General Call for Paper Abstracts and Panel Proposals:
The AEJMC Midwinter Conference is an annual forum for the presentation of research and debate in areas relevant to the AEJMC groups (divisions, interest groups and commissions) sponsoring the event. The conference provides a platform for presentations and extended discussions in a relaxed setting.

We are happy to host the upcoming conference again at the Gaylord College, University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma between March 5 and 6, 2021. Conference participants will be able to enjoy the College’s state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities, as well as the city’s and campus’ world-class museums, art galleries and restaurants. We will also ensure a healthy and safe environment for participants in light of the current COVID-19 reality, with options to participate in the conference remotely (via Zoom or a similar platform).

** In the event that the midwinter conference has to move to a virtual/online conference because of COVID-19, we plan to communicate this to participants by early January 2021 (before participants start to register for the conference). At this point, we are planning for an in-person event, as described above.

**Paper abstract submissions**: Authors are invited to submit research paper abstracts of between **600 and 800 words** (word count excludes author
information and references) appropriate to one of the Divisions or Interest Groups represented at the conference. Abstracts should give a clear sense of relevant literature, research objectives, methodological approach, stage of research project (conceptual, data gathering, data interpreting), findings and conclusions.

Submissions should be done online and by the December 1, 2020 deadline at: http://bit.ly/Midwinter2021 or the full link https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/AEJCMW2021/

When submitting an abstract, please follow these steps:

2. In the “AEJMC Midwinter 2021 Login” box, click on “Sign up here” as new user if you have not used this service before. Otherwise, just log in using your existing login.
3. It will take you to a sign-up wizard, which is self-explanatory and guided. Finish signing up by confirming your email address.
4. Once the account is set up, sign in using your email address and password.
5. To submit the abstract, click on “Create a new Paper Submission”, and select the division/interest group you want to submit your abstract to.
6. The next step will require you to provide the title of the paper, an abstract (9,000 characters maximum). If your abstract’s character count exceeds 9,000 characters, you can also attach it as a Word doc or PDF file. **However, you cannot leave the abstract box empty, write a brief abstract or keywords for your paper if you choose to upload it as an attachment.**
7. Next you can add additional authors, if there are any. You can add as many authors as you need.
8. Finally, click the submit button to upload the abstract.
9. You will get a confirmation message once the submission is completed.
10. You can log in to the site at any time to check the status of your submission or if you need to edit something. You can only do this up to the submission deadline of **December 1, 2020, 11:59 p.m. Central Time.** You would not be
able to make any changes to your submission after the deadline.

Note that authors can submit any specific paper abstract to only one participating group – submitting the same paper abstract to several groups will result in disqualification and withdrawal from the review process. Do not submit full papers but please ensure that abstracts are between 600 and 800 words; shorter abstracts (i.e., 75 words) don’t allow for adequate consideration with longer abstracts. Authors must ensure that they remove any identifying information from their document.

Authors of accepted papers will be notified by mid-January 2021. Papers presented at the midwinter conference are also eligible for presentation at the AEJMC national convention in August. Authors are encouraged to use the midwinter conference as an opportunity to get feedback on their research, to improve and finalize it for submission to the national conference.

Authors of accepted abstracts must submit complete papers (not exceeding 30 pages) to the discussant of their conference session at least two weeks before the midwinter conference. The midwinter chair for the relevant group will send authors the names and contact details of the discussant for their session.

At least one author of each accepted paper must register and attend the conference to present the paper. Failure to register by the deadline will result in authors’ names and papers being removed from the program. NO onsite registration will be available.

Some groups participating in the midwinter conference have award opportunities (e.g. for travel). Authors are encouraged to contact the groups’ individual midwinter chairs for details.

Panel submissions: In addition, the organizers are also inviting panel proposals. These panel proposals should NOT be done through the online abstract submission system. Instead, submissions for panels should be sent to the
relevant midwinter chair directly via email (see list of participating AEJMC
groups and the midwinter chair for each group below). The deadline for panel
submissions is the same as for abstract submissions, December 1, 2020, 11:59
p.m. Central Time.

Panel submissions should include the panel title, a description of the session’s
focus, the issues to be discussed, and a list of panelists (potential and confirmed),
including affiliation. Proposals should not exceed two double-spaced pages.

The University of Oklahoma is located in Norman, 20 miles south of Oklahoma
City, with easy access to the Will Rogers World Airport. Details on conference
registration, hotel accommodation and airport transportation will be available at
http://www.ou.edu/gaylord.

For more information, please contact Elanie Steyn, Conference Site Host
(elanie@ou.edu).
AEJMC 2021 Midwinter Chairs

Commission on the Status of Women
Kelsey Mesmer (kelsey.mesmer@wayne.edu)
Katie Olsen (olsenk@ksu.edu)

Communication Technology Division
Devin Knighton (devin.knighton@byu.edu).

Community Journalism Interest Group
Marcus Funk (marcusjfunk@gmail.com)

Cultural and Critical Studies Division
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Entertainment Studies Interest Group
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Graduate Student Interest Group
Monique Luisi (luisim@missouri.edu)

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Mass Communication & Society Division
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Robbie Morganfield (rmorganfield@ncat.edu)

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