

Carleton University
Department of Political Science
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

May-June, 2026

PSCI 4003A

Politics and the Media

May 6 – June 18, 2026
Mondays and Tuesdays, 2:35-5:25 p.m.
Please confirm location on Carleton Central.

I General information

Instructor: Professor Conrad Winn

Communication/Office Hours

- Availabilities by Zoom – Mondays and Tuesdays noon-1 p.m. and 7-8 p.m., times chosen to accommodate students in the workforce. A Zoom invitation from CW (Conrad Winn) will arrive just before Zoom appointment.
- Scheduling Zoom meetings – please use Carleton email to describe purpose and topic of proposed Zoom meeting with at least one of your two (2) time preferences beginning at least 24 hours after your email.

Email – University and Course Rules

- Name – your formal name as known by Carleton University;
- Email address – your official Carleton University email account;
- Destination – emailing cljwinn@cunet.carleton.ca assures a quicker response;
- Response time – rarely >48 hours or <48 seconds.

Research Projects – Choice of Authorship

- Choice – students are free to choose between (a) a research project and resulting term paper on their own or (b) forming a group of up to four collaborating co-authors.
- Group – students opting for a group project and hence co-authored term paper are asked (a) to c.c. all group members on all emails to CW (Conrad Winn) about the group project and (b) involve all group members in any meetings with CW re a group project.
- Exit – any student may exit from a group provided that she/he (a) promptly informs all members of the group and (b) includes a truthful explanation.

Term Paper – Carleton University rules, course rules, and course advice

1. Carleton University rule – (a) only Word and Excel, (b) no PDF's;
2. Course term paper rule – four pages for core essay with approximately double-spacing;
3. Appendix – no constraint on length;
4. First essay and paragraph sentence – ideally one clause;
5. Efficiency – strive to minimize adjectives, adverbs and redundancy;
6. Paragraphs – may be <50 words, never more than a page;
7. Charts/tables – may appear in the Appendix;

8. References – desirable footnotes should (a) appear at the bottom of the essay page with author name, title, publisher, date of publication, and relevant page numbers with (b) no footnotes at the end of the essay and (c) no bibliographic references in parenthesis within your text;
9. Pagination – required;
10. Spacing – 1.5 or double;
11. Submission – uploading to Brightspace required from the morning of June 12th to midnight, Sunday, June 14th;
12. Co-authored papers should (a) indicate on the title page the names of all co-authors, (b) be uploaded to Brightspace by a single member of the author team, (c) with all remaining co-authors uploading only the title page, indicating on that single title page the name of the person who uploaded the paper.

II Course Description

Ila Content – Challenges to the Truthfulness of News

News about nature resembles news about humans with one difference. Rivers can cause flooding, earthquakes destroy buildings, and storms sink ships. But lacking the cunning of humans, rivers and other elements of nature are unable to misdescribe what they do. By contrast, the spokespeople for all kinds of human organizations have the skills to misrepresent their own actions and the actions of almost any other player in the universe.

Those who make the news or report the news have a panorama of motives for misrepresentation. Motives may range from ambition to greed, payola, emotion, laziness, low knowledge, few skills, little time, scant objectivity, gender prejudice, sexual bias, ethno-racial discrimination, religious hatred and fear.

Humans can misrepresent actions that took place a thousand seconds or a thousand years ago. Avarice can lead vote-seeking politicians, profit-seeking corporations, donor-seeking universities, payoff-seeking mafia, and annexation-seeking dictatorships to placate and propitiate their sources of income and hence misrepresent and misdescribe basic facts. Yet, greed and avarice are not the only possible motivations for misrepresenting facts.

Fear can also be a motivation for misrepresenting the news, for example, fear of...

1. ...financial risk can lead media owners to please advertisers, governments, and/or media regulators;
2. ...violence can lead journalists, Hollywood, politicians, scholars and/or song writers to downplay the evil they know about;
3. ...ridicule can lead journalists, film-makers, politicians, corporations, historians and other scholars to discount centuries of misogyny, slavery, anti-Christianism, anti-Judaism, anti-Asianism, anti-Arabism, other skin-coloured racism, prejudice against short people, and countless other forms of discrimination;
4. ...shame can lead scholars and journalists to downplay the pro-Nazism of the head of Britain's BBC and Canada's Liberal Prime Minister Mackenzie King, both in the era of Winston Churchill;
5. ...distressing people can lead politicians, academics and journalists to conceal the predominance of dictatorships in international agencies such as the UN Human Rights Council or WHO;

6. ...losing income can lead media, big tech, movie-makers, corporations, and politicians to deny evil;
7. ...losing grants can lead universities to accommodate the agendas and conflicts-of-interest of big governments, big corporations, big pharma, and big dictatorships.

