



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

ID

VP47\_DIP\_STUDIUM

## **Visiting Professor Program Academic year 2021/2022**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES**

**TEACHING COMMITMENT: 18 hours**

**COURSE TITLE**

**Understanding Media**

**TEACHING PERIOD**

2nd term

**SCIENTIFIC AREA**

Media Studies

**LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH**

Italian and English

**COURSE SUMMARY**

The module aims to improve the students's capacity to orient themselves practically, theoretically and historically in the modern universe of communication, and at the same time to comprehend the roots and origins of today's media system. The selected Visiting Professor will contribute a section of this course dedicated to digital media in contemporary societies. This section will aim to stimulate students to interrogate critically not only how digital media are changing the world in which they live, but also what their role can be in the context of the ongoing transformations, both as users of digital media as well as future professionals in the field of communication.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

The module aims to improve the students's capacity to orient themselves practically, theoretically and historically in the modern universe of communication, and at the same time to comprehend the roots and origins of today's media system. It aims to improve students' capacity to understand which

ongoing changes and processes are likely to inform the social and professional world in which they will operate.

#### **TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES**

N/A

#### **LAB ACTIVITIES**

N/A

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE**

The Visiting Professor will be invited to present his/her research in order to engage with the research environment in media studies and related fields at the University of Turin.

### **ADDITIONAL COURSE**

#### **COURSE TITLE**

**Digital Disconnection Lab**

#### **TEACHING PERIOD**

2nd term

#### **SCIENTIFIC AREA**

Other Activities / Digital Media

#### **LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH**

Italian and English

#### **COURSE SUMMARY**

The Visiting Professor will also contribute to the Digital Disconnection lab. In this lab, students are asked to participate in an auto-ethnography experiment with disconnection, which aims to stimulate them to ask new questions about the impact of social media and of digital media in contemporary societies as well in their own everyday lives. Students will be asked to avoid using social media for a short period of time and to write auto-ethnographic field notes to keep track and reflect about this experience. This self-reflective experience will be contextualized in sociological and media studies literature about the social, political and cultural impact of connection and disconnection in the digital age..

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

The lab aims to help student reflect on how their study relates to their own practices as digital media users and future professionals in the field of communication, as well as to wider societal issues and problems related to the use of digital media.

**TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)**

N/A

**LAB ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)**

N/A

**OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE**

N/A

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**VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE**

The Visiting Professor will have a strong teaching and research background in critical approaches to digital media, with experience in teaching on the social impact of digital media and on the relationship between digital media and wider social and technological imaginary. Moreover, the Visiting Professor will have specific expertise and knowledge, as evidenced in teaching and research experiences, on the topic of digital connection and disconnection.

**CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT**

Prof. Simone Natale

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