

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

PROPOSED COURSE OFFERINGS 2026-2027

Fall/Winter 2026-2027 Preliminary Timetable subject to change.

All courses will be offered In Person except where noted.

For the most up-to-date day and time information, please review the [Timetable Builder](#).

BMS100H1F: INTRODUCTION TO BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: Felan Parker

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, CCT218H5, MDSA01H3

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

BMS100H1S: INTRODUCTION TO BOOK AND MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: Iris Gildea

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, CCT218H5, MDSA01H3

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

BMS110Y1Y: THE PRINTED BOOK

Instructor: Kit MacNeil

In this full-year seminar, students will learn about the revived art of letterpress printing. Starting with a historical overview of the printing itself—from the development of movable type onwards—and its massive impact on society, this course will teach students about the importance of printing, the development of the book as technology, and their power, then and now, to shape humanity. Topics covered will include the development of movable type and of the printing press, the emergence of books as a form of knowledge transmission, and the way both have affected the way we live our lives. Students will have an opportunity to produce printed materials using 19th and 20th century printing presses.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities/ **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representation (1), Society and Its Institutions (3)

BMS200Y1Y: BOOK & MEDIA HISTORIES

Instructor: Francesco Morriello

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.

Exclusion: SMC219Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities/ **Breadth Requirements:** Creative and Cultural Representation (1), Society and Its Institutions (3)

BMS201H1F: INFORMATION LITERACY, WRITING, AND RESEARCH FOR BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: Stacy Reardon

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.

Exclusion: ACMB01H3

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

BMS201H1S: INFORMATION LITERACY, WRITING, AND RESEARCH FOR BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: Stacy Reardon

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.

Exclusion: ACMB01H3

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

BMS301H1F LEC0101: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CULTURES: THE MEDIA OF WITCHES

Instructor: Iris Gildea

This class explores how the historical and contemporary dominant media technologies and the

institutional power structures they are part of influenced and continue to influence cultural perceptions and receptions of witches in the West. From the printing press' role in the witch trials to social media covens, we'll explore the complex history of a figure whose social stigma includes religious and political persecution, gendered violence, and, in contemporary periods, empowerment. From the fifteenth-century text, *Malleus Maleficarum* and Shakespeare's *Macbeth* to popular shows like the *Vampire Diaries*, we'll explore how dominant media technologies and power structures of the time always play a role in shaping cultural understandings and representations of the witch.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS301H1S LEC0101: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CULTURES: FOOD AND MEDIA

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

This course explores the ever-growing significance of food studies within the discipline of media studies. From bartering over food to the use of lavish dinners to symbolize opulence and status, humans have used food – its preparation, its ingredients, its consumption – as a means to communicate their position within society and their understanding of its values. As our relationship with food becomes increasingly mediated, food as an indispensable part of human existence has become a reflection of our society at large. This class will examine the history of food production as represented in print media (e.g. recipe books, newspapers and advertisements) and other media forms, including food photography, cooking shows, and social media. We will examine a wide range of socio-cultural issues, including health and dieting, class and labor, gender and sexuality, race and diaspora, and the commercialization of food-related content in diverse forms of media.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS301H1S LEC0201: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CULTURES: THE DEVIL

Instructor: Francesco Morriello

This course examines the Devil as a dynamic and evolving presence across religious texts and media forms from antiquity to the present day, examining his prominent role in medieval Christianity and early modern debates shaped by witch trials and the Reformation. It explores the Victorian shift toward a more sympathetic and rebellious adversary, influenced by writers like John Milton and William Blake, and continues into modern reinterpretations in literature, film, TV, and digital media. Drawing on key literature and immersive lectures, this course explores how evolving religious and media contexts have shaped the world's first influencer into one of the most enduring and provocative forces in history. *BMS301H1S LEC0201 is cross-listed with*

CHC300H1S LEC0101. Students cannot take both courses for credit.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS302H1F LEC0101: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CULTURES: THE BOOK CULTURE OF THE EUROPEAN FAIRY AND FOLK TALE

