COMM 1301 794
Intro To The Study Of Comm
Fall 2025 Session 8W2
Delivery Method: Online

Instructor Information

Name: Tia Follis
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Phone: 806-778-4098
Office Location: Email
Office Hours: Evenings

Course Information

Class Location: Online

Schedule a Meeting

If there is a link below, it will take you to the instructor's Bookings page, where you can conveniently sign up for a meeting.

Sample Syllabus

Course Description

An introductory course that surveys the history development and future directions of the field of communication. Equal emphasis is placed on understanding application of theory to everyday situations and learning introductory approaches to research.

***Course Prerequisites*.** None.

Course Catalog Description. An introductory course that surveys the history, development, and future directions of the field of communication. Equal emphasis is placed on understanding application of theory to everyday situations and learning introductory approaches to research.

Course Objectives. This course is intended to introduce students to the entire discipline of Communication and to its traditions in rhetoric, social science, and mass media. The course is part of the UTPB general education curriculum and is required of all communication majors. At the end of this course, students will:

- Students will draw well-reasoned, logically supported conclusions from information.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication skills.
- Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- Students will be able to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Method of instruction: This class is delivered online; you are responsible for reading, watching, or listening to the materials your instructor has provided for each week of the course. In addition to those presentations, you will interact with peers, your instructor, and your academic coach in weekly discussions and in other written assignments.

Ms. Tia Atkinson is responsible for all instruction in the course. During the first week, she will post an announcement introducing you to your academic coach. Your coach will interact with you on the discussion boards, will grade those discussion boards, and will serve as a tutor when you are unable to reach your instructor. Ms. Tia Atkinson provides the course content, resolves all disputes in the course, is responsible for assigning your final grade, and works closely with your coach.

Sample Syllabus

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Increase Public Speaking Skills

Improve Communication Skills

Improve Written Communication Skills

Students will be able to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

Student Learning Outcomes

- Basic Communication Skills
- Understanding of rhetoric
- Understanding of interpersonal & intercultural communication
- Connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making

UTPB Bookstore

Bookstore link

This link will take you directly to the official UTPB bookstore page for this course. Please note, you are welcome to make purchases from any supplier of your choice.

Course Materials

Multiple formats of identical course materials may be contained in this list (i.e. Hardcover book, Electronic Text, etc.). You may only need one of these materials. Please follow the "bookstore link" under the material to go to the official online UTPB bookstore to ensure you are selecting the format which best suits your needs.

Title: Human Communication: 2024 Release
ISBN: 9781260706437-001448-1-2258-8W2-794
Authors: Titsworth
Publisher: McGraw-Hill
Publication Date: NA
Required or Recommended: Required

Title: Human Communication (RRMCG)

Sample Syllabus

ISBN: 9781260822878-001448-1-2258-8W2-794
Authors: Titsworth
Publisher: McGraw-Hill
Publication Date: 2021
Edition: 7th
Required or Recommended: Required

Faculty - This list reflects your selections in the Follett bookstore website.

Important Academic Dates

UTPB Academic Calendar

Graded Material

Course Activity	Percentage of Total Grade
Quizzes	10
Discussion board posts	50
Final paper	30
Final exam	10
Total	**100**

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Description
A (93-100)	Excellence in the above categories. Far exceeds the requirements of the assignment.
A- (90-92)	Excellence in nearly all the above categories. Exceeds the requirements of the assignment.
B+ (87-89)	Excellence in most of the above categories. Meets all assignment requirements and exceeds some of them.
B (83-86)	Excellence in some, but not all of the above categories. More than an adequate response to the assignment.
B- (80-82)	Demonstrates a moderately high level of competence in the above categories. Response to the assignment is slightly more than adequate.
C+ (77-79)	Satisfactory completion of the content, structure, and originality of the assignment. Response is adequate; meets minimal requirements with minor errors.

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C (73-76)	Satisfactory completion of the content and structure of the assignment. Adequate response; meets minimal requirements but with noticeable errors.
C- (70-72)	Satisfactory completion of the content of the assignment, but may demonstrate a lack of understanding of some elements. Adequate response; meets minimal requirements but with distracting errors.
D (60-69)	A passing grade with significant errors. Poorly thought out or poorly supported concepts and response to the assignment.
F (50)	Does not adequately meet major requirements of the assignment. Substantially missed major objectives or parts of the assignment. Contains significant errors.
No credit (0)	Assignment was not submitted by the due date or was determine to violate academic integrity policies.

