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Chuck Todd headlines Furman series on media, politics and fake news

Paul Hyde, phydc@greenvillenews.com Published 3:32 p.m. ET Aug. 11, 2017 | Updated 4:54 p.m. ET Aug. 11, 2017



(Photo: Courtesy of Furman University)

Prominent TV journalist Chuck Todd is among several media experts who will participate in a three-part weekly series, "Media and Politics in a Post-Truth Era," at Furman University.

Todd, who will speak at an Aug. 31 program, is the moderator of NBC's long-running "Meet the Press" and political director of NBC News.

The series will begin on Aug. 24 with "The Rise and Fall of Fake News: How, Why and What's at Stake."

Todd will be the keynote speaker for the program, "Alternative Facts and Partisan Media: Missing Walter Cronkite."

The series will conclude on Sept. 7 with "Winning the Information War: Where Do We Go from Here?"

The first and third sessions will take place in the Younts Conference Center, according to a news release. Session two with Chuck Todd will be held in McAlister Auditorium.

The Straight Talk Series is hosted by the Riley Institute at Furman and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

The cost for all three sessions is \$35 (\$25 for OLLI members) or \$15 per session. Registration is required and is available through furman.edu/straight-talk.

In addition to Todd, the series will feature Jonathan Albright, research director at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University; Michael Oreskes, senior vice president of news and editorial director at National Public Radio; Erika Hobbs, communications director and program manager for the News Literacy Project; Alexios Mantzarlis, leader of the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network; and Jason Tanz, site director at WIRED.

The sessions will be moderated by Furman Politics and International Affairs Professor Danielle Vinson.

As NBC News political director, Todd spearheads the network's political coverage, offering his analysis and translation of Beltway politics across all platforms.

Since 2014, he has been moderator of the popular Sunday morning program, "Meet the Press," where he has interviewed top political figures like Secretary Hillary Clinton, Vice President Joe Biden, House Speaker Paul Ryan, General Colin Powell and President Donald Trump.

Todd also serves as host of a weekday show on MSNBC, "MTP Daily."

Todd was a primary anchor for NBC's primetime 2016 presidential election coverage, including the network's special reporting on the Republican National Convention and the Democratic National Convention as well as the three presidential debates.

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He was also the NBC News' chief White House correspondent from 2008 to 2014.

For more information, call 864-294-2998 or see the website furman.edu/straight-talk.

Paul Hyde covers education and everything else under the South Carolina sun. Follow him on Facebook and Twitter: @PaulHyde7.

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