

The **Media**
and **Communication**
DICTIONARY



A GUIDE

**for Students, Educators,
and Professionals**



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Preface



Communication, an essential human activity, is dynamic. This dictionary provides explanations of its inventive and evolving language, theories, and technologies and is designed to be a handy reference resource for students, educators, and professionals in many fields. A comprehensive index enables readers to quickly find the information needed. The entries are also cross-referenced. “See also” terms at the end of many entries point to related entries.

The Media and Communication Dictionary: A Guide for Students, Educators, and Professionals is my third book with Peter Lang Publishing (www.peterlang.com). The two previous works are *The Culture of Efficiency: Technology in Everyday Life* (2009) and *Displacing Place: Mobile Communication in the Twenty-first Century* (2007). Like many things in life, one project led to another. All of them have been labors of love. The goal of this dictionary is to help people understand the latest developments in our media rich environment as well as fundamental and historically significant terms and concepts from the communication field. Many of the terms have additional meanings outside of the domains of communication and media. Due to the focused nature of this dictionary, those definitions are not included in the entries. In this volume, over 800 technical and colloquial terms are defined, many of which are not in other dictionaries of this type. While this book was being written and published, new words, tools, and technologies have been introduced that will gain traction and further transform our lives and our world. Your comments and ideas for



updating and enhancing a future edition are welcomed enthusiastically. Please send them to sharon.kleinman@quinnipiac.edu. Thank you!