

W 8:15–10:45 p.m. | Life Hall 051

Office Location: Life Hall 231C

Office Hours: M, Th. 12–12:30 p.m. | W 12–12:30 p.m., 7:30–8:15 p.m. | & by appointment

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Course Description: Introduction to Graduate Communication examines issues/debates/problems central to the discipline of communication. Issues such as gender, bureaucracy, the qualitative/quantitative split, mediated communication, getting published, creating a resume/vita, and conducting research are examined. Course content is in part determined by students.

Objectives

- To learn about the major disciplinary aspects of the field.
- To understand the debate among qualitative/quantitative researchers.
- To learn to critically examine the assumptions of the discipline.
- To gain detailed insight into individual areas of study through directed readings

Academic Dishonesty: The University is an academic community of scholars. Academic dishonesty is a very serious offense against the integrity of this community and will not be tolerated. All academic work submitted by you is assumed to be your own original work and to contain your own thought, research, and self-expression. Work that borrows the ideas, organization, or wording, from others must be properly acknowledged.

Plagiarism is the unauthorized or inappropriate use of the words or ideas of others. Plagiarism occurs when written or spoken material is borrowed (even from oneself), in whole or in part, and passed off as original by a writer or speaker. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, presenting someone else’s speech, presentation, essay, or news release as original. It also includes failing to document the source of word-for-word or paraphrased material in oral presentations or papers.

It is my policy to pursue plagiarism vigorously, to fail students who plagiarize, and to report cases of plagiarism to the university administration.

- Please come to class prepared to participate and contribute to class.
- Please submit all work in a professional “final-draft-looking” form.
- **NB:** “draft,” dot matrix, or typed documents will not be accepted for grades.
- Late assignments will be discounted 10% per calendar day.

The Department of Communication’s attendance policy is as follows: students are allowed to miss the equivalent of one week of classes without penalty. If three classes are missed (on a two day a week schedule), your final grade will be reduced by 5%, if four classes are missed, your final grade will be reduced by 10%. Missing more than two weeks worth of classes will result in a failing grade for the course. Illnesses (your own or others) will not affect this policy so do not waste your absences.

For “perfect” attendance: (including being on time for each class) you will gain an additional 3% on your final grade. No exceptions to bonus will be made for any reason.

Texts/Readings (Required)

- *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* [5th edition].
- Littlejohn, S. W. (2001). *Theories of Human Communication*. New York: Wadsworth.
- Packets will be available for checkout from the dept. or from me by the 2nd week of class.

Assignments	Points
Professionalism/Participation	200
Book Review (2000–2002, Comm. text—5–7 pp. + 10 min. presentation)	300
Reaction Papers to Readings (3 at 100 points each—3 pp.)	300
Research Presentation (45 minutes + 3–5 pp. of handouts + activity)	500
Research/Critical Essay, w/ Annotated Bib. , (13+ pp. of text + bib.)	500
Total	1,500

College level writing standards are expected on all work submitted (this includes correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, careful proofreading, etc.). No spelling errors are allowed—having even one spelling error will result in a zero for the assignment in question. All assignments should be double-spaced (with 25–27 lines-per-page), have one-inch margins (1”) all around, and be written in one of the following fonts: **Bookman** or **Bookman Old Style** 11pt., **Palatino** 11 pt., **New Century Schoolbook** 11 pt., **Garamond** 12 pt., or **Bernhard Modern** 12 pt. For headings you can use **boldface type**, **Arial Black**, or **Helvetica Black**.

Course Schedule

Day 1:	9.4	Overview of Class & Discipline problems in the discipline Develop a list of 10 Communication related questions APA Style
Day 2:	9.11	Perspective, Gender, Hierarchy Select Research Topic Read: Nothstine; Kent; Blair, et al.; Littlejohn.
Day 3:	9.18†	Interpersonal and Organizational Communication Read: TBA
Day 4:	9.25†	Public Comm.; Public Relations; Rhetoric Submit Reading Lists [an edited book or 15+ articles]. Note: “Articles” come from “journals” or books and average 15 pages. They are not 2–3 pages long and are not newspaper/magazine “articles.” I Expect a book worth of readings here. Read: TBA
Day 5:	10.2†	Mediated; Mass Media; Web Read: ...
Day 6:	10.9†	How to Get Published Professional Writing Guest(s) Read: TBA
Day 7:	10.16†	Getting a Job in Communication Resume/Vitae Read: TBA
Day 8:	10.23†	University Day—No Class
Day 9:	10.30†	Research in Communication Human Subjects Guest(s) Read: TBA
Day 10:	11.6†	Book Reviews Due (5–7 pp. +1 p. handout w/ cite, overview, etc.)
Day 11:	11.13†	Individual Meetings (<u>you</u> must schedule one with <u>me</u>)
Day 12:	11.20†	Giving Professional Presentations Visual Aides
Day 13:	11.27†	National Communication Association (NCA) Conference—No Class
Day 14:	12.4†	All Reaction Papers Due
Day 15:	12.11	Presentations w/ handouts, annotated bib., activity, etc.
Day 16:	12.18	Presentations w/ handouts, etc. Essays due

†: Reaction Papers may be submitted.