

Global Learning Semesters

Course Syllabus

Course: COMM-440 Communication Law

Department: Communications

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
COMM-440	Communication Law	3
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Fall	42	Senior Standing , or COMM. 115, 125 and COMM. 220 COMM. 115: Gives the student an overall history of the development of radio and television, with important landmarks in the technological and social unfoldment of the electronic media. COMM. 125: An introduction to the world of print and broadcast journalism and its effect on public opinion and society. COMM. 220: Helps student understand the significance of writing for the Mass Media and provides an introduction to different media writing styles.
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
Communications	Upper Division	English

Course Description

Knowledge of a group of the legal and professional principles on which Mass Media functions is founded is required of the students who will also be called to observe and record the application or failure of applications of such laws and regulations in local channels. Topic areas covered in the context of the course include Broadcasting Laws, Libel, Privacy, Fair Trial, Free Press, Laws on Advertising, Copyright and Pornography. Codes of Media Conduct are also part of the course, as to Press, Radio and Television.

Instructor

Dr Nayia Roussou

Course Aims and Objectives

The course aims at familiarizing students with constitutional law and Codes and regulations dealing with communications activities, emphasizing the mass media.

The main thrust and emphasis will be the Cyprus laws and codes but general familiarity with US and UK, as well as knowledge of the overall European directives for the media, are also included in the aims of the course.

Teaching Methods

The course is delivered through lectures, and analysis of case studies from American, British and Cyprus broadcast law being broken.

Course Teaching Hours

42 hours of lecturing, combined with all other teaching methods. The course is delivered during the Fall and Spring semesters in 14 weeks (3 hours/week).

Evaluation and Grading

Mid-term: 35%
Final Exam: 45%
Final Project: 20%

Readings and Resources

Required Textbook

Kenneth C. Creech, "Electronic Media Law and Regulation", 1995, Focal Press.

And: Cyprus Law CYBC and Private Broadcasting

Also Published Codes of Self-Discipline: A Selection from different Radio-TV Channels – e.g. BBC, ITV, CyBC and the Code of the Cyprus Union of Journalists

Recommended Textbooks

Belsey, Andrew & Chadwick, Ruth, "Ethical Issues in Journalism and the Media", Routledge, London, 1995.

Jeremy H. Lipschultz, "Broadcast Indecency: F.C.C. Regulation and the First Amendment" Focal Press, 1997