The consumers of news also contribute to the weakness of news production. More than a century ago, modest interest in news honesty in France enabled French newspapers to claim some British newspaper content as their own. Til the 1960's, low audience interest in news quality enabled media organizations to delay hiring university-educated staff. Til today, low audience interest in understanding dictatorships and their cruelties led to almost no media hiring journalists with specialized knowledge of China, Russia, Iran, Pakistan, Qatar, Venezuela, Sudan or other brutal regimes.

Beyond the preceding realities is low public commitment to spending on and consuming the news:

1. North American newspapers have experienced a sharp decline in readership leading to the death of more than 2,500 newspapers in the early 21st century;
2. almost no Canadian papers today make a profit;
3. despite the rising power of the U.S. relative to western Europe, U.S. TV news consumption is so low that at most 1% of the adult population watch the ostensibly giant Fox News channel in prime time.

Perhaps a third of that watch second place MSNBC with a fifth watching CNN (source: Nielson per Adweek at [This Is the Cable News Ratings Report for 2025](#)). PEW data shows newspaper circulation dropping by 55% from 1984 to 2018 (<https://cdn.statcdn.com/Infographic/images/normal/18827.jpeg>) with big tech's news role skyrocketing despite Beijing and Biden White House influence over its content.

*Table 1:
Media Fear, Weakness, and Partisanship –
Some Counter-Measures for News Consumers*

<i>Media Challenges</i>	<i>Possible Counter-Measures for News Consumers to Consider – Esp. Sources without Financial Conflicts</i>
1. ...fear of dictatorships	Choose thinktanks, research institutes, Internet sources, highly independent authors, dictatorship experts, media sources, university sources, and politicians not on the payroll of a dictatorship or its corporate or nation-state proxy.
2. ...fear of governments	Choose media opposed to a domestic government – their reports may be more revealing.
3. ...weak on international affairs	Compensate with think tanks/experts that/who are brave and independent of pressure from dictatorships.
4. ...weak on govts prone to violence	Analogous to above
5. ...weak on govt spending, debt, inflation and related themes	Consider spending experts, econ/policy journals and/or top business publications with weak or no party preferences
6. ...weak on regional conflict (e.g. Finland-Russia, V-Nam-China)	Turn to regional journals, newspapers, region-oriented experts and others with no financial conflicts-of-interest
7. ...weak on war. (US Gen. predicted fast Russian conquest of Ukraine)	Seek private opinions of arms makers/historians/combat officers/war strategists/country experts.
8. ...media partisanship dealing with truth and falsehood	To counter-balance government influence, choose media favouring a pro-democracy, anti-government party.

The companion tables list challenges to media (table 1) and challenges to consumers (table 2) plus potential counter-measures for consumers. Table 3 lists several books on the weaknesses of news production.

Table 2:
*Laziness, Knowledge and Other Weaknesses of News Consumers –
Some Counter-Measures*

Consumer Challenges	Possible Counter-Measures for Consumers to Consider
1. Laziness – Nobel prize winner Daniel Kahneman, <i>Thinking, Slow and Fast</i> says most people understand little.	A counter-measure to urge thinking more carefully about news is to contemplate financial effects of thinking more about the career value/valuelessness of news.
2. The Planet – unable to travel, people may discount relevance of the planet.	A counter-measure is to accept that (a) events far away can affect us and (b) forecasters may profit greatly.
3. Corruption – most people abhor government corruption but know little.	A counter-measure is build a business/career to turn knowledge of corruption into public value and success.
4. Democracy – democracies’ quality of life is greater but studying what people truly want is rare.	A counter-measure is to think about how one can build a career that turns knowledge about what people care about into success.
5. Policy – government spending trumps revenue.	A counter-measure is to rank governments for gauging program effectiveness.
6. Quant often trumps qual in spending priorities and in hiring; yet news, govt reports, and polisci are mainly qual.	Counter-measures could be methods for prioritizing effectiveness metrics, programs, policy analysis and news reporting.

Table 3:
Major Books on the Weaknesses of News Producers and News Consumers

Possible Counter-Measures for Consumers to Consider
1. Tom Watson and Martin Hickman, <i>Dial M for Murdoch: News Corporation and the Corruption of Britain</i> (London: Penguin, 2012) as an illustration of owner chicanery,
2. Neil Postman, <i>Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Showbusiness</i> as an illustration of media superficiality,
3. Timothy Crouse, <i>The Boys on the Bus</i> for group think or Gay Talese, <i>The Kingdom and the Power</i> on the mega-power of the NYT in its heyday,
4. Marshall McLuhan, <i>The Medium is the Message</i> on the then emerging power of television,
5. James Fallows, <i>Breaking the News</i> on the phoniness of journalists,
6. Sharyl Atkisson, <i>Slanted: How the News Media Taught Us to Love Censorship and Hate Journalism</i> (HarperCollins, 2020);
7. Alex Berenson’s best seller series entitled <i>Unreported Truths about COVID-19 and Lockdowns</i> (2021) plus his subsequent commentaries, valuable because of timeliness;
8. Robert M. Smith, <i>Suppressed: Confessions of a Former New York Times Washington Correspondent</i> (2021), valuable in part because of revelations.
9. Nobel winner Daniel Kahneman’s <i>Thinking, Slow and Fast</i> re how humans hardly think. His views could be transformed into research on how thoughtful news can motivate thinking.

