New Literature
New Publications from Nordicom

Manufacturing Europe. Spaces of Democracy, Diversity and Communication

This book explores current key problems of communication, democracy and diversity, and how these are intertwined as part of media practice. Integrating geographical, historical and multicultural approaches, it develops existing thought on public sphere and democracy. In particular, it focuses on three dimensions that reflect obstacles to the European democratic project. In exploring the reality and content of the concept of a European public sphere, the book scrutinizes the concept’s inherent values and norms as well as the nature of the formation and structure of a transnational public sphere: its efficacy, legitimacy, and pluralism. Examining media practices, journalistic cultures and the mediation of European issues in member states, it explores how the European public sphere(s) are actualized for its citizens. Opening up the ethnic, cultural, and historical diversity of the continent, the book offers new approaches to the demands of modern European multiculturalism.

Communicating Politics. Political Communication in the Nordic Countries

Modern politics is mediated politics, and the media constitute the most important source of information and channel of communication between the governors and the governed. Media and politics are thus inextricable linked together, with the media playing an important role in contemporary democracies and for political processes. While this is true for virtually all advanced democracies, there are still important differences between countries depending on, for example, their media systems and political systems. The purpose of Communicating Politics: Political Communication in the Nordic Countries is consequently to describe and analyze both the political communication systems and cases of political communication processes in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Taken together, the chapters explore differences as well as similarities between the Nordic countries, and provide a broad view of political communication systems, practices and research perspectives in the Nordic countries.

Transnational Media Events. The Mohammed Cartoons and the Imagined Clash of Civilizations

In September 2005, a newspaper in Denmark published 12 cartoons depicting Mohammed, the holy Prophet of Islam. Soon after publication, these pictures became part of various events, political projects and diplomatic action. All over the world, the cartoons – or interpretations of them – were connected to discursive struggles that pre-existed their drawing and publication. The cartoon event thus extended well beyond its immediate dramatic phase of spring 2006, both into the past and the future, and became at least a small landmark case of post-9/11 global media history. In this book, a community of international media researchers collects some of the lessons learned and questions provoked and offered by media coverage of the Mohammed cartoons in 16 countries, ranging from Denmark, Egypt and Argentina to Pakistan and Canada.

Mediated Crossroads. Identity, Youth Culture and Ethnicity
Theoretical and Methodological Challenges

The book Mediated Crossroads focuses on family, young people, ethnicity and the media in the context of increasing migration in contemporary Western societies. The book includes studies covering both media use and reception. It reflects on the growing interest in ethnic minorities – both on the macro and micro level – within media and cultural studies. The contributing authors present empirical work on the media and cultural practices of migrants in a wide range of countries such as Belgium, Finland, Greece, Israel, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.K, and the empirical data are framed by theoretical discussions on a more general level. The collection of studies is characterized by a discursive, everyday life perspective, in which concrete cases of migrant life – with a focus on children, women, families or young people – in relation to media and popular culture are analysed.
Denmark
Documentalist: Ditte Laursen

Corporate Communications. Convention, Complexity and Critique

Providing a critical evaluation of corporate communication, this textbook looks beyond the idealized and prescriptive notions of communication management and offers readers a deeper and more complex understanding of corporate communication as a social and organizational phenomenon. The book asks the following important questions, Where does the notion of corporate communication come from?, What are its underlying assumptions?, Which activities are involved?, What are the implications for companies that implement communication programs? Throughout readers’ learning is consolidated by learning outcomes, chapter introductions and summaries, international vignettes, executive briefings and student questions.

Design Anthropology. Borderland Experiments with Participation, Performance and Situated Intervention

Anthropology and explorative design are converging in some aspects. This dissertation discusses the widespread employment of ethnographic techniques for interview and observation in an increasing number of design fields such as interaction design, IT system design and product development, as well as in the broader programme of user-driven innovation. The central problem is that the challenge of the employment is articulated as a gulf to be bridged between observations and interventions. The distinction between descriptive practices (of ethnographers) and prescriptive practices (of designers) is, however, both unproductive in terms of design results and predicated on the false assumption that there is a clear path to follow from an interesting observation to an interesting design suggestion. On the basis of three research and design projects within the field of participatory design this dissertation lays out elements of a design anthropology — a hybrid approach that combines insights and practices from design and anthropology. By recourse to post-modern anthropology and the acknowledgement of ethnographic representations as cultural recreations the stale opposition of observations and interventions is contested.

