



Louisville Metropolitan Campus
1031 Zorn Avenue, Suite 200, Louisville, KY

MEDC 5350 Course Syllabus

Course	MEDC 5350 Section 58 Media Organization & Regulation
Instructor	Name: Matthew Watkins, JD, LLM Phone: 502-589-4215 Email: watkinsm@insightbb.com Fax: 502-589-4994
Term & Dates	August 11 – October 11
Location	Louisville Metropolitan Campus
Course Description	“Media Organization and Regulation” (MEDC 5350) is a course designed to study the laws and policies shaping communications media. The objective of the course is to give students a basic understanding of the legal, policy and regulatory constraints under which various communications technologies have evolved and the ability to analyze future policy problems.
Prerequisites & Incoming Student Competencies	MEDC 5000 is a prerequisite for this course.
Course Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review constitutional law related to Media and Communications• Understand limits of freedom of speech and privacy issues• Determine research and distribution responsibilities• Identify freedom of the press issues and the judicial system• Explore advertising legal constraints
Course Level Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a basic understanding of legal, policy and regulatory constraints.• Refine an ability to identify, analyze and report policy impacts on operations• Develop skills in forecasting policy challenges and suggesting solutions
Materials	Mass Media Law, Pember & Calvert, 16th edition, McGraw-Hill Texts can be obtained by calling MBS Direct at 1-800-325-3252, or at Virtual Bookstore at www.mbsdirect.net

Supplemental Resources	Supplemental readings will be assigned or distributed in class.
Grading	<p>Your grades will be based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Research Paper 25 pts ➤ Oral Presentation of Research Paper 10 pts ➤ 3 Short Writing Assignments 15 pts (5 pts each) ➤ Mid Term 25 pts ➤ Final 25 pts ➤ Total 100 pts <p><u>Grades:</u></p> <p>A 90-100 B 80-89 C 70-79 F Less Than 70 I Incomplete Work</p>
Activities	Lectures and Class Discussions Research Paper Short Writing Assignments In-Class Presentations by Students
Policy Statements: University Policies	<p><u>CONDUCT</u></p> <p>Students enrolling in a graduate program at Webster University assume the obligation of conducting themselves in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution. Misconduct for which students are subject to discipline include the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All forms of dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University. 2. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University activities or of authorized activities on University premises. 3. Theft or damage to property at the University. <p>Students who cheat or plagiarize may receive a failing grade for the course in which the cheating or plagiarism took place. Students who engage in any of the above misconducts may be subject to dismissal from the University. To the extent that penalties for misconduct (e.g. theft or destruction of property) are prescribed by law, the University will consider appropriate actions under such laws.</p>

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all class sessions of every course. In the case of unavoidable absence, the student must contact the instructor. The student is subject to appropriate academic penalty for incomplete or unacceptable makeup work or for excessive or unexcused absences. Generally, a student who misses more than one four-hour course period (per course) without a documented military or medical excuse and advance permission of the instructor should withdraw from the class. The University reserves the right to involuntarily drop enrolled students from classes, which they do not attend. Students who do not attend the first class session, who have not made prior arrangement with the instructor for being absent, will be dropped from the course.

MAKE-UP WORK REQUIREMENTS

For each class missed, makeup work will be assigned and must be submitted at the next class. The instructor will assign the topic and amount of work. This makeup work will be incorporated into the class participation grade. If make-up work is not submitted on time, the student's final grade will be subject to a reduction of one (1) letter grade.

Students are responsible for any class material presented during their absence and any assignments due should be submitted prior to the absence, if possible.

Drops and Withdrawals

Should you choose to drop or withdraw from this course, the date on which you notify the university of your decision will determine the amount of tuition refund you receive. Refer to the university policies on drops and withdrawals (published elsewhere) to find out what the deadlines are for dropping a course with a full refund and for withdrawing from a course with a partial refund.

Special Services

If you need accommodations for a disability, please let the instructor know at the beginning of the course so that they can be provided.

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus is intended to provide a basic structure to this course. It MAY be modified for class size, student competencies, etc. Adherence to this syllabus is subject to change at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Course Policies

This course is primarily a lecture course. If you attend class regularly, you will do better on exams and will not miss out when the professor discusses class materials, answers questions about upcoming exams or assignments, or changes the class schedule. If you miss class, you will be required to make up the covered material in some other way.

	<p>Writing assignments will be due at the beginning of each class. Late assignments will lose points at the rate of one point per day. There is ample time built into the schedule for you to finish each project, so the due date is final. If you know that you are going to have a problem attending class on the day an assignment is due, the wisest course of action is to turn your assignment in early.</p>
<p>Weekly Schedule</p>	<p>Changes may be made during the term.</p> <p>Session 1: Introduction (Skim Chapter 1)</p> <p>Session 2: First Amendment (Read Chapters 2 & 3) First Assignment Due</p> <p>Session 3: Reading Assignment TBD Second Assignment Due</p> <p>Session 4: Reading Assignment TBD Midterm Exam</p> <p>Session 5: Reading Assignment TBD Research Paper Bibliography Due</p> <p>Session 6: Reading Assignment TBD Third Assignment Due</p> <p>Session 7: Reading Assignment TBD</p> <p>Session 8: Reading Assignment TBD Research Paper Due Oral Presentations</p> <p>Session 9: Final Exam</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	