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**Ohio Articulation Number (OAN)
Course Submission Form
2005-2006**



College/University Kent State University

Course(s) Submitted(Title & Course #) Communication Theory – COMM25902 for
Ohio Articulation Number OCM001

Date 01/04/06

Name and title of individual submitting on behalf of the college/university

Name Gayle Ormiston Title Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Curriculum

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Credit Hours 3 qtr _____ sem 3

Lecture Hours 3

Laboratory Hours _____ (if applicable)

Pre-Requisites(s) Course work (if applicable)

None

Placement Score (if applicable)

(Name of test) _____

(Domain) _____ (Score) _____

Catalog/Course Description (Includes Course Title and Course #)

<p>STUDY OF THE PROCESS OF HUMAN COMMUNICATION. EMPHASIS ON SOURCE, MESSAGE, CHANNEL AND RECEIVER DIMENSIONS OF COMMUNICATION. EXAMINATION OF MAJOR</p>

THEORIES OF COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL INFLUENCE.

Texts/Outside Readings/Ancillary Materials

Griffin, E. (2006). *A first look at communication theory* (6th Ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill

Course Objectives and/or Plan of Work

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the basics of communication theory. This will be done mostly from a social scientific perspective, but we also will review the history of theory building in communication as well as some important traditions other than the social scientific tradition. You will learn about communication theories, the contexts in which they were developed, and practical, everyday-life applications. We will examine the entire range of human communication: interpersonal, group, organizational, public, and mass communication.

Course Objectives

1. To understand the basic aspects of scientific method as it is applied to the study of human communication.
2. To develop and understanding of the essential features of current theories on the communication process and its effects.
3. To understand the relationships between different theoretical positions.
4. To apply the theories to practical situations outside the classroom.
5. To develop the ability to research, analyze and explain a specific communication theory of interest to the student.
6. To examine the ethical implications of different communication theories.

Description of Assessment and/or Evaluation of Student Learning

An oral presentation, short papers, theory application logs, a midterm exam and a final exam.

Master Syllabi and Working Syllabi (if both are used)

Introduction to Human Communication	6
Source and Receiver Dimensions of Communication	9
Message Dimension of Communication	9
Communication Channels and Contexts	9
Theories of Communication and Social Influence	12

Additional Documentation

COMM 25902

Section 001, Call Number 11591

Mondays and Wednesdays 7:45 to 9 a.m., Room D301 MSP

Dr. Stan Wearden

Office: D202 Music & Speech

Office Phone: 2-0180

Home Phone: 330-677-5676 (for emergency use before 9 p.m. please)

E-mail: swarden@kent.edu

Office Hours

Mondays and Wednesdays 9 to 11 a.m.

Or by appointment. For appointments, call 2-2659

Required Text

- Griffin, E. (2006). *A first look at communication theory*, 6th ed., NY: McGraw-Hill.
- Griffin, E. (2006). *Conversations with communication theorists 2.0* (CD)
- A Web site supports the text at www.afirstlook.com
- Handouts and readings: Additional materials will be distributed via e-mail and online. Be sure to check your kent.edu e-mail address for additional information, class announcements, etc.

Highly Recommended Resource

- American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th ed., Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

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Course Objectives

7. To understand the basic aspects of scientific method as it is applied to the study of human communication.
8. To develop and understanding of the essential features of current theories on the communication process and its effects.
9. To understand the relationships between different theoretical positions.
10. To apply the theories to practical situations outside the classroom.
11. To develop the ability to research, analyze and explain a specific

- communication theory of interest to the student.
12. To examine the ethical implications of different communication theories.

Course Requirements

Reading Assignments:

Class discussion and activities are based on the assigned readings. You should read the assigned material **before** the day on which it is listed in the course schedule section of this syllabus. Please note: There is a class participation grade in this course. It will be based on class attendance and active, informed participation. Simply coming to class is not enough to get full participation points. You must do the readings and discuss them intelligently.

Application Log:

After you read a chapter describing a communication theory, you are to write a paragraph or two making a specific application of the theory to your own life. Assume that the theory has value. What insight does it provide to help you understand communication situations in which you have found yourself? What predictions does it make or advice does it offer for future activities? Keep all your log entries together in a secure manner (such as in a folder), and bring the entire batch to class each Wednesday, beginning Jan. 25. **Each week, a random sample of 10 logs will be graded.** You won't know in advance which weeks your log will receive a grade, so it's important for you to keep up on your log. You will not be permitted to backtrack and cover theories that you previously skipped. By the end of the semester, each student will have received a total of 5 grades for his or her activity log.

Midterm and Final Exams

A midterm exam will be given on Wed., March 8. It will cover all readings, lectures, class presentations and discussion that occur prior to that date. It may consist of both objective and essay questions.

