

Course Guides Part A: Course Overview

(Note only Part A of the Course Guides are attached to Program Guides.)

Course Title

Part A: Course Overview

College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Title (30 including spaces)	<i>Media and Communication Futures</i>
Career	Undergraduate
Credit Points	12
Pre-requisite Courses and Assumed Knowledge and Capabilities	None, however successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree to the required standard is required.
. Course Description	<p>This is a core course for all Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) students in the School of Media and Communication. The course has been designed to teach ways in which changes to the methods and mediums of communication can be understood and contextualised.</p> <p>This course will introduce key theoretical approaches to contextualise histories of change and transformation within media and communication. This can include changes in technologies, theoretical approaches and methods, as well as social and material histories.</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to critically reflect on issues in the context of your own discipline and practice, and to share these insights with students from other disciplines and practices. You will be able to contextualise your professional and academic practice within the concept of media change, and have a framework by which to conceptualise its possible impact and influence.</p>
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use and critique a variety of theoretical approaches to the concept of media and communication change • identify and utilise relevant approaches to contextualising change within your discipline and/or media practice • critically engage with problems relevant to technological change, communication, and social practice • be able to reflect on, and engage with, the implications of innovation and change within media and communication from the point of view of your discipline and/or practice <p>You will develop the following program capabilities in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of your field and how it relates to contemporary media

	<p>and communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the use and relevance of research as an integral part of your creative and critical practice • work within interdisciplinary teams • knowing why your research matters and how to express this in discipline relevant ways
Overview of Learning Activities	A large group class will be facilitated by the lecturer and a teaching assistant. This will involve a mix of large and mixed group activities that include the critique and sharing of research discoveries, the ongoing documentation of your learning, class presentations, class discussion, and individual projects.
Overview of Learning Resources	A list of recommended resources will be provided by the lecturer, and will include books, essays, articles, and web resources. You will be expected to find additional resources that are relevant to your own focus, with an emphasis on utilising the research tools available via the library.
Overview of Assessment	Assessment will be a mix of formative and summative tasks. Tasks may include a mix of written work and media artefacts, negotiated with the lecturer. You will be able to develop your work in relation to your specific discipline and practice.
Course Coordinator Details	

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Course Guides Part A: Course Overview

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Course Title: Media and Communication Histories of the Present: Actualities and Possibilities

College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Identification and Title	<i>Media and Communication Histories of the Present: Actualities and Possibilities</i>
Career	Undergraduate
Credit Points	12
Pre-requisite/co-requisite courses	None, however successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree to the required standard is required.
Course Description and learning outcomes and objectives	<p>This is a core course for all Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) students in the School of Media and Communication.</p> <p>The course is designed to focus on the ways people always use media and communication technologies in specific ways, for specific purposes, and in ways that are socially embedded and materially embodied. For <i>you</i> to use media and communication technologies strategically in your own discipline specific practice, this course assists you to locate your uses and purposes within an interdisciplinary knowledge of what these technologies are, how they have been assembled and are being assembled, and how they are and have been of consequence.</p> <p>The course investigates the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have people understood, planned and used, and strategized around media and communication technologies? Where? Which people? Using what rhetorics and frameworks? • What possible planning, applications and uses of these technologies are currently being negotiated and/or struggled over? By whom? How, and within what rhetorics and frameworks? How are these matters connected to practices and rhetorics of globalisation? • What social, cultural, political and economic consequences have these uses and strategies involved, and what might they involve? • What pathways and limits, as well as generative models and opportunities, link past, present, and future applications and uses of media and communication technologies? How are ‘older’ communication technologies and media such as print and broadcast inextricably bound up with struggles within and around the current digital revolution and therefore with future possibilities?

Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present and negotiate a range of arguments concerning the uses and applications of media and communication technologies and their consequences • Discuss and assess the value of four available scenarios for how media and communication technologies are used and are assembled: utopian, dystopian, humanist, and piecemeal • Exemplify and discuss three sorts of practices evident in the uses and applications of media and communication technologies; i) commercialisation and privatisation; ii) governmentalisation; iii) communitarianism • Relate and test the use of relevant course arguments and materials to examples and cases taken from your discipline or field of practice <p>You will develop the following program capabilities in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of your field and how it relates to contemporary media and communications • Work within interdisciplinary teams • Knowing why your research matters and how to present this in discipline relevant ways
Overview of Learning Activities	<p>A large group class will be facilitated by the lecturer and a teaching assistant. This will involve a mix of large and mixed group activities that include the discussion, analysis and testing of arguments and examples, sharing and critique of research discoveries, the ongoing documentation of your learning, and class presentations.</p>
Overview of Learning Resources	<p>A list of recommended resources will be provided by the lecturer, and will include books, essay, articles, and web resources. You will be expected to find additional resources that are relevant to your own focus, with an emphasis on utilising the research tools available via the library.</p>
Overview of Assessment	<p>Your grasp of course arguments, interdisciplinary knowledge of media and communication technologies, and ability to relate this to your disciplinary field of practice will be assessed through a mix of formative and summative tasks. Tasks will be developed pieces of writing, with the major task involving negotiation of topics with the lecturer to enable connection to artefacts, examples, and concerns of your disciplinary field of practice.</p>
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Course Title

Part A: Course Overview

College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Title (30 including spaces)	<i>Research Laboratory One</i>
Career	Undergraduate
Credit Points	12
Pre-requisite Courses and Assumed Knowledge and Capabilities	None, however successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree to the required standard is required.
Course Description	<p>The Research Laboratory is undertaken by all students in the Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) program and forms the key to the research training and outcomes for your honours project. The Research Laboratory will provide the academic context and theme for your individual honours research project.</p> <p>The laboratory is an interdisciplinary project space where all participants will investigate a common topic or theme, under the direction of a research leader. Specific research themes will vary from year to year, reflecting current projects, industry partnerships and university research directions.</p> <p>The course will develop knowledge and expertise in relation to the laboratory theme, combining specific domain knowledge with contextual investigations in to how the theme relates to your own discipline and practice. The themes will be general enough to provide engagement for your disciplinary area, and focussed enough to provide a pathway and focus for your research.</p>
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon the successful completion of this course you will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to identify and critique key theoretical positions in relation to the laboratory theme • be familiar with key literature in the field • evaluate the variety of relationships that the laboratory theme has to your discipline and/or practice • have expert knowledge in relation to the laboratory theme <p>The following program capabilities are developed in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ability to work within an interdisciplinary team and able to make

	<p>a significant contribution as a collaborator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have deep knowledge of the laboratory theme and its relationship to contemporary media and communications • have an understanding of the contribution of your own discipline to the research project and the value and significance of other disciplines
Overview of Learning Activities	The laboratory will consist of a small cohort facilitated by a research leader (lecturer). Your learning will involve a range of activities including readings, class discussion, research, collaborative and individual projects, and documentation, and the preliminary planning of a major research project.
Overview of Learning Resources	A list of recommended resources will be provided by the research leader, including books, essays, journal articles, and web resources. In addition you will be expected to find additional resources, with an emphasis on using the research tools available via the library.
Overview of Assessment	Assessment will include a mix of formative and summative activities. You will be expected to document your learning in an ongoing manner through the laboratory. Each laboratory will produce a variety of outcomes relevant to its theme.
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Part A: Course Overview