IIb Source Material

A diversity of sources will appear in PPT lectures, distributed at least twice weekly through Brightspace. Students are asked to be sceptical of major media and other sources given long records of uneven accuracy, uneven honesty, and uneven knowledge, e.g.:

1. Once the world's most important broadcaster, the BBC had a CEO until almost WW2 whose pro-Nazism affected his network's coverage of Britain, Germany, and Winston Churchill in the 1930's;
2. The inventor of 24 hour broadcast news, CNN is owned by AT&T, whose economic ambitions in China has led it to constrain its broadcaster from offending the Beijing dictatorship;
3. Ostensibly rightwing Fox News has enough ostensibly pro-Democrat party viewers to constrain the network from being as rightwing, conservative, or pro-free market as it might wish to be;
4. Canadian journalists have sometimes muted their stories (a) about the GoC or Queen's Park as a result of a desire to transit from journalism to government employment or (b) about the U.S. as a result of a desire to leave Canada for a job in American journalism;
5. Founded by refugees from China, *The Epoch Times's* readership growth strategy has had to contend with Beijing's powerful commitment to deploy proxies to harm its credibility; and
6. The money power of big dictatorships, big pharma, big advertising, big corporations and big donors over U.S. media, big tech firms, politicians, universities, and the medical profession across the democracies.

Given the long, checkered reliability of legacy media, big tech and other conventional sources of political information, thoughtful news consumers should consider a diversity of sources, e.g.

1. Legacy media abroad and not just in North America, e.g. British newspapers, Singapore Straits-Times, Jerusalem Post, and Times of India;
2. Think tank trackers of major events, e.g. daily Iran updates from criticalthreats.org;
3. On China's dictatorship, authors and commentators (e.g. Gordon G. G. Chang) who are independent of Beijing's global power over Chinese scholarship across universities;
4. On Middle East dictatorships, think tanks like the Middle East Forum and the Gatestone Institute, both independent of Qatari financial power over western universities;
5. Diverse, semi-sceptical centres of commentary, e.g. salon.com, pjmedia.com, mediaresearch.org, instapundit.com, discoverthenetworks.org, dailykos.com, townhall.com, [investigative project](http://investigativeproject.com), [jihad watch](http://jihadwatch.com), [politico](http://politico.com), [clarion](http://clarion.com), israelunwired.com, memri.org, the Tower, [americanthinker](http://americanthinker.com), AEI, [israelunwired](http://israelunwired.com), PEW, Council on Foreign Affairs, CapX, the Henry Jackson Society, and memri.org;
6. Data sources such as Statista, Janes, Debka;
7. Investment advisories such as Mauldin Economics.

Please be paradoxical. Sometimes the most valuable data are free or very expensive. Sometimes sources you disagree with remain valuable even if they do not change your position.

IIc How Prof. Winn Sees Framing Course for Students' Career Advantages

Table 4 lists intended course effects. For each effect, let us please think about how you could benefit.

Table 4:

<i>Intended Course Effects</i>
1. Greater mastery of media limits/alternatives/truthfulness
2. Quant/polling experience/knowledge
3. Media/Communication know-how
4. Optional interviews with non-university experts
5. High essay brevity and high awareness of bibliographic references

III Format – Lectures, Discussions, Tests, and Term Papers

Key organizational features of the course are:

1. PPTs – for lectures, including bibliographic references relevant to tests and with career value;
2. Multiple choice tests – dates shown in sections VI and VII;
3. Disagreement urged – those who disagree are welcome and will normally get the last word;
4. Some term paper options are noted below with others discussed in lectures or private chats;
5. The tables in sections VI and VII distil information relevant to obligations in this course.

IV Learning Outcomes – How Some Might Be Valuable

The following could be valuable...

- media and mass communication – of value because of our era of high competition for government spending plus record national debt, real estate inflation, inter-cohort inequality, political violence, emigration, and population decline;
- sensitive economic and security news – of value because of economic and security issues;
- basic empirical and quantitative skills, a requirement for research assignments in the course and also a skill that is especially valued in many sectors of the work force today.

V Texts/Readings/Lectures/Sources and Messaging Professor Winn

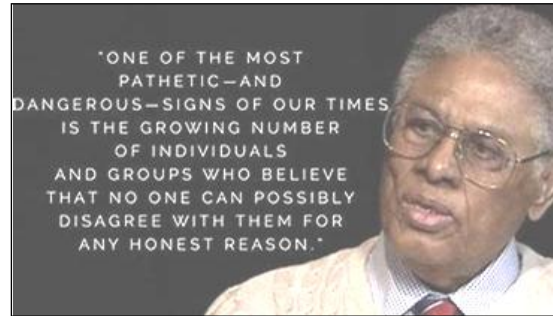
Va Textbooks – None

In place of a textbook or textbooks are items that appear in section VIII and especially in lecture PPT slides. Book purchases are not required for the course.

Vb Lectures, Testing, Disagreement, and Sources

Please note the following:

- CW agrees with Professor Thomas Sowell that “one of the most pathetic – and dangerous – signs of our times is the growing number of individuals and groups who believe that no one can possibly disagree with them for any honest reason.”
- Short, multiple-choice tests will be available between approximately midnight and midnight on the following Tuesdays: May 19, May 26, June 2, June 9, June 16;
- Many sources are essential for helping understand when legacy media and big tech are mistaken or misleading – professors, think tanks and scholars independent of universities and hence independent of the power of dictatorships, specialized and micro-media, courageous authors and thinkers as identified in the syllabus and especially in PPT lectures (new PPT’s available on Brightspace about twice weekly);
- Defamation – vital to appreciate that certain people (e.g. U.S. politicians) have often been unprotected against defamation with the result that sensible people verify accusations and do not take for granted their accuracy.



VI Evaluation at a Glance

Date	Type	% Course Grade
May 19	<2 pp. proposal of existing or constructed verbs for identifying different types of false or misleading news	10
May 19	MCT = Multiple choice test	7
May 26	MCT	7
June 2	MCT	7
June 9	MCT	7
June 16	Essay 4 pp. max plus appendix	47
June 16	MCT	15
June 18	Optional grade raiser (list of professors in democracies), details to follow.	20
June 18	Oral contribution – factored in only if higher than a student’s other grades	20

VII Evaluation in Detail

Date	Type	% Course Grade	Likely ETA of Grade or Feedback	Content
May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <2 pp. , even possibly < 1 pp. ○ proposal of existing, combined, or invented verbs for identifying different types of false or misleading statements about news, normally verbs. ○ Mainly English, wording could include elements from Latin, French or other languages with semi-clear meaning to English-speakers 	7	Approx. a week after submission	Illustrations in italics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>omilie</i> (lying by omission) ○ <i>fogalie</i> (lying by giving a murky or confusing portrait of facts) ○ <i>fabricom</i> (communication by fabrication or invention of facts) ○ <i>implilie</i> (lying by implying a falsehood) ○ <i>discrimacom</i> (communication in a false effort to attribute guilt to innocents) ○ English for “vranyo,” Russian for a shared lie.
May 19	MCT = Multiple choice test	7	Next morning	NA
May 26	MCT	7	Next morning	Lecture, readings, news
June 2	MCT	7	Next morning	Lecture, readings, news
June 9	MCT	7	Next morning	Lecture, readings, news
June 16	Essay 4 pp. max plus appendix with no page limit	50	Approx. a week after submission	Per (a) essay details below in this table, (b) lecture content and/or (c) email communication with CW
June 16	MCT	15	Next morning	Lecture, readings, news
June 18	Optional grade raiser (list of professors in democracies), details to follow.	20	Approx. a week after submission	Lecture, readings, news
June 18	Oral contribution – factored in only if higher than a student’s other grades	20	End of term unless requested earlier	Quality of oral contributions
Tests – missed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For one missed test, grade will be imputed as average of all others. ○ For a second and subsequent missed test, to avoid a zero grade the student is asked to please email the instructor a physician’s note or a persuasive justification. 			
Essays – topics	Conrad Winn will happily provide counsel on request re essays with any of the following considerations in mind or on topics not listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quantitative and/or data-based; 			

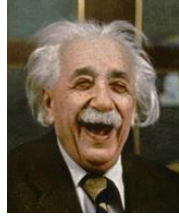
<i>Date</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>% Course Grade</i>	<i>Likely ETA of Grade or Feedback</i>	<i>Content</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any quantitative analysis involving (a) survey/opinion research, (b) government or other reliable data, (c) content analysis of media, books and/or (d) other data capable of being analyzed quantitatively; ○ Any quantitative analysis of any media reporting on verified events such as genocides; ○ An experimental use of several search engines on media coverage of recent issues with a partisan element and using several computers on each issue using different personal names if requested (to be discussed in class); ○ Methods used in quantitative, empirical, and/or data analysis can be very basic or elementary but data analysis must be replicatable. 			
Essays – requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Page notes, not end notes, with complete reference to author, title, publisher, data, and pages of your source books or source periodicals. ○ Maximum 4 pp for the core essay plus bibliography and appendix (no page limits) ○ Appendix may contain tables/charts ○ Bibliography limited to items in page notes ○ Many examples to be discussed in class with some detail posted. 			
Essays – advice	<p>Conrad Winn will happily provide counsel on request re essays with any of the following goals in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ choosing a topic, ○ finding information or data, ○ minimizing ratio of effort to success, ○ increasing likelihood of achieving a student’s goal, ○ assuring success doing simple quantitative analysis, ○ use of AI and/or search engines. 			
Essays – other constraints	<p>Students are prohibited from submitting to this course essays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ previously submitted in another course, ○ acquired in whole or part by commercial transaction or ○ not authored by the student (e.g. may not be AI-authored). <p>More details on essay content options will be presented in class and/or on Brightspace.</p>			

