

COMM 3554

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF MEDIA TECHNOLOGIES

AUTUMN 2025

Faculty Instructor:

Mimi Brinberg, Ph.D. [pronouns: she/her/hers] [brinberg.2@osu.edu]

Student hours: Thursdays, 11:00am – 1:00pm EST

Grader:

Jiaxu (Elmer) Ye [pronouns: he/him/his] [ye.1062@osu.edu]

Course description

This is an upper-level course on the social implications of communication technology. We will cover many communication technologies such as social networking sites, online dating sites, and virtual reality. We will also cover important issues that cut across multiple technologies, such as privacy, digital deception, and cyberbullying. At times, we consider the ways communication technology may affect society as a whole (e.g., the spread of fake news) as well as cases in which communication technologies affect their individual users (e.g., the connection between social media and mental health).

The central goals for the class are for students to develop (a) a richer understanding of the characteristics and impacts of communication technologies and (b) awareness of how social scientists conduct research studies on communication technologies. After completing the course, students should have a more advanced toolkit for engaging with communication technologies in their personal lives and careers and evaluating the effects of these technologies.

Course learning outcomes

- Students will learn about the characteristics, functionality, and usage of communication technologies; a focus will be placed on identifying the unique properties of new communication technologies.
- Students will be able to explain the historical origin of the study of communication technology.
- Students will increase their knowledge of the effects of communication technology on ourselves and society.
- Students will apply existing theory and research findings to new media technologies.
- Students will develop strategies for using and managing communication technology in our daily lives.

- Students will build critical skills to analyze and interpret communication technologies and their messages.

How this online course works

Mode of delivery

This course is 100% online. There are no required sessions when you must be logged in to Carmen at a scheduled time.

Pace of online activities

Each week, a new module will become available on the course Carmen site that contains all of the online requirements associated with that week. Each module will include materials (e.g., recorded lectures, reading materials, videos) pertaining to key course concepts, as well as instructions for completing the weekly readings and activities due that week. Students are expected to keep pace with weekly deadlines but may schedule their efforts freely within that time frame.

Credit hours and work expectations

This is a 3-credit-hour course. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 3 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of (C) average.

Attendance and participation requirements

Because this is an online course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

- **Participating in online activities: AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**
You are expected to log in to the course in Carmen every week. (During most weeks you will probably log in many times.) If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with me as soon as possible.
- **Student hours and live sessions: OPTIONAL**
All live, scheduled events for the course, including my student hours, are optional.
- **Participating in discussion forums: 4+ TIMES MOST WEEKS**
As part of your participation, most weeks you can expect to post at least four times as part of our substantive class discussion on the week's topics.

Course materials

There is no required textbook for this course. All reading materials will be provided on Carmen. Details about the assigned readings can be found on pages 19-22.

Course technology

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- Self-Service and Chat support: ocio.osu.edu/help
- Phone: 614-688-4357(HELP)
- Email: servicedesk@osu.edu
- TDD: 614-688-8743

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

Required equipment

- Computer: current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows) with high-speed internet connection
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- Microsoft Office 365: All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at go.osu.edu/office365help.

Carmen access

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions (go.osu.edu/add-device).
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click Enter a Passcode and then click the Text me new codes button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application (go.osu.edu/install-duo) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Grading

This class has 1000 possible points, which are distributed as follows:

Discussion Forum Posts (x10)	200 points (20 points each)
Online Quizzes (x5)	250 points (50 points each)
Knowledge Checks (x5)	50 points (10 points each)
Reflection Papers (x4)	300 points (75 points each)
Final Exam	200 points

