

ATCM 7331
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
IN ARTS, TECHNOLOGY, AND
EMERGING COMMUNICATION

Fall 2025 — Mondays 10:00am - 12:45pm — ATC 4.902
The Bass School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology
University of Texas at Dallas

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Hong-An Wu (she/her/hers)
Email: HongAn.Wu@utdallas.edu
Office Location: Microsoft Teams or ATC 3.915
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course guides you through a variety of research methodologies appropriate for advanced interdisciplinary research in arts, technology, and emerging communication. You will develop and refine your own individual research methodologies and programs in the process, attending to the particular challenges and opportunities that interdisciplinary work brings in relation to established and emerging fields.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- You will understand research as a practice and a product situated within the contemporary landscape of the academic research industry and the creative economy.
- You will become familiar with how academic fields of research emerge and operate, such as through their historic formations, foundational and evolving debates, and establishing of journals, conferences, and organizations.
- You will refine your individual research program with respect to established and emerging fields of research as well as the conditions of interdisciplinarity.
- You will advance proficiencies in critical thinking, research, and writing.
- You will incorporate insights from existing scholarship and media production into your own research and creative practice.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

To engage with our course content, weekly access to a computer and the Internet will be needed. Additionally, please refer to the SCHEDULE section of this syllabus for all assigned materials. All assigned materials will be available electronically through eLearning.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

- Your active presence in the form of submitting your individual assignments and participating in class discussions is expected.
- Your timely completion of all course assignments, including watching/reading the required assigned materials before you join each class session, is expected.
- Your willingness to learn is expected. Your willingness to learn is demonstrated by being open to new ideas that challenge your own assumptions as well as earnest, careful, and generous engagements with everyone in our course.
- Your support and following of our course community participation guidelines¹, listed below, is expected. These guidelines are open to our collective revision as our course unfolds.
 - Take good care of yourself and others you live with in your life outside of our course. Make sure to nourish yourself with good food and rest as the semester goes on.
 - Ask questions instead of going off on assumptions. The best way to understand the choices, actions, or intentions of one another is by asking.
 - Default to direct communication with the instructor before a public confrontation with others in the course. For any concerns you've encountered with others in our course, please email hongan.wu@utdallas.edu.
 - Please do not screenshot, record, and share class lecture/discussion or anyone's information and contributions to our class outside of class without discussion and consent.

GRADING POLICY

Your final grade for this class will be based on the following assignments:

- Assignment 1: Thoughtful Class Engagement (30%)
- Assignment 2: Midterm Portfolio (20%)
- Assignment 3: Case Study Discussion Lead (20%)
- Assignment 4: Research Portfolio (30%)

While late work is accepted anytime after its original due date until Wednesday, 17 December 2025, at 4 PM, it will only be given 50% of the total possible points. Feedback on late work is not guaranteed. To arrange an extension on any assignment, please contact me at least one week in advance of its original due date. Your final tallied points will be assigned a letter grade according to the scale below.

- A+, A, A-: 100-90 points
- B+, B, B-: 89-80 points
- C+, C, C-: 79-70 points
- D+, D, D-: 69-60 points
- F: 59-0 points

¹ These guidelines are meant to facilitate a learning community for us to work together. These guidelines were adapted and revised from the 2020 Allied Media Conference Community Agreement on <https://amc.alliedmedia.org/how-to-virtual-amc/community-agreements>.

A NOTE ON COURSE CONTENT

Given that our course approach knowledge production as situated practices in historical, cultural, and political contexts, the assigned materials and class discussions will necessarily engage with emotionally difficult and intellectually challenging content. Specifically, please note that almost all assigned materials will reference and/or touch upon, either implicitly or explicitly, past and present violent events, histories, policies, practices, languages, expressions, and gestures of white supremacy, Western colonialism and imperialism, U.S. settler-colonialism, racial capitalism, and heteropatriarchy in relation to a range of intersectional oppressions, such as misogyny and sexism, ableism, classism, racism, homo- and transphobia, indigenous dispossession and displacement, casteism and more. If you would like me to provide warnings for encountering anything specific in the course material, please don't hesitate to reach out to me before/during/after class and/or via email. I will flag any requested content for you in advance. If you foresee that there are content that will or experience content that does prohibit your full embodied engagement, please don't worry about being in our class meetings and don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. We can make alternative arrangements on course participation in any way that supports your learning. Ultimately, my hope is to facilitate a supportive learning community for us to learn as individuals and as a collective. Towards that end, I ask to be in dialog with you to know how to best support your learning.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

I value your academic integrity, and academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade. Please review and abide by the academic integrity guidelines set forth by the University of Texas at Dallas here <https://conduct.utdallas.edu/students/academic-integrity/>.

Furthermore, the use of generative AI tools for completing any aspect of our course assignments is prohibited. Please review and abide by the UTDSP5017 policy on Generative AI Use in Academic Work set forth by the University of Texas at Dallas here <https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5017>.

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need academic accommodations for this class, you are encouraged to register with the AccessAbility Resource Center (ARC). Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact the ARC for a confidential discussion. The ARC is located in the Administration Building (AD 2.224), and ARC staff can be reached at (972) 883-2098 or via email at studentaccess@utdallas.edu. If you do not have formal accommodations but have needs that the course is failing to meet as it is currently designed, please set up a meeting with me to discuss how we can best support your learning.

UTD SYLLABUS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.