VIII Course Schedule – Topics, Reading, and Tests

Two or more sets of PPTs will be available on Brightspace weekly. Some bibliographic references appear in the syllabus; many others will appear in the PPT’s, including some published somewhat recently. The first class will discuss course purpose and intended career/graduate school benefits for students, essay options, tests, expectations and availability for assistance plus educational strategies for the benefit of individual students.

Several initial classes will discuss essay research options. Bibliographic references in the syllabus are a subset of those in the PPTs. Both subsets emphasize facts not easily corroborated.

1. News Reliability, Ease of Censorship, and Censorship 1800-1950— Debate between Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison as an Illustration Empirical (i.e. Quantitative) Research—How Do We Make It Serve You (May 11)



Vs.



(a) Media and Politics

1. *Unless otherwise indicated, the following items are taken from Dan D. Nimmo and Keith R. Sanders, eds., *Handbook of Political Communication* (Beverly Hills: Sage, 1981): Robert L. Savage, “The Diffusion of Information Approach,” chap. 3; Maxwell E. McCombs, “The Agenda-setting Approach,” chap. 4; Richard Hofstetter, “Content analysis,” chap 19; Alan Rubin, “Uses, gratifications and media effects research” in Jennings Bryant and Dolf Zillmann, eds., *Perspectives on Media Effects* (Hillsdale, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum, 1986).
2. Sharyl Attkisson, *The Smear: How Shady Political Operatives and Fake News Control What You See, What You Think, and How You Vote* (Harper, 2018).
3. [These 6 corporations control 90% of the media outlets in America. The illusion of choice and objectivity | Tech News | Startups News \(techstartups.com\)](#) (2020)
4. [‘Once You Start Censoring, You’re on Your Way to Dystopia and Totalitarianism,’ RFK Jr. Tells House Committee • Children’s Health Defense \(childrenshealthdefense.org\)](#) (2023)

(b) Term Paper

The following quantitative analysis-based term paper options will be explored in lectures during the first two weeks:

1. Major events – content analysis of reporting/non-reporting by mass media or political science textbooks on giant, consequential events (e.g. democides and/or flights of persecuted populations);
2. Polling – analysis of issues explored on not explored in polls and reported on by mass media (e.g. inflation, cost of living, discrimination, risk of war);
3. Mistreatment – content analysis of (a) media reporting, (b) university textbook analysis and/or (c) trade book sales re potential controversies (e.g. mistreatment of indigenous and other populations);
4. Inequalities – content analysis of reporting on inequalities in democratic societies and/or between cohorts;
5. Cruelties – content analysis of reporting in democracies on cruelties in dictatorships;
6. International organizations – content analysis of reporting on the power of dictatorships in international organizations (e.g. UN Human Rights Council);
7. Immigration – effects on democracies of population movements from dictatorships;
8. Tax avoidance – media and/or university textbook analysis of income tax minimization strategies available to high income earners;
9. Program evaluation – analysis of democracies’ use of and/or media reporting on governments’ use of this procedure to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of expensive government programs.

2. 21st Century Censorship – Politics and Medicine
(a) U.S. and Canadian Censorship Industrial Complexes –
U.S. Case: FBI, IRS, CDC, Amazon, University plus;
(b) Health, Medicine, Covid, and Food
(May 12)

(a) Politics

1. [Some Private CCTV Footage Is Being Automatically Streamed to Law Enforcement \(reclaimthenet.org\)](https://reclaimthenet.org) (2023)
2. [Election Monitors Spent More Resources on Rebel News Signage Than Foreign Interference, Inquiry Hears | The Epoch Times](https://www.theepochtimes.com) (2024)
3. Democracy Index from The Economic Intelligence Unit of the Economist Group - [Democracy Dictatorship Index by Country 2024](https://www.eiu.com).
4. [Quebec music festival cancelled after band makes censorship accusation \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com) (2024)
5. Jerry Dunleavy, "FBI knew the Hunter Biden laptop was real in 2019, IRS whistleblowers say," *Washington Examiner* 20230622.
6. [Mark Zuckerberg says he regrets Facebook throttling Hunter Biden laptop story | Washington Examiner](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com)
7. [Melania Trump Reveals She Was Debanked and Banned From Her Business Email Provider \(reclaimthenet.org\)](https://reclaimthenet.org) (2024)