College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Title (30 including spaces)	<i>Research Laboratory Two</i>
Career	Undergraduate
Credit Points	24
Pre-requisite Courses and Assumed Knowledge and Capabilities	Successful completion of Research Laboratory One and Research Strategies.
Course Description	<p>The Research Laboratory is undertaken by all students in the Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) program and forms the key to the research training and outcomes for your honours project. The Research Laboratory will provide the academic context and theme for your individual honours research project.</p> <p>This laboratory continues from Research Laboratory One, and is an interdisciplinary space where all participants develop specific, high quality, research outcomes that are relevant to the theme of the laboratory.</p> <p>This course will concentrate on your research outcomes, which will form the basis of your examinable honours work. Through the Research Laboratory you will receive feedback and critique of your research project and will utilise the content knowledge developed in Research Laboratory One in the context of discipline and practice relevant outcomes for your research project.</p>
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon the successful completion of this subject you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to identify and critique key issues within your disciplinary field • be capable of undertaking a sustained investigation into a discipline specific problem • be capable of undertaking a sustained written investigation, examination and analysis into a discipline specific problem • have a developed, critical understanding of research as a particular practice <p>The following program capabilities are developed in this course:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to creatively and critically develop meaningful problems within media and communication • apply research skills and practices to complex problems • work within interdisciplinary teams and be capable of making significant contributions as a collaborator • understand the strengths and contributions of your own discipline and the value and significance of other disciplines to research projects
Overview of Learning Activities	The laboratory will consist of a small cohort facilitated by a research leader (lecturer). Your learning will involve a range of activities, including oral presentations, readings, class discussion, presentation and critique of work in progress, and the completion of a major research project.
Overview of Learning Resources	A variety of resources will be provided by the research leader, including essays, journal articles and web resources. Resources related to academic writing, citation, and publication requirements will be provided. In addition project management resources will be provided to facilitate project development and completion as appropriate.
Overview of Assessment	Assessment will be formative. You will make a variety of presentations of your research in progress through the semester. You will also document your research practice throughout the semester.
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College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Title (30 including spaces)	<i>Research Practice One</i>
Career	Undergraduate
Credit Points	12
Pre-requisite Courses and Assumed Knowledge and Capabilities	None, however successful completion of a relevant undergraduate degree to the required standard is required.
Course Description	Research Practice One is a required course for all students in the Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) program. In this course you will undertake self directed research and study that is directly related to your honours research project.
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon the successful completion of this course you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have identified key questions, debates and concerns in your discipline in the context of your research project • developed and implemented a range of applied research activities relevant to your research project, including undertaking independent research <p>The following program capabilities are developed in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the application of research to complex problems • the preliminary development of deep knowledge of your individual research field and topic • know how to use research as an integral part of your creative and critical practice • undertake sophisticated, self directed, research • articulate propositions about why your research matters and how it could be expressed in discipline relevant ways
Overview of Learning Activities	This course has no scheduled class or contact time. It is an allocation of time towards your individual research. The key activities you will do in this time are a variety of forms of research, including using the resources of the library to gather relevant material, viewing other relevant works and projects, and reading the key literature that is

	related to your individual project. The main activities will be finding references and resources, reading or viewing them, compiling notes, and maintaining an appropriate bibliography.
Overview of Learning Resources	The key resources you will use will be the university library (and other research libraries), other collecting institutions that may contain material relevant to your project (other libraries, galleries, archives). In addition, you will utilise some form of bibliographic manager, and a variety of online resources to document and store your research activities, including a research blog, citation manager, and a social bookmarking service.
Overview of Assessment	This course is research only and is assessed on a pass/fail basis.
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College	<i>Design and Social Context</i>
School	<i>Media and Communication</i>
Course Title (30 including spaces)	<i>Research Practice Two</i>
Career	Undergraduate/
Credit Points	24
Pre-requisite Courses and Assumed Knowledge and Capabilities	Successful completion of Research Laboratory One, Research Strategies and Research Practice One.
Course Description	Research Practice Two is a required course for all students in the Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) program. In this course you will undertake a mix of self directed and supervised research that is relevant to your honours research project. You will complete your research, presenting it in an appropriate way for examination, including the completion of a written exegesis for project based research.
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Capability Development	<p>Upon successful completion of this course you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have investigated a key question, debate or problem in your discipline via your research project • implemented a successful research strategy, realised through a completed and examined major research project • developed a variety of strategies for undertaking successful, complex research tasks <p>The following program capabilities are developed in this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the successful application of research skills and practices to complex problems • have achieved deep knowledge of your topic and its relevance within contemporary media and communications • know the value and role of research as an integral part of your creative and critical practice • be able to undertake sophisticated self directed research • have an understanding as to why your research matters, who it matters to, and how it can be expressed and presented in a discipline

	relevant way
Overview of Learning Activities	<p>This course has no scheduled class time. It provides an allocation of time for you to apply to your individual research outcome. You will have regular, individual, meetings with your supervisor who's role is to mentor you in your research learning and the research outcomes you are seeking to produce.</p> <p>The major activities will be reading, writing, and making, as appropriate, in close consultation with your supervisor. An iterative cycle of making, critique, and remaking will form the basis of your research practice, whether you are working in thesis or project mode.</p>
Overview of Learning Resources	<p>The key resources you will use will be the university library (and other research libraries), other relevant collecting institutions that may contain material relevant to your project (other libraries, galleries, archives). In addition you will utilise some form of bibliographic manager, and a variety of online resources to document and store your research activities, including a research blog, citation manager, and a social bookmarking service.</p>
Overview of Assessment	<p>Your research project will be examined by two examiners, subject to RMIT University's honours examination guidelines. The work will be graded according to RMIT University's grading scale (High Distinction, Distinction, Credit, Pass, Fail). Your overall result will be determined by the average result of the two examiners. Note, that failing the research course within Honours constitutes failing the program.</p>
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