

COMM300

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : COMM300 **Title :** Communication Research Skills

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : COMM304 **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course will introduce the research methods of communication processes and issues, which include scientific, interpretive, critical, and rhetorical research methods. During the course, students will evaluate existing communication studies and use both quantitative and qualitative approaches in order to understand research methods in the broad field of communication studies, answer questions, and solve problems. (Prerequisite: COMM304)

Course Scope:

Objectives

CO1: Explain the importance of communication research and why it is necessary for communication professionals.

CO2: Distinguish different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

CO3: Develop communication research questions and the use of rhetorical methods.

CO4: Explain the importance of a literature review when conducting research.

CO5: Design a communication research project and present the project using multimodal methods.

Outline

Week 1: Types of Communication Research Methods

Course Objectives

CO1: Describe the importance of communication research and why it is necessary for communication

professionals.

Required Readings

Week 1 Lesson

Week 1 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 1 Forum

Week 2: Differences Between Qualitative and Quantitative Research Approaches

Course Objectives

CO2: Describe different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Required Readings

Week 2 Lesson

Week 2 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 2 Forum

Week 3: Evaluating Scientific Research

Course Objectives

CO2: Describe different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

CO3: Develop communication research questions and the use of rhetorical methods.

Required Readings

Week 3 Lesson

Week 3 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 3 Assignment: Select a Research Article

Week 4: Rhetorical and Interpretive Methods

Course Objectives

CO2: Describe different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

CO3: Develop communication research questions and the use of rhetorical methods.

Required Readings

Week 4 Lesson

Week 4 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 4 Forum

Week 5: Evaluating Interpretive and Rhetorical Methods

Course Objectives

CO2: Describe different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

CO3: Develop communication research questions and the use of rhetorical methods.

Required Readings

Week 5 Lesson

Week 5 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 5 Forum

Week 6: Critical Research Methods

Course Objectives

CO2: Describe different types of communication research methods including qualitative and quantitative research methods.

CO3: Develop communication research questions and the use of rhetorical methods.

Required Readings

Week 6 Lesson

Week 6 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 6 Forum

Week 6 Assignment: News Story Critical Analysis

Week 7: Proposed Research Project

Course Objectives

CO4: Explain the importance of a literature review when conducting research.

Required Readings

Week 7 Lesson

Week 7 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 7 Forum

Week 7 Assignment: My Proposed Research Project

Week 8: Prepare Research Project PowerPoint

Course Objectives

CO1: Describe the importance of communication research and why it is necessary for communication professionals.

CO5: Design a communication research project and present the project using multimodal methods.

Required Readings

Week 8 Lesson

Week 8 Reading & Resources

Assignments

Week 8 Forum

Week 8 Assignment: Research Project PowerPoint

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
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Materials

Book Title: There are no required books for this course. The readings are provided inside the classroom.

Author: No Author Specified

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

There are no required books for this course. The readings are provided inside the classroom.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the citation and reference style for courses in the

COMMUNICATION program area.

- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS (only when accessed through the APUS online library). Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. ***Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.***

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course to verify originality and detect potential plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- All assignments in COMMUNICATION courses must be submitted in standard formats such as Microsoft Word, attached in the assignment area unless otherwise specified.
- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor. Assignments should not be sent to the instructor through “Messages” or E-mail but must be submitted through the Assignments area directly.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating in Forum discussions

- All initial forum discussion posts are due on Thursdays by 11:55 p.m. ET throughout the course.
 - All peer responses are due on Sundays by 11:55 p.m. ET throughout the course.
 - Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
 - “Substantive” means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. A message that simply says “I agree” is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a follow-up question to a point made, a response to a question, an example or illustration of a key point, an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
 - As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
 - You must post a response to the weekly forum prompt and post the required number of replies to other students during the week due. Please refer to the grading rubric and/or weekly forum instructions for specific expectations on the number of replies and word count requirements.
 - Late posts to a forum will be subject to the School late policy and may not be accepted without instructor approval.
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University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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