

Growing Up in a Media World

Enrollment: 40

Respondents: 35

STUDENT LEARNING

1. What are the most valuable things you have gained from this course? (Possibilities may range from acquisition of very concrete skills or knowledge to changes in perspective or ways of thinking.)

Concrete knowledge about the current state of children's programming and media.

Acquisition of skills to do and content analysis. Background media literature.

This course exceeded my expectations by covering a wide range of topics related to children and media. It definitely changed my way of thinking about media literacy and I was inspired by Joe as a professor; his organization of the course was so well thought-out, it made every topic seem compelling.

A much more powerful understanding of media, its influence on youth, its forms and its positive and negative aspects.

Exposure to issues and projects in child media that I otherwise wouldn't get.

Well-founded grasp of research about media and impacts. Overview of media in many forms, not just TV and movies. Provided diverse view points to demonstrate many sides of an issue.

I gained concrete research skills, such as content analysis and interview protocol, as well as a strong awareness of the multiplicity of effects and trends in the media.

Understanding the ways (unreadable) interact, use media and the effects that media – via research – has on the visual. Positive possibilities of media, especially possibilities brought by media literacy and production. Greater handle on research methods.

I learned a lot of specific and concrete information about various elements of the media industry, as well as abstract concepts and theories put forth by those who study the media.

Exposure to breadth of research in media.

Changes in perspective about the media and ways of thinking about the media. Concrete knowledge about workings of the media and history of the media.

This course provides an in depth exposure to media and its impact in education!

A very broad sense of the issues in media and children's media. We got a lot of depth in each issue and were able to cover a lot.

Deepened understanding of uses and effects of media in education.

I learned about many different educational aspects of media. The broad overview of theory behind prosocial media was especially interesting.

I learned a lot about a range of children's media. It had been a while since I had seen Sesame Street or Saturday morning cartoons but the course delves much deeper than just good and bad educational programming. The discussions on gender, race, class issues and on the issues surrounding media levels for all age groups were both interesting and useful if you plan to work with children.

I've gained "media literacy". I've gained familiarity in reading and interpreting research, an understanding of how various media analyses are conducted, an understanding of the many forms media can take, how present it is in the lives of children, and what lessons I can take from it in my own teaching.

A better understanding of what type of media children are being exposed to and how it impacts them. I've learned a set of tools to more critically evaluate the educational value of media (i.e. the Annenberg quality assessment).

A wide ranging insights and useful ideas about media and education. At the same time, the assignments and presentation are challenging and offer new research skills. A truly wonderful and enjoyable course!

The beneficial potential and dangerous potential of the media. I also learned a lot more about what's out there and the history. I learned how to be more media literate!

Understanding the research skills to quantify any number of aspects about the media – the effect of media on children, both positive and negative. The pervasive stream of media that we are all accustomed to, but never really break down and study – TV, internet, video games, advertising.

To taste different forms of media through student presentations. All of them were valuable and awesome! Also, Professor Blatt's insights and my classmates' wonderful discussions made me think about the media in a new way.

I have a very different perspective on the role media plays in our culture and powerful effects it can have on children. I was pretty media-illiterate previously and fairly skeptical but I would say I feel much more educated in my views now. (That's in both positive and negative way that media interacts with our culture.) I have many questions now and feel compelled to explore them further. Wow.

Presentation skills. Aspects of media were discussed in depth, covering both those I had some thoughts previously and those I didn't give much thought before. Course readings provided me with a lot of concrete information on the media.

This course opened my eyes to the very complex world of media! I feel like I have a new lens with which I can evaluate / assess / approach a wide variety of media in my life and

the life of my students. It was great to be exposed to the different aspects of youth culture I never would have stumbled upon myself, such as internet blogs and websites for and by teens, and international media created for teens.

>An appreciation for how to analyze various media in terms of student usage and effects.
>Equally important is the Pedagogy model used – as an educator I learned a lot about how to teach material effectively.

