

Dr. Jasmine McNealy

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OFFICE HOURS: T/TH 3-5PM
OR BY APPT.



MEETING TIMES:
T: PERIODS 2-3
TH: 2 PERIOD

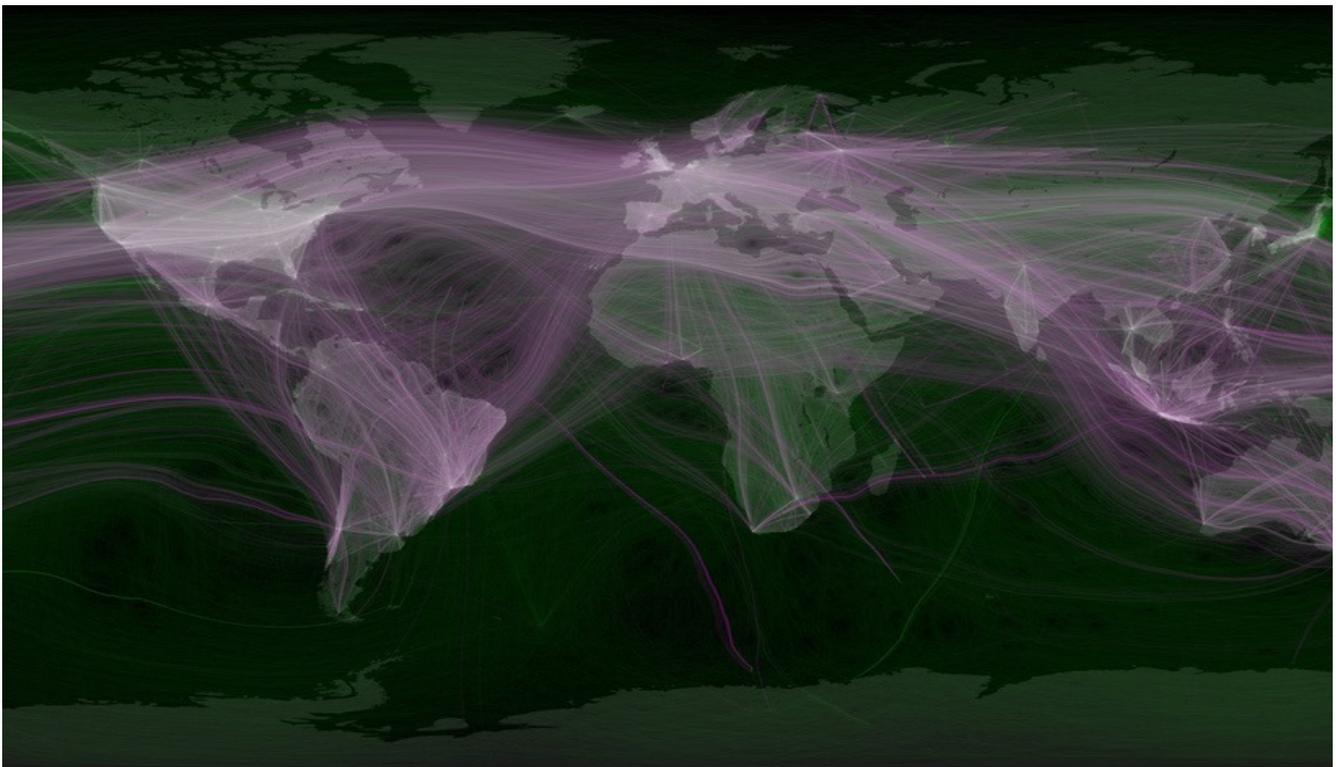


LOCATION
LAR 0310

REQUIRED TEXT:
ASHLEY MESSENGER, A
PRACTICAL GUIDE TO
MEDIA LAW (2015)

Telecommunication Law & Regulation

RTV 4700



[Eric Fisher - Flickr](#)

Welcome to RTV 4700! This course provides an introduction the laws and policies affecting the past, present, and future of various forms of technology used to exchange information. Digital media are posing pressing questions for legislatures and regulators. This class examines both the modern and historic policies related to telecommunications with an emphasis on the laws and policies of the United States. Students will examine issues relevant to their possible careers as professional communicators and as individuals who use technology to communication.

Course Objectives

This course covers a blend of technological, social, economic and legal issues in the creation of public telecommunication policy. The goals of this class are as follows:

- That students demonstrate an understanding of relevant laws and regulations affecting telecommunication, as well as the process for the creation and challenging of these laws.
- That students understand basic telecommunications technology and how it affects policy.
- That students demonstrate an understanding of U.S. constitutional principles relevant to telecommunication.
- That students demonstrate an understanding of the power of regulatory agencies and judicial bodies as they relate to telecommunications policy.
- That students recognize current issues in telecommunication policy and the effects on the use, access, and creation of new communications technology.
- That students be able to practically apply all of the above in the professional context.

Assignments and Grading

The final grade for this class is calculated based upon three (3) exams, three (3) briefs, and class participation. The weights of each category are as follows:

EXAMS (3)	80 %
READING QUIZZES	15%
CLASS PARTICIPATION	5%

Exams: Students will be responsible for all of the information contained in the readings, lectures and other presentations. Examinations generally will consist of multiple choice in which it will be necessary for students to spot the issue in the facts provided and, using what we have discussed in class, analyze and answer the question. The professor reserves the right to alter the examination format. Exams are worth 80% of your grade. Students are expected to be present and on time for each scheduled examination. Only in instances where there is an excused absence will a make-up be given. A student seeking to be excused must present to the professor written evidence of an excusable absence such as personal illness or death in the family. Other excuses must be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. Except during periods of extreme weather conditions, no extra time will be given to examination latecomers.

