Information list of a subject

University: Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)

Faculty:
Subject code: C-440
Subject name: Journalism, Democracy and Media Capture

**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, of a seminar. (full-time form)

**Number of credits:** ECT

Suggested semester: 2nd semester 2023/2024

Level of studies: 1

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 student was not absent at more than 4 class sessions. Students are expected to take part in the practical excercises and submit required texts.

**Learning outcomes:** Students will understand what is journalism and its role in a democracy. They will learn to write a short and simple news report. They will be able to evaluate media capture in a given country and analyze media systems.

### **Brief outline of the course:**

**1.Introduction to Journalism and Media.** The role of journalism in a democracy (watchdog, holding the power to account, inform, explain, fact check). Context, how people consume news.

TASK: Create a headline.

**2.Brief history of journalism:** History of technology of spreading information.

TASK: Read materials, discuss.

### 3. What is newsworthy – news values, agenda setting, gatekeeping.

TASK: Bring 3 ideas for topics that should be covered in a) news b) a magazine.

# 4. Journalism Ethics and Standards: public service or public interest.

TASK: Identify an ethically problematic piece of journalism.

### 5. Sources: research, contact, verification, confrontation.

TASK: Identify which sources are reliable.

#### 6.Investigative reporting.

# TASK: Prepare for a discussion with an investigative journalist.

**7.Genres.** Hard news, stories, commentary, interview. German concept of "Publizistik".

Different genres of reporting.

TASK: Write a short piece of news.

#### 8. Media Systems.

TASK: Read an article on media systems and think about the changing place of Slovakia on the map of media systems.

## 9. Censorship, media freedom.

TASK: Find and briefly explain a question of media freedom decided on by the ECHR.

#### 10.Media Capture

TASK: Think of media capture in Slovakia.

#### 11.Media Law

TASK: Think which news article or report can be sued.

### 12: Media Landscape of a given country

TASK: Prepare a presentation on media systems and media capture in a selected country.

# 13: Preparation for the exam

TASK: Ask questions about anything that is unclear.

**Reccommended readings:** WAHL-JORGENSEN, K. HANITZSCH, T. (ed). 2009. *The Handbook of Journalism Studies*. Routledge.

Language of the course: English

## **Notes:**

## Evaluation

Total number of evaluated students:

	A	В	С	D	Е	FX
	(percentage	(percentage	(percentage	(percentage	(percentage	(percentage
	of students					
1	who got A)	who got B)	who got C)	who got D)	who got E)	who got FX)

Instructor: Mgr. Peter Hanák Ph.D., LL.M.

Date of the last change: 16. 2. 2024

Approved: Prof. PhDr. František Novosád, CSc.