Knowledge of the different characteristics of the media world. Changed my perspective completely on how I look at media. Now I look at it with a lot more critical eye and I know what criteria I should use to evaluate media.

Excellent overviews of the ways media are present in children's lives.

This course has opened my eyes to the positive impacts of media on kids and emphasized the importance of how one interacts with media. I feel like I will be better equipped as both an educator and a parent!

Understanding the process by which children's media is developed, the evidence on media effects on children, and the prevalent theories in the field.

I cannot think of enough wonderful things to write about this course. I gained so much knowledge about both children AND the media. The readings and lectures were so informative. I feel so much more empowered to understand and work with media.

Practical ideas for looking at media with my students and for bringing media into my classroom. Cool statistics about media to impress people with in casual conversation. An enlarged perspective on the world of media in general. Exposure to cool / provocative websites, tv programs, music, films, etc.

Much new knowledge about how media research is conducted. Practice / introduction to conducting some media research ourselves. Many perspectives on media – much input from producers (Joe himself and guest speakers) and media activist guest speaker.

Learn how media can impact on children's learning processes.

While I was already very much entrenched in media and thinking about media, this course has really given me a lot to think about from the viewpoints of parents, youth, and educators. As someone with a strong humanities background, the course is a truly excellent gateway to the social sciences.

COURSE ACTIVITIES

2a. What specific course activities and materials did you find most valuable? (Consider lectures, section discussions, case studies, guest speakers, readings, field activities, written assignments, feedback from the instructor(s), etc.) How did these activities or materials help you to learn?

The case studies presented by students and the visits by media specialists.

Guest speakers allowed me to see the face behind media creation. Feedback from papers was great.

I thought the readings, lectures, and written assignments were most valuable. I especially enjoyed doing the media presentation in front of the entire class. The research involved in some of the projects was personalized and flexible; we were really about to make our own decisions about what kind of media we wanted to learn more about. This was useful in making it more relevant to us.

Lectures were excellent and very engaging – great use of Power Point, videos, presentations, and reading. Great variety in assignments. > Very practical lessons taught in class.

Presenting a specific type of media make me look at the entire process and industry behind the project. It allowed for a much deeper understanding of the politics, norms, and business of media production. The discussion sections allowed for collaborative thinking and problems solving. That was interesting, and helpful, and also gave us a chance to know the people in our class better.

The readings, especially research studies, were illuminating. I also enjoyed the one mandatory online discussion and wish others would have participated more fully. Also, guest speakers were tremendous. These materials and activities provided a range of options to engage in the course and learn. Also provided a spectrum of views.

I found the types of written assignments very relevant and personally investing in the course's subject matter. The student media presentations also added rich diverse perspectives.

I think Joe's (unreadable) points, in class helps synthesize the issues and the field in general. The papers – since so autonomous – let me explore my interests and both maintain relevance and correct (unreadable) – often theoretical ideas – to the real world.

The lectures were terrific – some of the best I've had at the Education school because of the combination of power points and excellent lecture style.

Presentations were fun to prepare – actually each assignment was interesting / unique in its own way. Kathy Shagrue and Peggy Charren were great to have as guest speakers.

Lectures and discussions were great in helping me digest the readings and think about important topics pertaining to the class.

This course utilized a panoply of techniques that grounded your learning in reality.

I deeply enjoyed the guest speakers and student presentations which brought outside material into the class.

Pretty much all of it! Sometimes the lectures felt a bit too broad, but overall the course was fun and informative. The content analysis and interview assignments were great ways of introducing us to research methods.

I really enjoyed the student presentation. Particularly the international ones. Also, I loved hearing Peggy Charm speak. She was fabulous.

Group presentations in class were excellent, with really good feedback. Discussions in section were well thought out. The readings were a little heavy on the technical side if you are not in TIE it was easy to get confused with some of the more “scientific” studies. Plus there is a lot of reading. It was so interesting but just hard to get to it all which was frustrating.

Peggy Chawch and Kathy Shugme were great! Content analyses were so helpful to do ourselves. Student presentations were interesting and informative. Every lecture was fabulous and engaging. Section meetings were helpful in synthesizing content. Feedback on papers was really instructive. *Everything was valuable!*

I liked the student presentations (at least most of them!). I also liked the 2 paper assignments (content analysis and interview).

Reading, discussion, lecture, assignment, viewing of video clips, listening to audio records, presentation and guest lectures. All activities are well designed and thorough.

I loved reading the fiction book at the end and our media presentations. The student presentations were so informative and I learned so much doing mine.

Lectures and sections were lively and entertaining. Course material was engaging. Projects were interesting in that I had to do the actual research that is required to calculate specific aspects of the media. – including a content analysis and an interview with a child.

Student presentations.

I was always excited for class. It was consistently interesting, both in lectures and discussions. There is quite a lot of reading. Do it. Everything plays a role in getting as much out of the course as you can. The assignments were very eye-opening, and I really enjoyed the guest speakers.

Course readings.

Every aspect of this course was valuable. The readings were interesting, lectures engaging, sections full of small group discussions, assignments really helped me put my learning in the course into context. The course overall was one of the more meaningful learning experiences I've had in my entire life. And it was fun!

Course readings, discussion sections with TF's and projects all worked well together to support learning objectives.

Lectures. Sections. Assignments.

Section helped me to initially breakdown readings and later in the semester to place them in a larger context. Guest speakers: Peggy, Fetch producer from GBH provided a real-life voice to what we've read in class. The projects are well-designed and have clear objectives – they tie well to the course.

The assignments were great because they had us apply the theory we'd been reading to real world stuff. Very helpful. I also loved having guest speakers who could share their "insider" perspectives. I also really enjoyed the readings and everyone's presentations. Oh, and I loved reading a novel at the end of the semester!!

Joe's lectures were enjoyable and very informative. Section discussions were also good, Student media presentations were fun and opened my eyes to lots of media I was unaware of.

The readings were TERRIFIC. So diverse and some, funny – all relevant and interesting. Joe's lectures really synthesized them for me. The student presentations, too, were so interesting and exciting both to do AND to watch.

I loved doing the presentation – it was a perfect way to synthesize all of the perspectives in the course in looking at a piece of media that intrigued me. The media-user interview was eye-opening and provided a personal counterpart to all of the statistics. Overall, assignments were all varied and helpful, and were clearly structured.

Section discussions were an excellent way to allow a large group of students the chance to break into smaller ones and discuss the issues. Guest speakers were great. Assignments were excellent introductions to how some forms of media research is conducted. Online discussion forums were an added bonus and great way to further examination of issues.

Lectures, readings, and feedbacks from both the instructor and the TF.

The assignments were invaluable. The content analysis had me actually checking out what kids are exposed today in a very hands-on way. My interview with a young media user, in addition to being inspiring, was really informative in terms of what children are able to perceive and express, as well as what things even the most media literate person allows to slide by. The presentation was also really rewarding.

2b. In what ways does this course introduce and encourage consideration of diversity and/or diverse perspectives? (Consider content and process.)

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It definitely addresses the issue throughout and treats it sensitively and intelligently.

Joe addressed a lot of diverse perspectives regarding children and media in his lectures. While we didn't cover it, it would be nice to examine homosexuality vs. heterosexuality in the media (in addition to race, gender, ethnicity, etc.).

Many diversity issues were brought up in class through various media, including racial diversity in TV, stereotyping, etc.

It addressed many different perspectives on media viewing and productions through research as well as presentation of media.

Readings for a particular week rarely came from a singular viewpoint. Topics ranged in such a way that a lot was covered – but also it turned out to be the “interesting stuff”.

Again, the student presentations present both personal interests and diverse products. Professor Blatt also does a solid job surveying many different themes throughout the course.

The class is a bit lacking, but Joe presents many sides of the issue through lectures and the readings he assigns. Also section allows for everyone's opinion as a norm.

