

**COMM 1101: History of Human Communication (34077)**  
**Autumn 2016**  
**MWF 3:00 – 3:55 pm; Journalism 360**

**Instructor:** Emily L. Davidson

**Office:** 211 Journalism (occasionally in 3055 Derby Hall – will note on Canvas)

**Office Hours:** **Tuesday 1-3 p.m./Friday 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.**

**Email:** [davidson.536@osu.edu](mailto:davidson.536@osu.edu)

**Course Description**

*History of Human Communication* provides an overview of the history of communication with a primary focus on the evolution of media. We will explore the relationship between innovation, media, and culture as they affect one another over the centuries, with in-depth focus placed on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century events, particularly in the United States. We will critically examine media as a business and how changes in media ownership affect the movement and content of information and opinions in society.

**General Education Curriculum**

Communication COMM 1101 is a GEC course in Category 2, Breadth, B. Social Science, subcategory (1) Individuals and Groups. Courses in social science help students understand human behavior and cognition, and the structures of human societies, cultures and institutions. Courses that fulfill this requirement have the following learning objectives:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of individuals and groups.
2. Students understand the behavior of individuals, differences and similarities in social and cultural contexts of human existence, and the processes by which groups function.
3. Students develop abilities to comprehend and assess individual and social values, and recognize their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

**Textbook and Readings**

Hanson, R. E. (2016). *Mass communication: Living in a media world* (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Washington, DC: CQ Press.

In addition, course readings and materials will be available at [www.carmen.osu.edu](http://www.carmen.osu.edu). PowerPoint slides for each class will be posted on Carmen at least an hour before class begins. One copy of the textbook is on reserve at Thompson Library.

**Academic Support Services**

If you find yourself struggling in school, know that you're not alone and you don't have to battle against this course. I'm more than happy to meet with you to go over specific material one-on-one to ensure your comprehension. The university has great support services to help you as well.

- For general student support resources: <http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/academics/current-students/resources>
- For information on A&S advising: <http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/about/college/contacts/advising>

# Disability Services

## Requesting accommodations

If you would like to request academic accommodations based on the impact of a disability qualified under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, contact your instructor privately as soon as possible to discuss your specific needs. Discussions are confidential.

In addition to contacting the instructor, please contact the Office for Disability Services at [614-292-3307](tel:614-292-3307) or [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu) to register for services and/or to coordinate any accommodations you might need in your courses at The Ohio State University. Go to <http://ods.osu.edu> for more information.

Additional information on tOSU's accessibility policies and services can be found at <http://ada.osu.edu/resources/Links.htm>

## Academic Integrity

The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

**If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.** If COAM determines that you have violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](#))
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* ([Ten Suggestions](#))
- *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm) or <http://www.northwestern.edu/provost/policies/academic-integrity/cardinal-rules.html>)

## Course Requirements

1. **Midterms & Final.** There will be 3 tests during the semester. There are two regular exams and a final. Each test will comprise 25% of your final grade.

Each exam will consist of multiple-choice and will be completed using Scantron sheets. The exams will draw on material discussed in lectures, as well as assigned readings. Exam dates are provided on the last two pages of the syllabus. Make a note of these dates as they are *not* flexible (so please plan accordingly).

Opportunities for a make-up exam (i.e., those not on the scheduled date) will only be granted with *written documentation* and involve university business or a documented emergency. Illness must be properly documented and the documentation must be signed by a medical professional. **Make-up exams will be taken either during office hours or at a scheduled time within one week of the exam.**

### IMPORTANT

1. **Bring your BUCKID or another form of identification**
2. Bring at least one #2 pencil to each exam; no pencils will be provided.
3. We reserve the right to withhold the exam if you arrive after the first person has completed/left the exam.
4. No hats are to be worn in class during the test.
5. Ask questions during the exam if you're unsure about phrasing or vocabulary.
6. For the love of all that is holy and good, don't ruin your college career by cheating.

