

Website review

Migracom

<<http://www.migracom.com>>

The Observatori i Grup de Recerca sobre Migració i Comunicació (Migracom) of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona was founded in 1995 and, since then, has undertaken far-reaching research work. Its website contains information and bibliographies about the members of the Observatori, as well as information about publications and congresses regarding the portrayal of migration in the media. It also offers access to the research they prepare, including the annual reports into the treatment of information regarding immigration into Spain and more specific research, such as "Migrations, Discourses and Ideologies in a Globalised Society", "How the Media See Immigration and Convey Diversity" and "Visual Information and Immigration".

Observatorio de los Contenidos Audiovisuales (OCA)

<<http://campus.usal.es/~oca/>>

Launched in 2005, the Observatorio de los Contenidos Audiovisuales (OCA) is part of the Universidad de Salamanca. It functions as a research centre that carries out empirical studies and analysis of the content, uses and effects of media communication. Its website offers information about the OCA's different lines of research (research into consumption, the assessment of media intervention, transcultural research into media content, processes, uses and effects) and the techniques used (content analysis, experimental research, focus groups, etc.). Its website provides a list containing information about the funded research projects carried out by the Observatorio, as well as a list of communication journals with a link to access them.

Asociación Española de Comunicación Sanitaria (AECS)

<<http://www.aecs.es/>>

As it states on its website, the Asociación Española de Comunicación Sanitaria (AECS) is an initiative by health and communication science professionals who are interested in health communication techniques between public and private institutions, between professionals, the media and the general public, designed to facilitate the communication process in terms of health. The website provides information about the different sections (interpersonal communication, mass communication, corporate health communications), free access to articles published in the recently created *Revista Española de Comunicación en Salud* and to documents regarding health communication.

Observatorio para la Cibersociedad (OCS)

<<http://www.cibersociedad.net>>

The Observatorio para la Cibersociedad is a space for reflection, analysis and debate into cyberspace from the human and social sciences perspective. Its website provides access to the bibliographies of the people who collaborate with the Observatorio, a team comprising researchers from different research centres. It also provides information about the different congresses organised by the centre and other conferences and seminars, and a list of blogs related to cybersociety. An important aspect of the website is the free access to articles providing information, different opinions and current issues regarding the relationship between technology and society/culture, access to book reviews, to papers presented at the different editions of the OCS congress and a cybersociety archive which works as an e-library.

Media Education Association (MEA)

<<http://themea.org>>

The British Media Education Association is an association aimed at everyone who teaches about the media at any level of the 3-19 education system. Since September 2010, the Association has been offering visitors the chance to become free members via its website. As well as providing a forum for registered members, it offers them access to the journal published by the Association, *PoV*, and allows them to download articles from it. Users can also access information about conferences, congresses and events related to education in communication, as well as online news and resources from different research centres, both in the UK and other countries.

The Centre for Excellence in Media Practice (CEMP)

<<http://www.cemp.ac.uk/>>

Part of the Media School at Bournemouth University (United Kingdom), the Centre for Excellence in Media Practice (CEMP) has been functioning as a research and innovation centre since its creation in 2004. It has developed a set of online tools for use in education and the media industry. As well as offering information about the centre and its courses, the website provides access to tools such as AdReview, which allows users to download advertisements and make pertinent comments about them; Biblipedia, an online tool which allows users to keep track of their academic readings and manage their bibliographies; and Theory Trading Cards, is a fun way of introducing students to some of the leading cultural and media theories.

Center for Media and Communication Studies (CMCS)
<<http://www.cmcs.ceu.hu/home>>

Part of the Central European University with its headquarters in Budapest (Hungary), the CMCS is devoted to media and communication research. The Center's research and activities are aimed at media policies, the democratic potential of the media, the relationship between civil society and participation, the right to information and the complexities of the media and communication in transition. The Center's current lines of research – which can be consulted on the website – deal with issues such as privacy and human rights in Europe, the development of indicators for measuring the independence and efficiency of audiovisual regulatory bodies, and analysing the potential of the internet for promoting civic engagement and participation among young people.

Media Matters for America
<<http://mediamatters.org/>>

Media Matters for America is a web-based, not-for-profit research and information centre dedicated to supervising, analysing and correcting misinformation in the U.S. media. Launched in 2004, the centre monitors information published in the written and audiovisual media and on the internet. The website acts as a media custodian and notifies activists, journalists, authorities and the general public about instances of misinformation detected. One of the sections on the website details the research carried out by the centre, aimed primarily at denouncing the inflammatory words of certain conservative media programmes. It also provides access to a large amount of audiovisual material from American news and opinion programmes.

