

## Social Media Problems and Solutions

Assessing the benefits and abuses that social media have created in their development

<b>Course #</b>	21FSMD
<b>Format:</b>	Seminar
<b>Moderator:</b>	Gerald Goldman
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Tuesday, 1:30-3:30 PM 8 weeks, starting 9/28/2021
<b>Format:</b>	Online
<b>Maximum number of participants:</b>	15
<b>Auditors accepted:</b>	No

**Purpose:** We will study the various forms social media have taken, the way they earn their income, the manner they glean and sell information about their users, and suggestions as to how abuses can be controlled.

**Description:** How do social media influence the voting decisions and beliefs of their followers? How does their commitment to vetting their sources and controlling the messages they publish differ from journalists who report in newspapers and magazines? Can and should social media continue to be shielded from accountability for the information they publish as well as the private information they gather and sell to unknown recipients? How have foreign governments and hate groups co-opted social media to influence the American public? These are some of the questions that will be raised in this seminar.

**Role of participants:** Each participant will lead a discussion on either a topic which he or she will choose from a list provided by the moderator or on a subject he or she has formulated.

**Resources:** Moderator will provide resources to participants in advance of the seminar.

**About the Moderator:** Moderator has led a wide variety of seminars and considers this subject particularly pressing at this time.