Instructor: TBA

This course explores the cultural history and representation of European fairy and folk tales in a variety of print forms. Students will study a range of tales from medieval romance, early modern broadside ballads, chapbooks, and early fairy tale collections as well as later folklore and fairytale compilations. They will examine the cultural, literary, and textual histories of such works as *Le piacevoli notti*, the *Tale of Tales*, Child's ballads, tales of Charles Perrault and Brothers Grimm, and collections by Trevelyan, Crofton Crocker, and Andrew Lang. Throughout the course, students will be examining both the evolution of selected motifs and the relationship between that evolution and the differing print forms through which they were represented and circulated.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS310Y1: PUBLISHING IN PRACTICE

Instructor: Kit MacNeil

This year-long course studies the history, material culture, and historical and contemporary realities of book publishing. Rooted in scholarly and hands-on research of early printed books and pamphlets, this course studies the historical background of book production in relation to type design, page layout, print technologies, illustrations, and more. With guest visits to and from industry professionals in independent and DIY publishing, this course also considers current concerns and issues within the publishing industry. As a final over-arching project, students will be provided with the opportunity to bring all aspects of a book (written by their peers) to publication and final promotion.

BMS310Y1 enrolment requires an application. If you are interested in enrolling in the course, please complete the application form found here: [BMS310Y1Y: The Printed Book 2026-2027 Course Application Form – Fill out form](#). Students will be contacted about their enrolment and enrolled before the start of the term. If you have any questions, please contact smc.programs@utoronto.ca

Course will be held in the Kelly Library Print Studio. Course size limited due to space.

Prerequisite: Completion of 6.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, and BMS201H1. Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

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

BMS314H1S: MEDIA REVOLUTIONS

Instructor: Paolo Granata

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

Exclusion: SMC314H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities/ **Breadth Requirements:** Society and Its Institution (3)

BMS316H1F and S: SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

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

Exclusion: CCT331H5, MDSB15H3

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

BMS331H1S: THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK: ELEMENTS OF BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRINT CULTURE

Instructor: TBA

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

This course explores the history of reading. 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: SMC229H1

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

BMS351H1S: THE ILLUSTRATED DANTE

Instructor: Giulia Gaimari

This course will explore the multifaceted relationship between text, image, and culture from late medieval illuminated manuscripts up to the present day through an examination of illustrated versions of Dante's Divine Comedy. As early as the fourteenth century and into the present day, the reading and reception of Dante Alighieri's Divine Comedy has been tied to its presentation in illustration. Students will also study how engagements with Dante's poem have given life to visual responses and creative re-elaborations.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS302H1S (Special Topics in Book & Media Histories: The Illustrated Dante) offered in Winter 2024.

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

BMS352H1F: MEDIA AND THE MYTHS OF ROMANCE

Instructor: Iris Gildea

This course explores the intersections of historical and contemporary media narratives, technologies, and industries in the construction and representation of mainstream romance narratives. Romance tropes and myths will be deconstructed through feminist, queer, disability and decolonial theories of gender, class, sexuality, race and body image at the intersections of film, music, literature, tv, video games and/or social media to expose marginalizing and disempowering tropes at the center of dominant constructions and representations of romantic love.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS301H1S (Special Topics in Book & Media Cultures: The Myths of Romance) offered in Winter 2024.

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

BMS353H1F: FANDOM, FAN FICTION, AND PARTICIPATORY CULTURE

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

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 broad conceptual frame of participatory culture, the course will examine a wide range of fan creations. It will also examine the evolution of fan interaction with the objects of fandom, with the media industry, and with society at large. Students will have the opportunity to explore and create some fan artefacts of their own, and in the process, to dive deep into the complex world of fandom.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS301H1 (Special Topics in Book & Media Cultures: Fandom and Fan Fiction) offered in Fall 2023.