Quizzes: Students will take weekly quizzes based on the reading for the week, which must be completed before class time Tuesday morning (8:30AM). Students will have 7 minutes to complete the quizzes. Students are advised to read the material before attempting the quizzes, and to take the quiz using a good wifi or wired Internet connection. There are no make-ups for these weekly quizzes.

Class Participation will be determined based upon **actual** participation in class discussion (answering questions) and other in-class activities that will occur weekly throughout the semester.

Please come to class having read the assignments and to ask any questions that you may have about what you have read, or what you may have heard about on tv, the internet, etc., relevant to class discussion. Class participation is worth 5% of your grade. We will be using <http://polleverywhere.com> to track participation.

The grade scale is as follows:

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	LESS THAN 60

I reserve the right to round all grades with .5 and above up to the nearest whole number. Information on current University of Florida grading policies can be found at:

<HTTP://WWW.REGISTRAR.UFL.EDU/CATALOG/POLICIES/REGULATIONGRADES.HTML>

Other Important Information

Classroom Behavior and Course Policies

Students are expected to arrive on time, turn cell phones off, silence other electronic devices, and stay for the duration of the class period. Laptops are permitted but should be used for note-taking and in-class assignment purposes. All grades are final after one week. No exceptions. If a student wishes to challenge a grade, they must contact me 48hours after receiving their grade. In an email, the student should provide a detailed description of the substantive issue with their grade. **When you email me, please put “RTV 4700” followed by the subject of your email IN THE SUBJECT LINE. In addition, please include your full name and UFID number at the end of the email.**

Academic Honesty

Students are required to be honest in all of their university class work. Faculty members have a duty to promote ethical behavior and avoid practices and environments that foster cheating. I encourage you to bring incidents of dishonesty to my attention.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Cheating and other academic dishonesty issues will result in an automatic E for the course.

Absences in General

Students should make every effort to attend each class as scheduled. Students may not make up quizzes or other in-class activity that they missed for credit. The student should contact a classmate for any substantive information they may have missed while away from class. No alternative exams will be provided for a student who misses an exam without properly notifying the instructor.

Religious Holidays

The university calendar does not include observance of any religious holidays. The Florida Board of Governors and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays. Students shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith with prior notification to the instructor. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances.

Student Illness

Students who are absent from classes or examinations because of illness should contact the instructor. The [Student Health Care Center \(SHCC\)](#) can provide a medical excuse note only if their providers are involved in the medical care of a student who must be absent from class for three or more days for medical reasons. A student who has a medical reason that results in fewer than three days of absence from class should talk with his/her professor rather than ask for an excuse note from the SHCC.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last 2 or 3 weeks of the semester. Summary results of these assessments are available at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Looking forward to a fun and interesting semester!

Thumbnail 1: [Pascal Charest \(Flickr\)](#)

Thumbnail 2: [Hans Põlodoja \(Flickr\)](#)

Tentative Course Schedule*

Module 1: Foundations

- **Week 1 – Aug. 23/25:** Intro to the U.S. Court System & the First Amendment
Read: Chapter(s) 1, 2, 15
- **Week 2 – Aug. 30/Sept. 1:** The 1st Amendment con't & Regulating Broadcast
Read: Chapter 16, 18, pp. 224-231,
- **Week 3 – Sept. 6/8:** Advertising & The Internet
Read: Chapter 17, 20
- **Week 4 – Sept. 13/15:** The Internet con't / **Exam 1 (September 15)**
Read: Chapter 20

Module 2: Access

- **Week 5 – Sept. 20/22:** Problems with Gathering Information
Read: Chapter 11, 12
- **Week 6 – Sept. 27/ 29:** Privacy
Read: Chapter 4
- **Week 7 – Oct. 4/6:** The Right to be Forgotten
Read: Jeffrey Rosen (2012). "The Right to be Forgotten," *Stanford Law Review Online*, vol. 64, pp. 88-92.

 Justin McCurry (2016). "Japan recognizes 'right to be forgotten' of man convicted of child sex offences," *The Guardian*, March 1, 2016.

 Jeffrey Toobin (2014). "The Solace of Oblivion," *The New Yorker*, September 29, 2014.
- **Week 8 – Oct. 11/13:** Reputation
Read: Chapter 3
- **Week 9 – Oct. 18/20:** Negligence/**Exam2 (Oct. 20)**

Read: Chapter 10

Module 3: Control

- **Week 10 – Oct. 25/27:** Copyright

Read: Chapter 6

- **Week 11 – Nov. 1/3:** Use of Photos & Music

Read: Chapter 8, 9

- **Week 12 – Nov. 8/10:** Trademark

Read: Chapter 7

- **Week 13 – Nov. 15/17:** Publicity

Read: Chapter 5

- **Week 14 – Nov. 22/24:** (A little bit on) Patent (**No class Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving**)

Read: Timothy B. Lee (2014). “Everything you need to know about patents,” *Vox*, October 7, 2014 (**Read cards 1-3**).

Joe Mullin (2016). “Supreme Court takes up Apple v. Samsung, first design patent case in a century,” *ArsTechnica*, March 21, 2016.

- **Week 15 – Nov. 29/Dec. 1:** Some business issues/ **Exam 3 (Dec. 1)**

Read: TBA

Important UF Dates (no classes)

- **Labor Day: September 5, 2016**
- **Homecoming: October 14-15, 2016**
- **Veterans Day: November 11, 2016**
- **Thanksgiving: November 23-26, 2016**

*Schedule subject to change.