

English Abstracts

Thomas Hanitzsch / Corinna Lauerer / Nina Steindl: Studying Journalism in Times of Crisis (Journalismus studieren in der Krise), pp. 465-482

Drawing on data from a survey of 556 students of Journalism in Germany, we discuss how the current crisis of journalism has impacted on university-based journalism education. The results reveal that students do not necessarily sense a crisis; however, the majority of the respondents were ambivalent about the future of journalism in general and their job opportunities in particular. Economic aspects were mostly referred to as challenging; however, a substantial lack of supporting working conditions were also mentioned. It appears that issues of individual fulfillment as well as students' idealism seem to impact extensively on their choice of subject. However, the results also show that despite the fact that journalism is facing challenging times, the majority of students still aim at a professional career in journalism. Often, practical experiences of working in the editorial offices encourage students to seek a career in journalism; giving them a sense of certainty with regard to their choice. Yet, about half of responding students are prepared to look for other working fields as well.

Key words: journalism education, university, journalism students, journalism crisis, discursive institutionalism, survey

Daniela Schlütz / Wiebke Möhring: Research Ethics for Communication Science – Sermon, End in Itself, Necessity? (Kommunikationswissenschaftliche Forschungsethik – Sonntagsworte, Selbstzweck, Notwendigkeit?), pp. 483-496

The current discourse regarding the DGPK code of ethics shows that the topic should be placed on the agenda of communication science. This paper widens the focus on questions of empirical research. It aims at encouraging a debate on research ethics within communication science. In order to frame this debate, we outline contexts, principles and elements of communication research ethic. Furthermore, we propose a rhetoric, case-based approach that balances laws, norms, and individual ethical considerations on the one hand and methodological demands on the other.

Key words: ethics, research ethics, code of conduct, privacy protection, DGPK, communication science, methodological quality

Maheba Nuria Goedeke Tort / Lars Guenther / Georg Ruhrmann: A Story of Criminals and Welcome. How the Origin of Immigrants Impacts their Media Framing (Von kriminell bis willkommen. Wie die Herkunft über das mediale Framing von Einwanderern entscheidet), pp. 497-517

This paper is interested in the media's framing of immigrants that come to Germany, with a special focus on the question if the immigrants' origin has an impact on their media framing. Articles of the daily newspapers WELT, FAZ, SZ and taz from the year of 2014 were analyzed. Using a hierarchical cluster analysis at the actors' level (n = 596), five frames of immigrants were identified: criminals, economically useful, cost-intensive, willing to integrate, and welcome. Some of these frames strongly correspond to certain nationalities. Immigrants from countries of origin with a greater cultural proximity to Germany (e.g., Southeast Europe) tend to be more negatively framed than immigrants

from culturally distant countries (e.g., Asia / Middle East, and Africa). Newspapers classified as politically rather conservative tend to use more negative frames than newspapers classified as politically rather left.

Key words: frames, immigrants, migrants, stereotypes, threat metaphors, content analysis

Catharina Vögele / Lisa Baudermann: Whistleblowing: Showing Courage or Denouncing Others? A Frame Analysis of the Coverage of Whistleblowing in German and Swiss Print Media (Whistleblowing zwischen Zivilcourage und Denunziantentum. Eine Frame-Analyse zur Berichterstattung über Whistleblowing in deutschen und deutschschweizerischen Printmedien), pp. 518-541

This study examines the framing of whistleblowing and whistleblowers in selected German and German-Swiss weekly published print media in the period from 2010 to 2014. Based on a quantitative content analysis and a hierarchical cluster analysis three frames in the coverage of whistleblowing are identified. The courage-frame highlights the whistleblower's selfless behavior, whereas the self-interest-frame mainly focuses on the fact that the whistleblower and his supporters try to grow rich on their behavior. The wrongdoing-frame emphasizes the wrongdoings and undesirable developments revealed by the whistleblowers. Besides we identify factors influencing the use of these frames by journalists. Results show that the frame use mainly depends on the publishing medium as well as on the time period of the coverage and the specific whistleblowing cases dominating the coverage in the respective time period.

Key words: whistleblowing, framing research, content analysis, influences on media framing

Julia Metag / Dorothee Arlt: On the Issue of Recipients' Disenchantment with Certain Topics and the Measurement of this: A Theoretical Conceptualization and Development of Scales (Das Konstrukt Themenverdrossenheit und seine Messung. Theoretische Konzeptualisierung und Skalenentwicklung), pp. 542-563

When recipients fall tired of certain issues that have been covered extensively in the media for a very long time, this phenomenon might be called issue disenchantment, referring to a state of cognitive and emotional resistance. Such tiredness might lead to a behaviour that avoids any information on the subject. So far, this concept and its dimensions has neither been described theoretically nor has it been investigated empirically. Hence, this study seeks to develop a theoretical, multi-dimensional model of 'issue disenchantment', as well as presenting a scale for its measurement. The scale has been tested using data from a representative survey of German citizens' perception of the coverage of refugees (n=500). The results show that 'issue disenchantment' consists of five main dimensions, namely a negative attitude towards the issue, an involvement with the issue, a perceived information overload, a perceived quality of the media coverage, and a perception of hostile and manipulative media coverage. We also reveal correlations of each of the dimensions with the recipients' information avoidance behaviour.

Key words: issue disenchantment, scale development, audience research, information avoidance, political communication, construct validity