

SYLLABUS: COMM 1100 COMMUNICATION IN SOCIETY ONLINE SUMMER 2022 3 CREDIT HOURS

Instructor



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Office hours: Monday and Tuesday 10 AM -12 PM EST via this [link](#) on CarmenZoom. You can also email me to make an appointment outside of regularly scheduled office hours

Course Description

Catalog Description: Role of communication in society; forms, strategies, theories and issues; interpersonal, group, organizations, public and mass communication. Prereq: Not open to students with credit for 200. GE soc sci indivs and groups course.

Full Description: This course is 100% online. This course will discuss the nature of scientific theory in general and communication theory in particular. It provides an overview of some of the major theories guiding our understanding of communication in various contexts (e.g., interpersonal, group, political, organizational, intercultural, and mass-mediated). The course will focus only on theories that can be tested using the scientific method. All theories will be critiqued using specific criteria and standards. When possible, theories will be applied to real-world communication contexts.

Teaching assistant

Name:

Email address:

Office hours:

C-REP coordinator

Name: Kristina Medero

Email address: medero.2@osu.edu

[Note: C-REP is a mandatory part of this class. Please address all concerns regarding C-REP to the C-REP coordinator, **NOT** the teaching assistant.

Course learning outcomes

This course satisfies the General Education Curriculum requirement “Social Science: Individuals and Groups.” At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:

(a) apply social science theories to the study of individuals and groups;

This course is grounded in theory, with a special emphasis on social science theories used in the field of communication. Readings, lectures, exams, reading assignments, and writing assignments fulfill this learning outcome.

(b) Students understand the behavior of individuals, differences and similarities in social and cultural contexts of human existence, and the processes by which groups function.

In this course, several lectures and chapters are devoted to individual differences in communication (e.g., gender, minority groups, and people from individualistic versus collectivist cultures). Readings, lectures, exams, reading assignments, and writing assignments fulfill this learning outcome.

(c) Students comprehend and assess individual and group values and their importance in social problem-solving and policy-making.

Communication is a critical tool for solving problems between individuals and groups. Readings, lectures, exams, reading assignments, and writing assignments fulfill this learning outcome.

Course objectives

Students who complete this course will also:

1. Comprehend the scientific method
2. Comprehend scientific theories
3. Comprehend different research methods scientists use to test hypotheses, which are often deduced from theories
4. Comprehend some important scientific theories used in the field of communication
5. Comprehend some important individual differences in communication styles
6. Comprehend the role of communication in some important contexts (e.g., interpersonal, group, political, organizational, intercultural, mass-mediated).

Mode of delivery

This **asynchronous course** will be presented fully online. All lectures are asynchronous. Links to lectures for each week are on Carmen under “**Recorded Zoom lectures.**”

How this course works

This course consists of 9 weekly modules, which are listed on Carmen. Each module specifies the topic discussed, the assigned readings, PowerPoint slides, recorded Zoom lectures, and assignments. Some weeks contain supplemental materials (e.g., personality scales, videos, webpages).

Course materials

The course textbook: Griffin, E., Ledbetter, A., & Sparks, G. (2023). *A first look at communication theory* (11th ed). New York: McGraw-Hill.

The textbook for this course is being provided via CarmenBooks. The fee for this material is included as part of tuition and is listed as CarmenBooks fee on your Statement of Account. In addition to cost-savings, materials provided through CarmenBooks are available immediately on or before the first day of class. There is no need to wait for financial aid or scholarship money to purchase your textbook.

Unless you choose to opt-out of the program, you do NOT need to purchase any materials for this course at the bookstore. For more information on the program or information on how to opt out, please visit the CarmenBooks website.

See [this video](#) to learn how to access the textbook. For more information on the program or how to opt-out, please visit the [CarmenBooks website](#). Access to Connect, which includes the textbook as an ebook, is available through the “**McGraw Hill Connect**” link within Carmen (listed on the left-hand side of the page, after “**Modules**”).

Connect also includes SmartBook (previously called [LearnSmart](#)), which is an interactive study tool that adaptively assesses students’ skill and knowledge levels to track which topics students have mastered and which require further instruction and practice. Based upon student progress, it then adjusts the learning content based on their knowledge strengths and weaknesses, as well as their confidence level around that knowledge. There are 15 reading assignments to be completed in SmartBook (1 for each assigned chapter), which are worth 30% of your grade (2% each). A SmartBook tutorial is available in the “Navigating Connect Orientation Assignment” available in the **Course Resources** module on Carmen.