Assignments

- **Discussion Forum Posts (20 points x 10).** This is the only group-based assignment. Most weeks you will be expected to take part in class discussions within your assigned groups.
 - You will be expected to submit **one original discussion post by Wednesday at 11:59pm EST** of the assigned week and to submit **three response posts by Friday at 11:59pm EST** of the assigned week.
 - Prompts for discussion posts will be provided. You are expected to address all components of the prompt, which will be highlighted in the rubric that accompanies each discussion post assignment.
 - Original discussion posts should be around 150 words in length, and response posts should be around 100 words in length.
 - A high-quality discussion post (and response) should demonstrate (1) understanding of the course concepts and materials, (2) independent thought regarding the concepts and material, and (3) thoughtful engagement with the work of at least three other students in the class.
 - Discussion groups will be shuffled halfway through the semester.
 - **Note: There are actually 11 discussion opportunities throughout the semester. Your lowest discussion grade will be dropped – i.e., only your 10 best scores count towards your grade.**
- **Online Quizzes (50 points x 5).** Five quizzes will be administered on Carmen. The quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the course materials (i.e., module materials, video lectures, assigned readings).
 - All quizzes are announced and available on your weekly schedule. Specific due dates are listed in the course calendar.
 - The quizzes cannot be made up.
 - Quizzes will open at the beginning of the week and are **due Sundays at 11:59pm EST.**
 - The quizzes are non-cumulative and the quiz description in Carmen will state which

- material each quiz covers.
 - Students will only have one 45-minute or hour-long attempt (depending on the quiz) to complete each quiz. I do not allow group work on the quizzes and doing so constitutes academic misconduct. Please prepare well and do not wait until the last minute to start a quiz, as technological issues can occur (see technology policy below for more details).
 - Quizzes will progress one question at a time (i.e., you cannot go back to change your answers).
 - Quizzes 2 – 5 will use the Respondus Lockdown feature in Carmen, which monitors students' web browser (i.e., identifies whether students leave the exam webpage during testing).
- **Knowledge Checks (10 points x 5).** Throughout the semester, there will be opportunities to test your knowledge of the material in low-stakes situations.
 - Knowledge checks will be graded in a quiz-like format, but you will be able to take the quiz up to 5 times.
 - The goal here is to identify gaps in your knowledge so you know what to correct or review.
 - Knowledge checks will open at the beginning of the week and are **due Sundays at 11:59pm EST**.
 - The knowledge checks will be open book/notes and cover material from the readings, module content, and video lectures.
 - The knowledge checks are non-cumulative and the knowledge check description in Carmen will state which material each knowledge check covers.
- **Reflection Papers (75 points x 4).** There will be four reflection assignments over the course of the semester.
 - Reflection papers are available on the weekly schedule. Specific due dates are listed in the course calendar.
 - Reflection papers will open at the beginning of the week and will be due **Fridays at 11:59pm EST**.
 - Reflection papers will be 600-800 words formatted using APA style (i.e., double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins) and citations for outside references (either 6th or 7th APA style citations are fine).
 - A complete rubric and description for each reflection paper will be provided on Carmen when the paper is assigned.
 - A high-quality submission will briefly explain the theory or concept and then go into depth, making a connection between the concept and a real-world application.
 - Note that I can only grade what you have submitted. Please double check before submitting your work.
- **Exam (200 points x 1).** One final exam will be delivered on Carmen to assess comprehension of reading and lecture materials at the end of the semester.
 - The exam will cover information from the assigned readings, course modules, and video lectures.
 - The exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and matching style questions. The questions will be designed to assess your definitional

understanding of course content and ability to accurately apply, interpret, and evaluate human communication and behavior through the lens of course concepts.

- The exam will be timed and progress one question at a time (i.e., you cannot go back to change your answers).
- The exam will use the Respondus Lockdown feature in Carmen, which monitors students' web browser (i.e., identifies whether students leave the exam webpage during testing).

Late assignments

All deadlines are in Eastern Standard Time (EST). Students may submit all assessments late with a penalty. Penalties for late work increase cumulatively. Submitting work after the deadline yields a -10% point penalty for the submission. For each additional day after the deadline, students lose an additional -10% off the submission.

Extensions: Students may receive an extension for an assignment if they **contact the professor 48 hours prior to the submission deadline**. The length of an extension will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Discussion and communication guidelines

The following are my expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

- **Writing style:** While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. A more conversational tone is fine for non-academic topics.
- **Tone and civility:** Let's maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn't always come across online.
- **Citing your sources:** When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.
- **Backing up your work:** Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, such as Microsoft Word, where you can save your work, and then copy it into the Carmen discussion.