Fulltext is available at the Ncom database: http://nordicom.aub.aau.dk/ncom/front.do

How Political Elites Influence Public Opinion. Psychological and Contextual Conditions of Framing Effects

Drawing on a wide range of experimental and survey data, the dissertation provides a detailed psychological account of how the interpretations and arguments promoted by political elites influence public opinion formation. It is shown that political messages can affect opinion in multiple ways that are contingent upon individuals’ political values and awareness. Moreover, the dissertation
examines the role played by political parties in mobilizing and shaping political preferences. For virtually the first time, effects of frames are studied by taking into account which political parties promote them. The findings point out the possibilities as well as limits of political parties as opinion leaders. This work will be of interest to all who care about public opinion, political parties, media effects, and the practice of liberal democracy.

**Informal Learning and Digital Media**


The book provides an engaging overview of the ways in which digital media impact on current understandings of informal learning, and it offers a range of grounded studies of the changing relations between digital media and informal learning processes with a particular focus on young people. A variety of international scholars examine these processes across a number of sites and settings, from Japan to Finland and the USA, and they discuss their implications for education, ICT and media. The volume is an ideal resource for graduate students as well as for practitioners and policy-makers.

**On the Five Obstructions**


Released in 2003, Lars von Trier and Jorgen Leth’s agonistic film is one of the most intriguing and significant cinematic works of recent times. This first issue in the Dekalog series, the new home for serious film criticism, brings together writers from diverse disciplinary and national backgrounds to present a case for seeing The Five Obstructions as a philosophically compelling film that tests our understanding of key psychological, aesthetic, and ethical issues: the role of others in facilitating self-understanding; creativity and its relation to constraint; individual style as an artistic problem; filmmaking as a form of play; and the ethical limitations of aestheticism.

**Re:configuring Interface Culture. Digital Aesthetics in the Age of Pervasive Computing**

Lone Koefoed Hansen, Århus, Aarhus University, 2008, 248 p., Ph.D Thesis

The dissertation investigates pervasive computing from an aesthetic perspective by exploring how digital technology in general is both configuring and being configured by the culture it is part of. Aesthetic artefacts that grapple with these dynamics serve as entryways for the investigations undertaken in the dissertation, which is organised into two parts. Part one contains fundamental discussions of the relationship between pervasive computing and aesthetics, whereas part two is composed of six papers addressing the topic from various perspectives. Part one comprises three chapters that focus on the deconstruction of transparency, on how intimacy is increasingly sought mediated and finally on how mobile media affects the dynamics between public, private and intimate space. In total, the three chapters (together with the six papers in part two) enable me to identify prevalent
technological dreams and paradigms implicitly embedded in pervasive computing by applying the approach of software studies and digital aesthetics.

**Researching Experiences.**  
**Exploring Processual and Experimental Methods in Cultural Analysis**  

In the beginning was – not the word – but the experience. This phenomenological approach provides the basis for this book, which focuses on how a person-in-situation experiences and constructs meaning from a variety of cultural visual events. This book presents video-based processual methods for researching experiences in a variety of settings ranging from the museum, to news photography, and interactive media. The research led to the development of a set of methodological tools and approaches we term the reflexivity lab. The interaction in the experimental situation between the media and body, dialogue, moods, values and narratives have been investigated qualitatively with more than sixty informants in a range of projects. The processual methodological insights are put into a theoretical perspective and also presented as pragmatic dilemmas. Researching Experiences is relevant not only for students and researchers in media and communication studies but also for practitioners within the fields of media, communication and experience design.

