

COMMUNICATION THEORIES AND PRACTICES

MCOM 140: Tues. & Thurs. 12:30 – 1:45

Dr. Carol Walker

Office Phone: 570-422-3229

Email: cwalker@esu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 – 11:30

Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00

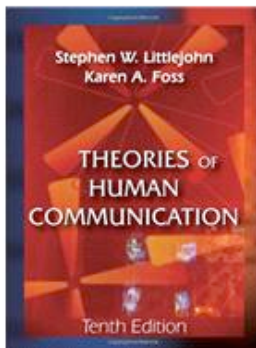
CLASS WIKI: <http://mcom140.wikispaces.com>

This wiki will contain course documents and information

Catalog Description:

Communication theories, practices, problems, and issues in a variety of settings are examined. This is a foundation survey course for the majors in the Media Communication and Technology program.

Required Text:



Theories of Human Communication, 10th Edition

S.W. Littlejohn & K.A. Foss

ISBN: 978-1-57766-706-3

Course Goals

1. Students evaluate and understand the idea of communication theories.
2. Students can articulate an understanding of the seven traditions of communication theory
3. Students collaborate to create class projects that demonstrate understanding of communication theory
4. Students apply the understanding of communication theory to communication media.

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS COURSE, RULES TO FOLLOW:

- Cell phones must be **silent** and **stored** during class.
- Plan to attend all classes; **contact your instructor if you will be absent.**
- If you are ill and miss class it is your responsibility to acquire notes and materials of the class and to complete any assignments. Any quiz, examination, or presentation that is missed will require an authorized excuse.
- Participate during class discussions and activities
- Be considerate
- No hats during exams or class presentations
- **Bring book to class for every session**
- **BE ON TIME FOR CLASS!!**

CLASS ATTENDANCE and GROUP PARTICIPATION:

- Class attendance is expected. Group work is an important aspect of college and professional life. When assigned group work, you are expected to participate fully and contribute equally to the assigned work.
- You are also expected to arrive to class on time and not to leave early. With the exception of an emergency, you should let me know ahead of time if you must leave class early.
- Class attendance on days of scheduled presentations is mandatory. Any absence, without proper documentation as described below, will result in a zero for your presentation grade. You are part of a team and must be present for the team to work!
- You will be allowed 3 unexcused absences without penalty to your grade (if not presenting or during exams).
 - **If you exceed more than three absences FIVE points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional unexcused absence.**
- An absence will be excused if proper documentation is provided to the professor following the absence (doctor's note, police report of accident, death notice, etc.).

EXAMS AND QUIZZES:

- Part of your grade will consist of open book chapter quizzes. Each chapter will have a 10-point quiz posted on D2L. Use your text and take the quiz while doing the reading assignment for each chapter.
- There will be an individual midterm and final given in this course. In preparation for each exam you should read all assigned materials, review notes taken in class, and attend all class meetings prior to the specific exam. Make-up exams will be given only if approved by me **prior to the time of the regular exam and then only because of major crisis (i.e. serious illness, death of family member). Proper documentation of excuse is required (i.e. doctor's note, death notice, etc.)**

GRADING:

Assignment	Points
D2L Chapter Quiz	100
Midterm Exam	100
Individual Presentation Grade	75
Group Presentation Grade	25
Final Exam	100
Total Points	400

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- **Plagiarism** – is a very serious offense. All students are expected to create their own knowledge and not present other's work as their own. Plagiarism ranges from the act of copy/pasting information from the Internet to presenting other's words as your own by not paraphrasing and giving credit.
 - Plagiarism will automatically result in an E for the assignment and the necessity to redo the assignment without credit in order to continue in the course.
 - In addition, an E for the course may be assigned immediately, without the ability to continue in the course, depending on the severity of the offense.
- **APA style citation and references are preferred, use Cite Machine for help <http://citationmachine.net/>**
- **Mutual respect is expected at all times**

Special Needs

Any students eligible for classroom accommodations are invited to meet with me to discuss concerns and to present their letters from the Office of Disability Services. If you are unsure of your specific concern, please visit the Office of Disability Services and also visit with me so that we can make appropriate accommodations. The Office of Disability Services is located in Rosenkrans East, Phone - 422-3954. Ask for Dr. Walton or Dr. Miller. All students are welcome to tape record class lectures.

****Book Store Hours:** Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM to 5 PM; Saturday 12 to 4 PM
Extended Hours: Aug. 25 & 26: 9AM- 5PM

****Helpdesk :(570)-422-3789**

****D2L: 570-422-3058**

PROJECTED Course Outline

Week	Dates	Assignment Due For Class	Discussion Topic:
1	8/28		Intro to Course
	8/30	Read Chapter 1 & Make sure you can get into D2L	Define and discuss communication theory
2	9/4	Read Ch. 2 & D2L quiz	The Idea of Theory
	9/6		
3	9/11	Read Ch. 3 & D2L quiz	The Seven Traditions of Communication Theory
	9/13		
4	9/18	Read Ch. 4 & D2L quiz	The Communicator: theories that enhance our understanding of the sender
	9/20		
5	9/25	Read Ch. 5 & D2L quiz	The Message: theories that discuss the use of language
	9/27		
6	10/2	Read Ch. 6 & D2L quiz	The Conversation: theories that enhance our understanding of symbols **Midterm Exam Chapters 1 – 6 on Thursday 10/11
	10/4		
7	10/9	** Note: No class Switch week follow Monday schedule	
	10/11	****Midterm Exam**** Chapter 1 - 6	
8	10/16	Read Ch. 7 & D2L quiz	The Relationship: A discussion of the patterns of interactions that form relationships
	10/18		
9	10/23	Presentations Ch. 4, 5, 6	The Group: A review of how groups are formed
	10/25	Read Ch. 8 & D2L quiz	
10	10/30		
	11/1	Presentations Ch. 7 & 8	
11	11/6	Read Ch. 9 & D2L Quiz	The Organization
	11/8		
12	11/13	Read Ch. 10 & D2L Quiz	The Media
	11/15		
13	11/20	Ch. 11 & D2L Quiz	Culture and Society
	11/22	No class Thanksgiving Break	
14	11/27	Ch. 11	
	11/29		
15	12/4	Present 9, 10a, 10b, 11	
	12/6	Present 9, 10a, 10b, 11	
Final	12/11	Final Exam Ch. 7 - 11	

MCOM 140 References

Baran, S. J., & Davis, D. K. (2009). *Mass Communication Theory, 5th edition*. Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage.

Gamble, T. K., & Gamble, M. (2010). *Communication Works, 9th edition*. New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

Redmond, M. V. (2000). *Communication Theories and Application*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin.