

Hessen:IWU / Winter University Program 2024 – Course Outline

<https://wup.h-da.de/>

Digital Transformation

ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

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Guest lecturer

Dr. Keith Robinson, Griffith University, Australia

1) INFORMATION ON THE COURSE CONTENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In today's digitalized society the constant flow of communication is regarded as a fundamental and integral part of everyday life. Rapid developments in media technologies engender digitalized transformation on all levels of society.

Especially in these times, how can we grasp the multifold international perspectives within these rapidly evolving transformative processes?

To answer this question, this class will take a closer look at the diverse perspectives involved.

- How does each country and culture tackle the digital challenges?
- Is there a common ground?
- What is the impact of different forms of digital media on our daily life: Our work, our spare-time, the ways of communicate, the ways we relax, the ways we interact?
- How do we make use of different media for emotion regulation, for exchange of ideas, for opinion-building? And: On the other side: How do the diverse forms of digital media affect us?

This class will explore these questions and discuss the challenges on all levels of society. On an individual level, working from home leads to challenges for parents and children. Boundaries of private and public domain are blurring. We struggle with digital burn out. On a mezzo level, our social environment has been transferred into the digital realm, forming digital communities in working and learning environments for some and potentially excluding others, leading to challenges for all who are involved. On a macro level, we are constantly connected.

This class will investigate the processes of mutual shaping of digital media and social life and discuss how new media technologies influence and infiltrate social practices and cultural life. We will extend this discussion of media's role in transforming the everyday life by including in the discussion the individual groups of society. We draw on existing research to illustrate how digital cultures manifest all levels and elaborate on the constitutive characteristics. We conclude with implications of this conceptualization for the understanding of our everyday life as intermixed with technologies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Based on current analysis, students learn not only how digital communication influences individual communication but all levels of society. Research results will be presented, pertaining to the different areas of digital communication.

COURSE MATERIALS

Students will receive a list of literature, which will be accessible online on Moodle (online learning system).

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Type of Seminar</i>
Dec. 02, 2023	Virtual Opening Ceremony	Online
Dec. 09, 2023 (tbc)	(Online) Seminar: Getting to know each other	Online
Dec. 16, 2023 (tbc)	(Online) Seminar: How can we define culture? How can we define communication?	Online
Dec. 20, 2023 (tbc)	(Online) Seminar: Communication – how do we communicate? How can we define and understand intercultural communication?	Online
Dec 28, 2023	Arrival in Darmstadt	Darmstadt
Dec 29, 2023	Welcome Ceremony, city tour, welcome dinner	Darmstadt
Dec 30, 2023 (Sa)	Intercultural Training	Darmstadt
Dec 31, 2023	New Year's Eve	Darmstadt
Jan 01, 2024	Seminar: Inverted classroom: Media diary and survey: how do we use digital media during holidays?	Darmstadt
Jan 02, 2024	Seminar: Identity /Identities in digital contexts	Darmstadt
Jan 03, 2024	Seminar: Emotion/Identity Regulation in digital environments	Darmstadt
Jan 04, 2024	Excursion: ZDF/tv station (tbc)	Mainz
Jan 05, 2024	Seminar: Mood Management online	Darmstadt
Jan 06, 2024	Cultural program: Heidelberg	Heidelberg
Jan 07, 2024	Cultural program: Frankfurt a.M.	Frankfurt a.M.
Jan 08, 2024	Seminar: Digital transformation in different societies	Darmstadt
Jan 09, 2024	Excursion: House of Digital Transformation (tbc)	Darmstadt
Jan 10, 2024	Seminar: Digital Burn Out	Darmstadt
Jan 11, 2024	Seminar: Digital Well being	Darmstadt
Jan 12, 2024	Final presentations	Darmstadt
Jan, 13, 2024	Departure	Darmstadt

2) INFORMATION ON CLASS PARTICIPATION, ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

ASSIGNMENTS

Active participation, presentation on one topic (see course material on Moodle)

EXAMS

Oral presentation, including Power Point, interaction and discussion with audience, reflection on the topic

PRACTICE MATERIALS

Literature will be made available on Moodle

PROFESSIONALISM & CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend the classes and dedicate 1-2 hours a day for preparation through reading and self-study. The participation and self-study will enable the students to answer questions, lead discussions and contribute with their own ideas and opinions.

MISSED CLASSES

No more than 10% of the contact hours can be missed for successful completion of the course module. If students miss a lecture, it is their own responsibility to obtain information on the topics. In the event of sickness, a medical certificate must be presented to program coordinator.

3) INFORMATION ON GRADING AND ECTS

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Upon successful completion, 4 ECTS will be awarded for the class.

According to the rules of ECTS, one credit is equivalent to 25-30 hours student workload.

GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Grade		Description
90-100%	15 points	1.0	very good: an outstanding achievement
	14 points		
	13 points	1.3	
80-90%	12 points	1.7	good: an achievement substantially above average requirements
	11 points	2.0	
	10 points	2.3	
70-80%	9 points	2.7	satisfactory: an achievement which corresponds to average requirements
	8 points	3.0	
	7 points	3.3	
60-70%	6 points	3.7	sufficient: an achievement which barely meets the requirements
	5 points	4.0	
0-60%	4 points	5.0	not sufficient / failed: an achievement which does not meet the requirements
	3 points		
	2 points		
	1 point		
	0 points		

This course description was issued/updated on April 06, 2023. The program is subject to change.