**Special Issue: Humor in Film and Tv**  

Contains the following articles: Daniel Alegi: Hybrid humour, for short – The magical neo-realism of Roberto Benigni’s Tu Mi Turbi; Hanne Bruun: The blue hippo in lifestyle television – On pastiche in television satire; Per Fikse: In the light of darkness – A note on Roy Andersson’s influences; Brian Dunnigan: Laughter and revelation – A Sideways look at humour in film; Jørgen Stigel: Basic formats of humour in Danish TV-commercials; Edvin Vestergaard Kau: Funny pictures – Visual humour in film; Bevin Yeatman: Who laughs? – A moment of laughter in Shortbus; Jakob Isak Nielsen: There’s something about comedy theory; Louise Brix Jacobsen: Hello my name is Frank Hvam – Autofictional humour in the Danish TV series Klov; Richard Raskin: Three critiques of the Borat number “Throw the Jew down the well”.

*Note:* All issues of p.o.v can be found at: [http://pov.imv.au.dk/](http://pov.imv.au.dk/)

**Romancing the Mind: Women, Emotion, Cognition and Film**  
Mette Kramer, Copenhagen, Copenhagen University, 2008, 238 p., Ph. D Thesis

Why do women most often prefer watching romances and melodramas? Women’s preferences for audiovisual media are thematically concerned with the search for and choice of Mr. Right (romantic films), the loss of a partner or how to provide the best solutions for their children and themselves in relation to and/or in conflict with other life aspects and demands (melodramas). Feminist film theory has taken a prescriptive stance to female spectators’ choice arguing that the women’s film as a genre diminishes the female sex into a weaker kind. By utilising insights from the natural sci-
ences, however, we can gain a better (descriptive) understanding of why images of heroines looking for a long-term bond can be cognitively rewarding and emotionally engaging despite that these scenarios depict traditional gender roles. A naturalised framework, with its basis in evolved cognitive adaptations and species-typical motivations, has a place in film theory. Such a framework takes a naturalised and functional stance using empirical research from a spectrum of disciplines within the natural sciences to understand women’s genre preferences, and how biology, development, and culture are naturally co-dependent.

Other new literature


Articles

Ala-Fossi, Marko; Lax, Stephen; O’Neill, Brian; Jauert, Per; Shaw, Helen /The future of radio is still digital – but which one?: expert perspectives and future scenarios for the radio media in 2015. In: Journal of Radio. 2008; Vol. 15, No. 1. , ISSN 1937-6529


**Finland**

**Documentalist:** Eija Poteri

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**Slogans of Change. Three Outlooks on Finnish Television Contents**


The doctoral dissertation is concerned with alleged changes of television contents during the 1990s and 2000s, such as dumbing down, tabloidisation, and ‘entertainisation’. Specifically, the focus is on the ways these changes might manifest in Finnish television. The aim of the study has been three-fold: 1. To operationalise public and academic discussions about changes via specific slogans emerging from the debates; 2. Consequently, to study the slogans empirically and reflect on the findings with earlier research, including studies on institutional and audience-related aspects; 3. Finally, to suggest what the findings might mean regarding discussions about television’s role, and what kinds of slogans or concepts might best serve future discussions and research.

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**Social Media.**

**Introduction to the Tools and Processes of Participatory Economy**


The authors describe the great variety of practices within the social media. They suggest some general principles how the traditional media could deal with the new situation and show what motivates people to participate.

The research team has carried out the research in two main fields: the media publishing and the work organizations. For this reason, the view concentrates more on what happens to the content and to the traditional media, and not so much on the way people link with each other.

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**Enactive Cinema. Simulatorium Eisensteinense**


The doctoral dissertation explores the psychophysiological grounds from which the experience of interactive cinema emerges. It follows the traces left by Sergei M. Eisenstein, the Russian cinema author and researcher of the pre-digital age, whose prophetic visions on organic-dynamic thinking carry implications for new kinds of interactive cinema even today. The method of parachronic reading extrapolates Eisensteins’s thinking, embedded in his contemporary scientifically-oriented era, all the way to the fundamental discoveries of the 21st century neurosciences.
Promoting the European Union. Comparative Analysis of EU Communication Strategies in Finland and in Italy