University Policies

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students with Disabilities: The University of Texas Permian Basin in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities. Only those students, who an Instructor has received an official Letter of Accommodation (LOA) sent by the Office of ADA for Students, will be provided ADA academic accommodations.

ADA Officer for Students: Amber Lucero, Director of Student Emergency and Accessibility Services
Address: 4901 E. University, Odessa, TX 79762
Student Activity Center (SAC) Room #200D
Voice Telephone: 432-552-4602
Email: ada@utpb.edu

For the accessibility and privacy statements of external tools used within courses, go to Accessibility and Privacy Statements.

Sexual Harassment/Sexual Misconduct Policy

The University of Texas Permian Basin (the University) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and Clery Act. Sexual

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Misconduct, Retaliation, and other conduct prohibited under this Policy will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.

The University will promptly discipline any individuals or organizations within its control who violate this Policy. The University encourages you to promptly report incidents that could constitute violations of this Policy to the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Sexual Harassment/Sexual Misconduct Policy can be found here.

You may report incidents of sexual misconduct to any University employee. They are obligated to report any incident to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator.

You may also contact:

- The UTPB Police Department at 432-552-2786
- The Title IX Coordinator at 432-552-2697 or TitleIXCoordinator@UTPB.edu.
- The Dean of Students at 432-552-2600
- Reports can also be made via the University Complaint Portal: UTPB Complaint Management

A ***confidential reporting option is available***. Please contact UTPB's Counseling Center at 432-552-3365 or 432-552-2367 or stop by MB 1150.

Scholastic Dishonesty

"Scholastic Dishonesty" is any form of cheating or plagiarism that violates the Student Code of Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty or academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two [2] courses without the prior permission of the instructor, and providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or the attempt to commit such an act. The Student Code of Conduct provides students fair notice of conduct considered unacceptable at The University of Texas Permian Basin and which may be the basis for disciplinary action. This policy provides the procedures to be following when student disciplinary action may need to be implemented and outlines the appeals process. The Student Code of Conduct is available online at: https://www.utpb.edu/life-at-utpb/student-services/dean-of-students/student-code-of-conduct

Student Success at UTPB

UT Permian Basin offers numerous services to help you reach your academic goals. Available both in the Success Center on the 2nd Floor of the Mesa Building (https://www.utpb.edu/academics/advising-and-support/student-success-center/index), and online, UTPB Student Success offers the following services to all students:

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- O.W.L. (Online Writing Lab) - Submit essays that need to be revised by one of our tutors to owl@utpb.edu.
- Tutoring – For both online and in person tutoring, please use EAB to create an appointment. (Utpb.campus.eab.com) Sign in using UTPB credentials.
- SI/PLTL Sessions - If available for your class, will be communicated to you by the mentor assigned to your class section and students can communicate to their SI or PL through Canvas.
- Peer Mentoring - Incoming freshmen can be paired with a peer mentor who will help you navigate your first year on campus.
- SSC Computer Lab - Come take advantage of the state-of-the-art computers available at the Student Success Center.

Please email success@utpb.edu for more information.

Student Support Services

For more information on academic, technical, and support services for UTPB students, please see the Online Student Services.

Course Modalities

Both the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) provide standard definitions for basic course types/modalities that have informed the following adopted course definitions.

Online Courses are those in which more than 85 percent of the planned instruction occurs online/virtually (asynchronously) when students and faculty are not in the same place. A fully online course is one in which mandatory in-person meetings occur no more than 15% of the planned instructional time.

Remote Courses are ones in which students, while not required to physically come to campus to attend in-person classes, are required to "attend" virtually/remotely (synchronously) during scheduled days and times, with students expected to log in and participate in the lecture via video conferences.

Hybrid Courses are courses in which the majority (more than 50% but less than 85%) of the planned instruction occurs when students and instructor(s) are not in the same place. This form of instruction offers a mix of on-campus/in-person and remote/online/electronic learning.

HyFlex Courses are those which, like hybrid courses, offer a mix of on-campus/in-person and remote/online/electronic learning. These courses, however, do not require student authentication since at least 50% of the planned instruction occurs when students and instructor(s) are in the same place.

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Face-to-Face/In-Person Courses are those in which more than 85 percent of the planned instruction occurs when students are in the same place with an instructor(s).

