

## **Brice Nixon**

bricenixon.wordpress.com

bln222@nyu.edu

Department of Media Studies and Production  
School of Media and Communication  
Temple University

Annenberg School for Communication  
University of Pennsylvania

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Media Studies, Digital Media Studies, Media and Cultural Industries, Political Economy of Communication, Communication History, Communication Law and Policy, Critical Theory, Cultural Studies, Journalism Studies

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

#### CURRENT

Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania, Annenberg School for Communication, 2016-17  
Adjunct Instructor, Temple University, Department of Media Studies and Production, 2016-17

#### PREVIOUS

Visiting Scholar, University of Paris 8, Center for Studies on Media, Technologies and Internationalization (CEMTI), 2016  
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of La Verne, Communications Department, 2015-16  
Adjunct Professor, University of La Verne, Communications Department, 2014-15  
Lecturer, California State University Channel Islands, Communication Program, 2014  
Adjunct Professor, Baruch College, Department of Communication Studies, 2013-14  
Adjunct Professor, New York University, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, 2013

### **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D., Communication (Emphasis in Media Studies), 2013**  
**with Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory**

**University of Colorado Boulder, Journalism and Mass Communication Program**

Dissertation: Communication as Capital and Audience Labor Exploitation in the Digital Era  
Committee: Janice Peck (Chair), Andrew Calabrese, Willard Rowland, David Gross, Chad Kautzer

**M.A., Media, Culture, and Communication, 2009**

**New York University, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication**

Thesis: Democracy, Capitalism, and the Failing Fourth Estate: A Case Study of Newspaper Ownership and an Examination of Potential Political Remedies to the Crisis in U.S. Journalism  
Advisor: Mark Crispin Miller

**B.A., Journalism (Cum Laude), 2002**

**University of La Verne**

## FELLOWSHIPS

Communication Policy Fellow, Consortium on Media Policy Studies (COMPASS), 2011.

## PUBLICATIONS

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Nixon, Brice. 2016. "The Old Media Business in the New: 'The Googlization of Everything' as the Capitalization of Digital Consumption." *Media, Culture & Society* 38 (2): 212-231. doi:10.1177/0163443715594036

Nixon, Brice. 2014. "Toward a Political Economy of 'Audience Labour' in the Digital Era." *tripleC: Communication, Capitalism & Critique* 12 (2): 713-734. <http://www.triple-c.at/index.php/tripleC/article/view/535>

[Translation into Polish] Nixon, Brice. 2015. "W stronę ekonomii politycznej 'pracy publiczności' w erze cyfrowej." *Praktyka Teoretyczna* 15 (1): 124-158. doi:10.14746/prt.2015.1.4

Nixon, Brice. 2012. "Dialectical Method and the Critical Political Economy of Culture." *tripleC: Cognition, Communication, Co-operation* 10 (2): 439-456. <http://www.triple-c.at/index.php/tripleC/article/view/371>

Nixon, Brice. 2011. "Democracy Against Capitalism: Interpreting Early U.S. Communication Policy." *Australian Journal of Communication* 38 (3): 89-102.

Nixon, Brice. 2011. "The Ideology of Uncritical U.S. Journalism: Its Political-Professional and Political-Economic Roots." *Media Research: Croatian Journal for Journalism and the Media* 17 (1-2): 141-162. <http://www.mediaresearch.cro.net/clanak.aspx?l=en&id=409>

[Translation into Croatian] Nixon, Brice. 2011. "Ideologija nekritičkog američkog novinarstva: političko-profesionalni i političko-ekonomski korijeni." *Medijska Istrazivanja* 15 (1): 124-158. <http://www.mediaresearch.cro.net/clanak.aspx?l=hr&id=409>

### CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

Nixon, Brice. In Press. "Recovering Audience Labor from Audience Commodity Theory: Advertising as Capitalizing on the Work of Signification." In *Explorations in Critical Studies of Advertising*, edited by James F. Hamilton, Robert Bodle, and Ezequiel Korin. Routledge.

Nixon, Brice. 2015. "The Exploitation of Audience Labour: A Missing Perspective on Communication and Capital in the Digital Era." In *Reconsidering Value and Labour in the Digital Age*, edited by Eran Fisher and Christian Fuchs, pp. 99-114. Palgrave Macmillan.

Nixon, Brice. 2015. "Critical Political Economy of Communication and the Problem of Method." In *Marx and the Political Economy of the Media*, edited by Christian Fuchs and Vincent Mosco, pp. 260-283. Brill.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Nixon, Brice. 2015. Invited review of *The Audience Commodity in a Digital Age: Revisiting a Critical Theory of Commercial Media*, edited by Lee McGuigan and Vincent Manzerolle. *Global Media and Communication* 11 (2): 188-190.

### WORKS IN PROGRESS

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES IN PREPARATION

- “Capitalizing on News in the Digital Era: MediaNews Group’s Response to the U.S. Newspaper Crisis.” [Finalizing manuscript revisions for journal submission].
- “Capitalizing on News and the Long History of the Attention Economy: Rethinking the Commercialization of News.” [Revising manuscript].
- “Notes Toward a History of Communication as Capital and Audience Labor.” [Revising manuscript].
- “From Theorizing Digital Labor to Digital Class Struggle: A Political Project through U.S. Communication Policy.” [Revising manuscript].
- “Rethinking ‘the Political Economy of the Sign’: Capitalizing on the Dialectic of Signification and the Work of Cultural Consumption.” [Research in progress].
- “The Political Economy of Signification and the Political Economy of Communication.” [Research in progress].
- “The Struggle to Capitalize on Communication, The Struggle Against Communication as Capital? Amazon, Hachette, Authors United, and Readers United.” [Research in progress].

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Toward a History of Communication as Capital,” International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Leicester, UK, July 30, 2016.
- “Communication as Capital: The Unmasked, Fundamental Question of the Political Economy of Communication,” International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Leicester, UK, July 30, 2016.
- “Media as Means of Production: Renewing and Extending Raymond Williams’ Project,” What Is Media? Experience, Exploration, Emergence, Portland, OR, April 14-16, 2016.
- “Communication as Capital and the Exploitation of Audience Labor: A New Perspective on Communication History.” ECREA Communication History Conference, Bridges and Boundaries: Theories, Concepts and Sources in Communication History, Venice, Italy, Sept. 18, 2015.
- “Transforming ‘Digital Labor’ Theory into a Political Project: A Critical Digital Communication Policy Framework.” Administrative v. Critical Research: Implications for

Contemporary Information Policy Studies [A By-Invitation Experts' Workshop], Pre-conference, International Communication Association (ICA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 21, 2015.

“News as Capital and Audience Labor: Rethinking the Commercialization of News.” What Is Journalism? Exploring the Past, Present and Future, Portland, OR, April 11, 2015.

“Digital Audience Labor and ‘The Googlization of Everything’: New Media Profits through Old Media Means.” Western States Communication Association 2015, Spokane, WA, February 24, 2015.

“Media Policy Should Be Used to Promote Social Justice.” Positive Policy? A Debate on the Role of Media Policy to Promote Social Justice. Western States Communication Association 2015, Spokane, WA, February 22, 2015.

“MediaNews Group’s California Newspaper Empire and the Crisis of Newspaper Capital in the U.S.,” Union for Democratic Communications (UDC), San Francisco, CA, Nov. 1-3, 2013.

“Audience Labor Exploitation in the Digital Era: Toward a Political Economy of Consciousness,” International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), Dublin, Ireland, June 29, 2013.

“Strategies for Media Reform: International Workshop,” Pre-conference, International Communication Association (ICA), London, England, June 17, 2013 [Workshop participant].

“Whatever Happened to Audience Labor? A Critique of the Political Economy of Digital Labor,” Communication and Global Power Shifts: An International Conference in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, June 8, 2013.

“Attempting to Reconcile the Irreconcilable: Baker’s Political Economy and the Contradiction of Capitalist Democracy,” Extended Session: “Media, Markets, and Democracy,” International Communication Association (ICA), Phoenix, AZ, May 26, 2012.

“Democracy Against Capitalism: Political Economy, History and Reform in U.S. Communication Policy,” Political Economy of Communication, Auckland, New Zealand, Sept. 15, 2011.

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

“The Culture Industry after the Googlization of Everything,” The Culture Industry: Meanings, Updates and Practical Implications, Research Seminar, The Centre for Studies on Media, Technologies and Internationalization, University of Paris 8, Paris, May 20, 2016.

“The Exploitation of Audience Labour: A Missing Perspective on Communication and Capital in the Digital Era,” Workshop on The Labour Theory of Value in the Digital Age, Organized by EU COST Action Dynamics of Virtual Work, Israel, June 15-17 2014.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Contemporary Issues in Digital Media (COM 4101 / JOUR 408)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, January Term 2015

Baruch College, Department of Communication Studies, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

An upper-division seminar that examines key issues of communication and power in the digital era. The overall aim is to develop critical digital media literacy that can aid in thinking about crucial developments and issues that redefine how we understand media, culture, and communication. Topics covered include Wikileaks, U.S. government surveillance, protest and social movements, commercial surveillance and data mining, copyright and control over culture, digital advertising, Internet access, and digital labor.

### **Studies in Electronic Media (COM 3062)**

Baruch College, Department of Communication Studies, Spring 2014

An upper-division lecture course that examines the history of electronic media (radio, television, and digital technologies) in the U.S. Topics addressed include economic and regulatory history, impact of technological change, and the role of electronic media in society.