This study is an analysis of EU information and communication policies developed from 2001 to 2006 and their possible impacts on the communication strategies of two member states, namely Finland and Italy. The investigation focuses on how EU directives affected the communication activities of these two member states toward their national publics. The public organizations analysed were the European Commission and its DG Communication, the Finnish and Italian representations of the European Commission and Finnish and Italian EU offices at regional and local levels. Full-text available at http://dissertations.jyu.fi/

Speech Culture in Finland


This collection of essays offers empirical studies about Finnish speech culture. It features essays from scholars on both sides of the Atlantic drawn together by a common theme: as persons speak, they speak culturally. Using qualitative methodology in general and ethnography in particular, the essayists examine: terms for talk, the regulation of talk, relational dialectics, face-work, intangibles, strategic communication, and argumentation. Finnish understandings of interpersonal, organizational, and institutional life are shown to be operating in such settings including social gatherings, courtroom deliberation, the sauna, advising in doctoral education, classroom interaction, political debates, and intercultural encounters.

The authors of the articles are the following: Eila Isotalus, Donal Carbaugh, Richard J. Wilkins, Saila Poutiainen and Maija Gerlander, Ira A. Virtanen, Jukka-Pekka Puro, Päivi Vahterikko-Mejia, Tuula-Riitta Välikoski and Pekka Isotalus.

Other new literature


Articles

Ala-Fossi, Marko; Lax, Stephen; O’Neill, Brian; Jauert, Per; Shaw, Helen. The future of radio is still digital – but which one?: expert perspectives and future scenarios for the radio media in 2015. I: Journal of Radio & Audio Media. 2008; vol. 15, nr. 1., ISSN 1937-6529.

Domino, David; Quandt, Thorsten; Heinonen, Ari; Paulussen, Steve; Singer, Jane B.; Vujnovic, Marina. Participatory journalism practices in the media and beyond. I: Journalism Practice. 2008; vol. 2, nr. 3, p. 326-342, ISSN 1751-2786.


Kunelius, Risto; Ruusunoksa, Laura. Mapping professional imagination: on the potential of professional culture in the newspapers of the future. I: Journalism studies. 2008; vol. 9, nr. 5, p. 662-678, ISSN 1461-670X.


Pietilä, Veikko. How does a discipline become institutionalized? I: The history of media and com-


“Sound Media” considers how music recording, radio broadcasting and muzak influence people’s daily lives and introduces the varied creative techniques that have developed in music and journalism throughout the 20th century. Lars Nyres starts with the contemporary cultures of sound media, and works back to the archaic soundscapes of the 1870s. The first part of the book devotes five chapters to contemporary digital media, and presents the internet, the personal computer, digital radio and various types of loudspeaker media. The second part examines the historical accumulation of techniques and sounds in sound media, and presents multitrack music in the 1960s, the golden age of radio in the 1950s and back to the 1930s, microphone recording of music in the 1930s, the experimental phase of wireless radio in the 1910s and 1900s, and the invention of the gramophone and phonograph in the late 19th century. “Sound Media” includes a soundtrack CD with 36 examples from broadcasting and music recording in Europe and the USA, from Edith Piaf to Sarah Cox.

Recent years have seen amateur personal stories, focusing on “me”, flourish on social networking sites and in digital storytelling workshops. The resulting digital stories could be called “mediatized stories”. This book deals with these self-representational stories, aiming to understand the transformations in the age-old practice of storytelling that have become possible with the new, digital media. Its approach is interdisciplinary, exploring how the mediation or mediatization processes of digital storytelling can be grasped and offering a sociological perspective of media studies and a sociocultural take of the educational sciences. Aesthetic and literary perspectives on narration as well as questioning from an informatics perspective are also included. Contributors to the book are: Knut Lundby, Ola Erstad, James V. Wertsch, Nick Couldry, Kirsten Drotner, Nancy Thumim, Birgit Hertzberg Kaare, Mark Evan Nelson, Glynda A. Hull, Kenneth Silseth, Kelly McWilliam, Lotte Nyboe, Larry Friedlander, John Hartley, Kenneth Silseth, Elisabeth Staksrud, David Gauntlett, Tone Bratteteig and David Brake.
Scandinavian Museums and Cultural Diversity

Museums across the world are facing the task of capturing, reflecting and representing the notion of complex identities; personal, religious and ethnic. Narratives of national allegiances are being slowly replaced and supplemented by indigenous and minority voices providing a more complex understanding of diversity especially where intangible heritage is called on as a witness. The approach taken by Scandinavian museums in response to this challenge highlights the hybrid forms of cultural diversity and how they interrelate and work together. By bringing together debates and discussions of identity and diversity, this volume offers an insight into a broad geographic region and its diverse people, from the Sámi and the Inuit to new migrants. It also presents a set of historical views on the formation of national museums and their contested perceptions of identity.

