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**Class meetings:**

Tuesdays at 2A-20

Lecture: 10:00 – 12: 00

Exercises: 12:00 –14:00

**Course blog:**

<http://www.itu.dk/courses/DMKO/F2011>

**Course Schedule:**

	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Practum</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Week 1 Feb 1	Rich / Adriana	<p>Introduction: Broad outline of the specialization</p> <p>Review of the syllabus and requirements</p> <p>Background and research</p> <p>Overview of the readings</p> <p>Mobiles in the world (ITU)</p> <p>Phones in developing countries</p>		Ling & Donner, (chapters 1, 3 & 4).
Week 2. Feb 8	Rich / Adriana	A short history of mobile communication	Tour of the Danish Post of Tele Museum to examine the development of mobile communication technology	<p>Ling &amp; Donner, (chapter 2).</p> <p>Farley, "Mobile telephony history" (pp. 22-34).</p> <p>Goggin, G. "Making voice portable: The early history of the cell phone" (pp. 40)</p> <p>Abrahamson, "Hear me Now".</p>
Week 3. Feb 15	Adriana	Location-based services	Sign up for a location-based service/discussion on privacy and surveillance	Gordon & de Souza e Silva (chapters 2, 3, 4, and 6)
Week 4. Feb 22	Rich	Qualitative methods (High level overview)	Interviewing, observation and focus groups	<p>Bailey, The research process</p> <p>Goffman, On fieldwork</p> <p>Becker, Problems of inference and proof in participant observation</p> <p>Morgan, Focus groups</p>
Week 5. March 1	Rich	Quantitative methods (high level overview)	A quick questionnaire/analysis	<p>Blalock, Social Statistics</p> <p>Fowler, Survey Research Methods (Chapters 1, 2 and 5)</p>

				Huff, How to Lie with Statistics
Week 6. March 8	Adriana	Mobile communication in the Global South	Make a presentation from e.g. the ITU statistics on mobile ownership in the developing world.	<p>Stenson and Donner, "Beyond the personal and private"</p> <p>de Souza e Silva, et. al., "Mobile phone appropriation in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil"</p> <p>Castells, et. al., "Wireless communication and global development" (pp. 215-244).</p> <p>James &amp; Versteeg, "Mobile phones in Africa" (pp. 112-126)</p>
Week 7. March 15	Rich / Adriana	Micro/macro-coordination	Observe the use of micro-coordination in daily life	<p>Ling &amp; Yttri, "Nobody sits at home and waits for the telephone to ring" (pp. 26-27)</p> <p>Sutko &amp; de Souza e Silva "Location aware mobile media and urban sociability"</p> <p>Castells et. al. "The mobile civil society" (pp. 185-214).</p> <p>Bimber, Flanagin, &amp; Storch "Reconceptualizing collective action in the contemporary media environment" (pp. 365-388).</p>
Week 8. March 22	Rich / Gitte (?)	Youth culture and identity	Go to a nearby store to interview the people there and find out what kinds of phones are popular and who buys what?	<p>Ling, "Children, youth and mobile communication"</p> <p>Ling, Bertel, &amp; Sundsøy "The socio-demography of texting: An analysis of"</p>

				<p>traffic data”</p> <p>Lenhart et al., “Teens a Mobile Phones” (chapt 1)</p>
<p>Week 9. March 29</p>	<p>Rich</p>	<p>Gender and communication</p>	<p>Look at the material from, e.g. New Media and Society to determine how mobiles are being used by women in developing countries.</p>	<p>Rakow and Navarrow “Remote mothering”</p> <p>Archambault “Breaking up”</p> <p>Chib and Chen “Midwiv with mobiles”</p> <p>Wallis “Mobile Phones without Guarantees”</p> <p>Madianou and Miller: “Mobile Phone Parenti</p>
<p>Week 10. April 5</p>	<p>Anders</p>	<p>Basics of the Mobile Infrastructure</p> <p>The students will be introduced to the most important elements and concepts in the Mobile network. They will learn how the infrastructure is constructed, how a mobile phone call is functioning and all relevant terminologies &amp; technologies are explained.</p> <p>Keywords: Cell sites, Base station controllers, Handover, Multiplexing, Roaming, TDMA, CDMA, 2.5G, 3G/UMTS, SMS, MMS</p>	<p>Split the students into 4 different groups: "TDC", "Telia", "Sonofon(Telenor)" and "HI3G".</p> <p>These are the four Operators who own a 3G license in DK. Each group gets the same assignment.</p> <p>a) Prepare 1-2 slides presentation of your Telco, covering the general company characteristics including general numbers, subscribers, mission, strategy etc.</p> <p>b) Prepare 1-2 slides evaluating your Operators 3G roll-out in retrospective of launched (successful?) 3G services and your best suggestions on eventual future successful services.</p> <p>One/two representatives from each group get 5-10 min to present in forum next class.</p>	<p>Mobile and wireless communications. p27-4 p65-70,  <a href="http://www.indianchilm/mms_sms_gateway.m">http://www.indianchilm/mms_sms_gateway.m</a>  <a href="http://communication.wstuffworks.com/sms1m">http://communication.wstuffworks.com/sms1m</a></p>