We spent a lot of time on diversity in the media or lack thereof, and we got to see different kinds of media from different countries as well.

Covers and explicitly discusses diversity in an encouraging way.

Discussion in class and in section constantly asked students to think critically and provide their own opinions about important topics.

This course was very focused on diverse perspectives, evaluating media from different cultures and through different and varied technologies.

I was very purposeful in presenting all sides of media and specific debates around media issues.

The student presentations were incredibly diverse and a lot of fun.

This course constantly looks at media from diverse perspectives. It is thoroughly incorporated.

Yes – looking at both good and bad aspects of media in children's lives.

In many ways – diverse forms of media, diverse uses of media, diverse views of media itself, and whether or not media depicts diversity.

We covered a range of issues relating to a diverse range of media types.

The range of materials and the processes of carrying out the assignments as well as insight to other research materials.

We discussed a lot of issues of class, race, and gender, but not much (if any) about sexuality. And by sexuality I mean homosexuality and bisexuality, not just gender expression.

We talked about diversity and diverse perspectives (sadly often lacking) in the media and the possible effects on children's views of world and culture.

We've read a lot of articles that reinforce different / diverse perspectives. In class / section discussions, I could learn from my classmates who shared a variety of thoughts and opinions.

Diversity was a constant consideration in the content and materials. Discussions make expressing personal beliefs and differences acceptable. The class wouldn't have been as interesting without the variety of opinions / backgrounds.

Readings and discussions about stereotypes, and actually having some concrete information on what is actually on media. There were also a lot of chances to experience variety of media products, both in class and while doing the assignments.

Diverse perspectives were always brought to class by the professor, who encouraged student perspectives as well. The attitude in general throughout the course was that diversity ENRICHES rather than DETRACTS from course content.

Very much so – in terms of Projects Presentation and the material in the readings and discussions.

Its all a lot – diversity in the media how different genders, ethnicities are stereotyped, how it affects children and some ways to overcome it.

This course is taking look through the lens that media can be a good thing for kids – and that's a basic perspective shift.

It introduces diversity in the readings chosen and as part of our presentations we had to evaluate shows for diversity.

Lots of attention to diversity in the media and diversity in the audience. Also lot of opportunities for students to speak from their own unique perspective.

I think, in the process of the course, we used diverse approaches to digesting the information – research of our own mixed with research of others, and a good mix of lectures AND discussions.

The content analysis paper forced us to look at diversity in the media; considering diversity was a theme present throughout the course. I wish we had talked more about diversity of sexuality in media.

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This course introduces us to not only a diverse range of media that children are exposed to, but also to some efforts that have been performed in these media to reach a more diverse audience.

Oh man. Everything we look at and look for is about how to make media feel representative.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

3a. In what ways was the instructor most effective and why?

He has an engaging lecture style and works hard to bring in current information and examples.

He has great charisma.

Joe was engaging as a lecturer and has a great way of keeping the class involved (either as a large group or smaller discussion groups). He was even kind enough to bring us candy to keep us awake during the 5-6 pm slot!

Professor Blatt is one of the best instructors I have had at any academic level. He was an excellent lecturer and utilized visual aids better than any other teacher I've had. His assignments were well thought-out and serve a solid purpose. He was always well-prepared and was available outside of class. He's a very friendly and approachable professor and demonstrated a great deal of passion for the subject matter.

His background in production and in the media industry made the topics more tangible.

Joe is incredibly dynamic and personalized about this course. Knowing all 50+ of our names, creating assignments which allow for student-choice, and keeping material current and "fresh" make him an excellent instructor.

Professor Blatt was very effective in making sure he got key points out of each class.

Wonderful, engaging, intelligent professor. Joe creates a comfortable and fascinating environment in which to learn.

I love the professor – think he's a great speaker. The curriculum was well organized and used technology well in presenting information.

Really knowledgeable and generally encouraging.

Clear, effective communication of subject material during lecture.

Joe was enthusiastic, engaging and informative. He brought real life to the material!

