

- That students recognize current issues in law & policy and the effects on the use, access, and creation of new media technology.
- That students be able to practically apply all of the above in the professional context.

Learning Outcomes:

Students completing the course will be able to:

- Define and describe relevant aspects of US media and technology law and policy
- Understand how systems of shared values influence the creation of laws, policies, and regulations.
- Recognize, evaluate and determine emerging policy issues and how it impacts the media and technology landscape.
- Critically consider constitutional amendments, acts, laws, and court decisions governing media technology in the United States and abroad.
- Differentiate between legal and ethical policies and outcomes.

Course Methodology

To be successful in this class, each week students must:

- **Review** the week's learning objectives.
- **Watch** all video and other assigned foundational media.
- **Complete** all assigned readings.
- **Participate** in class discussion.
- **Complete** and submit all assignments **by the due dates**.

Required Reading

James Grimmelman, [*Internet Law: Cases & Problems*](#) (13th Ed. 2023) and other class readings that will be made available Canvas.

Assignments and Grading Breakdown

Exams: There are three (3) non-cumulative exams in this course. Exams will always be available through the Canvas class site. Students will be able to complete the exam at any time during the exam day, however, exams are timed and must be completed within **50 minutes**. Exams will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions. Students may drop their lowest grade. This includes electing to not take the third exam. **Students choosing to not take the third exam must inform the instructor at least one (1) week before the exam.** Exams are worth **60% of your grade**.

Weekly quizzes: You are expected to complete, without assistance, quizzes based on the lecture, videos, readings and other class materials for each week/module. Quizzes will be made

of multiple choice and true/false, and fill-in-the-blank questions. You will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz. **Quizzes are worth 10% of your grade.** Barring emergencies, students may not make up missed quizzes. **Quizzes close each Monday** starting the second week of classes (**the week of September 4, 2023** – this is after drop/add)

Elevator Pitches: Here's where you get to be creative. Using video, audio, or some other interactive media, create a brief output of 3-5 minutes describing and explaining how you believe a particular controversy will be resolved. Your post should include a description of the

Grading Scale

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

Grading Parameters

Quizzes:	10%
Exams (3):	60%
Elevator pitches:	20%
Discussion:	10%

controversy (add a link to the story or embed media if it is a video, etc.). To do this you will need to consider the lectures and readings for the week. To be successful you must, at a minimum: briefly describe the controversy as you understand it, state your position, creatively analyze and explain the issues and how the materials from the course have led them to their position, provide a conclusion. Pitches will be **due at Noon on designated Wednesdays and are worth 20% of your grade.** **Note: not everyone will have pitches every week. You will be assigned specific weeks at the beginning of the semester.**

Discussion: Students must review and discuss their peers' elevator pitches weekly. At **minimum you should post 2 discussion responses** (at least 75 words each) to your colleagues. Your responses should be substantive, critically considering what you've watched, read, and your colleagues' responses. Do you agree with their analysis? Explain.

Discussions are **worth 10% of your grade** and **are graded as complete or incomplete.** Responses are **due by Friday at Noon.**

Extra Credit: possibilities for extra credit will be available in the form of select activities on Canvas and participation in the SONA research study pools. Students may earn up to **two (2) points of extra credit** for participation in SONA. Points earned for participation in SONA are added to your final grade for the class. Points earned for activities are added to your score for the next scheduled pitch discussion.

Course Policies

You should check the syllabus, at a minimum, at the beginning of each week as a reminder of upcoming assignments.

Contacting Your Instructor

The best way to reach me is using the Canvas message system. When you message me using Canvas, make sure to include "RTV4700" or "CGS3065", followed by the subject of your message, in the subject line. Please include your full name and UFID number at the end of the message as well.

Late Work and Make Ups

All grades are final after one week. If a student wishes to challenge a grade, they must contact me 48 hours after receiving their grade. In a Canvas message, the student should provide a detailed description of the substantive issue with their grade.

All due dates as recorded in Canvas should be interpreted as the dates/times that the assignments close. Students are free to complete and submit the assignments well before the deadline.

Students should make every effort to complete the assignments for the course as scheduled. You may complete assignments ahead of schedule, but you will not receive credit for work completed after the deadline **without prior clearance**.

No alternative assignments will be provided for a student who misses work without properly notifying the instructor.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (352-392-8565) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when

requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

The instructor should be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course.

UF Counseling Services

- Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking a clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:
- [UF Counseling & Wellness Center](#), 301 Peabody Hall, 352-392-1575, personal and career counseling
- [UF Student Health Care Center](#)
 - Student Mental Health, 352-392-1171, personal counseling
 - Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), 352-392-1161, sexual counseling
- [U Matter We Care](#)
- [UF Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 352-392-1601, career development assistance and counseling

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor 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.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Plagiarism. A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

From [Regulations of the University of Florida, 6C1-4.047 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Sanctions](#)

A note on Chat GPT, LLMs, and other outside materials: Don't use them. You don't need them. You will spend more time getting them to work and then reviewing the outputs than just completing the course assignments.

Classroom Demeanor & Netiquette

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#).

Security

Remember that your Canvas password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

- Don't share your password with anyone
- Change your password if you think someone else might know it
- Always logout when you are finished using the system

Disclaimer

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change.