2. **Quizzes.** There will be 6 quizzes conducted via the Carmen system over the semester. Each quiz is worth 3.34% of your course grade. The quizzes make up 20% of your final grade. The questions on the quizzes will be similar to, and in some cases identical to, the questions that will appear on the midterm or final. The quizzes will have 5 questions.

1. The quizzes have a 10 minute time limit so you should study prior to taking the quiz. You will not have time to look up the answers while you take the quiz.
2. You may take each quiz *three* times. You will get the best score on the quiz in terms of calculating your final grade. You should study between your attempts on the quiz.
3. When you retake the quiz, you may or may not get the same questions as you had on the first quiz. Carmen randomly picks which questions you will receive each time you take the quiz.
4. You have one week to complete the quiz from the date it is listed on the syllabus.
5. The quiz will cover lectures and/or readings for the day it is listed.
6. Because you have a week to complete the quiz, **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES.**

The purpose of the quizzes are to:

1. Encourage you to keep up to date on readings and lectures,
2. Provide practice on the types of questions you will receive on the midterm/final, and
3. Help you understand how much you need to update your study habits prior to taking the midterm and final.

### 3. Research participation (C-REP)

All students in COMM 1101 must participate in the Communication Research Experience Program (“C-REP”). C-REP is designed to give students direct exposure to the topics, goals, methods, and ethical issues of communication research. The purpose of this requirement is to teach you about the empirical research that is conducted in the field of communication by giving you first-hand experience as a participant. Your participation in C-REP counts for 5% of your course grade in this course, and this is **NOT** extra credit.

Participation can take the form of:

- Completing FIVE hours of C-REP research studies, **OR**
- Completing FIVE C-REP alternative written assignments, **OR**
- Completing a combined total of FIVE hours of research studies and alternative writing assignments.

Important details:

- **You must complete 2.5 of your credits for C-REP by **October 7**** (of course, you can complete more than 2.5 credits by October 22 if you wish). Completing your C-REP requirement for COMM 1100 must take place prior to finals week. The last day to complete the C-REP requirement is **Wednesday, December 7th at 9pm**. You should NOT wait until the last minute to sign up for participation. It is wise to complete this aspect of the course requirements as early as possible, when demands on your time are the lightest.
- Also, if you do five hours of C-REP research studies, at least 2.5 of the hours must be completed in lab-based studies (not online).
- Although students in Comm 1100 and Comm 1101 are automatically enrolled in the C-REP program, they are not automatically enrolled on its website. For this, you **must manually set up a user account in order to be able to use the website**.
- Please take the time to read the detailed C-REP Student Guide here: <http://comm.osu.edu/research/support-resources> or on our Canvas page.
- Keep in mind that 1100 and 1101 both require C-REP participation, so it will be important to complete the requirements for both classes. The same credit cannot be counted for both courses.
- **Please direct any questions regarding C-REP to Jessica Frampton (frampton.22@osu.edu).**

#### Extra Credit

You can receive extra credit by participating in additional studies or alternative writings assignments via the C-REP system. *You can get up to 3 points of extra credit.* The extra credit points are added to your final grade percentage (e.g., if your final grade is an 84.5 and you do 3 points of extra credit, your final grade will move to an 87.5).

## GRADES

1. Your grade in the class is based on your scores on the (a) first midterm, (b) second midterm, (c) final, (d) quizzes, (e) research participation and (f) the extra credit opportunities. **These are the only 6 components of your grade.**

2. Determining your final grade

a. Exam 1	25 %
b. Exam 2	25 %
c. Final	25 %
d. 6 quizzes	20 %
e. Research participation	<u>5 %</u>
Total	100 %

3. Grade assignment

Currently, I anticipate that grades will be assigned using the following percentage system.