Grading scale

Please note that Carmen Canvas, OSU's grading and class management software, does not round fractions up. Please take that into account in computing grades. I do not manually round up grades. The official grading scale is as follows:

93 – 100: A
 90 – 92.9: A-
 87 – 89.9: B+

83 – 86.9: **B**
 80 – 82.9: **B-**
 77 – 79.9: **C+**
 73 – 76.9: **C**
 70 – 72.9: **C-**
 67 – 69.9: **D+**
 60 – 66.9: **D**
 Below 60: **E**

Faculty feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-HELP** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

Grading and feedback

For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**. If it is going to take longer than 7 days, you will receive a course announcement from me.

E-mail

I will reply to e-mails within **24 hours on school days**. I do not respond to emails over the weekend, and I do not expect you to respond to emails over the weekend. Please email me through OSU email and not the Carmen messaging system, as Carmen sometimes does not notify me that I have an unread message.

Virtual student hours

Virtual student hours will be held through Ohio State's conferencing platform, Carmen Zoom. Dr. Brinberg's digital meeting room can be accessed during posted student hours. Students may use the audio and video functions if a webcam and microphone are available. If not, there is still a chat function within Zoom for the student to live chat with the professor in the virtual office hours room. A guide to accessing Zoom is available [online here](#) and students can [access support for Carmen Zoom here](#).

Common issues to avoid...

- **Carmen mail/messenger + submission comments.** These are unreliable forms of communication, and I will not check them regularly.
- **Weekend + evening emails.** Under most circumstances, I will respond to messages of this sort on the next business day.
- **Sending emails NOT from your OSU email.** Messages to our OSU accounts from non-OSU email services are regularly marked as spam and since OSU cannot confirm their delivery, you may not use them as evidence of communication attempts.
- **Unprofessional emails.** Please ensure that your email messages are professional and informative by including your course info in the subject line, a salutation, adequate yet concise

body text, closing, and your full name.

- **Emails that require immediate attention.** I aim to answer emails with 24 hours of receipt on business days. Be proactive and plan ahead.

Course Technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at <https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours>, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Carmen:**
 - Carmen, Ohio State's Learning Management System, will be used to host materials and activities throughout this course. To access Carmen, visit [Carmen.osu.edu](https://carmen.osu.edu). Log in to Carmen using your name.# and password. If you have not setup a name.# and password, visit my.osu.edu.
 - Help guides on the use of Carmen can be found at <https://resourcecenter.odce.osu.edu/carmen>
 - **This online course requires use of Carmen (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.**
 - [Carmen accessibility](#)
- **Carmen Zoom:**
 - Office hours will be held through Ohio State's conferencing platform, Carmen Zoom. A separate guide to accessing Carmen Zoom and our office hours is posted on the course Carmen page under Files.
 - Students may use the audio and video functions if a webcam and microphone are available. If not, there is still a chat function within Carmen Zoom for the student to live chat with the professor in the virtual student hours room.
 - [Carmen Zoom](#) help guide
- **Turnitin:**
 - Students at The Ohio State University are accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Therefore, you should be familiar with the guidelines provided by the [Committee on Academic Misconduct \(COAM\)](#) and [Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct](#) in order to meet the academic expectations concerning appropriate documentation of sources. In addition, OSU has made Turnitin, a learning tool and plagiarism prevention system, available to instructors. For this class, you will submit your papers to Turnitin from Carmen. When grading your work, I will interpret the originality report, following [Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct](#) as appropriate. For more information about Turnitin, please see [the vendor's guide for students](#). Note that submitted final papers become part of the OSU database.
- **Self-Service and Chat support:** <http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice>
- **Phone:** 614-688-HELP (4357)
- **Email:** 8help@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

University Policies

Student Academic Services

Arts and Sciences Advising and Academic Services' website provides support for student academic success. Information on advising issues such as tutoring, transfer credits, academic standing, and contact information for Arts and Sciences advisors can be obtained through this website. The site is: <http://advising.osu.edu>.