The textbook comes free with tech support:

Phone: 800-331-5094

Chat or Email: <https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs>

Available hours (EST):

Sunday: 12 PM to 12 AM

Monday to Thursday: 24 hours ○ Friday: 12 AM to 9 PM

Saturday: 10 AM to 8 PM

Grading

Graded assignment overview

The graded activities are designed to assess basic-level understandings (e.g., remember and understand) as well as higher-level understandings (e.g., apply and analyze). The specific assignments are presented below along with a short description of the general format of the assignment and its relationship to student learning.

Exams: There will be three exams that are worth 60% of your grade (20% for each exam). Each exam is worth 40 points (34 multiple-choice items worth 1 point each and 2 short-answer items worth 3 points each). **Over 70% of multiple-choice items and 100% of short-answer items will come from recorded lectures.** Exam 3 is the final exam for this course and is not comprehensive. All students are required to take Exam 3, including graduating seniors. No external materials are allowed when taking exams (e.g., Google translate, PowerPoint slides, notes, books, articles, computers, handheld devices, communicating with other students, etc.). You will have 80 minutes to complete each exam. Each exam will be open for 24 hours to accommodate possible conflicts and different time zones. However, the instructor and teaching assistant will only be available on exam days between 9 AM and 5 PM (Eastern time). The exams will assess students' knowledge of the readings and lectures as well as their ability to apply their knowledge to related contexts.

Online reading assignments: There are 15 online reading assignments that are worth 30% of your grade (2% each) that come from the 15 assigned chapters from the textbook SmartBook assignments, which close Friday night (1 minute before midnight) of the week they are assigned. Please allow 24 hours for scores to be recorded in Carmen. You cannot make up a missed reading assignment.

Communication Research Experience (C-REP): All students in COMM 1100 are required to 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. Your participation in C-REP counts for 10% of your course grade (2.5% per hour of credit) — **it is NOT extra credit**. You can earn

partial credit (e.g., 5% for 2 credits). Participation can take the form of research studies and/or alternative assignments. Important information about C-REP:

- Your C-REP requirement must be completed during the period in which the program is over, which typically ends a few days before the end of the semester.
- At least half of your credits should be completed during the first half of the semester. It is wise to complete your C-REP requirement as early as possible in the semester when demands on your time and signups for studies are the lightest.
- You only need to complete 4 hours of participation credit on C-REP. If you are enrolled in other COMM courses, you need complete hours separately. The same C-REP participation CANNOT be counted for more than one course. For each study, you will indicate what class you want the credit to go toward.
- **If you sign up for a study but do not show up, you will have to complete an alternative assignment to make up the hours you missed. You will be locked out of C-REP until you complete the alternative assignment.**

The C-REP Student Guide is on Carmen in the **Course Resources** module and also in the **Communication Research Experience (C-REP)** module. The C-REP coordinator, Kristina Medero, will manage a discussion board to answer questions about C-REP. If you have any questions, please review those materials and then post on the C-REP discussion board. If you have a question not covered on the discussion board or in the supporting materials, email her at medero.2@osu.edu

Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI): At the end of the semester, you will receive an email about completing an SEI for this course. There are three options to access the SEI: (1) a link in the email, (2) a link in Carmen, or (3) via the OSU Mobile App. OSU uses SEIs to evaluate teachers. However, if the response rate is low, SEIs are difficult to interpret. I have received permission to offer 1% extra credit to all students **if** the SEI response rate is over 80%. Please complete your SEI. I have never taught an 8-week summer course at OSU before. I would like to know what you like and dislike about what I am doing.

Grades

Points will be distributed as follows:

Activity	Points	Percent
Exams (N=3)	120 (40 points each)	60% (20% each)
Reading assignments (N=15)	60 (4 points each)	30% (2% each)
C-REP (4 hours)	20 (5 points per hour)	10% (2.5% per hour)
TOTAL	200	100%

The following standard percentages will be used to assign grades:

A: 93-100% A-: 90-92% B+: 87-89% B: 83-86% B-: 80-82% C+: 77-79%

C: 73-76% D: 60-66% C-: 70-72% E: < 60% D+: 67-69%

Note. Grades are not rounded. There is no extra credit in this course, except the possible 1% extra credit if the SEI response rate is over 80%. Please do not ask me to raise your grade, even if you just barely missed the next highest grade. It is against OSU policy to change a grade for any reason other than a clerical error.

Late assignments

Late work is not accepted in this class. Assignments turned in after the deadline will only be accepted with a valid medical or university excuse that is presented within 5 days of the missed deadline. It is the student's responsibility to be sure the assignment is submitted correctly and on time. Please check your Carmen folder after submission to ensure the upload is there and complete.

Attendance, participation, and discussions

Credit hour and work expectation

This is a 3-credit-hour course. 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.