Good use of power point and class engagement during lecture. I also felt very connected with his weekly update emails.

Joe is engaging, funny, and approachable. His presentations were always well-organized and a pleasure to watch.

He (Joe) is very genuine, and truly an excellent educator. He makes content understandable to all students.

Professor Blatt is very organized friendly and engaging.

Brilliant, engaging lecturer. I was entertained, I learned a ton, I consistently looked forward to this class and the readings for it.

Joe is excellent! He's very engaging and tries to make each class different and interesting. He also really makes an effort to get to know each student and give them useful feedback on their presentations.

In all ways. Clear in communication. Helpful and encouraging at all time.

Joe is very engaging. It's a large class and yet I felt very involved. He's humorous, brings candy, acknowledges comments well, moves around the room.

Engaging lectures, good use of technology in the classroom, good understanding of various aspects of the media, very invested in the subject – personally and professionally. It was wonderful to learn from an expert.

Professor Blatt was an excellent instructor who provided us a way to think about the media. His lectures were inspirational and he was passionate about this class. His feedback was detailed and helpful. Thank you, Joe!

Fabulous speaker. Joe really connects with each student and it makes you want to be involved / do the work well. His use of materials / media added a lot, too.

He presented information, and thought-provoking topics in a very interesting way. He was very encouraging to let people discuss what they think about certain topics.

Joe's positive attitude was contagious – his fresh approach to media studies was incredibly engaging.

Its refreshing to have an instructor who understands the pedagogy, has a deep grasp of his material and respects the entire learning process. His passion for the subject and how to teach it is very evident. A teacher who thinks every minute is precious, has turned out to be a rare find here at HGSE. Enabled great learning communities in the course.

Very good practical examples were given, assignments were very practical and connected very well to the readings and class lectures.

>Joe clearly knows the material, which is why I took the course in the first place. He also knows how to run a class this size – to be able to ask for feedback, answer questions,

and provide lecture or other explanation without sacrificing the quality of content or running out of time. This is a real skill and I haven't seen it in other classes I've taken yet at HGSE. >I found the material and Joe engaging, and this build a true community of learners in this class, which enriched the whole experience.

He was very organized in his lectures, making the discussions easy to follow. He also made good use of the site and always sent an email regarding upcoming readings / lectures that allowed me to focus more heavily on the main topics for discussion.

Brilliant lectures – created a very warm, low stress atmosphere in the class. Gave very structured assignments.

Joe is so intelligent, articulate, challenging, thoughtful, animated – he makes you interested because he is so interested. He puts so much time and effort into preparation of the course – his power point, lectures, the whole set-up of the course – it's a great testament to his preparation / care.

Lectures were always engaging – funny , startling, fascinating, clear, and well-organized, and supplemented with great media examples. Assignments were varied and very clear. Weekly emails helped organize the readings. Perfect amount of reading, and never repetitive.

Joe is incredible! He is passionate and knowledgeable, full of energy and a great lecturer. He clearly puts great effort into preparing lectures and course material. He is able to effectively synthesize readings and relate them to class discussions, encourage student participation, and provide directions for movement of the course.

Professor Blatt is great. He is a very charismatic instructor. He also did a good job in structuring the class and selecting the reading for our class course pack.

One of Joe's strongest suits in this class is his ability to be critical of the media while not writing it off or being prudish or afraid, and encouraging students to be the same. His status as a media producer is present and informs, but never overwhelms or unduly steers the conversation.

3b. What recommendations would you make to the instructor to strengthen his or her teaching and/or make the course more valuable? (Consider content, materials, activities, assignments that should be dropped or added, grading procedures, amount and kind of feedback, utilization of TFs, as well as changes in instructor behavior.)

There should be more flexibility in discussion during lectures and sections – the rigidness of power points flattens and restricts deep engagement – students don't ask as interesting questions if they are just trying to guess what is next on the list.

More deep discussion during lectures.

None, I thought this course and his teaching style / approach was excellent.