Techno-politics and Some Structural Challenges Facing the Internet. A Critical Comment
Terje Rasmussen, Saarbrücken, Germany, VDM Verlag Dr. Müller, 2008, 64 p., ISBN 9783836469777.

The work addresses the Internet as a terrain of techno-political controversies between various cultures with their interests and values, which have influenced the development of the Internet since the start. It describes the techno-political cultures of the Internet and addresses some structural changes of the Internet that seem to deviate from some of the pragmatic ideas that hitherto have guided the design of the internet. It examines the dynamics of the RFC/IETF/ISOC and the recent Internet Governance Forum as regulatory instances that are expected to handle the challenges of the Internet. It is argued that the Internet faces some structural changes that cannot easily be met or resolved through the procedures of IETF/ISOC and Internet Governance.

Other new literature


Ph.D.


Articles


Solberg, Harry Arne; Hammervold, Randi. *TV sports viewers – who are they?: A Norwegian case study*. In: Nordicom Review. 2008; vol. 29, nr. 1, Göteborg: p. 95-110, ISSN 1403-1108

Shifting Landscapes. Film and Media in European Context Binding

Continuity and change are the two major trends that mark European film and media vistas today. While continuity is the result of more than a century of European film and media tradition, change is brought about by technological convergence, the evolution of globalization and commercial markets and of artistic and aesthetic norms, and the ever-expanding cultural borders of Europe.

Bringing together eighteen research-based analyses on topics as diverse as Europe itself, the anthology presents various accounts of filmic and televisual media, text and form, mediated politics, media policy, globalization, diasporic media, multiculturalism and more. Employing film studies, critical social theory and cultural studies and drawing upon technological, spatial, political economic, sociological and anthropological approaches, the authors present multidimensional and multi-faceted depictions of the historical and contemporary factors that have shaped, and continue to shape, film and media in Europe.

Media and Monarchy in Sweden

Can an unmediated monarchy even be imagined? In today’s rapidly changing media, private and intimate aspects of monarchies are thriving. New as these phenomena may seem, and in some aspects surely are, relations between media and royalties have existed for centuries. In this book, scholars from a variety of academic disciplines put contemporary media-monarchic relations in historical perspective. The ways in which the monarchy navigates in a new digital media landscape are revealed with the help of older media strategies, while present conditions guide the analyses of monarchic relations to “new media” in the past. In Media and Monarchy in Sweden, altars and statues are thus taken just as seriously as traditional and digital mass media. Hereby, new insights into the complex interrelations between two powerful institutions are reached.
Strategies of Power in Multilingual Global Broadcasters. How the BBC, CNN and Aljazeera Shape their Middle East News Discourse


This study deals with the Middle East reporting of three gigantic media companies which together are largely responsible for refining and shaping our views of events in the world. The informational and communicative arm of these giants – Aljazeera, the BBC and CNN – is unprecedented in the history of human communication. But the study is not about Aljazeera, the BBC or CNN as new phenomena in world media and communication. Its purpose, approach, data and analysis focus mainly on their Middle East reporting and specifically how they represent the voices involved in the conflict in Iraq and the ongoing struggle between the Palestinians and Israelis. The investigation is mainly concerned with the language of hard news discourse and how the broadcasters intentionally or otherwise produce and reproduce certain linguistic items and patterns to interpret both the discursive and social worlds of the events they carry. The study comprises five papers, all published in international journals dealing with issues of critical discourse analysis.