Student participation requirements

Because this is a distance-education course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of everyone's expected participation:

- **Modules:**
The module for each week is sorted as Topics, Readings, PowerPoint slides, Recorded Zoom lectures, and Assignments.
- **Office hours:**
I am available to help you to learn, understand, and grow as individuals. Office hours are digital via CarmenZoom

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 (614-688-4357)** at any time if you have a technical problem.

Grading and feedback

For written assignments, you can expect feedback within **7 days**.

E-mail

I will reply to e-mails within **24 hours on school days**.

Encouraging an optimal learning experience

Previous distance learning courses have provided insights from students on how to improve the learning experience and optimize outcomes. Here are a few tips from previous students to encourage your success in this online course:

- Students kept up with the Schedule and assignment due dates.
- Students made sure they had access to a reliable internet connection.
- Students had access to at least one reliable device and a backup plan in case of a technological issue.
- Students have made plans to back up work. OSU provides free access to data storage through **Microsoft One Drive**.
- Students reported that completing assigned readings before viewing lectures (or attending synchronous lectures) helped them to be prepared to follow along with lectures and participate in discussions.
- Students scheduled time to complete activities at a steady pace during the week. Keeping a schedule prevented a last-minute rush and kept the workload manageable.
- Students approached the material by thinking about the connections between readings, lectures, and assignments.
- Students followed the instructor's preference for camera and microphone settings during online synchronous meetings.

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:

Carmen, Ohio State's Learning Management System, will be used to host materials and activities throughout this course. To access Carmen, visit carmen.osu.edu. Log in to Carmen using your name.# and password. If you have not setup a name.# and password, visit my.osu.edu. Help guides on the use of Carmen can be found at <https://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmen>.

This online course requires the 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](#)

CarmenZoom:

Help guides on the use of CarmenZoom can be found at <https://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmenzoom>

Proctorio: Proctorio, an online proctoring tool, will be used during this course. Proctorio offers you the flexibility to take your exams at the time and in the location of your choosing. **Students are required to have a webcam (USB or internal) with a microphone and a strong and stable internet connection.** It uses the Google Chrome web browser. During the exam, Proctorio will record the testing environment, therefore students should select private spaces for the exam session where disruptions are unlikely and where recording devices can be enabled. Instructions for Proctorio use will be provided prior to the exam. To use Proctorio you must be **over 18 years of age**. For students under age 18, please have parents/guardians complete this [consent form](#) if they allow you to use Proctorio, and email it to me. Additionally, the tool has **limitations in its accessibility** for students reliant upon screen readers and keyboard navigation. If you have concerns about using an online proctoring tool for the reasons listed above or in general, please work with your instructor to find an equivalent alternative. Additional information on academic integrity at Ohio State and recommended proctoring options are available. Here is a [guide](#) for installing and using Proctorio. **You should not take the exam on a handheld device or iPad; use a laptop or desktop computer.**

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

Phone: 614-688-HELP (4357)

Email: 8help@osu.edu

TDD: 614-688-8743

Baseline technical skills and equipment necessary for online courses

Basic computer and web-browsing skills

Navigating Carmen

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

Webcam 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 free of charge. To install, please visit https://osuitsm.service-now.com/selfservice/kb_view.do?sysparm_article=kb04733

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Academic integrity policy

See **Descriptions of major course assignments**, above, for my specific guidelines about collaboration and academic integrity in the context of this online class.

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/>.

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:

- Committee on Academic Misconduct web page (go.osu.edu/coam)
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* (go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions)

Student services and advising

University Student Services can be accessed through BuckeyeLink. More information is available here: <https://contactbuckeyelink.osu.edu/>

Advising resources for students are available here: <http://advising.osu.edu>

Copyright for instructional materials

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.

Statement on Title IX

All students and employees at Ohio State have the right to work and learn in an environment free from harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender, and the university can arrange interim measures, provide support resources, and explain investigation options, including referral to confidential resources. If you or someone you know has been harassed or discriminated against based on your sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual exploitation, you may find information about your rights and options at titleix.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleix@osu.edu. Title IX is part of the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) at Ohio State, which responds to all bias-motivated incidents of harassment and discrimination, such as race, religion, national origin, and disability. For more information on OIE, visit equity.osu.edu or email equity@osu.edu.

Commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Land acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe, and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greeneville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. We want to honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that have and continue to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land. More information on OSU's land acknowledgment can be found here: <https://mcc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>

Wellness

As a student, your health and wellness can have an impact on your academic success. Common wellness concerns during your time at the university may include high levels of stress, sleep and diet behaviors, alcohol and other drug use, depression and anxiety, and interpersonal relationship issues. The Office of Student Life has numerous resources and services available to you at no charge to help you address those concerns.

