatory texts.
3. Participate in the discussion in all class sections.
4. Complete and submit all assignments by due dates.
5. Engage in seminars presented throughout the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Each class encompasses the discussion of at least one article published in reference journals and one entry published in "[The International Encyclopedia of Journalism Studies](https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570)" (edited by Tim P. Vos, Folker Hanusch, Annika Sehl, Dimitra Dimitrakopoulou, and Margaretha Geertsema-Sligh) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570>. Additional readings will be assigned throughout the course.



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Class #1**Article:**

Charting the development of a field: A systematic review of comparative studies of journalism (Folker Hanusch, Tim Vos) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1748048518822606>

Entry:

Journalism (Seth Lewis) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0001>

Class #2**Article:**

Journalism hits a wall: Rhetorical construction of newspapers' editorial and advertising relationship (Katie Artemas, Tim Vos, and Margaret Duffy) - <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670x.2016.1249006>

Entry:

News (Michael Schudson) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0005>

Class #3**Article:**

Journalism beyond democracy: A new look into journalistic roles in political and everyday life (Thomas Hanitzsch, Tim Vos) - <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1464884916673386>

Entry:

Journalists (Jane Singer) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0004>

Class #4**Article:**

Journalists and Editors: Political Proximity as Determinant of Career and Autonomy (Andrea Ceron, Sergio Splendore, Thomas Hanitzsch, and Neil Thurman) <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161219862489>

Entry:

Sociology of News Work (Valerie Belair-Gagnon) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0031>

Class #5**Article:**

Gatekeeping in Action: Editorial Conferences and Assessments of Newsworthiness (Steven E. Clayman and Ann Reisner) - <https://doi.org/10.2307/2657322>

Entry:

Newsroom Management (C. Ann Hollifield) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0256>

Class #6**Article:**

The Hybridization of Journalistic Cultures: A Comparative Study of Journalistic Role Performance (Claudia Mellado et al.) - <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcom.12339>

Entry:

News Production Routines (Camila Mont'alverne, Francisco Paulo Jamil Marques) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0238>



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Class #7**Article:**

Setting the Agenda, Influencing Public Opinion, and Advocating for Social Change Determinants of journalistic interventionism in 21 countries (Thomas Hanitzsch, Folker Hanusch & Corinna Lauerer) - <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670x.2014.959815>

Entry:

Journalists and Public Opinion (Thomas Petersen) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0053>

Class #8**Article:**

Detached or Interventionist? Comparing the Performance of Watchdog Journalism in Transitional, Advanced and Non-democratic Countries (Mireya Márquez-Ramírez et al.) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161219872155>

Entry:

Watchdog Press (Alessandro Nai) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0167>

Class #9**Article:**

Media outlets and their moguls: Why concentrated individual or family ownership is bad for editorial independence (Chris Hanretty) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/0267323114523150>

Entry:

Ownership of News Media (Edda Humprecht) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0066>

Class #10**Article:**

Right-wing Bias in Journalists' Perceptions of Public Opinion (Kathleen Beckers et al.) - <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2019.1703788>

Entry:

Effects Theories and Journalism (Esther Thorson) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0019>

Class #11**Article:**

How Polarized Are Online and Offline News Audiences? A Comparative Analysis of Twelve Countries (Richard Fletcher, Alessio Cornia, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161219892768>

Entry:

Public Trust in News Media (Matthias Kohring) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0056>

Class #12**Article:**

Covering Protests on Twitter: The Influences on Journalists' Social Media Portrayals of Left- and Right-Leaning Demonstrations in Brazil (Rachel Mourão, Weiyue Chen) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161219882653>

Entry:

Political Coverage (Erik Albæk, David Hopmann, Morten Skovsgaard) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0213>



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Class #13

Article:

Protecting democracy or conspiring against it? Media and politics in Latin America: A glimpse from Brazil (Afonso de Albuquerque) - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884917738376>

Entry:

Latin and South American Journalism (Tania Cantrell Rosas-Moreno, Vanessa de Macedo Higgins Joyce) - <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0172>

Class #14

Article:

Similar, but not the same: Comparing editorial and news agendas in Brazilian newspapers (Jamil Marques, Edna Miola, Isabele Mitozo, Camila Mont'Alverne) - <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2019.1684833>

Entry:

Social Construction of News (Subin Paul, Dan Berkowitz)- <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118841570.iejs0030>

Class #15

Discussion/feedback regarding the final article each student intends to develop.