The readings can tie in with the lectures a bit more. The general topic in the readings relates to the upcoming lectures, but the readings themselves do not always tie in fully.

I think he did a great job. He was so enthusiastic and engaging while teaching, it made it fun to come to class. The only other thing I might have been interested in was further exploration into media effects on older adolescents.

I found the 5-page assignments difficult because the breadth of what was asked for in both content analysis and student interview were extremely difficult to condense to just 5 pages.

Sometimes I felt that complex issues got simplified by his heavy usage of instinctual (unreadable) participation, which sometimes seemed like common sense. I'd like to explore the readings and themes with increased sophistication. I'd also recommend slandering the reading assignments, so we can focus more on strong ideas.

None.

I wouldn't change anything.

I wish we could have had more feedback with Joe involved rather than just TFs – also small group discussions in section were less interesting than whole group to me.

Nothing! Professor Blatt was amazing!

I thought the course used a great diversity of learning techniques that were all valuable!

Add more time for discussion / questions after presentations of media. Also, provide more mid-course feedback. Also, start final paper earlier.

I would have liked to spend a little more time talking about possibilities for educational media for older kids. On the other hand, it seems that a lot of Joe's work has been targeted to younger audience.

I thought that the interview project placed a large burden on students who do not have access to young people in the Boston area.

Again I just felt the readings could be narrowed a little. I think they were all interesting but the volume could be problematic.

Only thing that was frustrating was the grading – I wish there had been an option to get more concrete grade feedback if so desired. (Thanks for the candy, too!)

>Some of the readings were repetitive. >Don't require students to post comments to on-line discussions.

None. I think Joe has done a wonderful job.

This is so broad a course, which is good and bad. It sometimes felt like too superficial and other times seemed like a good overview into the subject of media. I wish that our sections had been smaller.

Reduce reading load. It was nearly impossible to do it all, and do it all well.

I would like to have more online discussions after class.

The assignments could use some disclaimers from the beginning to work out potentially challenging situations, such as not having TV or cable available and not being familiar with a family of a young media user in the area. I guess I didn't realize how much more difficult these problems would make the assignments and more awareness early could have helped.

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I wish we had talked about more issues of diversity (beyond race, class, culture, ethnicity) such as sexuality and sexual orientation and gender identity, ability and disability and learning differences.

>I don't think all of the readings were necessary to drive the point home. >I would like to interact with the material (content) and classmates in a more structured way online.

Only recommendation I have is these ideas to connect it to educators better. Media literacy coverage in the course was very little. We should have had lot more of it.

Feedback I gave at mid-term was taken and incorporated. It's wonderful to see that happen! (Unreadable) express have that through the semester when I've had questions or suggestions I've been able to ask and those are dealt with or implemented. So, at the end of the semester I'm left with nothing more to add.

Allow more in-depth discussion during the lecture portion of the class. It was sometimes frustrating to do these great readings and not get too in-depth in their discussion. I also felt like the instructor tried to tackle too much so at times this felt like a survey course.

I would have liked to hear more lectures. Readings were lengthy and often dry, and it was unpredictable which would be dealt with in class. I'd like to see a little fewer readings and more in-depth discussion of them.

I wouldn't change anything to strengthen the teaching because it was so effective in thought and design. The course itself moved through so many topics that I wish we could have spent more time on – each class could've been its own course. For example, I wish we had spent more than 1 week on issues of diversity, since its so huge.

I wish we had talked more about diversity of sexuality in media. (Student indicated this statement should be repeated here.)

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It would be helpful to have Professor Blatt lecturing more than having section discussions.

Offer a higher level course on the same topic! A follow on, if you will.

**plan (unreadable) [incomplete comment from partial evaluation – see note at top.]

ADVICE TO STUDENTS

4. To help prospective students choose wisely, what advice would you give to students who are thinking of taking this course (about its level, the amount of work required, any prior training needed, ways to get the most out of the course, etc.)?

This is a broad overview of current media for children and the ones to assess them. It can be shallow sometimes because of the lecture style and size of class.

