COMM 3163 COMMUNICATION INDUSTRY METHODS AUTUMN 2021

Faculty Instructor:

Jason C. Coronel, Ph.D. [pronouns: he/him/his] [coronel.4@osu.edu]

Office hours: Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00pm EST

Graduate Student Instructors:

Michael Gilbert [pronouns: he/him/his] [gilbert.611@osu.edu]

- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 10:05 11:55am Min Derby Hall 3176
- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 12:10 2:00pm in Derby Hall 3176
- Office hours: Friday 2:30-3:30

Sophie Kjaervik [pronouns: she/her/hers] [kjaervik.1@osu.edu]

- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 2:15PM 4:05pm in Derby Hall 3176
- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 4:20PM 6:10pm in Derby Hall 3176
- Office hours: Thursday, 12:00-1:00pm

Yue Li [pronouns: she/her/hers] [li.7232@osu.edu]

- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 8:00 9:50am in Derby Hall 3176
- In-Person Labs (8/30 12/06): Mondays, 12:10 2:00pm in Journalism Bldg 224
- Office hours: Thursday, 12:00-1:00pm

Course description

This course (1) introduces students to traditional and state-of-the-art methods in communication industry and (2) describes how these methods can be used to answer important questions in communication industry (e.g., Did the marketing campaign *cause* an increase in sales? How do we design surveys such that employees or consumers will tell us the *truth* when they fill out the surveys? If a product is well received by consumers in the United States, will it be well received in other countries? Furthermore, can we know the answer to this question *before* spending millions of dollars on advertisements in other countries?).

Below are examples of traditional and emerging methods that you will learn in the course:

• **Surveys**: You will learn how to effectively design survey questions such that individuals (e.g., employees, consumers) will understand them and provide truthful responses.

- Experiments (lab, survey, and field) and Quasi-experiments (interrupted time series): You will learn how to design experiments and quasi-experiments in order to answer causal questions (e.g., Did the marketing campaign cause an increase in sales?).
- Eye-tracking technology: You will learn how to use eye-tracking technology to answer questions about people's attention (e.g., Is advertisement A more likely to attract attention than advertisement B? What features on a social media site tend to attract attention?).
- Facial expression analysis: You will learn how to use facial expression analysis to answer questions about people's moment-by-moment emotional reactions (e.g., Did the advertisement elicit feelings of joy or confusion?).

In addition, you will learn to use simple and easy-to-understand statistical techniques. We live in an increasingly data-driven world. "Big data" and data analytics have drastically changed the landscape for businesses. Possessing a degree of statistical competence will allow you to better navigate this new information environment.

Finally, this course will also teach you how to think like a social scientist. Social scientists often use rigorous methods and logics for generating substantive conclusions (e.g., X caused Y.) It will benefit you to apply this rigorous and logical way of thinking to industry (not everyone in industry will have this training).

In summary, this course will help to sharpen analytical skills, which will serve students intending to work in industry, attend law school, business school, or graduate school. The lecture portion of the course is delivered online (asynchronous), while the lab is delivered in-person (on campus). Note that the current plan is to have the lab sections be in-person sessions. This plan, of course, can change given the ongoing pandemic.

Course learning goals and outcomes

Specific course goals include the following:

- to learn traditional and state-of-the-art methods and how they can be used to answer questions in communication industry
- to learn basic statistical techniques
- to understand the nature of deductive reasoning and its general applicability to understanding the worlds in which we live
- to learn the precise meaning of causality and the obstacles to identifying true cause and effect
- to learn how to recognize patterns in data
- to learn how to explain the patterns we observe
- to begin to understand when to employ one methodology rather than another
- to begin to see the fun and satisfaction that come with systematic thinking

Mode of delivery

This lecture component of the course is asynchronous and is delivered online. The lab component of the course is delivered in-person on campus. Note that the current plan is to have the lab sections

be in-person sessions. This plan, of course, can change given the ongoing pandemic.

How this course works

- Each week, a new module will become available on the course's Carmen site. The module will contain all of the online requirements associated with that week. Each module will include a series of lecture videos pertaining to key course concepts, as well as instructions for completing the weekly readings and activities due that week.
- Each Monday, you will participate in an in-person lab session taught by a graduate student instructor (see above for contact information). The lab session will review key course concepts, provide an overview of all course assignments, and offer help conducting data analyses using Microsoft Excel and JASP.
- All assignments and quizzes are due 11:59pm on Sundays.