(b) Health, Medicine, Covid and Food

1. [Google Censored Info Long Before COVID — Could It Have Anything to Do With Parent Company Alphabet's Deep Pharma Ties? • Children's Health Defense](https://www.childrenshhealthdefense.org) (2025)
2. [Mastermind Behind 'Disinformation Dozen' List Took Money From Foundation Linked to Soros • Children's Health Defense](https://www.childrenshhealthdefense.org) (2025)
3. [Power Lines, Tablets Linked to Brain Risk in Children • Children's Health Defense](https://www.childrenshhealthdefense.org) (2026)
4. [America First Legal Sues CDC to Get Answers About the Biden Admin Working With Big Tech to Censor the American People - America First Legal](https://www.americafirstlegal.com) (2022)
5. https://www.theepochtimes.com/world/cbc-ombudsman-says-broadcaster-may-have-been-too-timid-in-seeking-differing-perspectives-on-pandemic-policies-5785893?utm_source=NA_article_paid&src=NA_article_paid&utm_campaign=newsalert-2025-01-03-ca&src_cmp=newsalert-2025-01-03-ca&utm_medium=email&est=kvDFyTpZVcxKpTEqCshXZFSUXnLg6m5xHeAl3SnOacabMaL6ycaX7IGPmaR79mhKtd%2BK&utm_term=news4&utm_content=4 (2025)
6. [Doctor's Career Destroyed - David Cartland, MBChB | Children's Health Defense](https://www.childrenshhealthdefense.org) (2026)

**3. The Age of Murder—Why Should We Care, Part I –
(a) Ottoman-Turkish Genocide of Armenians 1914-1923,
(b) Japanese Imperial Democides 1937-45,
(b) Record Communist China Democides,
(c) Media Non-Reporting,
(d) The Extraordinary 21st C. Rise of China,
(e) Virtual Non-Reporting of Record Totalitarianism, and
(f) Media Empirical Research—How to Make It Serve You continued
(May 18)**

Combination of Traditional and Independent Writing

1. *R. J. Rummel, *Power Kills: Democracy as a Method of Nonviolence* (New York: Routledge, 2017)
2. *Powerkills, a major website organized by Professor Rummel to reflect his understanding of mass murder and the agency of Communist, Nazi, Imperial, and other autocracies, not democracies.
<http://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/LIST.HTM>
3. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum at <https://www.ushmm.org/>, which Professor Rummel recommends as a source and with which he purposely avoids overlap.
4. *Gordon G. Chang, “Wall Street Wants More Frauds from China” (Gatestone, 17 August, 2020)
5. Wang, Jenny. “How Managers Use Culture and Controls to Impose a ‘996’ Work Regime in China That Constitutes Modern Slavery.” *Accounting and Finance (Parkville)* 60, no. 4 (December 2020): 4331–4359.
6. INFOGRAPHIC: How the Chinese Regime Colluded With WHO During the Pandemic ANNIE WU AND EPOCH TIMES STAFF 1-Jun-20 https://www.theepochtimes.com/infographic-how-the-chinese-regime-colluded-with-who-during-the-pandemic_3372694.html
7. James Q Whitman, *Hitler’s American Model: The United States and the Making of Nazi Race Law* Kindle Edition
8. Dinesh Dsouza, *Death of a Nation: Plantation Politics and the Making of the Democratic Party* (Macmillan. 2019)

Readings – Why So Many?

The expectation is not that you would read or agree with all. The goals are for you to

- see the benefit of becoming aware of many sources,
- embrace ideas with diverse points of view including some absent from MSM, and
- become alert to issues you may not have thought of and democratic perspectives you may not agree with.

9. Li-Meng Yan told Fox News that she believes China knew about the coronavirus well before it claimed it did. She says her supervisors also ignored research she was doing that she believes could have saved lives. Barnini Chakraborty, Alex Diaz 20200710 Fox News <https://www.foxnews.com/world/chinese-virologist-coronavirus-cover-up-flee-hong-kong-whistleblower>
10. Gordon Chang, *The Coming Collapse of China* (2001) and *China Is Going to War* (2023)
11. Clive Hamilton and Mareike Ohlberg, *Hidden Hand: Exposing How the Chinese Communist Party is Reshaping the World*.
12. Clive Hamilton, *Silent Invasion: China's influence in Australia*
13. *Robert Spalding, *Stealth War: How China Took Over While America's Elite Slept* 2019
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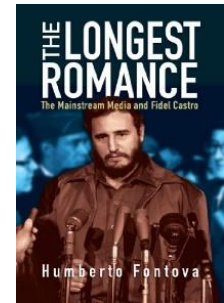
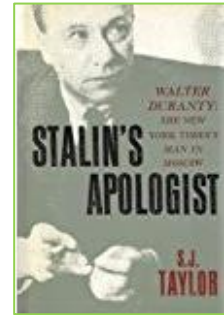
How Do We Assess Weakness in these Readings?

