UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Digital Narratives

Code: 43963
ECTS Credits: 6

2024/2025

Degree	Type	Year
4316493 Journalism and Digital Content Innovation	OB	0

Contact

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the end of this document.

Prerequisites

No requirements

Objectives and Contextualisation

The fast evolution of digital technologies in the 21st century poses continuous challenges to narratives. However, the storytelling in the digital era include the essential elements (themes, motives, stereotypes, etc.) of ancestral myths and tales, which are incessantly recombined in order to adapt them to new formats.

The objective of this course is to provide students with the essential tools and concepts to create and analyze different types of stories made through different platforms, in an effective, interactive, critical and responsible way.

The first part of the course focuses on the elements and structures of narratives. In the second part, the characteristics of the different genres and formats are defined, as well as their evolution in relation to digital storytelling. In the third part, the role of the reader/viewer/user in the construction and interpretation of texts is examined.

Gender perspective

The study of narratives is particularly useful in the critical analysis of gender representations in the digital media. One of the main objectives of the course is to examine the construction of stereotypes in a critical and reflective way.

Competences

- Adapt to new situations, have leadership ability and initiative, while maintaining creativity.
- Analyse and evaluate trends in the digital narration of information companies, and be able to propose alternatives for the construction of the story in a digital and interactive context.
- Apply tools of management, analysis, organisation and planning of information in accordance with objectives and specific information projects.
- Create and manage journalistic publications containing innovative elements from the applied introduction of ICT.
- Generate innovate and competitive proposals for applied research.
- Knowledge and understanding that provide a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and / or applying ideas, often in a research context.
- Students can communicate their conclusions and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously.
- Understand and analyse the trends and dynamics of change in the communicative, informative and regulatory ecosystem of the media company in the twenty-first century.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and evaluate the narrative characteristics of the placement company's news products.
2. Analyse and evaluate trends in digital narration in news companies and apply alternative production methods that involve systems of narrative cooperation.
3. Build a research project whose results propose solutions applied to the management and production of digital news content.
4. Cooperate in team environments and help to achieve the objectives set.
5. Identify and critically compare the changing contexts of digital narrative in terms of the platforms for producing and consuming news.
6. Identify the tools associated with the positioning of digital content aimed at solving specific problems.
7. Plan innovative positioning strategies for the journalistic products created by the simulated editorial team.
8. Plan the processes for introducing innovation within the newstelling strategies in an editorial team.
9. Propose an applied research project to be developed in the master's dissertation.
10. Propose practical solutions based on developing a news product in a multidisciplinary team.
11. Respect the professional development space, adapting to the needs and routines of working groups within the news company.
12. Take charge of everyday situations in news production and processing, paying strict attention to achieving objectives.
13. Understand and distinguish between scientific research methodologies and procedures for investigating trends and problem areas in 21st century communicative phenomena.
14. Understand digital-information architectures and systems and apply them to 21st century news companies.
15. Use search-engine positioning strategies to communicate news stories effectively.
16. Use tools for gathering and processing information and documents needed to construct the theoretical or conceptual framework of the master's dissertation.

Content

Digital narratives

- Narrative concepts

- Relationship between technology and narrative

- Structure and making of stories

- What characters for what kind of narratives?

Genres and formats of digital narratives

- Genres

- Formats

Interpretation and interaction

- Intermediality, transmedia and fandom

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Autonomous training activities	75	3	13, 3, 5, 7, 15
Master classes	45	1.8	2, 13, 5, 8
Supervised training activities	30	1.2	2, 13, 3, 4, 10, 15

- Master classes

- Problem solving classes / cases / exercises

- Presentation of works in the classroom

- Tutorials

- Preparation of works / reports

- Individual study

- Reading of articles / reports of interest, etc.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Attendance, active participation and assignements in the classroom	25%	0	0	1, 2, 14, 13, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 7, 12, 15
Exam	25%	0	0	1, 2, 14, 13, 5, 6

Work submissions	50%	0	0	2, 14, 13, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 9, 11, 12, 16

Continued evaluation

The evaluation is the result of the proportional average of the different activities carried out.