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

BMS354H1S: TRANSNATIONALISM AND EAST ASIAN MEDIA

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

This course examines East Asian media industries and cultures in a transnational context. Topics to be explored include 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: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

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

BMS386H1F/S: BOOK AND MEDIA INTERNSHIP

Instructor: TBA

Class: NA

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 Majors 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)

BMS387H1S: ADVERTISING AND MEDIA

Instructor: Felan Parker

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: CCT316H5, MDSB03H3

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

BMS389H1F: LIBRARIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, AND ARCHIVES

Instructor: TBA

This course takes a hands-on approach to introduce students to different types of printed and manuscript primary and secondary sources. Students will learn to apply information literacy concepts, and library and archival theories to the analysis, critique, evaluation, and use of materials drawn from the University of Toronto's collections of library, rare book, and archival materials. This course will touch on current topics within information literacy, including, but not limited to, digitization, the ethical collection and use of oral and written information; post-colonial practices; racial, cultural, and gender representations; and archival neutrality.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: None

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

BMS390H1S: COMBAT IN MEDIA AND ART

Instructor: TBA

This course offers a historical exploration of the relationship between art and physical combat as represented and/or enacted in various media. Taking as its subject ancient artefacts, literature, painting, and film from a variety of cultures and historical moments, this course asks what representations of combat say about why humans engage in combat sports. It also explores and analyses the forms through which this combat itself is enacted – whether in wooded glades; on small, confined stages; in tents; or through a variety of televisual and cinematic media – to delve into the implications of meaning, media, and communal ritual in a variety of historical and contemporary contexts.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS301H1S LEC0201 20261

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

BMS391H1S: THE MEDIA FRANCHISE

Instructor: Felan Parker

Reflective of the broader logics of media convergence, media franchises spread their commercial interests and imaginary worlds across many multiple media. For media industries, franchises maximize profits by linking together movies, TV series, books, comics, games, toys, merchandise, and promotional paratexts to encourage consumption. At the same time, they are a platform for new forms of serial narrative, world-building, and transmedia storytelling, and generate vibrant, diverse fan cultures that are sometimes at odds with franchise producers.

Drawing on a wide range of scholarly and critical work, this course examines popular media franchises from historical, economic/industrial, formal/aesthetic, and sociocultural perspectives.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: SMC301H1 (The Media Franchise, offered in Winter 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021), BMS303H1 (The Media Franchise, offered in Fall 2022)

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

BMS393H1F: MEDIA ECOLOGY

Instructor: Paolo Granata

Reflective of the broader logics of media convergence, media franchises spread their commercial interests and imaginary worlds across many multiple media. For media industries, franchises maximize profits by linking together movies, TV series, books, comics, games, toys, merchandise, and promotional paratexts to encourage consumption. At the same time, they are a platform for new forms of serial narrative, world-building, and transmedia storytelling, and generate vibrant, diverse fan cultures that are sometimes at odds with franchise producers.

Drawing on a wide range of scholarly and critical work, this course examines popular media franchises from historical, economic/industrial, formal/aesthetic, and sociocultural perspectives.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS300H1 (Media Ecology) offered in Winter 2022 and Fall 2022

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

BMS394H1F/S: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: TBA

Class: NA

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book & 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/academic-forms> 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 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. Students must have approval of an instructor willing to supervise the project. Final approval is granted by the program director. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS395Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS395Y1: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: TBA

Class: NA

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book & 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/academic-forms> 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 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. Students must have approval of an instructor willing to supervise the project. Final approval is granted by the program director. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: (BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1) or SMC219Y1

Exclusion: BMS394H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS401H1F LEC0101: ADVANCED TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CUTLURES: ANIMATED FILM IN EUROPE

Instructor: TBC

Aesthetics of animated image and peculiarities of animation as an art form. Films are analyzed in their artistic, cultural and political contexts. Taught in English, English subtitles.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS401H1S LEC0101: ADVANCED TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA CUTLURES: MEDIA IN TRANSITION: AI CHATBOTS, ETHICS, AND THE LAW

Instructor: TBC

This course examines the history of social AI as an emergent media form and focuses on the rapid deployment and impact of Generative AI Chatbots as virtual companions, writing partners, therapists, and as grief technologies such as ghostbots. The course will foreground ethical, sociocultural, ecomedia, and legal issues arising from these rapidly evolving sociotechnologies. As a seminar, team collaboration on in-class testing of GenAI and presentations will address topics such as emotional inequality, algorithmic bias, attention hacking, privacy by design, age appropriate design, surveillance and platform capitalism. Key scholarly and critical work, theoretical models, legal arguments, and case studies will contextualize the benefits and the dangers of intimate interactions with personalized, always-on chatbots within existing and proposed regulatory frameworks in the EU, UK, US and Canada.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1. Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS402H1S LEC0101: ADVANCED TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA HISTORIES: ALDUS MANUTIUS AND THE RISE OF THE MODERN BOOK

