

**BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAM
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

PROPOSED COURSE OFFERINGS 2023-2024

**Fall / Winter 2023-2024 Preliminary Timetable
subject to change.**

All courses will be offered In Person except where noted

BMS100H1F INTRODUCTION TO BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Instructor: Paolo Granata Class: Monday 9-11 / Tutorial: Tuesday 1-2 / 2-3
Introduces the academic study of media in all its forms, including books and print media as well as modern electronic and digital media. Provides an overview of key theories of media, culture, and society and relates them to contemporary issues, enabling students to apply different critical approaches to their everyday experiences with media.
Exclusion: SMC219Y1
Distribution Requirements: Humanities / Breadth Requirements: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

BMS200Y1Y BOOK AND MEDIA HISTORIES
Instructor: Iris Gildea Class: Online Synchronous Tuesday 9-11 / Tutorial: Tuesday 2-3 / 3-4 / Wednesday 2-3 / 3-4
Traces the long history of media in culture and society, including books and other communication technologies. Covers historical developments including orality and writing, printing and the book, image and sound reproduction, wired and wireless communication, electronic and broadcast media, and contemporary digital media. Examples and case studies will be drawn from a variety of different sociocultural contexts, media industries, and creative practices.
Recommended Preparation: BMS100H1
Distribution Requirements: Humanities
Breadth Requirements: Creative and Cultural Representations (1), Society and its Institutions (3)

BMS201H1F INFORMATION LITERACY, WRITING AND RESEARCH FOR BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Instructor: TBA Class: Thursday 10-12 / Tutorial: Wednesday 11-12 / 12-1 / 1-2
and
BMS201H1S Class: Thursday 10-12 / Tutorial: Wednesday 12-1 / 1-2
Instructor: TBA
Develops foundational skills for students in Book & Media Studies, including academic writing, information literacy, media literacy, citation, qualitative and quantitative research, primary and secondary sources, library resources, and practical techniques for analyzing different forms of media.
Recommended Preparation: BMS100H1
Distribution Requirements: Humanities / Breadth Requirements: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

BMS301H1F SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA CULTURES
Book, Media & Music
Instructor: Michael O'Connor Class: Monday 2-4
There are two parts to this course. The first explores the place of music in the ecology of media from orality to digital culture—taking in issues such as the invention of musical notation, music and printing, the development of instruments, and technologies of recording and playback. The second part examines the relationship between music and other arts in a variety of contexts—such as song-writing, music video, and film scores. Some knowledge of musical notation would be an asset but is not required.
Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1
Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS301H1F SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA CULTURES
Fandom and Fan Fiction
Instructor: Xianwei Wu Class: Wednesday 10-12
In this course, students will explore the idea of fandom, the history of fandom and fandom scholarship, fan activities across the globe, and what it means to be a fan. By applying the board conceptual frame of participatory culture,

there will be an examination of a wide range of fan creations, primarily fan fictions, but also fan videos even full-on fan activism campaigns. The class will also consider the evolution of fans interactions with the objects of their fandom, the media industry as well as society at large. Students will have the opportunity to explore and create some fan artifacts of their own, and in the process, dive deep into the complex world of fandom.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS301H1S SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA CULTURES
Media & The Myths of Romance

Instructor: Iris Gildea

Class: Wednesday 2-4

This course explores historical and contemporary functions of media narratives and technologies in the construction of cultural myths of romance that permeate mainstream societies. Myths of romantic love will be deconstructed through feminist, queer, disability and postcolonial theories of gender, sexuality, race and body image at the intersections of film, music, literature, tv and social media to expose marginalizing and disempowering tropes at the centre of dominant constructions and representations of romantic love.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS302H1S OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Manga and Anime Culture

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

Class: Monday 10-12

This class examines the culture of Manga and Anime from a historical perspective, from manga's connection to the art of Edo Japan to the influential bodies of work by Osamu Tezuka and Hayao Miyazaki, and manga and anime's current boom as a global phenomenon. The history of manga and anime culture provides a unique perspective that's parallel to and independent from Western popular culture, and serves as a counter example of how the process of globalization and soft power manifest through the complex flow of official and unofficial culture. The class will primarily discuss the various theories and historical contexts that gave rise to our contemporary understanding of manga and anime as an artform and a fledgling industry, we will also be closely analyzing the texts that have captured the imagination of millions around the world.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS302H1S OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Mediaeval Video Games

Instructor: TBA

Class: Wednesday 10-12

Mediaeval history, settings, and themes are common in video games of all kinds, from attempts to accurately represent the middle ages (successfully or not) to loosely mediaeval-inspired fantasy worlds. In this cross-listed course, students will learn to apply concepts from mediaeval studies, media studies, and game studies to critically understand these popular cultural representations of the middle ages.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS302H1S OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Illustrated Dante

Instructor: TBA

Class: Monday 2-4

This course examines the relationship between text, image, and culture as manifest in various illustrated versions of the works of Dante from the medieval period to the present day.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS311H1F OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Asian Media Cultures