GRADING

Evaluation of students enrolled in this course follows the criteria stated below:

- Essay/Article: 50% of the final grade.
- Reviews of the mandatory readings: 30% of the final grade.
- Presentation of individual seminars: 20% of the final grade.

BACKGROUND READING MATERIALS

- Albæk, E.; Van Dalen, A.; Jebri, N.; De Vreese, C. Political journalism in comparative perspective. Cambridge UP, 2013.
- Albuquerque, A. (2005). Another 'Fourth Branch': Press and political culture in Brazil. *Journalism*, 6(4), 486–504.
- Ansolabehere, S., Lessem, R., & Snyder, J. (2006). The orientation of newspaper endorsements in U.S. elections, 1940-2002. *Quarterly Journal Political Science*, 1(4), 393–404. doi:
- Azevedo, F. A grande imprensa brasileira: Paralelismo Político e Antipetismo (1989-2014). [s.l.] Universidade Federal de São Carlos, 2016.
- Bastos, M. T. (2018). Tabloid Journalism. In T. P. Vos, F. Hanusch, D. Dimitrakopoulou, M. Geertsema-Sligh & A. Sehl (Eds.), *The International Encyclopedia of Journalism Studies* (pp. 1-6). [S.I.]: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Beckers, K. et al. Are newspapers' news stories becoming more alike? Media content diversity in Belgium, 1983–2013. *Journalism*, 2017.
- Bednarek, M., & Caple, H. (2017). *The Discourse of News Values: How News Organizations Create Newsworthiness*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Boydston, A. E. *Making the news: Politics, the media, and agenda-setting*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2013.



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- Bucci, E. (2000). *Sobre ética e imprensa*. São Paulo: Companhia das Letras.
- Cook, T. *Governing with the news*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2005.
- Day, A. G., & Golan, G. (2005). Source and content diversity in Op-Ed pages: Assessing editorial strategies in the New York Times and the Washington Post. *Journalism Studies*, 6(1), 61–71.
- De Vreese, C., Peter, J., & Semetko, H. (2001). Framing politics at the launch of the Euro: A cross-national comparative study of frames in the news. *Political Communication*, 18(2), 107–122.
- Deuze, M. (2002). National news cultures: A comparison of Dutch, German, British, Australian, and U.S. journalists. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 79(1), 134–149.
- Druckman, J. N., & Parkin, M. (2005). The impact of media bias: How editorial slant affects voters. *The Journal of Politics*, 67(4), 1030–1049.
- Eberwein, T., Porlezza, C., & Splendore, S. (2016). Media as political actors. In G. Mazzoleni (Ed.), *The international encyclopedia of political communication* (pp. 1-9). [S.I.]: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Eilders, C. (1999). Synchronization of issue agendas in news and editorials of the prestige press in Germany. *The International Journal of Communications Research*, 24(3), 301–328.
- Entman, R. M. (2010). Framing media power. In P. D'Angelo & J. A. Kuypers (Eds.), *Doing news framing analysis: Empirical and theoretical perspectives* (pp. 331-355). New York: Routledge.
- Eriksson, G., & Ostman, J. (2013). Cooperative or Adversarial? Journalists' Enactment of the Watchdog Function in Political News Production. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 18 (3), 304–324.
- Esser, F. (1998). Editorial structures and work principles in British and German newsrooms. *European Journal of Communication*, 13(3), 375–405.
- FERRACIOLI, P.; KNISS, A. B.; MARQUES, F. P. J. The watchdog role of fact-checkers in different media systems. *DIGITAL JOURNALISM*, v. 10, p. 717-737, 2022.
- FONTES, G. S.; BARAO, G.; MARQUES, F. P. J. 'It was all about being 'young,' 'cute,' and 'funny': How women journalists assess harassment and gender inequalities in Brazilian newsrooms. *Feminist Media Studies*, v. 23, p. 1-16, 2023.
- FONTES, G. S.; MARQUES, F. P. J. Defending democracy or amplifying populism? Journalistic coverage, Twitter, and users' engagement in Bolsonaro's Brazil. *Journalism*, v. 24, p. 1634-1656, 2023.
- Firmstone, J. (2008). The editorial production process and editorial values as influences on the opinions of the British press towards Europe. *Journalism Practice*, 2(2), 212–229.
- Firmstone, J. (2019). Editorial Journalism and Newspapers' Editorial Opinions. In J. Nussbaum (Ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Gans, H. J. (1980). *Deciding What's News: A Study of CBS Evening News, NBC Nightly News, Newsweek, and Time*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Golan, G. J. (2010). Editorials, op-ed columns frame medical marijuana debate. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 31(3), 50-61.
- Gronemeyer, M. E., León-Porath, V., & Porath, W. (2018). Who has a say in political news? An analysis of sourcing trends in the Chilean quality press. *Journalism*, 00(0), 1–19.
- Hackett, R. A. (1984). Decline of a paradigm? Bias and objectivity in news media studies. *Critical Studies in Mass Communication*, 1(3), 229–259.
- Hagen, L. M. (1993). Opportune Witnesses: An analysis of balance in the selection of sources and arguments in the leading German newspapers' coverage of the census issue. *European Journal of Communication*, 8(3), 317–343.