Instructor: Paolo Granata

This advanced seminar explores Aldus Manutius' impact on Renaissance print culture and the modern book. As a scholar and knowledge gatekeeper, he pioneered the octavo format, italic type, and classical editions, shaping the rising publishing industry. Through primary source analysis and hands-on experiential learning activities at Trinity College Library and Fisher Library, students will engage with early printed books and incunabula, including Hypnerotomachia Poliphili and Aldine editions.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1. Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS403H1F LEC0101: ADVANCED TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA INDUSTRIES: GRAND THEFT AUTO AND THE CULTURE OF VIDEO GAMES

Instructor: Felan Parker

Since the 1997 release of Grand Theft Auto, Rockstar Games has been celebrated for its creative, technological, and commercial achievements and condemned for its sensational depictions of sex, violence, and urban criminality. Rockstar has long pursued artistic legitimacy by earnestly emulating iconic film genres while intentionally stoking the flames of controversy with provocative, often crude, attempts at social satire. But beyond credulous celebration and censorious condemnation, what is the significance of Grand Theft Auto as a cultural phenomenon? With Grand Theft Auto VI hotly anticipated in November 2026, this course offers a timely retrospective on the (in)famous game publisher and its flagship series, grounded in the theories and methods of media studies. Through scholarly readings, gameplay, film screenings,

news coverage, marketing campaigns, archival materials, and hands-on research, students will critically investigate Grand Theft Auto's enduring role in the history, industry, and culture of video games.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS411H1F LEC0101: ADVANCED OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES: AI LITERACY

Instructor: Paolo Granata

This advanced seminar explores the fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence, its diverse applications, the implications it holds for contemporary society, and the transformative impact on cultural and media landscapes. It is designed to equip students with essential insights and practical skills for understanding and engaging with AI. Utilizing cutting-edge AI tools and a specialized Large Language Models, students will experience a unique educational approach, learning about AI through direct interaction with AI technologies.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS411H1S LEC0101: ADVANCED OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES: WORLD CALLIGRAPHY: HISTORY, SCRIPTS, AND PRACTICE

Instructor: Paolo Granata

This course offers an advanced study of world calligraphy as a material and cultural practice central to the history of the book and visual communication. The first part of the course surveys the historical development of major calligraphic traditions and script families across world writing systems, including Latin majuscule and minuscule hands, Arabic naskh and thuluth, East Asian brush scripts (zhuàn shū and kǎi shū), Hebrew square and cursive scripts, and Devanagari. Attention is given to the aesthetic and functional evolution of letterforms within their respective cultural contexts. The second part of the course adopts an experiential learning approach. Through sustained studio practice, students acquire foundational competence in selected scripts, developing skills in pen angle, brush control, stroke sequence, spacing, and compositional layout. Prior experience in calligraphy is not required, but a predisposition toward writing and the manual arts is recommended.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS411H1S LEC0201: ADVANCED OPEN TOPICS IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES: THE BOOK REMIXED

Instructor: Chris Patton

This course examines the phenomenon of books that have been created from the physical materials of other, pre-existing books. Students will engage with the fact of that making and remix and the various interpretations that it can encourage. They will explore books that remix other books with gusto and often themselves along the way. Books that ask to be shuffled. Books shredded and rewoven. Books erased and redrawn, books printed on film, books of made-up scripts exploded as a gallery installation. The primary focus of the course will be on books of the 20th and 21st centuries and will include a visit or two to rare book collections on campus. Assignments will include creative exercises, class presentations, and a critical analysis of the prosody and poetics of a chosen book. Note that participation will weigh heavily in assessment and that students will be required to purchase a number of texts in hardcopy.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS420H1S: BOOKBINDING THEN AND NOW

Instructor: Kit MacNeil

Class: Tuesday 9:00AM-11:00AM

A survey of the history and development of bookbinding technologies from the sixteenth century to the modern day. Through a combination of lectures and tutorials, this course will explore how the construction of books as physical objects has influenced the transmission of knowledge and the development of society. Special attention is paid to binding structures. Students will have an opportunity to fabricate book objects.