End-of-Course Evaluation & Instructor Evaluation

Every student is encouraged to complete an end of course evaluation survey provided by UTPB. During the last two weeks of class, there will be an announcement in Canvas, an email, and a button in your course navigation that will take you to any available surveys.

The survey is anonymous and your responses are confidential. Your feedback is critical to us and to your instructor as we strive to improve our offerings, and our support of you, the students.

Disclaimer & Rights

Information contained in this syllabus was to the best knowledge of the instructor considered correct and complete when distributed for use in the beginning of the semester. However, the instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of UTPB to make changes in the course content or instructional techniques without notice or obligation. The students will be informed about the changes, if any.

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Distance Education Policy

Preparation for Emergencies

Computer Crash

Not having a working computer or a crashed computer during the semester will NOT be considered an acceptable reason for not completing course activities at a scheduled time. NOTE: Identify a second computer before the semester begins, that you can use when or if your personal computer crashes. Limited Loaner Laptops are available through the J. Conrad Dunagan Library.

Complete Loss of Contact

If you lose contact with course connectivity completely (i.e. you cannot contact me via Canvas or email), you need to call the instructor, and leave a message regarding connectivity loss and your contact information.

Lost/Corrupt/Missing Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external drive, UTPB Outlook 365 OneDrive, or personal computer. In the event of any kind of failure (e.g. virus infection, student's own computer crashes, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any contradictions or problems, you may be required to resubmit the files.

Distance Education Courses and Student Identity Authentication Requirements and Policy

SACSCOC defines a distance education course as one in which more than 50 percent of the planned instruction occurs when students and instructor(s) are not in the same physical place. Distance education courses, therefore, include online, remote, and hybrid courses as defined above. Per SACSCOC and University policy, all distance education courses are required to follow our Distance Education Student Authentication Policy procedures (please see below), and these requirements and policies must be stated in the course syllabus. Further, any projected additional student charges associated with verification of student identity must be indicated on the courses schedule and course syllabus.

The Distance Education Student Authentication Policy does not apply to Hyflex Courses--those in which at least 50% of the planned instruction occurs when students and instructor(s) are in the same place--and Face-to-Face/In-Person Courses--those in which more than 85 percent of the planned instruction occurs when students and instructor(s) are in the same place. Student authentication and identity verification in these courses may be accomplished by in-person attendance monitoring as well as through in-class instructor proctored examinations and other assessments. These same "in-class" authentication procedures also may be employed in hybrid courses, but in the case of these defined distance education courses, they must be documented on the course syllabus as described below.

Distance Education Student Authentication Policy and Syllabus Requirements

UT Permian Basin's Distance Education Student Authentication Policy requires the University to employ processes (documented in each distance education syllabus) to verify that each student who registers for a distance education course is the same student who participates in, completes, and receives credit for the course.

The policy requires faculty members teaching distance education courses to employ at least two methods of verification to ensure student identities. The first method of verification is accomplished by the student logging into Canvas, our learning management system. To access all UTPB courses, students must login to Canvas uniqueness personal identifying username and secure password. This is the primary method of student identity verification. The Distance Education Student Authentication Policy requires at least one additional student identification method within the distance learning course that has been determined and approved by the faculty or academic program. The second method of

Sample Syllabus

authentication must be explicitly stated in the syllabus. The second method of student authentication maybe:

- Proctored exams using an approved photo ID*.
- Presentation of approved photo ID through a webcam and optional levels of proctoring during assessment.
- Field or clinical experiences using an approved photo ID.
- Synchronous or asynchronous video activities using an approved photo ID.
- In hybrid distance education courses, which have an in-person meeting component, the secondary method of student authentication may be accomplished (as is it may be done in hyflex and face-to face-courses) by in-person attendance monitoring as well as through required in-class instructor proctored examinations and other assessments.
- Other Technologies or procedures, etc. (which must be detailed in the syllabus).

If faculty require secondary method of verification for which students are charged a fee(e.g. face-to-face proctoring at an off-campus site that charges a fee), this notification must be stated on the course schedule and in the course syllabus as well.

*Approved photo identifications include passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, military ID from DoD; dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications.

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There is an authentication of student identity that you MUST complete for the course, it is in the 'start here' section of the course. Please do this by 10/21 when introductions are due.

Acceptable forms of up to date picture ID:
Passports, government issued identification, driver's licenses, military ID from DoD; dual credit and early college high school students use school district identifications.