### **History of Media and Communication (MCC-UE 3)**

New York University, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, Fall 2013

An introductory survey of the history of media forms and communication technologies, charting the historical trajectory from the alphabet to the Internet and exploring the development of media industries and communicative practices. An exploration of mediation in and across time and the emergence and development of different media forms in relation to particular social, economic, perceptual, and technological conditions and historical moments.

### **Media Institutions and Economics (JOUR 4321)**

University of Colorado Boulder, Journalism and Mass Communication Program, Spring 2013

An upper-division course on the political economy of media. Examines key aspects of the business of media and culture, and the place of audiences and users in that business, with a focus on digital media. Provides a theoretical and historical foundation for understanding the political economy of digital media, including issues of copyright, surveillance, advertising, Internet access, the transformation of audience members into users, and digital labor.

### **American Television Programming (COM 3067)**

Baruch College, Department of Communication Studies, Spring 2014

An upper-division course that examines key features in the economic and cultural history of US television programming. Topics addressed include modes of production, style, narrative forms, advertising, quality television, regulation, and public broadcasting.

### **Media and Society (MSP 1021)**

Temple University, Department of Media Studies and Production, Fall 2016

An introductory course that focuses on the past, present, and future roles of media in society. The course explores the complex relationships between media and society, especially in light of prevailing technological and cultural conditions in the U.S. and around the world. It also provides an introduction to specific approaches for being more enlightened consumers and producers of mass media messages by strengthening skills of reasoning, research, critical thinking, creativity, and writing.

**Contemporary Media Analysis (JOUR 1001)**

University of Colorado Boulder, Journalism and Mass Communication Program, Fall 2011

A media literacy course that surveys the structures, forces and environments that produce media and culture, as well as the effect of media on our sense of self and our interactions with others. Encourages critical media literacy skills through a review of the development of U.S. media industries. Examines current trends in media, especially concentration of ownership and conglomeration, globalization, audience fragmentation, hyper-commercialization, and convergence.

**Ethics of the Mass Media (JOUR 467)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

An upper-division course on current ethical standards, procedures, and problems in media industries. Explores the many dilemmas that reporters, producers and marketers encounter. Through discussion and exercises, the course implores students to think critically and determine how they would react in given circumstances. Enables students to better understand the responsibility that comes with working in various media industries. Students analyze the choices and pressures faced in various media industries and develop their own ethics. Students also develop a better critical foundation to evaluate media as audience members.

**Newspaper Production (JOUR 220/320)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, Fall 2015

Faculty adviser for *Campus Times* student newspaper publication.

*\*Student work named National Finalist in the Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards.*

**Magazine Production (JOUR 425)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, Spring 2015, Spring 2016

Faculty adviser for *La Verne Magazine* student magazine publication.

*\*Publication awarded Gold Medalist status and All-Columbian honors by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.*

**News Reporting (JOUR 100)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

An introductory-level course in the fundamentals of news writing and reporting.

**Senior Project (JOUR 499)**

University of La Verne, Communications Department, Spring 2015

Faculty adviser for senior projects.

**Internship (COMM 492) (Hybrid course)**

California State University Channel Islands, Communication Program, Fall 2014

Provides student credit for internship work and/or student learning in the community that culminates in a written and oral report.

**ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS**

Faculty Professional Development Grant, University of La Verne, \$2,000, 2016.

Faculty Professional Development Grant, University of La Verne, \$500, 2015.

Faculty Professional Development Grant, University of La Verne, \$800, 2015.

Faculty Professional Development Grant, University of La Verne, \$1,000, 2015.

Summer Research Fellowship, Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, \$2,250, 2012.

Communication Policy Fellowship, Consortium on Media Policy Studies (COMPASS), Washington, D.C., \$5,000, 2011.

Summer Research Fellowship, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, \$2,000, 2011.

Summer Research Fellowship, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, \$1,500, 2010.

**EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

*tripleC: Communication, Capitalism & Critique*

**PEER REVIEWING**

*New Media & Society*

*tripleC: Communication, Capitalism & Critique*

*Journal of Information Policy*

*Political Economy of Communication*

Communication Law and Policy Division, International Communication Association (ICA)

Communication History Division, International Communication Association (ICA)

Union for Democratic Communications (UDC)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

International Communication Association (ICA)

International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)

Union for Democratic Communications (UDC)

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Academic Advisor, University of La Verne. Provided course advising and support to 40 undergraduate students.

**JOURNALISM AND RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Editor, PrimeNewswire, Los Angeles, CA, April 2007 to June 2007.

Copy Editor/Page Designer, *Daily Breeze*, Torrance, CA, January 2005 to December 2006.

Reporter/Copy Editor/Page Designer, San Gabriel Valley Newspaper Group, West Covina, CA, February 2001 to December 2004.