Course materials

- The textbook associated with the course is: Boyle, M. & Schmierbach, M. (2019). *Applied Communication Research Methods: Getting Started as a Researcher* (2nd Edition). New York: Routledge.
 - O You can access the textbook online for **FREE** via the OSU library: [Library Link]
 - O A hard copy is available for purchase from these sources:

 [Publisher Link] [Amazon Rental] [Barnes & Noble]
 - o The 1st Edition is also acceptable for the course.
- You will also read articles that show how specific methods can be used in industry. These articles will be available on the course's Carmen site.
- Access to a computer/laptop, a high-speed Internet connection, current web browser with video-related plugins, speakers/headphones, Microsoft Excel (available via this external URL), JASP (available via this external URL), Qualtrics (available via this external URL), and TopHat (available via this external URL). The privacy policy for JASP is here: external URL. These software programs are all FREE to OSU students.
 - Students with accessibility needs should speak directly to me about using JASP.
 Depending on your needs, we might need to identify an alternative program for you to use or alternative assignments for you to complete.

Grading

This class has 100 possible points, which are distributed as follows:

Checkpoints (x5)	10 points
Online Quizzes (x5)	50 points
Lab Proposals (x3)	15 points
Lab Analyses (x3)	15 points
Lab Participation	10 points

Assignments

- Checkpoints (2pts x 5). Periodic "checkpoints" serve to assess your understanding of key course concepts. Each checkpoint consists of open-ended questions on Carmen. You will receive instructor feedback on these assignments. There are five checkpoints in total, and they are graded out of two points for thoroughness and completion (2 = satisfactory, 1 = needs improvement, 0 = incomplete).
- Online Quizzes (10pts x 5). Students have the opportunity to take <u>six quizzes</u> during the semester. Quizzes will assess your knowledge and understanding related to (1) lecture video material and (2) course readings. Quizzes are **not** cumulative.
 - Each quiz is worth 10 points and has 10 questions. The quizzes will rigorously test your knowledge about the topics covered in the previous two weekly modules. I have designed the quizzes to be difficult for two reasons. First, the difficulty will motivate you to keep up with the material each week and to study as you would for a standard, in-person exam. Second, all quizzes are open book and open notes.
 - Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. In other words, only your <u>five highest quiz</u> scores will count toward your final grade.
 - O Students will only have one 30-minute attempt to complete each quiz. I do not allow group work on the quizzes and doing so constitutes academic misconduct. Please prepare well and do not wait until the last minute to start a quiz, as technological issues can occur (see technology policy below for more details). If students have questions about the quizzes generally, they should use the General Discussion Board available in Carmen.
 - On quiz weeks, Carmen will automatically open the quiz at 12:01am EST on Monday and close the quiz at 11:59pm EST on Sunday. The automated quiz system draws questions from a validated pool of questions, meaning that each student's quiz will be slightly different. Missing a quiz earns you a zero for that week's quiz. Lateness penalties apply to quizzes. This means that you can take quizzes after the deadline, but you will suffer a point penalty.
- Lab Proposals (5pts x3). You will write three research proposals focused on research methods taught in lecture and lab. It should answer a question in communication industry and you are encouraged to be creative and to come up with your own topic. Lab instructors will provide more details and guidelines about these proposals.
- Lab Analyses (5pts x3). You will complete three sets of statistical analyses that employ skills using Microsoft Excel and JASP. These programs and procedures will be modeled during lecture and lab. Lab instructors will provide more details and guidelines about these analyses.
- Lab Participation (10pts). A participation grade will be assigned by your lab instructors at the end of the course based on your active participation in the weekly lab activities.

Late assignments

All deadlines are in Eastern Standard Time (EST). Students may submit all assessments late with a penalty. Penalties for late work increase cumulatively. Submitting work one second after the deadline yields a -2% point penalty for the submission. For each additional hour after the deadline, you lose an additional -2% off the submission.

Grading scale

Please note that Carmen Canvas, OSU's grading and class management software, does not round fractions up. Please take that into account in computing grades. I do not manually round up grades. The official grading scale is as follows:

93 – 100: A 90 – 92.9: A-87 – 89.9: B+ 83 – 86.9: B 80 – 82.9: B-77 – 79.9: C+ 73 – 76.9: C 70 – 72.9: C-67 – 69.9: D+ 60 – 66.9: D Below 60: E

Credit hour and work expectation

This course is worth 4 credits. Direct instruction will take occur in both the lectures and the labs. According to Ohio State policy, students should expect around 3 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of (C) average. <u>ASC Honors</u> provides an excellent guide to scheduling and study expectations.