The final exam will be given from **7:45 to 10 a.m., Fri., May 12, 2006.** For most of us, this is unfortunate timing, but it is the university-wide assigned date and time for classes meeting at 7:45 on Mondays. The final will be comprehensive, and may consist of both objective and essay questions.

Research Project

On or before Mon., Jan. 30, you must select one of the theories featured in the textbook for an in-depth study. You may review the theories in the text, or look at the 50-word abstracts of the theories in Appendix A of the text, to make your choice. Since it will not be possible for each person to get his or her first choice, we will hold a class lottery on Jan. 30 to determine the order in which the theories will be selected. So it would be a good idea to choose a back-up theory in case you don't get your first choice. **The purpose of this assignment is for you to discover information about the theory that is not**

presented in the text. This will involve one or more of the following activities:

- a. Select an important proposition, construct, variable or hypothesis from the theory and investigate this aspect of the theory in greater depth than what is found in the text.
- b. Examine the literature, find an important part of the theory that was not included in the text, and make a case for its importance or centrality to the other components of the theory.
- c. Focus on recent (2000 to the present) research that either supports the theory or casts doubt on its validity.
- d. Explore the intellectual roots of the theory, and show its relationship to some of the other theories we are studying.
- e. Discover and describe practical applications of the theory. Include an ethical analysis of practitioners' use of the theory in real-world settings.
- f. Find, describe, and evaluate critiques of the theory.

For this project, use the primary and secondary resources listed in www.afirstlook.com, the secondary sources listed at the end of each chapter under the heading "A Second Look," and your own research. You will find the following Kent State University Library databases helpful: Academic Search Premier, ComAbstracts, Communication Abstracts, and Communication and Mass Media Complete. You will need to spend approximately 15 hours researching the theory you choose, and you will have two opportunities to share what you discover:

1. **Oral Report:** You will make a 10-minute, well-organized, oral report on your selected theory during the class period when that theory is covered. Consistent with the assignment, your emphasis should be on creating understanding beyond what's been covered in the text. Your report will be evaluated on the basis of clarity and accuracy of ideas presented, how well you have adapted your presentation to the interests and knowledge level of your classmates, organization, and quality of presentation. **Please do not use this class time simply to re-hash material that is already in the text.**
2. **Written Report:** This should be a typed, 12-point (one-inch margins on all sides), double-spaced report of 5 to 7 pages in length, not including the bibliography. **It is due one week after you give your oral report.** All references must conform to APA style, both in the text and in the bibliography. You should not include any sources in your bibliography that you don't actually cite in your paper. You should only cite works you have actually consulted. The paper will be evaluated on the basis of the depth and breadth of your research, the relevance of your research to your theory, organization and coherence of thought, clarity of writing, accuracy

of information, interpretation of information, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and proper use of APA style.

Other Course Requirements

1. **Attend and participate in class.** Attendance is required and expected. You are expected to participate in all class discussions. Absences for medical/family emergencies or University excused absences will be dealt with on an individual basis. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements **before** an assignment is missed.
2. **Be professional and respectful.** A classroom should be a safe and open environment for discussion of ideas. I encourage vigorous and multi-faceted class discussions. This means that everyone is entitled to an opinion or point of view. You are to respect others in class when talking, presenting or discussing a topic. I will not permit name-calling, disrespect or attacks on individuals. You must keep discussion at a professional level and learn how to agree to disagree. Present your argument, and let it speak for itself. **Professionalism and respect also mean that you are expected to arrive on time and prepared to participate.** In the professional world, punctuality is considered a must.
3. **Turn off all cell phones, PDAs, pagers and other electronic devices before class. None of these devices are permissible during exams.**
4. **Complete and turn in assignments on time.** Ten (10) points will be deducted for each day an assignment is turned in late. Day one ends at 7:45 a.m. the day the assignment is due. Day two ends at 7:45 a.m. the following day, etc. No assignment will be accepted after 7 late days. You may, of course, turn in assignments early.
5. **All assignments must be typed, double-spaced (12-point type), with one-inch margins on all sides.** I will not accept handwritten work. Note: I grade on the basis of content, but also on the basis of grammar, spelling, punctuation and sloppiness. Make sure you edit and proofread your work. This is a university-level communication course, so I expect written communication at that level.
6. **Grading Policy:** I will only discuss grades on an individual basis in my office, or via telephone or e-mail. If you have any concerns regarding a grade you have earned, you must contact me within a week of receiving the grade.
7. **Read the assigned material.** As noted above, it is expected that you will complete all assigned work **before** the day it is covered in class. Your ability to discuss the readings intelligently will affect your participation grade.
8. **Be honest and ethical.** The expectation is that you will do your own work. Everything you turn in for this class must be your original work for this course only. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. At Kent State University, the *Administrative policy and Procedures Regarding Student Cheating and Plagiarism (Policy #3342-3-07)* can be found at <http://imagine.kent.edu/policyreg>. It is considered cheating to submit work that you have done for another class. It is plagiarism to submit someone else's work

as your own (this includes words, quotes, paraphrases, images, and ideas). You must properly cite the work of others. **Any student who cheats or plagiarizes in this class will receive a grade of zero (0) for that assignment and may receive a lowered grade for the course or a failing grade for the course, depending upon the severity of the situation. Any student who cheats or plagiarizes also may be turned in to Student Conduct Court for further disciplinary action. As a student of Kent State University, it is your responsibility to know the University policies on these issues. Ignorance of the policy is not considered an excuse.**

