

Narrative Studies and Media

Course # MDIA 2129

Credits 6

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites: Media Literacy; Audiences for Communications and Media

Course Description

From everyday accounts of personal experience, news reports, and historiography to literary fiction, feature films, graphic novels, and interactive media, narrative is the most pervasive and influential of all genres. In written and spoken word, in moving and still images and in transmedia storytelling, narratives construct and reflect meaning for individuals, institutions, and communities.

This course explores the types of meanings narratives create and the ways in which they produce meaning and their impact—positive and negative—on our lives. Drawing on narratology and linguistics, theories of media, journalism, advertising, and visual culture, the course investigates narrative across a range of contemporary media and social practices. Together, we will engage critically and creatively with the structure, form, and content of our own narratives and those of others, as we explore the social, cultural and psychological character of this fascinating genre.

Course Learning outcomes:

Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Apply key methodological and conceptual approaches to the analysis of narratives.
- Identify the communicative purposes of narratives and the technical means with which they are achieved.
- Produce theoretically grounded critiques of narrative texts.
- Use media-specific practical skills in storytelling techniques to engage audiences.

Course Assessments and Grading

Item	Weight
Assessment Task 1: Oral Narratives of Personal Experience	20%
Assessment Task 2: A Children's Story	25%
Assessment Task 3: Visualising The White Ship	25%

Assessment Task 4: Public Service Announcement	30%
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