You can learn more about health and wellness resources available on campus by visiting the websites for the [Student Wellness Center](#), [Wilce Student Health Center](#), [Recreational Sports](#) and [Counseling and Consultation Service](#). For students in recovery or seeking recovery from substance use disorders, learn more about support on campus by visiting the [Collegiate Recovery Community](#). For students facing food insecurity, learn more about the free on-campus food pantry by visiting the [Buckeye Food Alliance](#). For students interested in speaking with a peer to learn more about campus resources, call the [Buckeye Peer Access Line](#). For students interested in meeting with a peer and setting holistic wellness goals, learn more about [Wellness Coaching](#).

Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learn, 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. No matter where you are engaged in distance learning, The Ohio State University's Student Life Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) is here to support you. If you find yourself feeling isolated, anxious or overwhelmed, on-demand resources are available at go.osu.edu/ccsondemand. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614- 292-5766, and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. The Ohio State Wellness app is also a great resource available at go.osu.edu/wellnessapp.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Requesting accommodations

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic

barriers based on your disability including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions, please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Accessibility of course technology

This online course requires use of CarmenCanvas (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.

- Canvas accessibility (go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility)
- Streaming audio and video
- CarmenZoom accessibility (go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility)
- Collaborative course tools

Course schedule (tentative)

Dates	Topic & Objectives	Preparation	Assignments
Week 1 6/5-6/11	<i>SCIENTIFIC THEORIES AND RESEARCH METHODS</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the different methods people use to know and understand • Understand the steps of the scientific method • Understand the nature of scientific theories • Understand the different research methods scientists use to test hypotheses • Understand how researchers measure the magnitude of effects 	Readings: Chapter 3 Slides: Lecture 1 Online CarmenZoom lecture	Reading assignment: Chapter 3
Week 2 6/12-6/18	<i>LEARNING THEORIES & MORAL DISENGAGEMENT:</i>	Readings: Bandura (1999)	EXAM 1

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand classical conditioning theory and how stimuli can be associated together • Understand operant conditioning theory and the role of reward and punishment on behavior • Understand social learning theory and the influence of models on behavior • understand social cognitive theory and distinct cognitive capacities • understand eight disinhibitory devices people can use to justify their immoral behavior 	Slides: Lectures 2-4 Online CarmenZoom lectures	
Week 3 6/19-6/25 Juneteenth (Mon., June 19 th): No classes, offices closed	INTRAPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand ABCs of the self: A is for Affect (self-esteem). B is for Behavior (self-presentation). C is for Cognition (self-concept or self-knowledge). 	Readings: Chapter 5 Slides: Lecture 5 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Reading assignment: Chapter 5
Week 4 6/26-7/1	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how relationships develop from superficial to intimate • Understand proxemics • Understand expectancy violations theory • Understand interactive adaption theory • Understand how relationships develop online 	Readings: Chapters 6, 8, and 10 Slides: Lectures 6-8 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Reading assignments: Chapter 6, Chapter 8, and Chapter 10
Week 5 7/2-7/9 Independence Day (Tues., July 4 th): No classes, offices closed	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand why people often go along with the crowd and often do not speak up when they feel their opinions are unpopular • Understand the influence of latitudes of acceptance, rejection, and noncommitment on attitude change • Understand how attitudes can change through central and peripheral routes 	Readings: Griffin (2008) Chapters 14-16 Slides: Lectures 9-12 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Invisible person anonymous survey Reading assignments: Chapters 14-16 EXAM 2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the role of cognitive dissonance on attitudes 		
Week 6 7/9-7/15	GROUP AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand what a group is Understand why groups are adaptive Understand how being in a group influences our behavior (e.g., social loafing, social facilitation, deindividuation) Understand when groups make good decisions and when they make bad decisions 	Readings: Chapter 20 Slides: Lectures 13 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Reading assignment: Chapter 20
Week 7 7/16-7/22	MASS COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how individuals use the media to gratify their needs and desires Understand how being immersed in media influences our perception of the world Understand how the media can influence personal and public agendas 	Readings: Chapters 35-37 Slides: Lectures 14-16 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Reading assignments: Chapter 35-37
Week 8 7/23-7/29	CULTURAL CONTEXT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how the media can influence personal and public agendas Understand how women communicate in a man's world Understand how people often adapt their communication styles to fit in Understand how people from individualistic and collectivistic cultures communicate differently 	Readings: Chapters 25, 26, and 30 Slides: Lectures 17-19 Online CarmenZoom lectures	Reading assignments: Chapters 25, 26, and 30
Week 9:	Final Examinations	Final Examinations	Final