universität wien

Department of Communication

Research Talks

Copyright: Jonas Közle/ Juarez Miro, Phoebe/ Phoebe Maares, Folker/ Winkelmann

Monday, 16 October 2023, 10:00 - 11:30 / SR8

A question of boundaries:
What is journalism and what do audiences expect of it?
Folker Hanusch, Phoebe Maares, Clara Juarez Miro, University of Vienna

The arrival of a multitude of new (quasi-)journalistic formats in the digital age raises fundamental questions that force us to reconsider traditional conceptualisations of what we understand as journalism and what societies want from it. This relates to both the definitional claims of journalists and new peripheral actors in the journalistic field, as well as to the expectations that audiences have of news content. This talk will present insights into these questions by reporting some very preliminary results from two FWF-funded projects based on a wide range of interviews with journalists, peripheral actors and audiences.

Copyright: VU University Amsterdama

Monday, 6 November 2023, 11:30-12:30 / SR3

Role of emotions in understanding effects of mediated communication
Elly Konijn, Media Psychology Program, VU University Amsterdam

Examining the role of emotions in understanding effects of mediated communication is still underdeveloped and overshadowed by a strong emphasis on cognitive processes. However, emotions can have a decisive role in processing media messages. I n my talk on Monday 6 November 2023, I will outline the neuropsychological underpinnings of emotional responsiveness to media. I will show how the intertwined parallel processing of emotions in a neuropsychological perspective may explain an emotion-bias in media effects, exemplified with research results about believing in fake news.

Copyright: Greenlee School of Journalism & Communication

Monday, 11 December 2023, 11:30-12:30 / SR3

Challenges and opportunities in research on refugee communications
Daniela Dimitrova, Lazarsfeld Guest Professor

As the number of displaced people worldwide continues to rise, it is important to examine the role of communication in this process. The talk will discuss how news media and online channels cover migration by examining the ways both traditional media organizations as well as migration NGOs communicate about the issue. Perspectives from communication accommodation and social support theory as well as challenges and future opportunities in research on refugee communications will also be discussed.

Copyright: Megan A. Brown

Monday, 8 January 2024, 11:30-12:30 / SR3

Who gets diverse news in an AI age – and how do we study this?
Felicia Löcherbach, New York University, Center for Social Media and Politics

News consumption is increasingly becoming individualized, every user has the theoretical possibility of getting their very own combination of information. For researchers, the complexity of the digital media environment has made it a Sisyphean task to find out who gets exposed to what and why. In this talk, several research designs are presented that help to study questions such as: What are factors that determine who reads what news and how do recommender systems complicate this process? What strategies do we have for preventing widening gaps between those interested in news and information and those who are not?