- We normally look for errors of commission, i.e. lying on purpose.
- But errors of omission might be more fruitful. What might the writer have missed?
- Errors of omissions are one reason why diverse readings are often valuable.

4. The Age of Murder, Part II
(a) Record Soviet and Chinese Democides,
(b) Nazi Holocaust, Many Nazi Allies' Collaboration,
(c) Cuban Murder Volume
(d) Record 20th C Mass Murder and Virtual Non-Reporting,
(e) Media Empirical Research and Its Benefits to You cont'd (May 19)

(a) Semi-Traditional Readings

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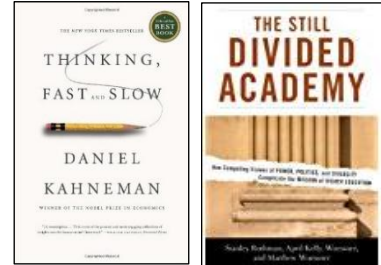
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Censorship and Other Dangers to Media in Democracies

- Media empirical research is a supplementary theme, as shown at the bottom of headings for initial weeks.
- Subsequent weeks will have supplementary mini-lectures/discussions of domestic and foreign threats to the freedom of opinion of citizens and the freedom of reporting of media plus other important but under-reported themes.

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(b) Somewhat Independent-Minded Readings

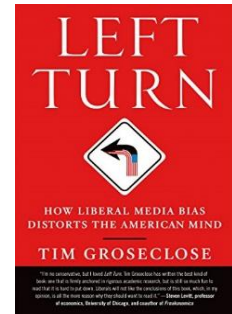
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6. (a) Left Minds, Right Minds, and Media Minds and (b) Empirical (i.e. Quantitative) Limitations of Ideology (May 26)

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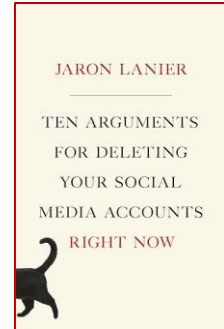


7. Internet and Social Media (June 1)

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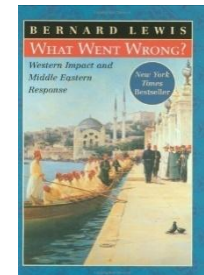
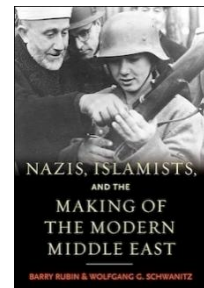
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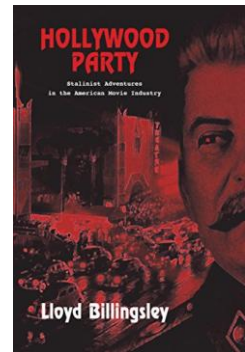
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24. "Red alert for green journalism – 10 environmental reporters killed in five years," *Reporters without Borders* 21 August, 2020 at <https://rsf.org/en/news/red-alert-green-journalism-10-environmental-reporters-killed-five-years>
25. Paul Sacca, "Confidence in Fauci plunges; quarter of Americans say the coronavirus pandemic is over: poll," *Blaze* 22-May-21
26. Interview with Larry Elder, Facebook Canceled Trump for His 'Big Lie,' but Not Harry Reid and an AP Reporter for Their Lies (theepochtimes.com) May-21 (theepochtimes.com)
27. Kameron Duncan, "Former New York Times Writer Blames 1 Sport For Paper's Decline," *The Spun* (20230715) available at [Former New York Times Writer Blames 1 Sport For Paper's Decline \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/entertainment/former-new-york-times-writer-blames-1-sport-for-paper-s-decline).

