



**TV 110**  
Section 601

**Foundations of Television**

Spring Quarter 2018

Room: 14 E. Jackson, Room 207

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:50am – 1:20pm Course Management System: D2L

Instructor: Lisa Weiss

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 – 11:45am,  
CDM 432

Email: [LWEISS7@depaul.edu](mailto:LWEISS7@depaul.edu)

**Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to the history and framework of television production. Evolving story forms will be examined from television's beginnings to the present. Developments in story and production styles will be analyzed and discussed.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- Identify important events in the history of television that propelled its evolution, and/or had a significant impact on the culture.
- Recognize the basic production elements of a television show, and create a basic pitch presentation for an original program.
- Compare the structure of basic television genres.
- Distinguish the basic principles of the business of television.

**Online Course Management System:**

D2L: <https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/home>

Here students will find lecture slides, lecture videos, links to streams of the episodes for this course and any other relevant information they may need. This is where students will upload assignments for this course. Login with Campus Connect information.

**Homework:**

All assignments for this course must be typed and submitted on D2L. **NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED. Homework is not accepted via email unless there is a malfunction with D2L. Please do not send me assignments via email unless I ask for them first.**



**Reading:**

Required: Mittell, Jason (2010) *Television and American Culture*; Michael Wiese Productions. ISBN-13: 978-0195306675; ISBN-10: 0195306678

Other Required Reading: you are expected to keep up with television industry trade publications such as VARIETY and THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER. The television industry is in a constant state of flux and we'll begin each week discussing the latest news from around the industry. You are expected to stay current and contribute regularly to discussions.

**Grading:**

Final grades will be based on homework, 2 quizzes, a mid-term presentation, a final project, class participation, and attitude. Television is a business built on timeliness. The news must be ready every day at 5pm, and Saturday Night Live must be ready every Saturday at 11:30pm. As such, this course demands strict adherence to deadlines. **NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED.**

Homework: 10%

Quiz 1: 15%:

Quiz 2: 15%:

Midterm Presentation: 20%

Final Project: 30%

Participation: 10%

All assignments must be typed and double-spaced unless otherwise indicated. Your work must be free of grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors.

**Grading Standards (based on %):**

A: 92 -100 A-: 90-91.9

B+: 88-89.9; B: 82 -87.9; B-: 80-81.9

C+: 78-82.79.9; C: 72-77.9%; C-: 70-71.9

D+: 68-69.9%; D: 60-67.9%; Below 60% is an F

**THE SCHEDULE**

Classes meet at 11:50am on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 14 E. Jackson, Room 207. Class will run until approximately 1:20pm every day. Please be on time.

This syllabus is subject to modification. I reserve the right to amend the class schedule or the syllabus if circumstances make it necessary. For example, you will have written homework assignments beyond those listed on the schedule. These will be assigned as the course progresses.



**WEEK ONE** (March 27 and March 29)

Origins of Television

Homework: your favorite television show.

**WEEK TWO** (April 3 and April 5)

The "Biz": How it works. Development: how did this show get on the air?

Homework: structure of a show and network; who they are, and what they do.

**WEEK THREE** (April 10 and April 12)

The "Biz": how it profits

Ratings: how are they measured?

Historical ratings. Trends.

Quiz 1

**WEEK FOUR** (April 17 and April 19)

Television content: Fiction

Midterm Project assigned

**WEEK FIVE** (April 24 and April 26)

Television Content: Non-fiction

Final Project assigned

**WEEK SIX** (May 1 and May 3)

Midterm Presentations

Homework: worksheet for final project

**WEEK SEVEN** (May 8 and May 10)

Midterm Presentations

Women and Culture in TV

**WEEK EIGHT** (May 15 and May 17)

Politics and Society in TV

Development Workshop

Quiz 2

**WEEK NINE** (May 22 and May 24)

Draft of Final Project Due on D2L

Final Project Oral Presentations

**WEEK TEN** (May 29 and May 31)

Final Project Oral Presentations

The future of TV

**FINAL EXAM:** Final Project Due on D2L by 1:45pm on June 5, 2018



## **Course Policies:**

### **Participation**

Students are expected to participate in all class discussions by asking questions, adding comments or constructive criticism of creative work.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is part of your class participation grade. You are expected to attend all class periods. If you must miss a class or a deadline, make sure to plan ahead and inform the instructor in advance. Calling in advance does not automatically excuse an absence or a missed deadline, but it is the only way to present your case. If you fail to communicate before the next class period to explain an absence or a missed deadline, the absence will not be excused and the work will not be accepted. Please note that work, non-emergency medical and dental appointments, and other personal engagements are not grounds for excused absences or missed assignments.

In order to petition for an excused absence, students who miss class due to illness or significant personal circumstances should complete the Absence Notification process through the Dean of Students office. The form can be accessed at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/dos/forms.html>. Students must submit supporting documentation alongside the form. The professor reserves the sole right whether to offer an excused absence and/or academic accommodations for an excused absence.

### **Tardiness**

Tardiness, both in this course and in life, demonstrates disrespect for other people's time. Respect is crucial in this course, both in our discussions and our behavior. Class begins at 11:50am and you are expected to be in your seat and ready to begin class at that time. After 12:05pm, you will not be allowed into the room and you will be marked absent. Please be on time.

### **Missed Assignments**

Missing work is treated as a 0. Late work is not accepted except under rare circumstances in which a student has a good reason to need an extension and has been proactive in pursuing one.

### **Attitude**

My evaluation of your attitude and attention will be based on your participation during discussions as much as it will be based on your assertiveness when making a comment. Respectful decorum is expected at all times in this course, particularly when we discuss politics and each other's creative work. If you are disrespectful of others, your participation grade will be negatively impacted.



### **Use of Technology**

Please stay off your phone in this course. Make sure your phone is silenced. Be advised that if I see you on your phone, you will be called on next. Laptop computers may only be used for note taking.

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

### **Ethics and Honor**

Although your grade does not contain an ethics component, honesty is expected in this course. You are expected to do your own work. By accepting this syllabus, you are indicating that you understand the seriousness of academic dishonesty and the harsh penalties involved. You are also indicating that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. You are also expected to be respectful when discussing the work of your peers. If you find fault in a student's work, you are expected to express this sentiment politely.

### **Online Course Evaluations**

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to providing you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

### **Withdrawal**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

Students who withdraw from the course do so by using the Campus Connection system <http://campusconnect.depaul.edu>. Withdrawals processed via this system are effective the day on which they are made. Simply ceasing to attend, or notifying the instructor, or nonpayment of tuition, does not constitute an official withdrawal from class and will result in academic as well as financial penalty.



### **Retroactive Withdrawal**

This policy exists to assist students for whom extenuating circumstances prevented them from meeting the withdrawal deadline. During their college career students may be allowed one medical/personal administrative withdrawal and one college office administrative withdrawal, each for one or more courses in a single term. Repeated requests will not be considered. Submitting an appeal for retroactive withdrawal does not guarantee approval.

College office appeals for CDM students must be submitted online via MyCDM.

The deadlines for submitting appeals are as follows:

Autumn Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent winter quarter

Winter Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent spring quarter

Spring Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter

Summer Terms: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter

### **Academic Policies**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: [cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

### **My Email Policy**

I encourage you to take advantage of my posted office hours if you have questions or need assistance. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24-48 hours, but I may not be able to respond immediately and will not check email regularly over the weekend.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

**Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.**

**Phone number: (312)362-8002**

**Fax: (312)362-6544**

**TTY: (773)325.7296**