

JOUR4330 - Final exam

Instructions:

For your paper / exam, respond to the following questions – *at least* 1, 2 and 4. That is, as we discussed, you may omit 3 only if you need / want to go into greater detail into 1, 2 and 4. Otherwise, you should include careful attention to 3 as well..

As described on the website,

The submitted paper may be up to 10 pages (one page is calculated to 2300 characters without spaces). Course grades are awarded on a descending scale using alphabetic grades from A to E for passes and F for fail.

Following the usual standards for an excellent paper (see the document in Fronter – also discussed in class – on “Writing an Excellent Paper”), your paper should include a brief introduction that outlines for your reader the main points you will take up in the paper, along with the main findings, arguments, and/or conclusions you will draw and defend.

NB: please pay scrupulous attention to the requirements for proper documentation – both as (a) documenting your sources is an intrinsic part of the scholarly dialogue you are engaged with and that you invite your reader to participate in (i.e., by identifying your sources so that your reader can pursue these for further information, critical examination of your claims, etc.) and as (b) your primary way of making clear that you are absolutely avoiding plagiarism. *Specifically*: remember that anything more than three words (in sequence) taken from another source must be documented. Paraphrases must also be documented.

For further guidance, see both the “Writing an Excellent Paper” document and the stylesheet guidelines for APA:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

You’re welcome to use another one of the standard stylesheets – just use it consistently, i.e., don’t switch back and forth between different stylesheets.

(The Owl stylesheet guides should give you specific instructions for how to document every kind of source you will use – be careful and pay attention to the details!)

Due date: final papers are to be submitted in Fronter no later than 14:00, 30. April 2014.

Also, the [obligatory statement concerning cheating](#) must be submitted in Fronter before deadline.

The exam results will be published in studentweb 3 weeks after due date.

If you have any additional questions, etc., please contact me via email.

Questions

1) Identify what you take to be the most important argument(s) for freedom of expression, freedom of speech, (and/) or freedom of the press. Summarize this argument (these arguments) briefly – being sure to adequately / properly document its (their) source(s).

2) We have seen that *during the age of print*, i.e., as established *prior* to the emergence of electronic mass broadcasting (radio and TV), a number of important critiques of freedom of the press and freedom of expression emerged. Over this same timeframe, we also saw several – now “classic” – *limits* to freedom of the press have been established (beginning with the “clear and present danger” argument in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling by Oliver Wendall Holmes).

Of these arguments for limits to freedom of the press – which seems most important to you? Summarize this argument with some care – being sure to adequately / properly document its source(s).

3) Explain one or more of the challenges to “transferring” earlier rights to freedom of expression / press to online communications, including attention to:

A. What seems to be one (or more) of the most important *differences* between print media and networked digital media with regard to the primary arguments for freedom of the press?

B. What seems to be one (or more) of the most important similarities?

And/or other challenges as we have examined these.

4. You will recall that over the course of the semester, you picked a case study to examine and present in class (either from the Winston book, *The Right to Offend* or from the Oxford site on freedom of speech, <freespeechdebate.com/en/casestudies/>).

Describe your chosen case study with some care (being careful to document properly), and be especially clear as to

A. How your case study shows one or more of the important arguments *for* freedom of expression; and/or one or more of the important arguments *against* freedom of expression; and/or one or more of the important *challenges* to “transferring” earlier, print-based notions of freedom of speech to online environments.

B. How the conflict or debate in play in the case study was resolved – again, with careful attention to the arguments and factors involved (e.g., commercial interest, national security, etc.)

C. If the conflict or debate in play was not resolved – describe as best you can what factors (including primary arguments) prevented resolution.

D. Finally, how do *you* think the case should have been resolved – including whatever additional arguments, evidence, etc., that you may want to bring into play?

(Again, be sure to be very careful with documenting all sources that you make use of.)