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- Hanitzsch, T., & Vos, T. P. (2017). Journalistic roles and the struggle over institutional identity: The discursive constitution of journalism. *Communication Theory*, 27(2), 115–35.
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- Harcup, T. & O'Neill, D. (2016). What is news? News values revisited (again). *Journalism Studies*, 18(12), 1470–1488.
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- Lule, J. (2002). Myth and terror on the editorial page: The New York Times responds to September 11, 2001. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 79(2), 275–293.
- MARQUES, F. P. J. Populism and Critical Incidents in Journalism: Has Bolsonaro Disrupted the Mainstream Press in Brazil?. *International Journal of Press-Politics*.
- MARQUES, F. P. J.; FERRACIOLI, P.; COMEL, N.; KNISS, A. B. Who is who in fact-checked conspiracy theories? Disseminators, sources, and the struggle for authority in polarized environments. *Journalism*, v. 24, p. 1-26, 2023.
- MARQUES, F. P. J.; MIOLA, E.; VOS, T. P.; FONTES, G. S.; SANTOS, D. 'Fake news' and Journalistic Authority in Newspaper Editorials. *Journalism Studies*, v. 24, p. 1087-1110, 2023.
- MARQUES, F. P. J.; MONT'ALVERNE, C. What are newspaper editorials interested in? Understanding the idea of criteria of editorial-worthiness. *Journalism*, v. 22, p. 1812-1830, 2021.
- MARQUES, F. P. J.; MONT'ALVERNE, C.; MITOZO, I. B. Editorial journalism and political interests: Comparing the coverage of Dilma Rousseff's impeachment in Brazilian newspapers. *Journalism*, v. 22, p. 2816-2835, 2021.
- MARQUES, F. P. J.; SANTOS, D.; MONT'ALVERNE, C.; FERRACIOLI, P. A atuação do jornalismo editorial no escândalo JBS: Uma análise comparativa sobre os posicionamentos dos jornais Folha de S. Paulo e O Estado de S. Paulo. *REVISTA BRASILEIRA DE CIÊNCIA POLÍTICA*, v. 33, p. 1-39, 2020.
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- Thesen, G. (2017). An Intervening Intermediary: Making Political Sense of Media Influence. In P. Van Aelst, & S. Walgrave (Eds.), *How Political Actors Use the Media: A Functional Analysis of the Media's Role in Politics* (pp. 21–37). [S.l.]: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Tuchman, G. (1978). *Making News: A Study in the Construction of Reality*. New York: Free Press.
- Van Aelst, P., Maddens, B., Noppe, J., & Fiers, S. (2008). Politicians in the News: Media or Party Logic? *European Journal of Communication*, 23(2), 193–210.
- Van Dalen, A. (2012). Structural Bias in Cross-National Perspective: How Political Systems and Journalism Cultures Influence Government Dominance in the News. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 17(1), 32–55.
- Vos, T. P. (2011). "A Mirror of the Times" A history of the mirror metaphor in journalism. *Journalism Studies*, 12(5), 575-589.
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