(c) Slightly More Contemporary Sources on Deception, More Broadly Defined

1. Argentine VP jailed for fraud. [Argentine VP Cristina Fernandez gets 6 years in prison, lifetime ban from public office for fraud | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/world/argentina-fernandez-6-years-prison-lifetime-ban-1.6488888)
2. Czech PM condemned for extracting millions from EU in misrepresenting ownership of his firm. [EU news: Brussels accused of behaving like the 'mafia' after scathing funding report | Politics | News | Express.co.uk](https://www.express.co.uk/news/eu/1284888/czech-pm-condemned-for-extracting-millions-from-eu-in-misrepresenting-ownership-of-his-firm)
3. Cronies of Turkey's Erdogan defrauded Czech bank of hundreds of millions of Euros. <https://nordicmonitor.com/2022/06/turkish-president-erdogans-cronies-frauded-czech-bank-for-over-400-million-euros/>
4. Hunter Biden sought "success fees" to unfreeze foreign assets in the U.S. www.businessinsider.com/new-emails-reveal-that-hunter-biden-wanted-2-million-for-libya-deal-2021-9.
5. Hillary Clinton used her law firm to obscure her leadership role in accusing of Donald Trump of being a Moscow agent. (See article by Zachary Stieber in *The Epoch Times* Feb. 5-11, 2022, A8)
6. [CBS embroiled in ANOTHER editing scandal as Speaker Mike Johnson accuses network of deceptive cutting | Daily Mail Online](https://www.dailymail.com/news/uk-politics/cbs-embroiled-in-another-editing-scandal-as-speaker-mike-johnson-accuses-network-of-deceptive-cutting) (2024)
7. On censorship of MidEast reporting, see [Tectonic Shift' in Media Has Changed Perceptions of Israel \(thewrap.com\)](https://www.thewrap.com/tectonic-shift-in-media-has-changed-perceptions-of-israel/)
8. On China coverage by the *NYT*, see https://www.theepochtimes.com/us/behind-the-new-york-times-china-coverage-decades-of-distortion-5653964?utm_source=BN_article_paid&src_src=BN_article_paid&utm_campaign=breaking-2024-

[08-16-ca&src_cmp=breaking-2024-08-16-ca&utm_medium=email&est=0ilyPVbCvSCwJvw9rh%2FOUzsZ873rYOLwABmNNWlyEZA6371HMVlh3TzLj3%2Bprmdt3zS&utm_term=news4&utm_content=4](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/2024/08/16/08-16-ca&src_cmp=breaking-2024-08-16-ca&utm_medium=email&est=0ilyPVbCvSCwJvw9rh%2FOUzsZ873rYOLwABmNNWlyEZA6371HMVlh3TzLj3%2Bprmdt3zS&utm_term=news4&utm_content=4) (2024)

9. On obscuring Biden's early illhealth: <https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/5326429-media-coverage-biden-cognitive-issues/> (2025)
10. On a U.S. crime operation's use of bribery to control its China banking operations, see Kash Patel and Jan Jekielek in "Kash's Corner" in *The Epoch Times* (March 31, 2023)
11. Liberal Employment Minister Randy Boissonnault and Mass. Democrat Senator Elizabeth Warren promoted their careers through false claims of indigenous descent. By end of 2025, almost 1,900 ostensibly indigenous firms were removed from the GoC list of indigenous firms after receiving millions in funds. [Nearly \\$300M in federal contracts went to companies later removed from Indigenous Business Directory | CBC News](#)
12. On Iran proxy Hezbollah and its crime nexus in Latin America: [194web.pdf \(besacenter.org\)](#)
13. On China's use of contrived investments to control politicians in democracies, see Roger L. Simon, screenwriter, novelist and co-founder of *PJ Media*, *The Epoch Times* 20231223.
14. On China's agents in the UK, see <https://news.sky.com/story/chinese-spy-christine-lee-operated-out-in-the-open-damaging-trust-and-creating-an-atmosphere-of-paranoia-12515444> (2022)
15. On China operations in Canada, see (a) Noe Chartier article, *The Epoch Times* March 18-22, 2023, A1; (b) <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-chinese-donors-who-funded-trudeau-foundation-wanted-statue-of-mao-in/>; (c) *Omid Ghoreishi, "Intel Leaks...", *The Epoch Times* March 2-8, 2023, A1 and A6; (d) Anthony Furey, "Beijing's Election Interference...", *The Epoch Times* March 2-8, 2023, B1 and retired intelligence official, Phil Gurski, "On the Claim of 'Inaccuracies'..." *ibid.*, B2. Countless writing exists on international espionage. This includes books by such authors as Ben MacIntyre, Anthony Vinci, Howard Blum, Robert Baier, and Uri Bar-Joseph plus media reports on
 - a. Brazilian spies in the U.S. navy,
 - b. Moscow's agent at *The New York Times*,
 - c. China's advocates in western legislatures and big tech,
 - d. Beijing agents on trial in U.S. courts,
 - e. Iran agents in Washington, D.C. and leadership at the UN Human Rights Council,
 - f. Qatari influence in western universities,
 - g. China's strategic power over western corporations, universities, media, and legislatures,
 - h. China's rising importance in WHO and other international organizations.

Political Science Course Outline Appendix

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Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>

Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

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ood2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>

The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

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circumstances for both short-term and long-term periods and extends to all students enrolled at Carleton University.

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Pregnancy: Contact your Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, please contact Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC) at equity@carleton.ca or by calling (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.

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Students unable to write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply within **three working days** to the Registrar's Office for permission to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully supported by the appropriate documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered. [See Undergraduate Calendar, Article 4.3](#)

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