Faculty feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-HELP** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

Grading and feedback

For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within 7-14 days.

E-mail

Prof. Coronel will reply to e-mails within 24 hours on school days.

Discussion board

We will check messages in the discussion boards every 48 hours on school days.

Virtual office hours

Virtual office hours will be held through Ohio State's conferencing platform, Carmen Zoom. Dr. Coronel's digital meeting room can be accessed during posted office hours at this link: [Zoom Link] [PW: 473884]. Students may use the audio and video functions if a webcam and microphone are available. If not, there is still a chat function within Zoom for the student to live chat with the professor in the virtual office hours room. A guide to accessing Zoom is available online here (Links to an external site.)

Common issues to avoid...

- Carmen mail/messenger + submission comments. These are unreliable forms of communication, and the instructors will not check them regularly.
- Weekend + evening emails. Under most circumstances, we will respond to messages of this sort on the next business day.
- Sending emails NOT from your OSU email. Messages to our OSU accounts from non-OSU email services are regularly marked as spam and since their OSU cannot confirm their delivery, you may not use them as evidence of communication attempts.
- Unprofessional emails. Please ensure that your email messages are professional and informative by including your course info in the subject line, a salutation, adequate yet concise body text, closing, and your full name.
- Emails that require immediate attention. We aim to answer emails with 24 hours of receipt on business days. Be proactive and plan ahead.

Course Technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.

• Carmen:

- O Carmen, Ohio State's Learning Management System, will be used to host materials and activities throughout this course. To access Carmen, visit <u>Carmen.osu.edu</u>. Log in to Carmen using your name.# and password. If you have not setup a name.# and password, visit <u>my.osu.edu</u>.
- Help guides on the use of Carmen can be found at <u>https://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmen</u>
- o This online course requires use of Carmen (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.
 - Carmen accessibility
- Carmen Zoom:

- Office hours will be held through Ohio State's conferencing platform, Carmen Zoom. A separate guide to accessing Carmen Zoom and our office hours is posted on the course Carmen page under Files.
- O Students may use the audio and video functions if a webcam and microphone are available. If not, there is still a chat function within Carmen Zoom for the student to live chat with the professor or TA in the virtual office hours room.
- o <u>Carmen Zoom</u> help guide

• Turnitin:

O Students at The Ohio State University are accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Therefore, you should be familiar with the guidelines provided by the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) and Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct in order to meet the academic expectations concerning appropriate documentation of sources. In addition, OSU has made Turnitin, a learning tool and plagiarism prevention system, available to instructors. For this class, you will submit your papers to Turnitin from Carmen. When grading your work, I will interpret the originality report, following Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct as appropriate. For more information about Turnitin, please see the vendor's guide for students. Note that submitted final papers become part of the OSU database.

• Self-Service and Chat support: http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice

• **Phone:** 614-688-HELP (4357)

Email: 8help@osu.eduTDD: 614-688-8743

Baseline technical skills necessary for online courses

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen

Necessary equipment

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Web cam and microphone

Necessary software

- Word processor with the ability to save files under .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf. Most popular
 word processing software programs including Microsoft Word and Mac Pages have these
 abilities.
- OSU students have access to Microsoft Office products <u>free of charge</u>. To install, please visit https://osuitsm.service-now.com/selfservice/kb-view.do?sysparm-article=kb04733
- If you do not have a computer, the university has resources that can help. There are multiple computer labs on campus, and you can find their hours and locations here. Additionally, some students can qualify to receive a loaner iPad with accessories. You can check if you are eligible here. Note that some work will require a computer, not a tablet.

University Policies

Student Academic Services

Arts and Sciences Advising and Academic Services' website provides support for student academic success. Information on advising issues such as tutoring, transfer credits, academic standing, and contact information for Arts and Sciences advisors can be obtained through this website. The site is: http://advising.osu.edu/welcome.shtml

Student Services

The Student Service Center assists with financial aid matters, tuition and fee payments. Please see their site at: http://ssc.osu.edu

Copyright Disclaimer

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

Diversity

The School of Communication at The Ohio State University embraces and maintains an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, experiences, and people. Our commitment to diversity moves beyond mere tolerance to recognizing, understanding, and welcoming the contributions of diverse groups and the value group members possess as individuals. In our School, the faculty, students, and staff are dedicated to building a tradition of diversity with principles of equal opportunity, personal respect, and the intellectual interests of those who comprise diverse cultures.

