Course title: Comparing Media  
Language of instruction: English  
Professor: Ruth Rodriguez.  
Professor’s contact and office hours: ruth.rodriguez@upf.edu  
From Monday to Thursday, morning and afternoon.  
Course contact hours: 45  
Recommended credit: 3 US credits-5 ECTS credits  
Course prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.  
Language requirements: None  

Course focus and approach: This course focuses on the description and analysis of three main journalistic traditions: the Anglo-Saxon tradition, the South European tradition and the North European tradition. The comparative approach to those traditions helps the students to understand the differences and the similarities.  

Course description: The aim of this course is to provide students with a general overview of the Spanish Media and European Media. They study the relationship between media and politics, journalism and literature and the impact of media ethics in Europe. In order to achieve this goal, the students will analyze European newspapers, online media and television.  

Learning objectives: At the end of this course, the students will be able to:  
- know the main characteristics of European Media.  
- Have a better understanding of the impact of European culture on European Media.  
- understand the similarities and differences between European Media and US Media.  

Course workload:  
- Two exams: Midterm Exam and Final Exam  
- Three readings: "Bel Ami" from Guy de Maupassant, "The Quiet American” from Graham Greene; “The new journalism” from Tom Wolfe.  
- Field studies: analyzing European Media and Online Media  

Teaching methods: Lectures and discussion  

Assessment criteria:  
Midterm exam: 30%  
Final exam: 40%  
Class participation: 10%  
Term paper: 20%
**Absence policy:** After the add/drop day, all registrations are considered final and **HESP Absence Policy** begins to apply. For the academic year 2011-2012, such policy is as follows:

*Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student’s final grade as follows:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Penalization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to two (2) absences</td>
<td>No penalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three (3) absences</td>
<td>1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four (4) absences</td>
<td>2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five (5) absences or more</td>
<td>The student receives an <strong>INCOMPLETE</strong> (&quot;NO PRESENTAT&quot;) for the course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The PEHE/HESP attendance policy does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences.*

*Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director of the HESP.*

**Classroom norms:**  
- No food or drink is permitted in class  
- Students will have a ten-minute break on one-hour session

**Weekly schedule:**  
**WEEK 1**  
Session 1: Comparing Media Introduction  
Presentation of the course: Introduction to the course requirements and method of assessment.

Session 2: Latin Media Characteristics  
Latin Countries Characteristics and Latin Media Characteristics  

**WEEK 2**  
Session 3: Politics in Latin Countries  
Political Parallelism in Latin Countries. Media and Transition to Democracy in Latin Countries

Session 4: Journalism Profession in Latin Countries  
Journalism recognition in Latin Countries. Dimensions of Profession and consequences of Low Journalistic Profession in Latin Countries
WEEK 3
Session 5: North European Countries and Media
State and Media in North European Countries.
Profession in North European Countries and Journalistic Autonomy.

Session 6: Media Ethics in Europe
Overview of Media Ethics and Media Ethics Instruments in European Countries

WEEK 4
Session 7: Public Broadcasting
Television in European countries

Session 8: European Media Analysis
Presentation of student’s assignments on European Media

WEEK 5
Session 9: Literature and Newspapers in Latin Countries
Literary Influences on Latin Media
Writers and Journalists in France and Spain
Discussion on the novel *Bel Ami* by Guy de Maupassant

Session 10: Midterm exam
Questions about some of the issues treated in the lessons

WEEK 6
Session 11: Liberal Media Characteristics
Liberal Countries Characteristics
Commercial Press in Liberal Countries

Session 12: Politics in Liberal Countries
Neutralism in Liberal Media
Party press in UK - British Tabloid and Political content

WEEK 7
Session 13: Journalism Profession in Liberal Countries. Journalistic recognition in Liberal Countries. Education and Professionalism

Session 14: Literature and Newspapers in Liberal Countries
Origins of New Journalism

WEEK 8
Session 15: From Mohammed Cartoons to Wikileaks coverage
Discussion on Freedom and Journalists’ Self-Censorship

Session 16: Online Media
New Media Characteristics
Online Websites Content Analysis
WEEK 9
Session 17: Presentation of student’s assignments on Online Media (non compulsory)

Session 18: Public Broadcasting
Television from the world

WEEK 10
Session 19: Discussion on the novel The Quiet American by Graham Greene. Discussion on the novel

Session 20: Liberal Media Analysis
Presentation of student’s assignments on Liberal Media

WEEK 11
Session 21: Final Discussion and Doubts
Questions and doubts about the issues treated in the previous lessons

Session 22: Final Exam
Questions about some of the issues treated in the lessons

Last revision: April 2011

**Required readings:**
MAUPASSANT, Guy de, (2001), Bel Ami, Oxford, Oxford University Press.

**Recommended bibliography:**