Mission Statement:
Our mission is to serve as a leading center of Christian thought and action providing an excellent education from a biblical perspective and global context in pivotal professions to equip Christian leaders to change the world.

COURSE SYLLABUS

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION & THE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

COM 642 (HYBRID) – SPRING 2011
THE CHRISTIAN IN THE DIGITAL AGE
2 CREDIT HOURS
ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS AND AVAILABLE DISTANCE STUDENTS
ALTERNATING TUESDAYS 6:00 – 8:00PM DEAN’S SUITE
CONFERENCE ROOM

Dr. Norman Mintle
757.352.4203
normmin@regent.edu
Monday, Thursday afternoons 2:00 – 5:00P
COM 240

All students are required to read and have a thorough understanding of the syllabus. Any questions or concerns need to be addressed to the instructor.
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on readings and discussions designed to provide a spiritual synthesis of the theoretical and practical learning experienced in the Digital Media Communication program. There is an emphasis on implementing the Christian worldview into an understanding of the rapidly changing industries utilizing digital media. All students will be actively engaged in discussion via BlackBoard; on-campus students will meet every two weeks for an evening discussion session at which distance students are invited to join us via Skype.

RATIONALE/COURSE OVERVIEW

The M.A. in Digital Media is a unique program conceived for graduate students who are prepared to enter various industries in leadership positions. It is my personal goal for each student that, upon completion of this course and the entire program, you will have discovered much about the digital industries, yourself as a leader - called by God – and your calling into the digital milieu. This capstone course is designed to provide a spiritual overview for the Digital Media student as you prepare to graduate. To accomplish this goal, the class will be conducted in an open-source, fully participative manner. Each semester, we also welcome students from other disciplines to join our conversation. Regardless of your ‘home department,’ we anticipate your learning with us.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Students will formulate their own Christian worldview as professionals working in the field of communication with specialization in digital media.
- Students will evaluate and critique their own use of digital media will explain how they are seeking to increase media literacy.
- Students will explain the global implications of digital media technology.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will have a clear understanding of the biblical mandate on each Christian leader to both engage and create culture. Students will be prepared to:

- Recognize their own personal Christian worldview and apply it in professional settings
  - Assessed through class interactions
- Discover God’s role in culture-making
  - Assessed through final paper
• Develop an understanding of Christian creativity as it pertains to the Digital Media
  - Assessed through class interactions and final paper
• Articulate an understanding of their spiritual calling to leadership within the Digital Media industries
  - Assessed through final paper

**Course Materials**

**Required Materials:**


**Recommended Resources:**


COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments
The course will consist of a series of readings and discussions. On campus students will meet for informal conversations related to assigned texts as well as interacting with Online students via Discussion Forum. Distance students are invited to attend Tuesday evening sessions electronically to enhance our learning conversations.

One critical analysis paper is required. It will be due on April 20.

Grading
Course participation – reading/discussion: 70%
Critical Analysis Paper: 30% (M.A.s – 8-10 pgs. Ph.D.s – 12-15 pgs.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade Breakdown</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>95-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>92-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>84-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>80-78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Schedule
This schedule is for the on-campus students and distance students who are available to join us. The online reading assignments and Discussion Board material will be in BlackBoard. The material covered and pace of reading/discussion will be identical for both sections. (All on-campus sessions will be held in the Deans’ Suite conference room from 6:00 – 8:00pm.)

Session ONE – Jan. 4
Session TWO – Jan. 18
Session THREE – Feb. 1
Session FOUR – Feb. 15
SPRING BREAK – Feb. 28 - March 4

Session FIVE – Mar. 8

Session SIX – Mar. 22

Session SEVEN – April 5

Session EIGHT – April 19

Extensions
Unless stated by the instructor in class, all assignments are due on the date stated in the syllabus at the beginning of that class period. **Late assignments will be graded down one letter grade for each day they are late without an approved extension.** Except in cases of emergency, requests for extensions must be made to the instructor, at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. Be prepared to defend your reason why you need the extension. **Remember, deadlines in the media industries are taken very seriously.** This class, in preparing students to work professionally, will take the same attitude.

Incomplete Grades
Students desiring an incomplete must submit their request to the course instructor and academic dean prior to the end of the term (typically, after at least 75% of the semester has been completed). An incomplete grade will be given in a regular course only for legitimate deficiencies due to illness, emergencies or extraordinary reasons acceptable to the professor, including equipment breakdown and shortages, and not because of neglect on the student’s part. Incompletes require the final approval of the school dean or his/her authorized representative. A regular grade will be given by the instructor if all requirements for the course are submitted by the end of the following academic term. The instructor will submit the new grade to the Registrar’s Office no later than two weeks after the beginning of the subsequent term. If all work is not submitted by the end of the term following the granting of the incomplete, a grade of FX (NP on pass/fail courses) will be posted automatically unless a Request for Extension of Incomplete has been approved and submitted to the Registrar’s Office. The FX shall be counted as an F in the computation of the GPA. Any student desiring reinstatement to the course after an FX or NP has been posted must register for the course in a subsequent term and pay the full current tuition for the course. In progress grades can only be given for independent studies, internships, practica, portfolios, theses and dissertations.

Student Course Evaluations
Students will be given opportunity to provide the instructor, as well as the college administration with written feedback and evaluation of the course structure and its conduct. However, students should feel free to bring any concerns to the attention of the instructor at any time during the semester.
**Academic Integrity**
The Regent University Graduate Catalogue contains the following statement: “A community of teachers and scholars recognizes the principles of truth and honesty as absolutely essential. The expectation at Regent University is that these principles will be rigorously followed in all academic endeavors, including the preparation of class reports and papers, giving and taking of examinations, and in protecting the validity of assigned grades. This assumes that all work will be done by the person who purports to do the work without unauthorized aids. Instructors will exercise due diligence in planning and supervising the academic program so that the principles of truth and honesty are encouraged.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

Please review the following links for important information on University policies:

- [Academic Calendar/Registrar Information](#)
- [Bookstore](#)
- [Honor/Plagiarism Policy](#)
- [Regent Library](#)
- [Student Services](#) (includes links to student handbook, disability services, University calendar, University Writing Center, etc.)
- [Technical Support – University Helpdesk](#)
- [Student Course Evaluations](#) - University policy requires that all students submit a formal student evaluation of teaching form at the end of the academic term. This mandatory requirement must be completed before students will be able to access their final course grade.
- [Disability Statement](#) – the student is responsible for contacting the assistant director of Student Services at 757.352.4486 to request accommodations, provide necessary documentation, and make arrangement with each instructor. The following website is designed to help our disabled students learn of their rights and responsibilities with regard to disability services. The site also has resources for faculty to become better informed of their responsibilities toward the disabled students in their classes. [www.regent.edu/admin/stusrv/student_life/disabilities.cfm](http://www.regent.edu/admin/stusrv/student_life/disabilities.cfm)
At times, due to unforeseen circumstances, course content may be subject to change. Please check with your professor to insure you have the most recently updated Syllabus for this course.