Film and Media Studies
Summer 2020 Undergraduate Offerings with Seats
as of 5/8/20

MEDIA 211: News Literacy in a Digital Age
Prof. David Alm
Fully Online
Tuesday & Tuesday, 11:45am - 1:15pm
May 26 to July 6

The digital age has created the demand for a new kind of literacy—a literacy that empowers news consumers to determine whether information is credible, reliable and truthful. This is not just a skill; it is a new core competency because a healthy civil society can exist only if the public is well-informed. So-called "fake news" is hard to spot and easily spread, leading to disagreements over basic facts. The antidote to these growing challenges posed by the digital platform is news literacy. **MEDIA 211: News Literacy in a Digital Age** is a CUNY Common Core (EC2) and a writing intensive course that will give students a toolbox to evaluate any news report and the ability to find and share reliable information online.

MEDP 234: Creative Code
Prof. Hans Tammen
Fully Online
Tuesday & Tuesday, 1:30-4:54pm
May 26 to July 6

Why do artists use computer programming? You can edit videos with many editing programs, but what if you want the video to disappear when someone's looking at it? You can create shapes and forms in a drawing program, but what if you want to create a complex artwork just from a short equation, or from data you downloaded from the internet? Maybe you want sound or music changing according to the audience's movement in the space? If you are that kind of person, you need to learn some programming.

This is a beginner's course, recommended for anybody who wants to build their own tools to create digital art. The course is taking a closer look at the techniques used to create interactive artworks, using node and text based programming languages (Max/MSP/Jitter, Processing, P5). Technical processes behind these artworks will be explained and demonstrated, and students are assisted in their attempt to recreate these techniques, acquiring basic programming skills they can build on to create their own artworks.
To provide a theoretical framework for creative exploration we will read historical and contemporary articles on open form works, and interactive / generative art works.

Hans Tammen is an independent media artist, composer and educator. As an artist, his

projects include site-specific performances and collaborative efforts with dance, light, video, and theater, utilizing technology from planetarium projectors to guitar robots. His works have been presented on festivals in the US, Canada, Mexico, Russia, Ukraine, South Africa, India, Israel and all over Europe. From 2001 to 2014 he has worked at Harvestworks Digital Media Art Center in NYC, where he was responsible for the Education and Artist In Residence program, helping countless digital media artists through completion of their works. https://www.tammen.org

MEDP 285: Web Production 1
Prof. Ricardo Miranda
Fully Online
Monday & Wednesday, 9:50am - 1:14pm
May 26 to July 6

MEDP 285 Web Production 1 is a production course with a technical emphasis on popular code-based techniques for web production including HTML, CSS, JavaScript and JS frameworks and libraries. The goal is to introduce various fundamental front-end web and internet technologies, and in doing so, to present a clear understanding of how they interrelate to produce creative content for web distribution. Throughout the summer session readings relating to net culture and other creative forms for network spaces will be required as well as technical readings. The first hour and half will be live demo and discussion period. All the course content will be available asynchronously on the course website.

Ricardo Miranda has been using the web browser as a creative medium since 1997. He is a multimedia artist that enjoys diving into emerging technologies for creative expression.

MEDIA 373: Journalism as Literature
Prof. J. Max Stein
Online
Mondays/Wednesdays from 1:30-4:54pm
May 26 to July 6

If you love reading nonfiction and want to learn more about journalism, check out MEDIA 373: Journalism as Literature. Students will be reading and discussing pieces from the genre known as " literary journalism" that bring together a fiction writer's literary tricks, a reporter's instinct and persistence, and a journalist's rigorous insistence on factual accuracy to tell a "true" and reliable story that the reader can't put down. This class will also examine the relationship between journalism and literature, the journalistic prose of major imaginative writers, and the stylistic characteristics of hard news reporting.

Professor Stein has taught at CUNY for nearly 20 years and been a journalist for even longer than that. Her writing appears regularly in the NYC newspaper the *Indypendent*, was cited in the New York *Times*, and has received awards from *Poets and Writers* magazine and the Independent Press Association.

MEDP 26000: Introduction to 2D Animation
Prof. Anita Cheng
Tuesday & Thursday, 10-11am (other hours TBD)
May 26 to July 6

This is a hands-on, project-based introduction to animation using 2D digital tools. Historical precursors to digital animation including experimental and animated film as well as contemporary animation will be shared. Computer-assisted animation will be taught online with exercise videos, downloadable assets, video links, online video submissions, and Blackboard Connect Ultra sessions.

As part of a research project supported by the CUNY Adjunct Incubator, Anita Cheng, an Adjunct Associate Professor, is designing public interest graphics about current NYC political and community issues. She has worked as Senior Broadcast and Print Designer at Thirteen/WNET, as well as as Artistic Director of her own dance and digital media company. Cheng is teaching 2D Animation, Motion Graphics and Information Graphics at Hunter College, and Digital Art at Brooklyn College.

MEDIA 39932: Digital Privacy, Security and Surveillance in the Pandemic Age
Prof. Erica Basu
Fully Online
Monday & Wednesdays, 11:40am - 2pm
May 26 to July 20

Digital privacy, online surveillance, and cybersecurity concerns have risen to the top of global policy agendas as the number of active Internet users approaches 60% of the global population. While these issues have been on international and national policy agendas for some time, the COVID pandemic has brought them into sharper focus as global populations have been forced to move almost entirely online as countries enforce varying degrees of strict lock-down and/or stay-at-home orders. At the epicenter of these deliberations lies what has become one of the world's most precious and vulnerable commodities: data. The legitimate use of personal data during the pandemic can result in more effective public health policies such as contact tracing and containment initiatives. However, mission creep and opaque collaborations between governments and private sector companies can result in unlawful targeting and unnecessary surveillance as was witnessed after 9/11. Will we use the "pandemic as a portal" to envision a new future?

Erica Diya Basu is an Adjunct Instructor at American University, in the School of Communication's Public Communication Division. She has over two decades of experience as a seasoned communication professional in strategic, marketing and corporate communication, public diplomacy, and public affairs. Erica is also a Researcher at American University's Center for Media and Social Impact.