Please provide:

1. A clear image of yourself
    - In color
    - Well lit, and no shadows on your face or your ID that can obscure your image
    - Must be taken recently to reflect your current appearance

- Taken in full-face view directly facing the camera
- With a neutral facial expression and both eyes open

2. Then a picture of your ID with only your name and picture showing (Picture ID card in which the **ID number has been covered (tape over any numbers)**.

I just need to see you, then the image of you on the card with your name.

Netiquette

Anything you type in the discussion area is **public,** which means that every student in this class (including your instructor) will see what you write. Please pay attention to the language you use and adhere to the following guidelines:

- Do not post anything too personal.
- Do not use language that is inappropriate for a classroom setting or prejudicial in regard to gender, race, or ethnicity.
- Do not use all caps in the message box, as doing so is considered the same as shouting.
- Be courteous and respectful to other people. You are acting as UTPB representatives.
- Use standard business writing style; do not overuse acronyms as you would in text messaging, for some participants may not be familiar with them.
- Use strong paragraph structure—one main idea per paragraph.
- Change subject lines when you change topics.
- Write your full name at the end of the post, as if you were signing an email.
- Be careful with sarcasm and subtle humor; one person's joke is another person's insult.
- Revise and proofread your posts before you submit them.

NOTE: If you do not adhere to the guidelines for any posting, you will lose the points that would have been granted, and the instructor reserves the right to remove your posting and to deny you any further posting privileges.

Refer to the following links for additional help on netiquette:
http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

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Course Policies

Changes to the Syllabus

Your instructor reserves the right to change the terms of the syllabus as she believes necessary. All changes will be announced once to the class. Changes to any part of the syllabus or failure to enforce the policies of the syllabus in any particular instance are at the discretion of the instructor and will not modify that or any other provision of the syllabus except as explicitly outlined by your instructor.

Course Schedule

Dates	Week 1	Topic/Activity	Required Reading
Module 1			
10/21-10/26	1	Communication ethics & research: Introductions due 10/26 Week 1 Discussion and responses due 10/26	Chapter 1
10/27-11/2	2	Perception and Language: Week 2 Discussion, responses and Developing a research question due 11/2	Chapter 2 & 3
11/3-11/9	3	Nonverbal communication & listening: Week 3 Discussion, responses, and Module 1 Quiz, discussion question peer reviews due 11/9	Chapter 4 & 5
Module 2			
11/10-11/16	4	Interpersonal and intercultural communication: Week 4 Discussion and responses due 11/16	Chapter 6 & 7
11/17-11/23	5	Organizational and small group communication:	Chapter 8 & 9

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		Week 5 Discussion, responses, and annotated bibliography due 11/23	
11/25-11/29 THANKSGIVING BREAK			
11/30-12/7	6	Mass Media and rhetoric: Week 6 Discussion, responses, and Module 2 Quiz due 12/7	Chapter 10 & 11
Module 3			
12/8-12/12	7	Benefits of studying communication: Week 7 discussion, responses, and Final paper due 12/12 Course Conclusion: Week 8 discussion, responses, and module 3 quiz due 12/12	Chapter 12

Sample Syllabus

Generative AI Content Policy

UT Permian Basin Faculty recognize the innovative potential of generative AI. We also recognize that generative AI can be used as a substitute for critical thinking and plagiarism, and that its use may be more appropriate in some learning experiences than in others. For these reasons, any policy regarding its use must be nimble so that instructor discretion and instructional context are taken into consideration when determining what "appropriate use" looks like in any student learning experience.

This policy will both cover generative AI use in all courses at UT Permian Basin and must be customized by instructors for each course. Customization is offered according to the expectations outlined below (instructors complete this section as appropriate to your course):

1. **Use of generative AI in this course is prohibited.**
   Examples of Generative AI include, but are not limited to: Grammarly, ChatGPT, and DeepSeek.
2. **Use of generative AI in this course is allowed within the guidelines listed here:** _____ (instructor completed. Sample ideas here: "Specific activities only as noted." "When a generative AI is used, please include the direct link to the

ChatGPT with the assignment for the instructor to view the AI's input." "Only use with prior instructor permission and guidance.")

3. **Use of generative AI in this course has no screening requirements or limitations**, other than what are described in the UTPB Acceptable Use Policy.

If the use of generative AI is discovered in student work that is out of compliance with the policy of this course, the submitted work will be subject to penalty under the plagiarism policy.

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