



Centre for Culture, Media and Governance  
Jamia Millia Islamia  
New Delhi-25



In Collaboration

with

York University, Toronto

**Organises**

**Video Conference**

On

**Digital Media and Political Participation**

Co-ordinators/Instructors: Daniel Drache, York University & Taberez A. Neyazi, JMI

York faculty: Prof. Daniel Drache, Prof. Fred Fletcher and Prof. Tuna Baskoy

Jamia faculty: Prof. Biswajit Das, Mr. Vibodh Parthasarathi, Dr. Taberez A. Neyazi

### **Course Description**

This course co-taught by Comcult, York University and see CCMG Jamia faculty introduces students to the way digital media have an impact on political participation and precipitated change in the character of citizenship. We will particularly examine the internet and mobile phones and look at their both direct and indirect impact on political participation, protest movements and citizenship. The emergence of new forms of political participation outside the institutionalized and representative modes of participation has been greatly facilitated by digital media. Yet, it would be difficult to understand the impact of digital media in isolation from traditional media in a society where the reach of the internet is limited. Therefore, we will also critically examine the convergence between traditional and digital media and how it's transforming the nature and modes of political participation both at election time and between elections. What role has the digital media played in transforming election outcomes and changing the political landscape?

The course will focus on both theories and practices of digital media and political participation. The American 2008 and 2012 presidential elections, the six month 2012 Québec student strike, the anticorruption movements in India, Indonesia and the Ukraine, the surprising win of India's common man party are examples to draw on. As well the role of whistleblowers such as Edward Snowden and Julian Assange raise many questions about access to information, citizen rights and national security. The first part of the course will analyze various theories and concepts in the field of digital media and political

communication/political participation, while the second part will focus more on the cases. Majority of the cases will be selected from India, but we will also look at the cases outside of India as it will help in getting comparative perspectives and enrich our understanding of the subject. Since the field of digital political participation is quite dynamic, the topics and readings might change during the course of the classes.

### **Course Meeting Time Note:**

Because this is a joint course and there is a significant time difference between New Delhi and Toronto the start time will be at 8:15 AM in York's video centre. The course will begin on September 17 and the final joint seminar will end on October 29. During the month of November the York & CCMG students will meet separately to finish their assignments and seminar discussions. The course will end up in the November for York students, & December for CCMG students.

#### **Session 1: September 17, 2014**

Digital media and counter-publics

#### **Session 2: September 24, 2014**

Digital media and long cycles of dissent

#### **Session 3: October 01, 2014**

Digital media and contemporary protest movements at time of global dissent:  
two case studies

#### **Session 4: October 08, 2014**

Grassroots savvy mobilization: Media Activism versus clicktivism

#### **Session 5: October 22, 2014**

Privacy & surveillance

#### **Session 5: October 29, 2014**

Mobile technology and participation

**Venue: CCMG Network Governance Lab**

**Time: 05:45 PM (for all the dates)  
08:15 AM (Toronto Time)**