CM/PO 335 MEDIA AND POLITICS IN EUROPE  
IES Abroad Barcelona

DESCRIPTION:
The main purpose of this course is to provide the student with a complete understanding of the main dimensions and contemporary topics of the complex and evolving relationship between media and politics in Europe. Media and politics are commonly analyzed in scholarly literature from two different perspectives: first, the consideration of mass media as a crucial site for political activity; that is, from its historical origins (as a public service) to contemporary societies (the so-called globalization or the Information Society). Second, the contents of media play a key role in the creation of political consciousness and the political identity of citizenship. Media contents with a political impact involve not only the more traditional formats of TV newscasts, propaganda messages and political advertising, but also more creative and entertaining shows and new media.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- CASE STUDIES: classes will be heavily based on case studies. Case studies will enable students to identify some of the main actors in the media business, compare some of the media policies applied in different European countries, or assess the differences between news programs.
- COURSE-RELATED TRIP: the course-related trip at CAC (Catalan Audiovisual Council) will allow students to get in touch with the regulatory body in charge of formulating media policies in Catalonia.
- LECTURES: to gain an overview of course content, but also as an opportunity to discuss and clarify issues.
- READER: a selection of key readings in the field of ‘Media and Politics in Europe’ that will help students to develop a general understanding of the subject matter.
- STUDY QUESTIONS: these will be delivered to help students focus on the main points.
- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS: they provide students with the opportunity for oral delivery and experience at group work. Students will be asked to present analyses of readings or case studies.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Training test (5%)
- Midterm Exam (15%)
- Final Exam (25%)
- Oral Presentation (20%)
- Class Participation (20%)
- Essay (15%)

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:

Knowledge
- Identify the main actors and interests on current media and politics in Europe.
- Outline existing trends in media consumption and estimate the impact of globalization on individual choices.

Skills
- Describe and analyze the different and contradictory dynamics of European policies around Media.
- Analyze the role of media in constructing modern nationalisms.
- Sketch the main consequences of considering media products and audiences as commodities.
- Formulate contemporary trends in the relationship between media and politics.
- Analyze political implications of entertainment programs.

Values
- Compare media policies applied in different European countries.
- Assess the differences between news programs.
- Compare different types of ownership structures in the media.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**
Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related trips. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course 3 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Seven absences in any course will result in a failing grade.

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<td>Session 16</td>
<td><strong>Course-related trip:</strong> Audiovisual Authorities: Consell de l’Audiovisual de Catalunya (CAC). Mission, roles and duties of the CAC.</td>
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<td>Session 17</td>
<td><strong>Case study (2).</strong> Italy: media and politics in Italy. ● Pasquino, G. (2018). The disappearance of political cultures in Italy. South European Society and Politics, 23(1), 133-146.</td>
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**Final exam**

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**