# Digital Media [6 ECTS credits]

## Prof. Locatelli Elisabetta

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

* **Course aims**

The course aims to explore the relationship between digital media and social processes by retracing their historical development and studying the main sociological theories on their social implications. The aim of this course is to enable participants to gain knowledge and skills to assess the social implications of digital media.

* ***Intended learning outcomes***

The expected learning results are as follows:

- *Knowledge and understanding*: By the end of the course, students will know the stages in the evolutionary history of digital media, their characteristics, the main relative sociological theories and the main social transformations in the contemporary context linked to the presence of digital media.

- *Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*: By the end of the course, students will be able to apply the knowledge learned in analysing digital media and platforms.

- *Independence of judgement*: By the end of the course, students will be able to develop a critical perspective on the evolution of new media and digital media.

- *Communicative skills*: By the end of the course, students will be able to understand the specific communicative features of digital media.

- *Ability to learn*: By the end of the course, students will be able to confidently approach their subsequent studies, being equipped with the cross-disciplinary skills for understanding the transformations of the contemporary media system.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The first part of the course will cover the main characteristics of the new media, their history and the most recent transformations of the contemporary media system. In the second part of the course, the social aspects of digital media and social media will be addressed by illustrating the main related sociological approaches.

***READING LIST***

G. Balbi-P. Magaudda, *Media Digitali. La storia, i contesti sociali, le narrazioni,* Laterza, Bari, 2021.

E. Locatelli, N. Vittadini, *Digital media, piattaforme algoritmiche e società*, Vita & Pensiero, Milan, in press

Course notes/slides

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course is delivered by means of frontal lectures with case studies.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of a written test, in which they must demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical foundations and concepts discussed in the exam texts. The written examination consists of 12 closed questions worth 2 points each and 2 open questions worth 3.5 points each. The open questions will be marked according to the following criteria: fullness and relevance of the answer (80%), logical and coherent structure of the discourse (20%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

**As this is an introductory course, it has no prerequisites in terms of contents.**

Attendance is strongly encouraged. The updated syllabus, reading list, instructions and other documents will be published on the course Blackboard page, which students should check regularly. Timetable changes, exam information, etc. will be communicated via Blackboard and students’ university email addresses.

Further information can be found on the lecturer’s webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENGor on the Faculty notice board.