You will like Dr. Blatt. You will enjoy the variety of media and literature you will be exposed to.

This is a great course to take if you are interested in kids and how they respond to media. While there is a lot of work, it's manageable and you're able to develop your own case study and media analysis to make it more personalized.

This is an excellent, excellent course! I almost did not enroll because of a program requirement, but I'm so happy I got in. Very thought-out and well-prepared lectures and discussions! Great topics and excellent assignments. The workload is not too heavy and anything assigned has a solid purpose and methodology – no busy work.

It was really a fun and stimulating course. There was a lot of reading, I guess a little more than I had expected and more than assigned in my other courses. No prior training was needed. I had practically no prior exposure to the material and found the novelty very stimulating.

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The course reading was much more than I anticipated, so just be prepared. It's a very engaging course, however, and worth the time if you are personally invested in the issues. A lot of the depth happens in your own work as opposed to class discourse.

Lots of reading, but not too much work. A great introduction to issues in the media world.

This course was more work than I thought but well worth it.

Do all readings – lectures aren't as rich if you are ill prepared.

The content analysis project is a tedious task, but overall, the work load is not too bad. No prior training or study of media necessary.

This course requires the student to be attentive and stay on top of the work. It is, however, worth the effort! It is an excellent course!

Take this course if you are at all interested in the breadth of media issues and young (0-18) media users!

If you know a ton about educational media, this course might be too “intro-level” for you. If, on the other hand, you’re looking for a course that will give you a wide range of knowledge, and is enjoyable, then by all means take it!

The readings are interesting, but somewhat repetitive if you have any experience in this field.

I found this course very interesting. Different from all my other classes but relevant to both child media uses and your own!

Really just a wonderful course – the readings are sometimes long but always relevant and rewarding. The written assignments are both reasonable (in terms of what is asked of you) and educational (in terms of connecting well to course materials and issues).

Excellent course – take it!! There is a good amount of work but it’s really valuable.

A fantastic course. If you are interested to learn more about media, effects of media on children, issues related to use of media, context of media, and some research methods. And if you enjoy watching some videos and understanding the development of media. Take this course!

If you want a broad background about youth media, this is a good course.

This is a fun course. It offers diverse perspectives on media. If it is something you are interested in career-wise, definitely take it. As far as work required – you’re able to do as much as you want or can do.

This course is a great introductory course that gives you a sense of what the impacts of media on young media consumers. The workload is quite heavy but all of the assignments were valuable to experience the genre of media study.

Do the work – it’s a lot, but you’ll *love* it. Awesome class overall.

Read the course readings. It will help you understand the implication of discussed topics. Discussions without course readings seems to give you only superficial understanding of topics.

Take this course!! It’s a fair amount of reading, but enjoyable and well worth it!!

>Take the course. >Learn about Media Appreciation and also how to teach effectively. >One of the best courses and professors here at HGSE.

>Very high quality course. >Moderate amount of work. >No prior training needed. >Very good course to take if you want a general idea about media – TV, websites, movies – and their effects on children.

If you come from a background in television, this material could be old news. However, we cover so much material that anything I found that I had discussed before was quickly built upon and added to my knowledge base. Take it!

This was my most enjoyable class of the semester. It's fun, engaging, and relevant (Joe does a great job of making sure the course stays current). I would recommend taking this to balance out other "heavier" classes that involve more reflection. *I loved it!*

Great class. No background needed. Will make you think differently about your daily life.

I highly recommend it, as any future educator, even if you're unsure of media, using media; you will learn SO much about learning itself.

I took the class pass/fail just to give me information and approaches to bring into my English classroom (I'm a TEP student) and it ended up being my favorite class. The work level is balanced and the readings are fascinating.

Take it – you will not be disappointed. There is effort made to cover a variety of approaches and perspectives so wherever you fall in the spectrum of thinking about media, you will find something in this class.

If the subject interests you, this is a good class to take.

If you have an interest in youth media or in children's non-school intellectual and emotional lives, it's a great course.