$\geq 93 = A$	$\geq 90 = A-$
$\geq 87 = B+$	$\geq 83 = B$
$\geq 80 = B-$	$\geq 77 = C+$
$\geq 73 = C$	$\geq 70 = C- **$
$\geq 67 = D+$	$\geq 63 = D$
	$> 63 = E$

**\*\*A minimum of a C- is required to earn access to the Communication major**

## Policies and Rules

1. I expect you to act as responsible students. I understand that you have other demands on your time and that this course will not always be your top priority. However, the amount of time you spend on this course will probably have a direct impact on your grade for this course.
2. If there are *unusual* circumstances that are affecting your performance in this class, you should inform me of them *as soon as possible*. Do not call me after the fact. I can adjust time schedules, but I will not adjust my grading policies. "C" work is "C" work no matter what the circumstances.
3. You have a two week period after the graded assignment is returned to challenge grades.
4. Grade challenges will be made in writing.
5. **The classroom is a space where people come to explore a variety of ideas in an open and welcoming environment. In order for this to occur, we must be respectful of one another. Sexist, racist, ableist, or homophobic language will not be tolerated.**
6. All cell phones will be turned off during class lecture. Be courteous to your fellow students. *Research shows that those who use laptops in class for alternate activities lower both their grades and those of the students around them.* I allow laptops, but if your plan is to come to class and spend the time browsing online or watching videos, please do not bother to come. You're wasting your time and mine and will not succeed in the course.

## Day-by-Day Topics and Readings

DATE	TOPIC	READING(S)	WHAT'S DUE
Aug 24	Introduction to the Course	Syllabus	
Aug 26	Overview to the Study of Communication	Chapter 1	
Aug 29	Media & Culture		
Aug 31	The Media Business	Chapter 3	
Sept 2	The Public Sphere		
<b>Sept 5</b>	<b>NO CLASS – LABOR DAY</b>		
Sept 7	The book	Chapter 4	<b>Quiz 1</b>
Sept 9	Cont.		
Sept 12	Cont.		
Sept 14	Magazines	Chapter 5	
Sept 16	Cont.		
Sept 19	Newspapers	Chapter 6	<b>Quiz 2</b>
Sept 21	Cont.		
Sept 23	Cont.		
Sept 26	Cont./Exam prep		
<b>Sept 28</b>	<b>MIDTERM 1</b>		<b>MIDTERM</b>
Sept 30	Radio	Chapter 7	
Oct 3	Cont.		
Oct 5	Podcasts/audiobooks		
Oct 7	Movies	Chapter 8	<b>Quiz 3</b>
Oct 10	Cont.		
Oct 12	Cont.		
<b>Oct 14</b>	<b>NO CLASS – AUTUMN BREAK</b>		
Oct 17	Television	Chapter 9	<b>Quiz 4</b>
Oct 19	Cont.		

Oct 21	Video games	<b>Baran (2017) Chapter 9</b> <i>Recommended: Stahl (2006)</i>	
Oct 24	Cont.		
Oct 26	Internet	Chapter 10	<b>Quiz 5</b>
Oct 28	Cont.		
Oct 31	Cont.		
Nov 2	Social media	Recommended: Youmans & York (2012)	
<b>Nov 4</b>	<b>MIDTERM 2</b>		<b>MIDTERM</b>
Nov 7	Strategic Communication	Chapters 11 & 12	<b>VOTE NOV 8!!</b>
Nov 9	Cont.		
Nov 11	NO CLASS – VETERAN’S DAY		
Nov 14	Cont.		
Nov 16	Media Law	Chapter 13	<b>Quiz 6</b>
Nov 18	Cont.		
Nov 21	Ethics	Chapter 14	
Nov 23-25	NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK		
Nov 28	Cont.		
Nov 30	Global Media and Press Freedom	Chapter 15	
Dec 2	Cont.		
Dec 5	Cont.		
Dec 7	Exam review class		
<b>Dec 9 Friday</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM – 12:00 to 1:45</b>		<b>FINAL</b>



**LOOK AT HOW DIFFERENT  
THAT TIME IS FROM THE  
REST OF OUR CLASSES!!!  
PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO  
COME AT NOON**