

Course Description: CAS 202 (GS) Introduction to Communication Theory (3) Survey of human communication studies in relational, interpersonal, group, organizational, intercultural, health, technology, and communication systems.

Instructor Contact Information:

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Course Objectives:

This introductory course to Communication Theory is designed to enable students

1. To demonstrate appreciation of the value of communication theories in one's personal, academic, and career undertakings.
2. To distinguish the different communication theories within in the various levels of human communication (intra-personal, interpersonal, groups, organizational, public or mass media level).
3. To acquire understanding of how diversity affect human interactions and communication effectiveness.
4. To study how communication theories can be utilized in research to help explain or understand certain human issues or phenomena, across fields of study or professions in life.
5. To present one's one own analysis and reflections as well as understanding of how communication theories work or operate, and are utilized in one's day-to-day human encounters with people, the public, and the media.

Strategic Approach to Learning

This course focuses all learning activities towards the achievement of the desired course objectives or learning outcomes. The "narrow but deep" approach to the study of communication theories will be used in order that a deeper understanding of some of the major communication theories can be obtained by students. This approach also conforms to the learning principle of avoiding information overload.

Read leisurely the required readings for the week. Review videos and other course materials provided weekly. Enhance and enrich your understanding of and the application of theories by engaging in the weekly Discussion Forum, and develop in you the skills in discussion leadership. Engaging in the weekly discussion question threads is a practical way to help you cultivate and enrich your understanding of the various theories, concepts, and principles in communication. Prove that you understand the theories by integrating, applying these theories to real-life and/or work situations.

Weekly Activity/Assignment and the Final Project

You will develop your final project strategically through a day-by-day and a week-by-week set of tasks. This strategic approach will ensure that the final output or requirement of the course could be met strategically without too much difficulty on your part.

We should work towards discussing in depth in one blog forum thread, the topic for the Week. Your initial response should answer every question within the thread. Each response must be at least 200 words. The contents must be substantial and meaningful, shedding light, providing additional information and insights and must reflect your knowledge from the materials/lessons for the week. Make it a habit to practice the ethical requirements of citing sources in your responses or posts. Below is the summary of the [Required Posts in the Discussion Forum](#)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1st You respond to the Questions in the Weekly Blog Forum Your response should address each question being asked and reflects your knowledge from the materials/lessons for the week; and, should NOT be less than 200 words. | = 1 Post |
| 2nd You post comments or ask questions on your classmates' posts Also: respond to your Instructor's Feedback or comments on your post (not less than 100 words) | = 3 Posts = 1 Post |
| 3rd Replies to the comments/questions made on your posts thread *[A minimum of 2 posts/day, 6 days a week] | = 3 Posts - 3rd layer |
| TOTAL → | = 8 Posts a Week |

Accessibility

Any student with **visual** or **hearing** impairment should request for academic accommodations by contacting the Campus Disability Contact Liaison (DCL) assigned to his or her campus location.

Disability Contact Liaisons for All Penn State Campus Locations

Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. Every Penn State campus has an office for students with disabilities. The Office for Disability Services (ODS) Web site provides contact information for every Penn State campus: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/dcl>. For further information, please visit the Office for Disability Services Web site: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods>.

In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with an accommodation letter. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. You must follow this process for every semester that you request accommodations.

To view a list of all of the campus disability services offices, please visit the [Office for Disability Services \(ODS\)](http://equity.psu.edu/ods/dcl) website: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/dcl>. To know more about the application guidelines and procedures, visit: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/applying-for-services-from-ods>. To know more about Disability Documentation Guidelines go to: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/guidelines>.

Assessments of your Learning Performance

| Assessments/Grading Criteria | Score/Points | Percentage |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Quizzes - for mastery and to aid students in distinguishing each theory; can be taken up to a given number of times The quiz will be open starting Monday of the given week. There is no time limit to each quiz. Each quiz is worth 20 points. [20 points/week x 5 weeks]. | 100 | 10% |
| Discussion Participation – through the Blog forum at www.commtheory.weebly.com to have a more enriching way of understanding communication theories and their applications to real-life situations. | 250 | 25% |
| Weekly Assignments - Journal Log Activity to help develop the final output [20 points x 5 weeks = 200 points]. | 200 | 20% |
| A one to two-page written reflections and analysis of the Communication Events documented in the Journal Log using applicable communication theories. | 250 | 25% |
| Final Project a short presentation of a proposed communication research or study. | 200 | 20% |
| Presentation of Paper | | 15% |
| | 1000 | 100% |

The Pace of Study for this Online Summer Course:

Please, keep in mind that this is a compressed summer course that moves at a faster pace as will be covering a 15-week semester course within 5 a weeks' time. The learning activities will include reading some prescribed materials, viewing class lectures and video materials, participating in weekly discussions, and completing a self-test on each weekly lesson. To avoid failure or low grades, follow in a timely manner the strategic time management embedded within the course design as follows:

| | Daily Activities | |
|-----------|--|---|
| Monday | Read, Review, and Study the corresponding course materials for the week. | Accomplish your daily Communications Journal Log. |
| Tuesday | Start responding to the Blog Forum Questions for the week. Review the corresponding course materials for the week as you respond to the questions. | Accomplish your daily Communications Journal Log. |
| Wednesday | Continue responding to your classmates' and your Instructor's posts. Also, consider accomplishing the weekly quiz. If you want your Sunday to be completely free of any school work, submit in Angel Drop Box your completed journal log for the week. | Accomplish your daily Communications Journal Log. |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | |
| Saturday | | |
| Sunday | Submit your completed journal log for the week. | |

References and Learning Resources:

1. West, R. Turner, L. (2010) *Introducing Communication Theory Analysis and Application* 4th ed.
2. [Overview of Communication Theories](#). Communication Studies at the University of Twente.
 Retrieved on April 28, 2013 from <http://www.utwente.nl/cw/theorieenoverzicht/Theory%20Clusters/>
3. Videos and/or PowerPoint presentations, URLs, PDF or Word Document Files
4. www.commtheory.weebly.com

Summary of our Course Coverage

Part 1: Week 1 Lessons

- A. Introduction to the Course
- B. Fundamental Concepts
- C. Intrapersonal: The Self and Messages

Part 2: Week 2 Lessons

- A. Interpersonal: Relationship Development
- B. Groups or Organizational Communication

Part 3: Week 3 Lessons

- A. The Public, Media, Culture and Diversity

Part 4: Week 4 Lessons

- A. Communication in Every Profession
- B. Health, Technology, and Communications System

Part 5: Week 5 Lessons

- A. Final Reflections
- B. Final Project Presentations

Class Members:

| Student Name | e-mail | Campus | Major |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| Ballantine Joseph G. | jgb5121 | HN | FILM |
| Evans Alison C. | ace5110 | UP | ENGR |
| Farley Michaelleen M. | mmm392 | HN | LASCC |
| Patterson Kawana C. | kop5134 | HN | B A |