<p>Week 11. April 12</p>	<p>Anders</p>	<p><b>Mobile handset</b></p> <p>The students will get an overview of how a mobile handset is constructed and which elements are inside. The different operating systems are explained and important terminologies related to usage of a mobile phone is covered. Keywords: Technical parts, SIM card, MSISDN, GSM Authentication, security, Symbian, Android, Windows Mobile etc.</p>	<p>Split into 4 different groups: "Nokia", "Blackberry/RIM", "Windows mobile" and "Iphone"</p> <p>Each group gets the same assignments: a) Prepare 1-2 slides of your handset manufacturer covering general company characteristics (including overall sales figures, mission, strategy etc) and the characteristics' of your existing mobile operating system (compared to the other operating systems) b) Prepare 1-2 slides covering your suggestions to your handset manufacturers future approach in the mobile field, including choice of operating system, preinstalled apps and services to make your future handsets the most competitive. One or two representatives from each group get 5-10 min to present in forum next class.</p>	<p>Readings: <a href="http://electronics.howtostuffworks.com/cell-phone.htm/printable">http://electronics.howtostuffworks.com/cell-phone.htm/printable</a>  <a href="http://communication.wstuffworks.com/sms1m">http://communication.wstuffworks.com/sms1m</a></p>
<p>Week 12. April 19</p>	<p>Easter</p>			
<p>Week 13. April 26</p>	<p>Anders</p>	<p>Alternative Mobile technologies, players &amp; use cases</p> <p>Different technologies than GSM/Cellular network, for communicating to- and from a mobile phone are covered. Second, different use case scenarios than just voice and SMS is covered. And last, which new important players have entered the value chain of mobile communication. Keywords: Bluetooth, WiFi, VoIP. GPS, Premium SMS, OTA, VASP, MVNO's, Location based services, Mobile payments, Mobile Marketing</p>	<p>Two Individual assignments:</p> <p>a) Explain in short why you think WAP did not became a success in Europe, and iMode became a huge success in Japan? b) Elaborate on which technology you think will be the future "bearer" for mobile communication and why. E.g. the existing celluar network or Wifi or other?</p>	<p>Readings: <a href="http://www.tsmobile.com/og2.html">http://www.tsmobile.com/og2.html</a>  <a href="http://www.mobilemaker.com/cms/lib/3504.p">http://www.mobilemaker.com/cms/lib/3504.p</a>  <a href="http://www.mobileinc.com/what_is_a_mvno.htm">http://www.mobileinc.com/what_is_a_mvno.htm</a></p>

Week 14 May 3	Anders	Other wireless networks and the future  Value chain for creating applications and launching mobile marketing campaigns. Cases and future perspective for mobile as a tool for entertainment and Services. Keywords: App dev environments, App stores, App distribution, future mobile killer apps & services	Individual work or in groups (not assignment):  Download one of the mobile app development tools, and see if you can create a "hello work" app and install it on your handset.	To develop on apple: <a href="http://developer.apple.com/products/mac/prog/">http://developer.apple.com/products/mac/prog/</a>  To develop on generic (java): <a href="http://developers.sun.com/mobility/midp/articles/oolkit/">http://developers.sun.com/mobility/midp/articles/oolkit/</a>  To develop on Android <a href="http://developer.android.com/resources/tutorials/hello-world.html">http://developer.android.com/resources/tutorials/hello-world.html</a>
Week 15 May 10	Reading period			
Week 16 May 17	Reading period			

**Intended learning outcomes:**

After the course the student should be able to:

1. Characterize the global context associated with mobile communication.
2. Critically reflect upon the state of mobile communication in today's society.
3. Analyze the functioning of mobile telephone handsets.
4. Describe the elements that make up a mobile communications network
5. Reflect about the interaction between mobile telephone handsets and the mobile communications network.
6. Define other forms of radio-based communication.
7. Characterize the processes of gathering and analyzing data (both qualitative and quantitative).
8. Consider the role of the mobile phone in the Global South and its impact on economy, social relations, and the lives of women.

**Course Description:**

The course will give the student insight into the technical dimensions of mobile communication as well as the broader social consequences of mobile technologies. In addition, the student will be exposed to the methods used for mobile communication research. The course will explore:

1. The social dimensions of mobile communication:
  - The history of wireless and mobile communication;
  - Location-based services and social networks;
  - Micro/macro-coordination;
  - Identity and youth mobile culture
  - Mobile communication and the Global south
  - Gender and mobile communication;
2. The basics of mobile data analysis:
  - Qualitative methods
  - Quantitative methods
  - Data collection
3. Technical dimensions of mobile technology:
  - Handset level;
  - Network level;

**Learning activities**

The course will have of the following mandatory assignments:

- At least six posts on class readings (as described below under assignments)
- Student presentation/discussion question (once a semester, as described under the assignments).
- Final exam (research paper) due 31.5.

Only the final exam will be graded, but students must complete all the blog posts, the presentation, and the steps for the final paper in order to take the final exam. For a complete description of course assignments, see below.