Student Services

The Student Service Center assists with financial aid matters, tuition, and fee payments. Please see their site at: <https://contactbuckeyelink.osu.edu/>

Copyright Disclaimer

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

Additional Disclaimer

This syllabus represents a contract “in the works.” Events that transpire over the semester may require modifications to the course. In the event of a change, I will announce the change and update the syllabus on Carmen. Ultimately it is your responsibility to keep up with any such modifications and to be aware of current policies, deadlines, etc. I reserve the right to modify course policies throughout the semester.

Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a welcoming community. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office (CRCO):

Online reporting form: <http://civilrights.osu.edu/>

Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605

civilrights@osu.edu

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

- All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.
- The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

Title IX

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Interim Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Molly Peirano, at titleix@osu.edu

Counseling and Consultation Services / Mental Health Statement

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing.

If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th floor of the Yountkin Success Center and 10th floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Military-Connected Students

The [Military and Veterans Services](#) (MVS) Office offers a wide range of resources for military-connected students. Whether using educational benefits or not, all military-connected students are encouraged to learn more about how the university supports military-connected students (i.e.,

information about tutoring, transition services, access to the veteran's lounge, etc.). For service members, should you receive military orders during the semester or know of classes that will be missed due to service commitments, please speak with your instructor as soon as possible on possible accommodations. MVS contact information: milvets@osu.edu; 614-247-VETS; veterans.osu.edu/; 185 Student Academic Services Building, 281 W. Lane Avenue.

Disability Statement (with Accommodations for Illness)

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If students anticipate or experience academic barriers based on a disability (including mental health and medical conditions, whether chronic or temporary), they should let their instructor know immediately so that they can privately discuss options. Students do not need to disclose specific information about a disability to faculty. To establish reasonable accommodations, students may be asked to register with Student Life Disability Services (see below for campus-specific contact information). After registration, students should make arrangements with their instructors as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that accommodations may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If students are ill and need to miss class, including if they are staying home and away from others while experiencing symptoms of viral infection or fever, they should let their instructor know immediately. In cases where illness interacts with an underlying medical condition, please consult with Student Life Disability Services to request reasonable accommodations.

slds@osu.edu

<https://slds.osu.edu/>

098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave

614-292-3307 phone

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the [Committee on Academic Misconduct](#) (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's [Code of Student Conduct](#), and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute Academic Misconduct.

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of

Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so please review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If an instructor suspects that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, the instructor is obligated by University Rules to report those suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that a student violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in the course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If students have questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, they should contact the instructor.

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

There has been a significant increase in the popularity and availability of a variety of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including ChatGPT, Sudowrite, and others. These tools will help shape the future of work, research and technology, but when used in the wrong way, they can stand in conflict with academic integrity at Ohio State.

All students have important obligations under the Code of Student Conduct to complete all academic and scholarly activities with fairness and honesty. Our professional students also have the responsibility to uphold the professional and ethical standards found in their respective academic honor codes. Specifically, students are not to use unauthorized assistance in the laboratory, on field work, in scholarship, or on a course assignment unless such assistance has been authorized specifically by the course instructor. In addition, students are not to submit their work without acknowledging any word-for-word use and/or paraphrasing of writing, ideas or other work that is not your own. These requirements apply to all students undergraduate, graduate, and professional.

To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, these generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of course assignments unless an instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use. Some instructors may approve of using generative AI tools in the academic setting for specific goals. However, these tools should be used only with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and then only in the ways allowed by the instructor.

Religious Accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely

held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement **and** the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#).

Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#)

Intellectual Diversity

Ohio State is committed to fostering a culture of open inquiry and intellectual diversity within the classroom. This course will cover a range of information and may include discussions or debates about controversial issues, beliefs, or policies. Any such discussions and debates are intended to support understanding of the approved curriculum and relevant course objectives rather than promote any specific point of view. Students will be assessed on principles applicable to the field of study and the content covered in the course. Preparing students for citizenship includes helping them develop critical thinking skills that will allow them to reach their own conclusions regarding complex or controversial matters.