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

Class: Tuesday 12-2

This course examines East Asian media industries and cultures in a transnational context, including questions of media production, distribution, reception, and regulation, representation, identity, and nationhood, cross-cultural exchange, and the global circulation of East Asian media. Media and cultural forms examined may include print media, film, television, radio, news media, popular music, animation, comics, video games, digital media, and social media.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS314H1F MEDIA REVOLUTIONS

Instructor: Iris Gildea

Class: Thursday 3-5

This class offers a deeper examination of the intersections of technology and human thought, perception and culture. The advent of new media technologies, from literacy through to social media, will be examined as revolutions in technology, semantic fields of cultural meaning-making and human action. Students gain a strong focus on

technological advancements as insights into cross-cultural change at significant turning points in book and media history.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

BMS316H1F

SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Instructor: Xianwei Wu
and

Class: Monday 12-2

BMS316H1S

SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

Class: Monday 12-2

Social media, digital platforms, and networked technologies are deeply embedded in our contemporary lives, both shaping and shaped by users. But what are their social, cultural, political, and economic impacts? What consequences do they have for how we think, feel, socialize, work, play, and understand ourselves? Students in this course will explore, examine, and debate these questions with reference to their everyday experiences and current examples.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

BMS319H1S

MEDIA ETHICS

Instructor: TBA

Class: Wednesday 12-2

Provides students with a theoretical foundation that enables them to identify and analyze ethical issues in mainstream and non-mainstream media. Traditional principles of journalistic truth-seeking, objectivity, and minimizing harm are revisited in the light of global, interactive media, produced by both citizens and professionals.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

BMS320H1F

TRAUMA AND MEDIA

Instructor: Iris Gildea

Class: Online Asynchronous

An exploration of diverse media narratives including film, books, music and social media to address cultural approaches to trauma theory in contemporary anti-oppressive and decolonizing frameworks. This course was offered in 20209 and 20215 as SMC317H1 and cannot be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS331H1S

**THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK:
ELEMENTS OF BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRINT CULTURE**

Instructor: TBA

Class: Friday 10-12

An exploration of the history of the book from ancient inscriptions to e-books. This course develops an awareness of the interplay between material object and conceptual categories in book history by focusing on significant episodes in the evolution of the book as a medium, such as the rise of the context and the introduction of print. This course also delves in the practices of bibliography, the features of typography, and the material details of the printing process, while also highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of book history from a global perspective. Typically, this course will involve in-person workshops and visits to print studios and rare books collections on campus.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC228H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

BMS332H1F

THE HISTORY OF READING: READERS, READERSHIPS, RECEPTION

Instructor: TBA

Class: Friday 12-2

This course explores the history of reading in western culture in a global context. Attention is given to the pivotal episodes in this history with a focus on its changing modes and shifting cultural significance. By surveying the habits, institutions, and aims of reading, students in this course will gain a greater understanding of its rich history and its complex evolution, and will enable them to reflect on the critical place of reading in their daily lives.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC228H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

BMS386H1F/S

BOOK AND MEDIA INTERNSHIP

Credit is offered to a student doing an internship with a media organization. A faculty supervisor assesses and assigns the necessary written component cognate to the internship. Students are responsible for securing their own internship. A description of the internship, working bibliography, marking scheme, and academic supervisor's support must be submitted for approval by the Program Coordinator and Director. More information and application forms are available at <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/bms-internship-form> or from the SMC Principal's Office, smc.programs@utoronto.ca.

Enrolment in this course is intended for Book and Media Studies students not enrolled in the Arts & Science Internship (ASIP) stream of the program. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC386H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Society and its Institutions (3)

BMS387H1F

ADVERTISING AND MEDIA

Instructor: TBA

Class: Wednesday 1-3

And

BMS387H1S

Instructor: TBA

Class: Tuesday 2-4

This course presents a critical media studies approach to advertising and consumer culture, past and present. Advertising, marketing, branding, and promotion play a central role in capitalist societies and media industries, reflecting and refracting dominant cultural attitudes and ideologies. How does advertising shape what and how we consume? What are its social, cultural, economic, and environmental impacts? Students will learn to analyze the form, content, and ideology of advertisements, and think critically about the advertising they are subjected to in everyday life.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC387H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

BMS391H1S

THE MEDIA FRANCHISE

Instructor: Felan Parker

Class: Tuesday 2-4

One of the most significant developments in popular media since the late 1970s is the rise and proliferation of media franchises, which spread their commercial interests and fictional worlds across many multiple media. Reflective of the broader logics of media industry conglomeration and convergence, in media franchises movies, television series, novels and comics, games of all kinds, toys and merchandise, paratexts like promotional materials, etc. are linked together in order to maximize profits. These dense networks of commercial products serve as a platform for new forms of serial narrative and world-building such as "transmedia storytelling," and also generate vibrant, diverse fan cultures that extend far beyond the official franchise and its canonical texts. Drawing on a wide range of scholarly and critical work, this course examines the modern media franchise from historical, industrial, formal/aesthetic, and sociocultural perspectives. Media franchises to be examined include Marvel, Star Wars, DC, Harry Potter, The Matrix, and more. (This course was previously offered as SMC301H1 Seriality and Transmedia in 20181, and BMS301H1 The Media Franchise in 20211 and cannot be repeated for credit.)