Title IX

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleix.osu.edu or by contacting the Interim Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Molly Peirano, at titleix@osu.edu

Mental Health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you

may be experiencing. If you are or someone you know is suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614--292--5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766. If you are thinking of harming yourself or need a safe, non-judgmental place to talk, or if you are worried about someone else and need advice about what to do, 24-hour emergency help is also available through the Suicide Prevention Hotline (Columbus: 614-221-5445)

COVID-19 and Illness Policies

Please note that these policies may be updated to reflect changes in the epidemic, changes in our understanding of the disease, and changing University, local, state, and federal recommendations/mandates.

Vaccination

The COVID-19 vaccine is the single best way to protect yourself and others from the disease. Widespread vaccination also offers us our best chance of ending the pandemic and getting back to a pre-pandemic lifestyle. If you haven't already, please get vaccinated. It is safe, effective, and <u>free</u>.

Masks and social distancing

The university requires that everyone on campus wears masks indoors (for more information, see https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/). Wearing a mask that covers your mouth and nose is important because it can help slow the spread of COVID-19. There are several reasons to do this, even if you are vaccinated. First, the "Delta variant," which is the dominant version of the virus that causes COVID in the U.S. today, is highly contagious, and has caused a huge increase in cases recently. Second, even if you are vaccinated, there have been some cases of "breakthrough" infection, where a vaccinated person becomes ill. These cases are much less severe than cases among unvaccinated individuals, but you still don't want to go through it if you don't have to. Finally, and most importantly, if you get COVID-19 you can spread it to other people, including young children and others who cannot take the vaccine. In short, masks help protect you and they help you protect other people.

Social distancing may also help slow the spread of COVID. Although classrooms are no longer configured to ensure that students can spread out, doing so may still be helpful if you have the opportunity.

Attendance

Given the continued high prevalence of COVID, including breakthrough cases among vaccinated individuals, students should not attend class if they are feeling sick. It is very important that individuals avoid spreading the virus to others. Most students should be able to complete a successful semester despite illness-induced absence. If you are absent due to illness, including but not limited to COVID, you will be given a reasonable opportunity to make up missed work. You do not need to provide a physician's document of illness, but you should advise your lab instructor via email as soon as you are safely able to do so.

Academic integrity policy

Policies for this online course

- Written assignments: All written assignments, communications, and posts should be your
 own original work. In formal assignments, you should follow APA style to cite the ideas and
 words of your research sources. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread
 your assignments before you turn them in but no one else should revise or rewrite your
 work.
- Reusing past work: In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to build on past research or revisit a topic you've explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with me.
- Falsifying research or results: All research you will conduct in this course is intended to be a learning experience; you should never feel tempted to make your results or your library research look more successful than it was.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/

Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

Requesting accommodations

Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone 614-292-3307, slds@osu.edu; slds.osu.edu.

Course schedule (tentative)

PART I: Foundations

Modules [Start]	Weekly Topics	Assignments (due Sundays
[End]		@ 11:59pm)
Week 1	Introduction to Logical and Systematic Thinking	Checkpoint #1
Aug 24 Aug 29	 Textbook Readings Ch. 1: Principles of Research (pg. 3-11) Ch. 2: Concepts of Research (pg. 13-35) Ch. 3: Scholarly Research (pg. 41-72) Lecture Videos Theories and Hypotheses. No Lab Monday (semester begins Tuesday) 	
Week 2 Aug 30	Introduction to Survey Design and the Importance of Clarifying Concepts and Using Valid Measures	Quiz #1
Sept 5	 Textbook Readings Ch. 5: Concept Explication (pg. 101-115) Ch. 6: Reliability & Validity (pg. 123-145) Lecture Videos Concepts and Measures Intro to Survey Questions Monday Lab: Proposal Workshop 	
Week 3 Sept 6	Using Eye-Tracking and Facial Expression Analysis in Marketing and Consumer Research	Lab Proposal #1
Sept 12	 Article Readings Read the Wedel & Pieters (2008) article from the Carmen course site (pg. 123-147) Lecture Videos Eye tracking and Facial Expression Methods No Lab Monday (Labor Day) 	
Week 4	Introduction to Statistical Analysis	Lab Analysis #1
Sept 13 Sept 19	 <u>Textbook Readings</u> Ch. 14: Descriptive Statistics (pg. 359-379) 	