BMS420H1 enrolment requires an application. If you are interested in enrolling in the course, please complete the application form found here: [BMS420H1S Winter 2027 Course Application Form – Fill out form](#). Students will be contacted about their enrolment and enrolled before the start of the term. If you have any questions, please contact smc.programs@utoronto.ca

Course will be held in the Kelly Library Print Studio. Course size limited due to space.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: None

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

BMS422H1F: THE POWER OF THE PRESS: MATERIALS AND HISTORIES OF PRINT MEDIA

Instructor: Kit MacNeil

Print as a medium has influenced art, society, and politics throughout cultures and history. This course studies the historic and ongoing significance of print, from prehistoric stencils and woodblock prints through to modern zines and 3D-printed architecture. Students will engage in scholarly and practice-based research in the Print Studio and experiment with a variety of print techniques that explore their significance in specific industries and cultural moments. They will also work closely with special collections and archives within the UofT Library system. Students will apply their research and practice to produce their own edition of prints as a culminating project.

BMS422H1 enrolment requires an application. If you are interested in enrolling in the course, please complete the application form found here: [BMS422H1F Fall 2026 Course Application Form – Fill out form](#). Students will be contacted about their enrolment and enrolled before the start of the term. If you have any questions, please contact smc.programs@utoronto.ca

Course will be held in the Kelly Library Print Studio. Course size limited due to space.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1. Students are also required to complete BMS110Y1, BMS331H1, BMS310Y1 or BMS421H1.

Exclusion: None

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

BMS430H1F: MINDFUL MEDIA

Instructor: Iris Gildea

This seminar integrates critical media studies with mindfulness pedagogy to yield an experiential and theoretical exploration of critical media literacy. A critical media studies lens is applied to various topics that dominate contemporary mediascapes, such as violence, mental health, body image, etc. Through experiential practice and study of mindfulness pedagogy, students develop practices of critical media literacy able to be applied to their own lives and in future work/study in various media industry and educational praxes.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1. Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: BMS401H1 (Advanced Topics in Book & Media Cultures: *Mindful Media: Theory & Practice*) offered in Winter 2024.

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

BMS431H1S: MEDIA AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Instructor: Iris Gildea

This course explores the relatively new field of ecomedia to consider how media technologies, mainstream media practices and dominant media narratives intersect and contribute to global environmental crises. Students will engage in individual and collaborative qualitative and experiential research methods to apply critical media literacy skills and decolonial lenses to

reimagine how contemporary media practices can promote environmental justice and/or cultivate a reparative eco-consciousness on individual and collective levels.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: BMS401H1 (Advanced Topics in Book & Media Cultures: *Environmental Justice & Media*) offered in Winter 2023.

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

BMS432H1S: THE GAME INDUSTRY

Instructor: Felan Parker

Commercial video games are an extremely profitable global industry, emblematic of how media is produced, distributed, marketed, and monetized in contemporary capitalism. Students will examine a variety of issues, including the history of the industry, consolidation and concentration of ownership, digital distribution and platformization, systemic sexism, racism, and discrimination in the industry, labour and collective organizing, independent and alternative game production cultures, local, regional, national and transnational contexts, and more. To make sense of these complex phenomena, students will learn to apply critical lenses and methods from game studies, media industry studies, and cultural studies. No previous experience or expertise with video games or knowledge of the game industry is required to take this course.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: BMS403H1 (Advanced Topics in Book & Media Industry: *The Game Industry*) offered in Winter 2024.

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

BMS433H1F: BOYS' LOVE AND THE CULTURE OF DESIRE

Instructor: Xianwei Wu

The Boys' Love genre of homoerotic stories primarily written by women for women originated in East Asia and has gained international popularity in recent years. From novels and manga to live action TV series, the world of Boys' Love is ever expanding to become increasingly more inclusive and global, reflecting a fast-changing world and an amazingly multifaceted understanding of desire. This class looks at Boys' Love from its historical origins to its modern manifestations, to explore how the genre reflects the hidden desires of its international audience communities.