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS392H1F

MEDIA IDENTITIES

Instructor: Iris Gildea

Class: Online Asynchronous

An exploration of media's influence on the constructions and representation of identity and power relations across race, gender and class in individual and collective spheres. Applies a social justice and intersectional framework to media technologies and industries in order to expose socio-political influence on identity and to position media consumption and production as potential vehicles for restorative mediations of marginalized identities.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC392H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

BMS393H1F

MEDIA ECOLOGY

Instructor: Paolo Granata

Class: Friday 2-4

This course presents an advanced introduction to Media Ecology, an interdisciplinary field of inquiry which examines how media environments affect human perception, understanding, feelings, and values. The course is grounded in intensive discussions of the assigned readings, focusing on both historical and contemporary discourses of environmental, structural, and systematic approaches in media theory.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS394H1F/S / BMS395Y1

INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book and Media Studies Program. A full proposal including a course description, working bibliography, marking scheme, and approval from your academic supervisor must be submitted for approval by the Program Coordinator and Director. More information and application forms are available at <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/smc-ind-study-form> or from the SMC Principal's Office, smc.programs@utoronto.ca. Completed forms must be submitted to the Principal's Office by the first day of classes in September/May for Y and F courses, or January/July for S courses. Meeting times are determined in consultation with your supervisor. and may be in person or online as appropriate. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

role of the professor in the creation and curation of the learning experience and in the potential of AI to enhance learning and promote proactive thought. Using the most advanced technologies in the field, including generative AI and LLMs, the course will feature a customized version of ChatGPT that has been expressly trained on course research questions. Throughout the course, students will develop skills in the use of AI in order to develop cutting-edge critical analyses of AI from a variety of ethical, practical, and philosophical perspectives.

Due to limited room, enrollment in this course requires an application before registration. The first round of applications is due Monday, July 17th, 2023. If there is still space in the course, the second round of applications will be due July 28th. Late applications will only be considered if there is space left in the course. Priority will be given to BMS Major students in their 3rd or 4th year.

Students can apply at: <https://forms.office.com/r/TRAJRBPQqZ>

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS411H1S ADVANCED OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES
Contemporary Issues in the Media

Instructor: TBA

Class: Thursday 10-12

This seminar is reserved for unique topics not already covered in other courses. The exact topic will change depending on the instructor. In some terms this course may require an application. This will be clearly noted in the Timetable. **Prerequisite:** Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS494H1F/S / BMS495Y1Y INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book and Media Studies Program. A full proposal including a course description, working bibliography, marking scheme, and approval from your academic supervisor must be submitted for approval by the Program Coordinator and Director. More information and application forms are available at <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/smc-ind-study-form> or from the SMC Principal's Office, smc.programs@utoronto.ca. Completed forms must be submitted to the Principal's Office by the first day of classes in September/May for Y and F courses, or January/July for S courses. Meeting times are determined in consultation with your supervisor, and may be in person or online as appropriate. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

The following courses from other programs are cross-listed with Book and Media Studies and can be applied towards the Book and Media Studies Major or Minor.

CHC203Y1Y CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIETY THROUGH THE AGES

Instructor: Jean Olivier Richard/Michael O'Connor

Class: Wednesday 11-12; Thursday 2-4

This course explores the historical engagement of various Christian traditions with the prevailing political, social, and ethnic cultures in the western world and beyond. Students will also examine the development of Christianity as it confronts changes in the symbolic and intellectual universes from antiquity to post-modernity.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

Breadth Requirements: Society and its Institutions (3); Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CLT355H1S CELTIC CINEMA

Instructor: TBA

Class: Monday 6-9

An exploration of contemporary films of Ireland, Scotland and Wales from 1980 to the present, as they relate to representations of Celtic identity and the formation of national cinema.

Prerequisites: Completion of 4.0 credits

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

MST210H1F THE EARLY MEDIAEVAL TRADITION

Instructor: Giulio Silano

Class: Thursday 3-5

An introduction to the thought and culture of early mediaeval Europe. Students are introduced to important monuments of early mediaeval History, Thought, Literature, and Art. They follow some of the common threads that run through these disciplines and explore chief expressions of early mediaeval life and thought.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

MST212H1S

THE LATER MEDIAEVAL TRADITION

Instructor: TBA

Class: Tuesday 10-12 / **Tutorial:** Wednesday 12-1

An introduction to the thought and culture of later mediaeval Europe. Students are introduced to important monuments of later mediaeval History, Thought, Literature, and Art. They follow some of the common threads that run through these disciplines and explore chief expressions of later mediaeval life and thought.

Distribution Requirements: Humanities / **Breadth Requirements:** Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

June 8, 2023