

COM5602: DIRECTED STUDIES

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Directed Studies

Subject Code

COM - Media and Communication

Course Number

5602

Academic Unit

Media and Communication (COM)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course is an independent study organized in a variety of ways including individually-based professional or research project group project, study tour, etc. It provides students with an opportunity to develop interest and expertise with

new ideas and perspectives under the supervision of the faculty in a specific area in new media communication. It also enables students to acquire knowledge and skills in the design and implementation strategies needed for completing a professional portfolio through the production of new media product(s) or for creating a research profile with primary data-based research paper(s).

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	Detect the current status and future direction of the selected area of new media communication in which the student wishes to develop expertise.	30	x		
2	Analyze the key problems in the selected area, with a focus on the relevant causes and possible consequences of the problems.	30		x	x
3	Discover effective and feasible solutions to the identified problems, informed by relevant theory, technological and/or institutional innovation.	40		x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)	
1	Consultation	Consultation with supervisor to generate new ideas on selected topics of their research interests	1, 2, 3	1 (for 6 weeks)
2	Class activities	Individual research, group discussions, study tour, or other necessary and appropriate activities	1, 2, 3	2 (for 13 weeks)
3	Group discussions and presentation	Group discussions and presentations	1, 2, 3	1 (for 7 weeks)
4	Other activities	The class may also include a study tour component	1, 2, 3	NA

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Research Paper (in 15-20 pages long, exclusive of references and other supporting materials in the appendices)	1, 2, 3	100	The may use Generative AI tools only for minor language editing, such as grammar and clarity improvements. AI must not be used for idea generation, content creation, or summarizing sources.	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Research Paper (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

- Clear identification of the key problem under study
- Through review of relevant previous work on the problem
- Insightful analysis of the causes and consequences of the problem
- Practical solutions suggested to the problem

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Good

(B+, B, B-) Adequate evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Some evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Marginal

(D) Little evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Research Paper (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

- Clear identification of the key problem under study

- Through review of relevant previous work on the problem
- Insightful analysis of the causes and consequences of the problem
- Practical solutions suggested to the problem

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Good

(B+, B) Adequate evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Some evidence of ability to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Failure

(F) Fail to identify and evaluate the key problem under study by utilizing appropriate information and ideas, drawing insightful analysis, logical conclusions, and providing practical suitable solutions

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Independent study, professional project, empirical research, direct observations, study tour, causes and consequences of problems in new media communication, effective and feasible solutions

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Not Applicable

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil.