

Public values in media and ICT
(laboratory, DISLL, UniPD)

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Visions of Justice in a Post-Covid Digital World: from research to advocacy

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in collaboration with Prof. Krisztina Rozgonyi (University of Vienna)
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About this seminar

This is a special action research and learning seminar organized in partnership with the Universities of Vienna and Helsinki. Titled 'Visions of Justice in a Post-Covid Digital World: from research to advocacy' this seminar is a unique opportunity to reflect on the current global Covid moment and its challenges from various standpoints, and how the digital fits into this equation.

Students in Padova will take part in transnational meetings and attend trans-disciplinary panels, while having an opportunity to work together with fellow students at the Universities of Vienna and Helsinki on developing research-action projects.

The starting point for this collaboration is an initiative promoted by the Just Net Coalition and IT for Change, titled Digital New Deal: a thoughtfully curated set of long reads authored by passionate and committed scholars, activists and visionaries from around the world on different matters of social justice, such as gender in/equality, sovereignty, labour and digital rights or climate justice, internet, data and society, AI and the state of our public sphere.

The Digital New Deal constitutes the starting point for this collaboration, so that students can identify current topics of interest, according to which they'll create thematic groups. Groups will work throughout the seminar, reflecting on how research and knowledge becomes relevant to advocacy initiatives related to digital developments. In the end all groups will elaborate an ideal plan for advocating 'visions of justice' and will discuss their plans with all other participants.

All activities imply elements of critical reflection, debates and conversations, students' interaction and personal commitment. Classes will be held (only) online. Language of course: English.

Expected outcomes

Through this seminar, students will:

- learn about research resources and methods that are relevant to publicly address and discuss critical issues in the digital world
- acquire knowledge and understanding of a variety of advocacy tools
- have the opportunity to outline progressive future solutions, imagine new possibilities to reclaim the digital for justice.

Goals

The seminar offers an inclusive and diverse communicative space reflecting on students' role as socially responsive future media, IT and communication professionals. These are the main goals:

- critical and individual reflections on matters of social justice in the digital world
- conceptualizing, designing and implementing 'action research'
- strengthening students' methodological and academic writing/presentation skills (in English)
- experience and engage in a transnational collaborative environment

Evaluation

Students' will work in groups to elaborate an advocacy plan on a topic/problem of their interest; they will elaborate their plans through an info-graphic/poster/leaflet and will present their proposal to all participants who will respond and provide feedback.

Final evaluation (approved/not approved) concerns participation and contributions throughout the seminar and final presentation.

Schedule (overview)

The schedule of the classes is intensive (6 in total) concentrated between March and April 2021. Each session is divided into a general part and group activities, also making use of software that facilitate interaction, such as wooclap and padlet.

12.03.2021 Friday

Introduction to seminar and participants, mapping of interests and competences.

17.03.2021 Wednesday*

Introducing the [Digital New Deal](#) (DND)

This is the starting point for our teaching collaboration: what it is, why we are studying it. Guest speaker from India to present the DND. Students to read and discuss selected contributions from the DND.

26.03.2021 Friday*

Visions of Justice in a Digital World

Students to participate in an international a panel organized within Winter School 'Sustainable Glocal Futures: Knowledge, Democracy and Global Communications (UniPD) so as to clarify how research can be relevant to societal interventions and advocacy activities.

07.04.2021 Wednesday*

From research to practice: tools for advocacy

This session will address the connections between research and advocacy practice, starting from examples from different digital-related experiences: Krisztina Rozgonyi on legal approach and knowledge (<https://noyb.eu/en>); Claudia Padovani on 'Covid19 from the margins' (BlgDataSur and Datactive); Minna Aslama on Data activism. Introducing the [Beautiful raising](#) project and platform.

16.04.2021 Friday

groups to work on their advocacy plans for final presentations

23.04.2021 Friday*

From research to praxis: Sharing your ideas

Students to present their ideas/design/plans to develop advocacy on the themes they have worked on

* sessions jointly organized with the Universities of Vienna and Helsinki.

**Interested students are invited to register for the seminar before February 24, 2021.
Expressions of interest to be sent to claudia.padovani@unipd.it**