Gendered Journalism Cultures. Strategies and Tactics in the Fields of Journalism in Britain and Sweden


This dissertation explores the way journalism works in two social fields of journalism, those of Britain and Sweden, from 1989 to 2002. The focus of the study is on creation and re-creation of value systems, power-struggles, and on their gendered nature.

The study is placed in the theoretical crossroads of sociology of journalism, feminism and cultural studies and this theoretical abduction process is summarised in the concept journalism culture. The tools used to analyse the fields were appropriated from the theoretical worlds of Pierre Bourdieu and Michel de Certeau. Three studies have been done: one large questionnaire to 1500 Swedish journalists in 1989, and two thematic interview studies of 33 British journalists between 1992 and 2002. In addition, secondary research material of both quantitative and qualitative nature has been used.

Designing for Democracy. End-User Participation in the Construction of Political ICTs


The Internet and related Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have been proposed as a way to vitalise (western) political democracy, currently marked by a decline in traditional forms
of participation. Even if the Internet has established itself as a potential source of power and social change, the lack of clear results for democracy has left the initially mainly optimistic research community disappointed. Recognising the general lack of innovative ideas and successful examples of how to use technology for democratic purposes in the public sector, this thesis frames the notion of a ‘democratic Internet’ as a design endeavour that involves users of technological applications. The purpose of the thesis is two-fold: 1) to explore the possibility of engaging end-users, citizens and others, in the construction of public sector ICTs; 2) to identify a set of design recommendations for such applications, where promoting democratic participation is a central objective. It employs a qualitative methodology, and theories of participatory democracy, republican citizenship, critical theory, and Human-Computer Interaction, applied in a three-part study dealing with the production and usage of public sector ICTs. Three applications are investigated: a decision support system, a municipality’s external web site, and a central government web portal.

Media Crisis Decision Making. 
A Case Study of SR (Swedish Radio), SVT (Swedish Television) and TV4


The study takes as its starting point that news organizations’ actions during crises vary more than one can expect based on previous research on news work. Accordingly, the dissertation aims to move beyond the notion of news organizations as homogenous and attempts to open the ‘black box’ of news organizations’ decision making. The study is based on interviews with members of three Swedish broadcasting organizations: the Swedish Public Television (SVT), the Swedish Public Radio (SR), and TV4. The interviews focused on how the three organizations dealt with the news coverage of the September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks in the USA.

Facing Clutter. On Message Competition in Marketing Communications


Messages stemming from advertising, promotions, PR, direct marketing, and salesmen are everywhere. We encounter them on our way to work, in newspapers and magazines, stores and restaurants, when watching our favorite sports, looking out of an airplane window, or even while socializing with friends. As a consumer, it is impossible to keep track of everything marketers are trying to tell us.

This abundance of marketing messages is often referred to as clutter. Clutter makes consumers less likely to pay attention to marketing messages. What is more, clutter breeds avoidance behavior and skepticism, which makes consumers more likely to actively resist marketing messages. This thesis sets out to further our understanding of marketing communications in a cluttered environment. The thesis comprises five articles in which issues of clutter are empirically investigated.
This paper examines journalists’ and editors-in-chief’s attitudes to readership studies. It reports significant differences between the attitudes of journalists working for daily newspapers and their editors-in-chief. While journalists have a positive attitude to readership studies, they are not nearly as enthusiastic about them as their superiors are. This division probably represents the difference between the prevailing professional ideals and business perspectives of the two groups.

The study is based on two national surveys carried out at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden in fall 2005. It represents the views of some 470 journalists and editors-in-chief at daily newspapers in Sweden.

Bergström, Annika. A participating audience?: news commenting and blogging in the Swedish online environment. 2008. Konferencen: Media@lse Fifth Anniversary Conference, nr. 5.

Online interactivity and participation within journalistic and other contexts seems to be more and more of an important topic, in the publishing field as well as in discussions about democracy and political issues. With new ICT technology everyone online could easily produce and publish content, which is usually considered positive in modern democratic societies. Editors and journalists in mainstream media have shown to be somewhat reluctant to audience as co-producers and to user-generated content. A national Swedish questionnaire survey also shows a quite reluctant audience with only little interest in participating in creating content on news sites and blogs. It seems that those who are participating in these senses are younger persons who are often willing to try new applications online and who seem to consider this kind of activity initially being more of entertainment then of use in every day life.