Attendance and active participation in the classroom represents 25% of the final grade for the course. The works delivered 50%. 25% corresponds to the exam Absences will be penalized with a detriment of the final 10% grade for each 3-hour session or fraction (except documented justifications). Deliveries of works outside the scheduled dates will not be accepted.

The delivery of the results of the work carried out and the content tests will include the date and time of the corresponding review. Students who wish to do so may take the review whenever they request it within a maximum period of two days from the delivery of the results. Subsequent requests for review will not be accepted.

The proposed teaching methodology and evaluation activities may undergo some modifications depending on the health authorities' attendance restrictions.

The calendar will be available on the first day of class. Students will find information on the Virtual Campus about the description of the activities, teaching materials, etc. In case of a change of teaching modality for health reasons, teachers will make readjustments in the schedule and methodologies.

Recuperation: continued evaluation

According to regulations, in order to be able to participate in the recovery process, studentsmust have previously been assessed for at least 2/3 of the total assessable activities of thesubject.

In the period for the reassessment, failed exams may be repeated if the average is not less than 3.5 (unrealized exams score 0 in the calculationof the mean).

The repetition of the assignment follows the same pattern of the exams: the failed works can be re-assessed as long as the grade is not lower than 3.5 (the unrealized assignments score 0 in the calculation ofthe mean).

The readings, discussions and exercises carried out in the seminars are linked to work in the classroom, so they can't be re-assessed (unrealized activities score 0 in the calculation of the mean).

In the case of a second enrollment, students have to make an exam. The grading of the subject will correspond to the grade of the exam.

Single evaluation

50% Theory test. It will be essential get at leats 5 points to pass the subject.

20% Solving 4 case studies or communication challenges.

30% Delivery of a project aimed at practicing the contents of the subject, previously agreed with the teacher.

Recuperation: single evaluation

According to regulations, in order to be able to participate in the recuperation process, students must have previously been assessed for at least 2/3 of the total evaluable activities of the subject.

The theory exam can only be repeated if the student has obtained a grade equal to or higher than 3.5. The re-evaluation test will consist of a written exam to assess theoretical knowledge.

The grade obtained in the resolution of communication cases or challenges will form part of the weighted average of the final grade. Only in the event of failing this exercises with a grade equal to or higher than 3.5

and if the student considers this to be the case, she/he may choose to repeating the evaluation with exercises of the same nature.

The research and conceptualization work can't be re-assessed.

If a student makes an irregularity (copy, plagiarism, etc.), the corresponding assessment act will be rated with 0. In the event of several irregularities, the final grade for the course would be 0.

The professors teaching the subject can indicate to the students that, for the correct development of the class and to ensure good coexistence in the classroom, it is advised not to use electronic devices or screens during the class, except when indicate otherwise due to a specific teaching situation.

Bibliography

BASIC REFERENCES

Narrative concepts

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The relationship between technology and narrative

- Lacalle, Charo (2022) *Indignidades digitales. (In)dignidades mediáticas en la sociedad digital* (pp. 139-154). Cátedra.

Structure and making stories

- Vogler, Christopher (2002[1992]. *El viaje del escritor: Las estructuras míticas para escritores, guionistas, dramaturgos y novelistas.* Ma Non Troppo.

What characters for what kind of narratives?

- Palahniuk, Chuck (2022[2020]) *Plantéate eso.* Penguin Random House.

Genres

- Renner, Karl Nikolaus (2020) Facts and Factual Narration in Journalism". M. Fludernik and M.-L. Ryan (eds.) *Narrative Factuality: A Handbook* (pp. 465-478). De Gruyter.

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Formats

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Interpretation and interaction

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Intermedialidad, transmedia y fandom

- Lacalle, Ch., Gómez, B., Narvaiza, S. (2021) ¿Amigos o simplemente fans? Las relaciones parasociales en las comunidades online de la ficción televisiva". *Communication & Society*, 34 (3), 2021, 61-77.

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Software

None

Language list

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(TEm) Theory (master)	60	Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed