

Subject information sheet

University: Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)					
Faculty:					
Subject code:		Subject name: News and information in the digital age			
Type, scope, and method of educational activities: Two weekly meetings of 90 minutes each, amounting 42 hours total. Every week, the first meeting takes the form of a lecture and the second takes the form of a seminar. (full-time form)					
Number of credits: ECTS 6					
Suggested semester: Fall semester					
Level of studies: bachelor					
Conditional previous subjects: None					
Requirements for the course: Course evaluation (%): A – excellent: 100-93%, B – very good: 92-84%, C – good: 83-74%, D – satisfactory: 73-63%, E – sufficient: 62-51%, Fx – fail: 50-0%. Passing the course assumes that the student was not absent from more than 4 class sessions. Late arrival is marked as a “tardy”. Three tardies equal one absence. Missing more than 15 minutes of the class is considered an absence.					
Learning outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarity with basic journalistic and editorial processes that contribute to newsgathering and publication. • Knowledge and understanding of basic concepts and terminology in the field. • Ability to engage with current debates and arguments related to the role of the media, freedom of speech, bias, epistemology, and trust in sources of information. 					
Brief outline of the course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will receive weekly reading, listening and/or viewing assignments related to subjects of focus each week. • Students will independently study the print, broadcast and electronic media, and source and analyse examples of media coverage. • The class, in seminar format, will discuss these sources and, in doing so, seek to answer the question: ‘How do know what we know?’ in the context of news and current affairs. • Successful participation in class discussion, plus timely delivery of written course assignments, will be the main course criteria. 					
Recommended readings: <i>Main course text:</i> Rauch, J. (2021). <i>The Constitution of Knowledge: A Defense of Truth</i> . Brookings Institution Press <i>Other cited sources:</i> Fukuyama, F. (2022). <i>Liberalism and its Discontents</i> . Profile Books Hasen, R. L. (2022). <i>Cheap Speech: How Disinformation Poisons Our Politics—and How to Cure It</i> . Yale University Press Media Watch (1989—; weekly television broadcast). Australian Broadcasting Corporation) Orwell, G. (2001). <i>Orwell and Politics</i> . Penguin UK. ‘The Freedom of the Press’.					
Language of the course: English					
Notes:					
Evaluation: Total number of evaluated students:					
A	B	C	D	E	Fx

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Instructor: James Thomson						
Date of the last change: 12.08.2023						
Approved: Prof. PhDr. František Novosád, CSc.						