Course Description:
In the course, we will point to major changes in the media coverage of war and terror in the last two decades. Traditionally, at the breakout of violent crisis the nationwide media rallied around the flag in support of the political establishment. This has been a basic axiom in regard to national broadcasting and the printed press, accepted as self-evident by the community of scholars of media and politics. Representatives of the elite were free to address the media at any time, crossing the threshold through the “front door”, while radical groups were able to invade the screens via the “back-door,” that is, only by the use of violence. However, following the growing globalization of heretofore national media, the new advances in surveillance and diffusion technologies, the commercialization of news media and, the emergence of new-style, a-symmetrical wars, there were significant changes in the coverage of war. The most salient is the fore-grounding of "backdoor" actors—terrorists and enemy leaders. Other actors, once positioned as statistics (ordinary people) or as tellers behind the scene (journalists), are now promoted to centre-stage. All of these new actors have gained status of the kind that in the past was exclusive to media and political elites - editors, military generals and political figures. The possible implications of these changes on media ethics and on public’s understanding of war will be discussed.

Course Objectives:
The main intention of the course is to explore the changes in the media coverage of war and terror during the last two decades. This will be undertaken by using a series of case examples of media reporting of conflict.

Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Explain and evaluate the relationships between media, politics and conflict.
2. Pose critical questions on the literature in the field of media, war and terrorism.
3. Apply the theoretical and conceptual frameworks to relevant case studies.
4. Identify media independence in the coverage of war and terror
5. Summarizes the changes in media coverage of war and conflicts during the last two decades.

**Teaching Method:**
The course will be conducted through a combination of formal lectures and class discussion. The lectures will be based on weekly reading assignments.

**Course Requirements**

Compulsory attendance Yes

Pre-requisites: None

**Structure of Final Course Grad**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Regular attendance, reading and participation in class discussions</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Class Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Final paper (up to 10 pages)</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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4. Extra credit – up to 5 points can be added to the final grade for completing extra credit assignment

**Note:**
- course policies - Students are allowed up to 3 unexcused absences.
- Final paper will be submitted by the students on DATE TBD.
Course Topics and Mandatory Reading

1. **Introduction: Media, War and Terror**

2. **Media, Conflicts and the Indexing theory**
   **Israel and the United States**


   **United Kingdom and Canada**


3. **Media-Politics-Media: Media Logic and Politics Logic**


4. **Journalists at times of crisis: between the nation and the profession**


5. **The New Characters of War**

5.a **The Performer Journalist**


5.b **The Terrorist**


5.c **The Enemy Leader**


**Political leaders and social media during conflicts**


5.d The Man in the Street


6.a Editors


6.b Military Generals


6.c Politicians


7. Words and Images of War


8. Genres of War and Terror

8.1. War and Words

8.2 Disaster Marathons


9. Peace Journalism and War Journalism


10. Conclusions: Media, War and Terror at the 21st Century
**Additional recommended Bibliography**