The Media Consortium
<<http://www.themediaconsortium.org/>>

Launched in 2006, The Media Consortium is a network of the United States' leading independent journalism organisations. Its website provides access to information about its members (New America Media, The Real News Network, The Women's Media Center, Democracy Now!, etc.), as well as information about the different projects carried out by the centre. These projects include the Media Policy Reporting and Education Pilot Program, which provide support and promote information creation. It also provides access to four websites created by The Media Consortium for the purpose of sharing information on different topics: the economy (The Audit), the environment (The Mulch), health (The Pulse) and immigration (The Diaspora). The website also provides reports which describe the information that appears in the media regarding a specific question.

Center for Global Communication Studies (CGCS)
<<http://www.global.asc.upenn.edu/research-published.html>>

Run by Monroe E. Price, the Center for Global Communication Studies (CGCS) works with the Annenberg School (University of Pennsylvania, USA) and is a research centre for comparative studies into media law and policy. Research at the Center focuses on subjects such as media regulation, the media and democracy, public service and the role of the media in conflict environments. Its website provides access to collaborating centres (Central European University, Communication University of China, University of Oxford, Stanhope Centre), current projects (access to information, education and training; the media and civil society; the media and conflict; media law, policy and regulation; mobile technology), and to CGCS reports and publications.

Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA)
<<http://cima.ned.org/>>

The Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA) is an initiative of America's National Endowment for Democracy, which provides information, builds networks, carries out research and highlights the indispensable role independent media play in the creation and development of sustainable democracies around the world. Its website provides access to extensive information about media development and related questions such as community radio, the digital media, sustainability and media literacy. It also has a very interesting section that contains a whole raft of resources, including information about development profiles in the media in different countries and an extensive bibliography database containing books, reports, articles, papers and manuals relevant to the field of the media.

Civic Engagement Research Group
<http://www.civicsurvey.org/CERG_Welcome_1.html>

Located in California, the Civic Engagement Research Group at Mills College carries out quantitative and qualitative research into youth civic engagement and the impact on them of the civic learning and participation opportunities offered by the digital media. Its website contains information about the projects run by the centre, including Youth & Participatory Politics, a project which analyses how youth participation in online networks is reshaping youth civic and political engagement in the public sphere. Another project that can be accessed is the Civic Implications of Kids' Participation with Digital Media, a quantitative analysis of how adolescent engagement with digital media relates to their knowledge, their commitments and civic and political activities.

Communication Space

<<http://thecomUNICATIONSPACE.com/>>

Communication Space is an online network open to everyone interested in media studies, mass communication, journalism, the new media and interpersonal communication. Sponsored by SAGE, the aim of its website is for students and researchers to network and share research, resources and debates. The website contains a forum where registered members can debate different issues. It also contains information about congresses, publishing news, job and grant offers, access to blogs related to media, video and podcast analysis, and there is even a section about how to submit an article or be published in academic journals.

Acacia Initiative

<<http://www.idrc.ca/acacia/>>

Launched in 1997, Acacia Initiative works with African organisations to help African countries apply new information and communication technologies (ICTs) to achieve major social and economic development. With this as its aim, the Initiative covers a wide range of research programmes and projects that focus on the appropriate new technologies to ensure improved governance. Its website, which is available in English and French, provides information about the different initiatives that are carried out, such as those concerning the impact of new information and communication technologies on cultural practices and democratic elections in Kenya and free digital access by African lawyers to legal documentation.

Project on Information Technology & Political Islam

<<http://www.pITPI.org/>>

The Project on Information, Technology and Political Islam is part of the Department of Communication at the University of Washington and investigates new information and communication technology infrastructure policies in Muslim societies, and the civic and political uses of digital media across the Muslim world. The website provides access to bibliography on information and communication technology (ICT) and the Islamic world, as well as a database about the dissemination and distribution of new ICT, the detention of bloggers and biographies of the most important political parties in the Islamic world. It also provides free access to articles published by members of the project and information about congresses and conferences on new technologies and the Islamic world.

Center for Future Civic Media

<<http://civic.mit.edu/>>

The Center for Future Civic Media works to create technical and social systems for sharing, prioritising, organising and acting on information. These include developing new technologies that support and foster civic media and political action; serving as an international resource for the study and analysis of civic media; and coordinating community-based test beds both in the United States and internationally. Its website provides access to international projects, as well as a set of tools created by the Center or other free-access communities. Users can also consult audiovisual material about talks, round tables and conferences on the civic media.

The News Literacy Project

<<http://www.thenewsliteracyproject.org/about/>>

Launched in 2008, The News Literacy Project is an innovative national educational programme in the United States that is mobilising journalists to help secondary school students sort fact from fiction in the digital age. The project's primary aim is to teach students to develop the critical thinking skills they need to become responsible media consumers. As a result, students learn how to distinguish verified information from opinion or gossip and are being encouraged to seek news and information that will make them well-informed citizens and voters. This website contains information about the programme, as well as featuring a directory of volunteer journalists, which enables teachers to select the person to visit their school.