Grievances and Solving Problems

According to University Policies, if you have a problem with this class, you should seek to resolve the grievance concerning a grade or academic practice by speaking first with the instructor or professor. Then, if necessary, take your case to the department chairperson, college dean or associate dean, and to the provost, in that order. Specific procedures are outlined in Faculty Rule 3335-8-23. Grievances against graduate, research, and teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

Requesting accommodations

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your

disability including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions, please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Accessibility of course technology

This online course requires use of CarmenCanvas (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

- Canvas accessibility (go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility)
- Streaming audio and video
- CarmenZoom accessibility (go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility)
- Collaborative course tools

Course Schedule/Autumn 2025

Modules [Start] [End]	Weekly Topics	Assignments
Week 1 Aug 26 Aug 31	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Syllabus ○ Resources for Academic Writing 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Quiz 1 Syllabus & APA (due Sunday 8/31)
Week 2 Sept 1 Sept 7	What is Technology? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Downs (2019) ○ Flanagin (2020) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Knowledge Check (due Sunday 9/7)
Week 3 Sept 8 Sept 14	Theories of Technology's Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Walther et al. (2015) ○ McEwan (2015) 	Reflection Paper 1 (due F 9/14)
Week 4 Sept 15 Sept 21	Technology & News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pariser (2011) ○ Kupferschmidt (2023) ○ Zúñiga et al. (2017) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Knowledge Check (due Sunday 9/21)
Week 5 Sept 22 Sept 28	Identity & Self-presentation Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Miller (2016) ○ Baym (2010), Chapter 5 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Quiz 2 (due Sunday 9/28)

Week 6 Sept 29 Oct 5	Online Dating & Deception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Toma (2015) ○ Hancock & Guillory (2015) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Knowledge Check (due Sunday 10/05)
Week 7 Oct 6 Oct 12	Cyberbullying & Disruptive Interactions Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Savage & Deiss (2019) ○ https://theconversation.com/online-likes-for-toxic-social-media-posts-prompt-more-and-more-hateful-messages-218220 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Quiz 3 (due Sunday 10/12)
Week 8 Oct 13 Oct 19	Social Support Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wright (2015) Happy fall break!	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F)
Week 9 Oct 20 Oct 26	Children & Media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Austin & Kistler (2015) ○ Valkenburg & Piotrowski (2017, Chapter 11) 	Reflection Paper 2 (due F 10/24)
Week 10 Oct 27 Nov 2	Media Use & Well-being: Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High et al. (2022) ○ Hall (2024) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Quiz 4 (due Sunday 11/02)

Week 11 Nov 3 Nov 9	Media Use & Well-being: Part 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fox & Moreland (2015) ○ Odgers (2024) ○ Reeves, Robinson, & Ram (2020) 	Reflection Paper 3 (due F 11/07)
Week 12 Nov 10 Nov 16	Avatars, Agents, & Social Robots <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nowak (2015) ○ Fox & Gambino (2021) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Quiz 5 (due Sunday 11/16)
Week 13 Nov 17 Nov 23	Privacy, Surveillance, & Algorithms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquisti et al. (2015) ○ King & Meinhardt (2024), Chapters 3 and 4 	Reflection Paper 4 (due F 11/21)
Week 14 Nov 24 Nov 30	How do we make the internet nicer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.inc.com/anna-meyer/pinterest-ben-silbermann-internet-better-place.html ○ https://theconversation.com/its-not-just-bad-behavior-why-social-media-design-makes-it-hard-to-have-constructive-disagreements-online-161337 <p>Happy Thanksgiving break!</p>	Knowledge Check (due Sunday 12/1)

Week 15 Dec 1 Dec 7	Digital Divide & Differences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ boyd, Chapter 7 ○ Moore & Hancock (2022) 	Discussion: Original post (due W) + 2 replies (due F) Knowledge Check (due Sunday 12/07)
Week 16 Dec 8 Dec 10	Concluding Thoughts & Study Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Readings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For fun: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ https://www.theonion.com/americans-demand-new-form-of-media-to-bridge-entertainm-1819576756 ▪ https://www.theonion.com/apple-introduces-revolutionary-new-laptop-with-no-keybo-1819594761 	Discussion: Original post (W) – optional (replace lowest discussion board grade!)
Finals	Final Exam Online	Due date 12/16/25

~ This schedule is subject to change per the needs of the course ~

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