	 Lecture Videos From Survey to Data Data Reduction Descriptive Statistics Calculating Descriptive Statistics Monday Lab: Analysis Workshop 	
Week 5 Sept 20 Sept 26	Importance of Sampling and Generalizability to Communication Industry • Textbook Readings • Ch. 8: Sampling (pg. 187-215) • Lecture Videos • Introduction to Sampling • Types of Sampling • Monday Lab: Review Day	Quiz #2

PART II: Observational Studies and Quasi-Experiments

Modules	Weekly Topics	Assignments
[Start]		(due Sundays
[End]		@ 11:59pm)
Week 6	Designing Effective Survey Questions	Checkpoint #2
Sept 27 Oct 3	 <u>Textbook Readings</u> Ch. 7: Effective Measurement (pg. 153-179) <u>Lecture Videos</u> Survey Construction Survey Recommendations Monday Lab: Intro to JASP 	
Week 7	Interpreting Survey Results	Quiz #3
Oct 4 Oct 10	 Textbook Readings Ch. 15: Inferential Statistics (pg. 387-417) Lecture Videos Correlations NHST Mean Differences Effect Sizes Monday Lab: Review Day 	

Week 8 Oct 11 Oct 17	Statistical Analysis of Survey Data • No Textbook Readings • Lecture Videos • Introduction to JASP • Selecting Analyses for Surveys • Interpreting Survey Results • Conducting a Correlation Test • Conducting a Paired T-Test • Monday Lab: Analysis Workshop	Lab Analysis #2 Checkpoint #3
Week 9 Oct 18 Oct 24	Conducting Surveys in the Modern World • Textbook Readings ○ Ch. 10: Survey Research (pg. 261-279) • Lecture Videos ○ Real-World Surveys ○ The Many Names of Mobile Surveys ○ Starting an Experience Sampling Study • Monday Lab: Proposal Workshop	Lab Proposal #2
Week 10 Oct 25 Oct 31	Observational Studies and Quasi-experiments	Quiz #4

PART III: Causation and Designing Experimental Studies

Modules	Weekly Topics	Assignments
[Start]		(due Sundays
[End]		@ 11:59pm)
Week 11	Designing Survey Experiments in a Marketing Context	Checkpoint #4
Nov 1 Nov 7	Article Readings	

	 Read the Clow & James (2014) article from the Carmen course site (pg. 1-48) No Textbook Readings Lecture Videos 	
	Survey ExperimentsMonday Lab: Review Day	
Week 12	Causation, Random Assignment, and Experiments	Quiz #5
Nov 8 Nov 14	 Textbook Readings Ch. 9: Experiments (pg. 223-252) Lecture Videos Lab Experiments Between vs. Within-Subjects Designs Limitations to Lab Experiments 	
Week 13	Statistical Analysis of Experimental Data	Lab Analysis #3
Nov 15 Nov 21	 Textbook Readings Ch. 16: Multivariate Inferential Statistics (pg. 433 - 439) Lecture Videos Selecting Analyses for Experiments Interpreting Experimental Results Conducting an Independent T-Test Conducting an ANOVA Monday Lab: Analysis Workshop 	
Week 14	Thanksgiving Week	
Nov 22 Nov 28	 No Textbook Readings TBA 	
Week 15 Nov 29	Field Experiments in Consumer Research and the Ethical Issues Associated with Field Experiments	Lab Proposal #3
Dec 5	 Article Readings Read the Prew & Lin (2019) article from the Carmen course site (pg. 1-11) Textbook Readings Ch. 4: Ethical Research (pg. 81-94) Lecture Videos Field Experiments Monday Lab: Proposal Workshop 	

Week 16	Conclusions and Takeaways	Quiz #6
Dec 6 Dec 8	 No Textbook Readings <u>Lecture Videos</u> Conclusions, Takeaways, and Review Monday Lab: Review Day 	Checkpoint #5

Tentative nature of this syllabus. This syllabus is an agreement between the instructor and the student. Events that transpire over the semester may require me to modify the syllabus. In the event I need to modify the syllabus, I will announce the modification via an email to the class and Carmen. However, it is your responsibility to keep up with any such modifications and be aware of current policies, deadlines, etc.

By staying enrolled in this class, the student agrees to abide by the policies described in the syllabus.