The book is based on the intellectual work of ECREA’s European media and communication doctoral summer school in 2008 in Estonia. The theme of the summer school was democracy, journalism and technology focusing on the notion of European expansion and the related strong need for further democratisation. 48 Ph.D. students participated in the summer school. All of their abstracts and a selection of six chapters based on their work are included in this publication. The summer school had 22 academic lecturers. Many of the lectures are included in the publication, as well.


This paper sets out to evaluate the Finnish and Swedish public service broadcasting companies’ diversity management and diversity implementation. The authors map the main discursive shifts within this policy domain at a European level. The empirical analysis focuses on two Nordic public service broadcasting companies – YLE in Finland and SVT in Sweden. Both companies have policies concerning ethnic and cultural diversity. In addition the two companies have downsized their staff in recent years.


The interaction between national and international laws, and the realities of contemporary global trade in media content in a predominantly digital environment, raise challenges, uncertainties and opportunities for media companies. When it comes to licensing, protecting and enforcing copyright and other intellectual property rights, media companies and their advisers need to understand and make use
of not only national but international legal rules. The chapters in this book offer a variety of perspectives on the relevance of international copyright and other intellectual property regimes to media businesses. The book is comprised of papers and edited transcripts of talks delivered at a symposium of the same name which took place in Stockholm, Sweden in October 2007 and which gathered together speakers from across Europe representing legal practice, academia, policy-making and media content production and distribution.


The topic of leadership in the media industry is a compelling one. While other industries have leaders or captains, the media sector has moguls, magnates and barons. Randolph Hearst, William Paley, Henry Luce and Robert Maxwell represent some of the most controversial and flamboyant business leaders – Rupert Murdoch, Ted Turner and Steve Jobs – is no less charismatic. However leadership is also a sprawling area of management theory characterised by ambiguity and controversy. This volume presents a selection of papers from an international conference on ‘Challenges at the Top: Leadership in Media Organizations’ which brought together researchers from around the world to confront these ambiguities, and explore and exchange opinions about this intriguing issue.


Strong brands are necessary in media because technology has increased the number of content providers and made it possible for many more competitors to seek the attention and loyalty of audiences and advertisers. Brands are crucial in separating media companies and their products from those of competitors, in creating continuity of quality and service across extended product lines, and in helping develop strong bonds with consumers. This book discusses communicative tactics and the building of media brand equity, focuses on strategic aspects and brands as vehicles for business expansion, and investigates issues of media brands on advertising markets.


This study reviews the financial condition and strategic position of Nordic media companies and their prospects for remaining Nordic-owned firms. It analyzes leading Nordic firms in the major media industries to determine their financial health and considers their strategic positions in terms of their abilities to sustain themselves, whether they are likely candidates for mergers or takeovers, whether they are likely to attract capital from outside the Nordic nations, and whether their conditions may attract foreign firms to enter the Nordic markets. The project analyses the growth, solidity, liquidity, and profitability of the firms to identify general strengths and weaknesses and problematic trends affecting the industries.


Narrative media music – music used for narrative purposes in multimedia such as film and computer games – is often, especially for young people, the largest source of daily musical experience. This thesis is based on three articles, in different ways exploring functions of, and knowledge about, narrative media music. The overarching research question of the thesis is: ‘How can meaning-making functions of narrative media music be described – and how are attitudes, awareness and knowledge about such functions expressed through the different modes of musical sound and speech?’

The first article discusses how the musical underscore in narrative media achieves meaning in multimodal interplay with the visuals and other available modes of representation. Three short film scenes are examined from the perspectives of ideational, interpersonal and textual meanings. The second article presents the first part of a study, where 23 young participants (12-13 years old), using a software tool, were given the task of adapting musical expression to make it ‘fit as well as possible’ different visual scenes shown on a computer screen. They also answered a questionnaire, asking about their musical training and media habits. Numerical data from the trial sessions, representing differences in musical expression, were analyzed statistically. The third article describes the second part of the study. Each participant was interviewed in a stimulated recall situation where
they commented and reflected on their own musical expressions of their completed trials.

