

COURSE NUMBER/ DESIGNATION/SECTION: COMS 2390.01

COURSE TITLE: Multimedia Communication

CREDIT HOURS: 3 hrs.

SEMESTER, YEAR: FALL 2017

LOCATION OF CLASS MEETING: SHSU On-Line

MEETING TIMES: Online

INSTRUCTOR: Capps

OFFICE LOCATION: CB 325

OFFICE HOURS: MW 11-12, TTH 12:30-2
Other times by Appointment

OFFICE PHONE: 936-294-3710

E-MAIL ADDRESS: scm_pjc@shsu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

COMS 2390 Multimedia Communication. To provide an understanding of how communication on the internet works. The study of how the different channels of communication influence the creation and reception of messages. Applications of technology to the preparation and presentation of other forms of oral discourse. Credit 3 hrs.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course students should have:

- Describe the major theories of human communication and apply them to various context.
- Learn to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, and points of view.
- Developed specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field of communication.

SUPPORTING TEXTBOOK:

Westerman, D., Bowman, N. D., & Lachlan, K. (2013). *Introduction to Computer-Mediated Communication: A Functional Approach*. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall-Hunt. ISBN: 978-0-75759-822-7*

Note: This book is available as an eBook and as a paperback at the bookstore.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING PLAN:

This class is designed to maximize your ability to access the material and complete the assignments. The course is divided into five units. Each unit contains readings, a unit exam, and a project. Each unit will be worth 200 points toward the final course grade. Unit 1 is the exception. Unit 1 contains readings and a unit exam,

A full description of the assignments and grading rubrics may be found on the course Home Page under the Guidelines Tab. The goal of this course is to introduce and help students develop an understanding of the increasing role of media in Communication Studies theory and application. As such the grade in this course will be based on the unit exams and class discussions.

Introductory Materials: Syllabus Exam and Self Introduction

Unit 1: Chapters 1, 2, and 3.

Unit 1: Discussion (100 points)

Unit Exam (100 points)

Unit 2: Chapters 4, 5, and 6.

Unit 2: Discussion (100 points)

Unit Exam (100 points)

Unit 3: Chapters 7 and 8

Unit 3: Discussion (100 points)

Unit Exam (100 points)

Unit 4: Chapters 9, 10, and 11

Unit 4: Discussion (100 points)

Unit Exam (100 points)

Unit 5: Chapters 12 and 13

Unit 5: Discussion (100 points)

Unit Exam (100 points)

Reflective Essay: 100 points

Final course grades will be calculated using the following matrix:

Unit Exams are weighted as **40 percent** of your final grade.

Unit discussions are weighed as **30 percent** of your final grade.

The Reflective Essay is weighted as **20 percent** of your final grade.

Introductory Material will be weighted as **10 percent** of your final grade.

Grading Scale:

100-90= A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

All grades will be posted on the course Grade book and may be accessed by the student at any point during the semester. A final class grade will not be released over the phone or internet.

Course Policies

1. **Attendance.** This course is designed to enable you to access information and complete assignments at times that are convenient to your schedule. This does not mean you may pop in and out whenever you feel like it. Failure on your part to communicate with me weekly, take on-line tests, respond to group discussions, or submit any assignment by the deadline, will be recorded as a Zero. If you have trouble reading and following directions, this class is NOT FOR YOU! Please remember, your participation will be noted. I will monitor your progress weekly via assignments. Even though this is an on-line course, absenteeism still hinders the learning process and may result in your failing this course. I will post the assignments at the beginning of the semester. Make sure assignments are in by the deadlines specified. You may not submit assignments early.
2. **Late Examinations.** If you miss an examination and have a **legitimate** reason for doing so, you must make it up within a reasonable time (normally 1 week or less). All arrangements for missing an examination must be made **prior** to the time the examination is scheduled. If such arrangements are not made, then no make-up examination will be given and you will receive a zero for that examination.

A webcam and microphone are required for exams.

3. **NO late assignments will be accepted. However, if you are incapacitated (aka in the hospital) and provide an excuse you may be allowed to make up missed assignments.**
4. You are responsible for turning in assignments on time. Keep up with the course activities and due dates to ensure you do not miss a deadline.

5. **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism is defined as “the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work” (Dictionary.com). All work must be the original composition of each student. Although you must use outside sources, you must cite them appropriately. Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. Assignments will be checked for plagiarism by *any and all means available*, including electronic checking services (i.e. Turnitin.com). The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.
6. **Americans with Disabilities Act.** If you are a qualified student with a disability seeking accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to self-identify with the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students at 294-1720.

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be expected to visit with the Office of Services for students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to registers with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

7. **Religious Holidays.** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

8. IDEA System. Students are asked to complete an IDEA evaluation of the course and the instructor at the end of the semester. Participation is voluntary.

9. Virtual classroom conduct. Free discussion, inquiry, and expression is encouraged in this class. Classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of students to benefit from the instruction is not acceptable. Any discussion or behavior that is deemed to cross the "civility line" will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to read and abide by all rules and policies in the SHSU Student Handbook. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is found at the following link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>. Section 5.2.22 defines classroom disturbances.

See the SHSU catalog, or the SHSUOnline course for additional university policies that may apply.

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www.shsu.edu/syllabus

If you have any questions or problems, you can reach me via email (scm_pjc@shsu.edu).

Continuation of enrollment in this course indicates acceptance of the terms and requirements of this syllabus.

Academic Honesty:

The Faculty Handbook states that the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Furthermore, the University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.

Proper Classroom Demeanor/Rules of Conduct: According to university policy

" Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Americans with Disabilities Act: According to University policy requests for accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the SSD office and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided based upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center

Religious Holidays: University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. The student, not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester, or the 7th calendar day after the first day of a summer session, must notify the instructor of each scheduled class that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day (Faculty Handbook, §§1.02-2.01).