### **1. Blog posts**

These are brief summaries/comments about the texts assigned for each class. The writing comments are due the day before the each class (i.e., on Monday) and should be between about 2.000 characters (with spaces) long. You should summarize each text separately and then connect them together at the end. For each post, you are expected to address the following questions:

- What are the main ideas and concepts of the texts?
- How do these texts connect with other readings in the course, class discussions, as well as with relevant outside materials?
- To what extent do these texts allow me to understand mobile communication in today's society? How do they apply to my own experience?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of these texts?

These are the mandatory assignments. You must complete six out of eight assigned blog posts and the presentation of a text in order to be considered complete, you are supposed to:

- Post your comment within the deadline.
- Have your comments approved by one of the instructors
- If you are required to re-write your post, you'll have one week to do so after you get the instructor's feedback.

NOTE: IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO SIGN YOUR POST WITH YOUR NAME. FAILURE TO DO THAT WILL **\*\*NOT\*\*** ASSIGN THE POST TO YOU AND YOU MIGHT NOT GET CREDIT FOR IT.

Assignment goal: Blog posts are supposed to prepare you for class discussion by helping you to organize your analysis of the texts, and make you aware of your colleagues comments and points of view. You are strongly encouraged to ask research questions on your blog post and bring them to class in order to contribute to class discussion.

### **2. Text presentation**

Each class, two to three students will be responsible for presenting the texts assigned to that day and leading class discussion. Much like the blog posts, you should summarize the texts, addressing the following questions:

- What are the main ideas and concepts of the texts?
- How do these texts connect with other readings in the course, class discussions, as well as with relevant outside materials?
- To what extent do these texts allow me to understand mobile communication in today's society? How do they apply to my own experience?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of these texts?

Also, you should:

- Bring any type of materials (scholarly sources, newspaper clips, web pages, online works, video clips, etc) that help to understand and contextualize the topic.
- Address research questions / develop a critical analysis of the text responding to the authors' arguments
- Bring questions to lead class discussion.
- Take about 20-25 minutes to present the texts.
- Lead class discussion.

This is a mandatory assignment. In order to complete the assignment, you are required to present on the assigned day.

Assignment goal: The text presentations are supposed to prepare you for public speaking. The presentation part matches the general length of a conference presentation. The discussion part will help you to lead group

discussions, as in a classroom setting. Additionally, presenting the text requires you to develop a mini-research on your topic through broader connections to outside research materials.

### 3. Final paper

The final individual paper's topic is open, as long as you focus on some aspect of mobile communication and social practices. Your methodology is flexible. You can do a discourse analysis, use a critical / cultural studies approach, a case study approach, or use qualitative or quantitative research as methods for developing your paper. Your analysis should emphasize any cultural and social implications of the use of mobile communication technologies.

General directions for the paper:

- Between 5000 and 7000 words, including abstract, keywords, notes, figures, tables, and references list.
- Double line spacing, 2.54cm margins, 12-point font, Times New Roman, and no extra space between paragraphs.
- Cover page with the paper title, your name/number and class.
- Follow APA style guide for references and paper formatting (here are the guidelines: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>)
- You must have at least 15 sources; 9 of which must be scholarly sources. You should cite at least 3 texts used in class.

Your paper must have:

- a clear and well defined structure (including abstract / 5-10 keywords / Introduction / Conclusion / References).
- a clearly defined research question(s);
- a clearly defined thesis statement;
- clear supporting points or evidence;
- a logical, argument-based structure; and
- concrete, well-documented evidence.

The paper will be evaluated based on:

- your topic definition, that is:
  - How precisely you fulfill at least 6 out of the 8 course learning outcomes.
  - how you describe your research questions / thesis statement in adequate detail.
- the substance of your research, that is:
  - the originality of your idea
  - how you completely and clearly discuss the issues involved drawing from class lectures, discussions and readings.
  - how you define, review, and draw on the relevant scholarly literature.
  - how you provide specific criteria and evidence for the position being espoused based upon readings and lectures.
  - if your research is appropriate to your topic.
- Your paper structure, that is:
  - the adequate length of your paper.
  - the adequate number of sources.
  - the adequate number of scholarly sources.
  - the proper formatting / citation of sources according to the APA style.
  - if the paper is clearly structured and organized.
  - the quality of your writing (paragraph transitions, spelling, grammar, punctuation).

You will write this paper by completing a series of 4 individual assignments:

- A one-paragraph statement of your proposed topic. For help with writing your paper proposal look at the Online Writing Lab at Purdue's University: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/> (15.03)
- An annotated initial list of 5 sources relevant to your topic; at least 3 of these must be scholarly journals or books. Information on what a scholarly source is can be found at <http://www.instruction.greenriver.edu/bahl/E112/scholarly.htm> (29.03)
- Paper outline. A good example on how to write a paper outline can be found at the Online Writing Lab at Purdue's University: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/general/gl\\_outlinS.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/general/gl_outlinS.html) (12.04)



- The final paper (31.05)

For additional help on writing your paper look at the following Workshop:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/ResearchW/index.html>

## Readings

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- Bailey, Kenneth. 1978. *Methods of Social Research*. New York: The Free Press.
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