

The role of the media in society: the effects of responsible and irresponsible journalism on the public

Start date 28 August 2018**End date** 29 August 2018**Venue** Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge**Tutor** Dr Sonia Parratt**Course code** 1819NTX015**Director of Academic Centres**

Dr Corinne Boz

For further information on this course, please contactAcademic Centre Coordinator, Clare Kerr
clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237**To book** See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr Sonia Parratt was awarded a European PhD in Journalism by the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain). She is currently a full time professor at the Faculty of Information Sciences at Complutense University of Madrid, where she teaches on subjects related to news writing. Although her general area of expertise is news writing and reporting, she is also specialised in environmental journalism, since she worked as an environmental journalist before taking up her academic career. Her interest in making connections with foreign universities began when she spent an academic year at the University Nova de Lisboa (Portugal), under the EU Erasmus programme. Later on she did some research at Southampton Institute (UK) in order to complete her doctorate. Since then, she has given lectures at Cornell University (USA), Southampton Institute, University of La Sapienza (Italy), and University of Faro (Portugal). Her areas of research include journalistic genres, the analysis of the contents of the press, literary journalism, and environmental journalism

Course programme

Tuesday

12:00 – 13:15	Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	How much does media influence us?
15:30 – 15:30	Tea
16: 00 – 18:00	Why <i>good</i> news doesn't sell
18:00 - 18:30	Free
18:30 – 20:00	Dinner
21:30 – 22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Wednesday

07:30 – 08:30	Breakfast
10:00 – 12:00	Quality journalism: do people want information or entertainment?
12:00 – 13:15	Lunch
13:30 – 15:30	From print to online news: are we better informed now?
15:30	Close

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To reflect on the power of media to influence citizens and to offer a critical perspective on the media.
- To learn what underlies behind *bad* journalism.
- To become aware of how new media has changed people's news consumption

Content:

This course will offer some reflection on the power of media to influence people's everyday life and will encourage students to take a critical perspective on the media. It will provide an overview of the reasons for which journalists favour certain news and discard others, and for quality journalism sometimes losing out to irresponsible journalism, banal news, or celebrity news. The course will also explore the extent to which new media has affected journalism and the way people satisfy their news and information needs.

Presentation of the course:

The day school will be comprised of formal lectures incorporating interactive presentations and discussion sessions. Throughout each session, students will be invited to reflect, comment and pass judgement on the ideas introduced.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Understand the extent to which media influences people's lives;
- Know more about the different forms that *irresponsible* journalism can take;
- Understand how new media has affected the way citizens satisfy their news needs

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Iggers, Jeremy	Good News, Bad News: Journalism Ethics And The Public Interest	Routledge, 2018
Abramson, Jill	“Sustaining Quality journalism”	Daedalus, 139, 2, Spring 2010
Costera Meijer, Irene	“The Public Quality of Popular Journalism: developing a normative framework?”	Journalism Studies, 2,2, 2001
Boczkowski, Pablo J.; Mitchelstein, Eugenia	The News Gap: When the Information Preferences of the Media and the Public Diverge	MIT Press, 2013

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 09 August 2018