**MCA 499 Final Project: Digital Storytelling**

**Objective**: To engage in digital storytelling to critically analyze the relationship between media and politics. Students will select a topic and use storify.com to collect social media content related to their topic. The assignment will be presented in class on April 18th and is worth 20% of your grade.

**Step 1**: Choose a topic and post it to blackboard under “Final Topic Discussion.” The topic must be related to media politics and must be approved by Dr. Pulaski Behling. Your topic must include a research question and/or statement of purpose to guide your research. All topics must be submitted by March 21st.

Possible topics:

* The impact of social media on the Syrian uprising
* The Power of Conservative Talk Radio
* Political News as Entertainment – “the tabloidization of news”
* Media use in Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move Campaign

**Step 2**: Log on to storify.com. You may do this with your Facebook/Twitter account or you can create a new account for Storify.

**Step 3**: Create a story by collecting social media relevant to your topic. Here you will also need to create your own content including photos and video. Your class iPad may be used to gather images and video.

**Step 4**: Write your narrative. You will do this by conducting additional research of academic literature related to your topic and including a written essay along with your uploaded content. At least three academic sources must be cited in this section and included in a source list (see example below). Here you make sense of the social media elements you have collected and critically analyze the media’s relationship to political communication.

**Step 5**: Publish your digital story, upload it to your eportfolio and present it to the class. Share your presentation through storify with other students.

Examples of political media stories on Storify.com

First Republican debate coverage: <http://storify.com/allisonsterry/american-observer-live-tweet-first-nh-debate-enter>

The impact of social media on Occupy Wall street: <http://storify.com/mRAWRyse/a-snapshot-of-occupy-wall-street-the-use-of-social>