Nexus in Journalism, Media, and Public Discourse

The Nexus in Journalism, Media, and Public Discourse is administered by a faculty advisory group led by Professors Townsley (sociology) and Tucker (sociology).

Overview

Many departments, including English, history, sociology, and politics, offer hands-on and theory-based courses in journalism and public media. Students learn to examine the world with an educated, critical eye; to collect material from a wide range of sources; and to analyze and communicate information clearly and concisely. MHC’s approach reflects the reality of the job market: employers in journalism and media want students who are knowledgeable and articulate across a wide array of subjects in the liberal arts, who are creative, flexible thinkers with superior writing and analytical capabilities. The Nexus in Journalism, Media, and Public Discourse encourages students to explore journalism and media through many venues. In the classroom, students can master the nuts and bolts of reporting and fact-checking a news story, examine the history of the New York Times, or analyze the role of media in contemporary society.

Contact Info

Eleanor Townsley, Nexus director
Kenneth Tucker, track chair

Requirements for the Nexus

Courses

- Two 200-level, 4-credit courses, chosen from the faculty-approved list for the Nexus
- College 210 (the 2-credit “pre-experience” course) or a suitable substitute, chosen in consultation with the track chair
- College 211 (the 2-credit “post-experience” course), culminating in a public presentation at the annual LEAP (Learning from Application) Symposium
- One 300-level, 4-credit course in a relevant topic, chosen from the faculty-approved list for the Nexus

Other

- An approved internship, research project, or summer job, completed as the “experience” between College 210 and 211
- The sequence of a Nexus is part of what makes it unique. It is essential that College 210 (or an appropriate substitute) be taken before the internship or research project and that College 211 be taken after the internship or research project

Courses Counting toward the Nexus

Asian Studies

312 Newspaper Reading and Journalistic Practices in China

College

210 Ready for the World: Preparing for Your Internship and Research Project
211 Reflecting Back: Connecting Internship and Research to your Liberal Arts Education

English

301JH Studies in Journalism: ‘Journalism History and Ethics’
301NN Studies in Journalism: ‘Narrative Nonfiction’
325 Victorian Literature and Visual Culture

Film Studies

230 Documentary Film

History

283MC Topics in the Recent History of the United States: ‘The United States since 1945: We Didn’t Start the Fire’

International Relations

242 Media and the Public Sphere in Europe and the United States
262 Transnational Social Movements in World Politics

Sociology