Prerequisite: Completion of 10.0 credits including BMS100H1, BMS200Y1, BMS201H1.

Students who do not meet these prerequisites are encouraged to contact the unit.

Exclusion: BMS401H1 (Advanced Topics in Book & Media Cultures: *Boys' Love and the Culture of Desire*) offered in Winter 2023.

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

BMS494H1F/S: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: TBA

Class: NA

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book & 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/academic-forms> 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 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. Students must have approval of an instructor willing to supervise the project. Final approval is granted by the program director. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Exclusion: BMS495Y1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

BMS495Y1: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN BOOK & MEDIA STUDIES

Instructor: TBA

Class: NA

An independent research project to be proposed by the student and supervised by a full-time faculty member affiliated with the Book & 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/academic-forms> 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 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. Students must have approval of an instructor willing to supervise the project. Final approval is granted by the program director. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9.0 credits

Exclusion: BMS395H1

Distribution Requirements: Humanities

JSM354H1S: STONE BOOKS TO SKY BOOKS: THE BOOK AS INSTITUTION, COMMERCE AND ART

Instructor: TBA

Evolution of the book and printed media in Central and Eastern Europe: legends (and forgeries) of ancient letters, mediaeval illuminated manuscripts, forbidden and "supernatural" books, hand-written and painted books of modernist and avant-garde artists, books as a way of living and dying. Readings in English.

Exclusion: None

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

JWB318H1F: THE ART OF JOURNALISM: LITERARY APPROACHES TO REPORTING

Instructor: TBA

Journalism largely goes unconsidered as a subject for literary analysis, the writing dismissed as formulaic and artless. But from the genre's inception, there have been writers who approached it as a literary endeavour, committed to not just telling true stories about the world around us but doing so in ways that captivate and engage a reader's imagination, with all the nuance and precision that literary techniques can afford. In this course, we will read and consider canonical works of journalism from the last 75 years, discussing them as literary works as well as exploring the reporting methods they draw on and the ethical questions they raise. Students will have a choice of assignment tracks, and either develop their own literary reporting projects or write analyses of the works we study.

Exclusion: None

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

SMC155H1F: SMC ONE: THE MCLUHAN SEMINAR IN CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Instructor: Paolo Granata

This seminar is an interdisciplinary exploration of the relationship between creativity and technology. Inspired by the innovative thinking of Marshall McLuhan, it explores how the humanities relate to other fields of thought and research in addressing the individual, social and cultural experiences and effects of technological innovation. This course may include a compulsory travel component (location to be determined based on travel restrictions). (An ancillary fee is required to help cover a portion of the travel costs.) Not eligible for CR/NCR option. <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/program/smc-one-mcluhan-seminar>

Exclusion: None

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

SMC192H1F: SHERLOCK HOLMES: MASS MEDIA AND FAN CULTURE FROM THE VICTORIANS TO THE PRESENT DAY

Instructor: Francesco Morriello

This course begins by examining the creation, dissemination, and reception of the Sherlock

Holmes stories in the Victorian era. Classes will focus on the relationship between the stories and print culture (particularly newspapers and illustrated magazines), criminology, and dominant social and political preoccupations of the age. The course will also examine the stories in their context as having inspired one of the first manifestations of a mass fan culture across various media, art forms, and cultures around the world. This fan culture proliferates to this day: classes will examine such phenomena as Victorian letter-writing campaigns; popular rewritings and visual representations in various forms; cartoons; film and television; and anime. Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Exclusion: None

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

SMC198H1F: STUDYING VIDEO GAMES

Instructor: Felan Parker

Games and play are a fundamental part of human society, and today digital games occupy a central place in popular culture, media industries, and the imaginations of players around the world. This seminar introduces students to the growing academic field of game studies, with an emphasis on close analysis of specific games as cultural objects. Through lectures, discussions, and in-class play sessions, students will build a critical vocabulary and toolbox of techniques for understanding the unique formal, aesthetic, narrative, and thematic properties of games in a variety of platforms and genres, and develop basic academic reading, writing, and research skills. No previous experience or expertise with video games is required to take this course. Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Exclusion: None

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