Artiklar

Barkho, Leon. The BBC’s discursive strategy and practices vis-à-vis the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. I: Journalism studies. 2008; vol. 9, nr. 2, s. 278-294, ISSN 1461-670X.

This paper examines the BBC’s strategy and discursive practices with regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It triangulates critical linguistic analysis of the BBC’s English and Arabic online reports, with the results of extensive interviews with BBC editors, articles by mainstream media as well as the BBC’s guidelines and the editors’ blogs. The aim behind the triangulation is to see whether the corporation’s beliefs, norms and assumptions vis-à-vis the issue have a hand in the shaping of its discursive features.


Dimitrova, Daniela V.; Strömööck, Jesper. Look who’s talking: use of sources in newspaper coverage in Sweden and the United States. I: Journalism Practice. 2009; vol. 3, nr. 1, s. 75-91, ISSN 1751-2786.

Even though we live in a global world cross-cultural comparisons of journalism practice remain rare. This study analyzed the use of sources in newspaper coverage in Sweden and the United States. Rather than focusing on one single event, the comparison utilizes data from a number of different events: the 2003 Iraq War, the 2002 national election in Sweden and the 2004 presidential election in the United States, and the 2005/2006 international controversy stemming from the publication of the Mohammad Cartoons.


Today Internet has existed as a mass medium during more than ten years and has become an important part of everyday life for a lot of people. What are the effects of this introduction of a new medium in the world of traditional media? What have happened to newspapers, television and radio? It is not only a matter of time; people are spending minutes and hours online instead of reading, listening or viewing. It is also about content; information, news, music and film exist on Internet and to make it even more complicated even newspapers, radio and television exist online. And the content is usually free. So what have happened to traditional media? At first sight it looks like Internet has become a strong competitor, severely affecting the use of newspapers and television. But a more thorough analysis shows that in Sweden Internet has become more of a complement and the use of traditional media go on as before at the same time as the use of the Internet develops and increases.

Moe, Hallvard; Svensson, Jakob; Karppinen, Kari. Habermas, Mouffe and political communication: A case for theoretical eclecticism. I: Javnost – the Public. 2008; vol. 15, nr. 3, s. 5-22, ISSN 1318-3222.

Much of the research on communication and democracy continues to lean on Jürgen Habermas’s work. However, many aspects of his approach have been intensely criticised in recent debates, both in communication studies and political theory. Habermas’s emphasis on rational consensus as the aim of public communication has particularly been problematised. One of the most prominent critics, Chantal Mouffe and her agonistic model of democracy, have increasingly drawn the interest of media scholars. Mouffe explicitly contrasts the dominant Habermasian concept of the public sphere, and it appears that her model is impossible to combine with the Habermasian approach. But how substantial are the differences? What are the disagreements centred on? And what are their consequences for empirical media and communication research? In this article the authors argue that rather than accepting the standard readings or polar positions accredited to the two, we need to retain a certain “theoretical eclecticism” in
combining normative theories with empirical research. Despite their controversies, they argue that both Habermas’s and Mouffe’s theories have value as critical perspectives that help us reflect on the ideals of democratic public communication.


Since the 1990’s representative democracy has been challenged by a deliberative turn in political philosophy, reaching even into the practices of established political institutions. In Sweden, the Municipality of Helsingborg, inspired by deliberative ideals, established civic committees as a way to deal with changing patterns of civic political behavior in late modernity.

One reason for this is that deliberation is assumed to revitalize representative democracy by avoiding the instrumental rational focus on self-interest. However, there are some difficulties in implementing deliberative democracy within this municipal representative democratic setting. This article will point to some problems in the Helsingborg experiment.


Previous studies on coverage of the EU in 1993 and 1996 by four leading Nordic newspapers generated three theoretical categories for a ‘European political journalism’. The categories were named participation, legitimacy and mondialization/universalism. The present study revisited the same Nordic newspapers over 10 years later in 2005, shortly before and after the referenda on the proposed new EU Constitution in France and the Netherlands, to test the validity of these categories.