Osher Online™

A program of the Osher National Resource Center
at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

WINTER2027

Paper Trails: The History of US Mass Media Ownership

In this course, we will trace the history of American journalism and examine how control of the press has shifted, from political patrons and penny-press advertisers to broadcast regulators, cable moguls, and today's social media platforms. We will consider how these changes shaped journalism's relationship to democracy and public trust, while developing a more critical eye for the structural forces that influence news coverage and the institutions working to sustain journalism as a public good.



Click here to view course promo video

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Caroline Nappo



Caroline Nappo, PhD, is an independent scholar with interests in the history of libraries and information institutions, information as a public good, and the political economy of information. She has an MS and PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois.

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 20 THROUGH FEBRUARY 24

4pmPT | 5pmMT | 6pmCT | 7pmET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Wednesday, January 20
- Wednesday, January 27
- Wednesday, February 3
- Wednesday, February 10
- Wednesday, February 17
- Wednesday, February 24

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.