9. **Students with Disabilities:** In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please inform the instructor at the **beginning of the semester.** Kent Campus students with disabilities must verify their eligibility through the Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) in the Michael Schwartz Student Services Center (330-672-3391). Please provide written notification about special needs within the **first two weeks of the course.**

Grading

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points</u>
Application Log	150 (30 points each time)
Midterm Exam	150
Final Exam	150
Oral Research Report	75
Written Research Report	125
Participation	50

Total	700

Grading Scale

651-700 = A
630-650 = A-
609-629 = B+
581-608 = B
560-580 = B-
539-559 = C+
511-538 = C
490-510 = C-
469-489 = D+
420-468 = D
0-419 = F

Course Schedule

(Tentative, subject to change by the instructor with notification of the students)

Week 1

Wed., Jan. 18 Course Introduction

Week 2

Mon., Jan. 23 Framework for Communication Theory Ch. 1
Appendices A and B

Wed., Jan. 25 Mapping the Territory: 7 Traditions In Communication Theory Ch. 2
Evaluating Communication Theory Ch. 3
Submit application logs.

Week 3

Mon., Jan. 30 Interpersonal Messages Ch. 4
Symbolic Interactionism
Class theory lottery will be held.

Wed. Feb. 1 Ethical Reflections pp. 110-112
Handouts
Submit application logs.

Week 4

Mon., Feb. 6 *Coordinated Management of Meaning* Ch. 5
Expectancy Violations Theory Ch. 6, CD

Wed., Feb. 8 *Interpersonal Deception Theory* Ch. 7
Relationship Development pp. 114-115
Social Penetration Theory Ch. 8
Submit application logs.
First two oral reports.

Week 5

Mon., Feb. 13 *Uncertainty Reduction Theory* Ch. 9, CD
Social Information Processing Theory Ch. 10, CD
Oral reports.

Week 5 continued

Wed. Feb. 15 Relationship Maintenance pp. 156-159
 Relational Dialectics Ch. 11
 The Interactional View Ch. 12
Submit application logs.
Oral reports.
First written reports due. All written reports will be due one week after you give your oral report.

Week 6

Mon., Feb. 20 *Constructivism* Ch. 13
 Social Judgment Theory Ch. 14
Oral reports.

Wed., Feb. 22 *Elaboration Likelihood Model* Ch. 15
 Cognitive Dissonance Theory Ch. 16
 Ethical Reflections pp. 241-242
Submit application logs.
Oral report.

Week 7

Mon., Feb. 27 Group and Public Communication pp. 245-248
 Functional Perspective of Group Ch. 17
 Decision Making
Oral reports.

Wed., Mar. 1 *Adaptive Structuration Theory* Ch. 18, CD
 Organizational Communication pp. 275-277
 Information Systems Approach to Ch. 19
 Organizations
Submit application logs.
Oral reports.

Week 8

Mon., Mar. 6 **Midterm Review**

Wed., Mar. 8 **Midterm Exam**

Submit application logs.

Week 9

Mon., Mar. 13 *Cultural Approach to Organizations* Ch. 20
 Critical Theory of Communication Ch. 21
 Approach to Organizations
Oral report.

Wed., Mar. 15 Public Rhetoric pp. 316-318
 The Rhetoric Ch. 22
 Dramatism Ch. 23
Oral report.
Submit application logs.

Week 10

Mon., Mar. 20 *Narrative Paradigm* Ch. 24
 Ethical Reflections pp. 349-352
Oral reports.

Wed., Mar. 22 Mass Communication pp. 353-357
 Semiotics Ch. 25
 Cultural Studies Ch. 26
Oral reports.
Submit application logs.

Week 11

NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

Week 12

Mon., Apr. 3 Media Effects pp. 383-384
 Cultivation Theory Ch. 27
 Agenda-Setting Theory Ch. 28, CD
Oral Reports.

Wed., Apr. 5 *Spiral of Silence* Ch. 29
 Other theories of media effects Handout

Oral report.
Submit application logs.

Week 13

Mon., Apr. 10 Cultural Context pp. 423-425
Anxiety/Uncertainty Management Theory Ch. 30
Oral report.

Week 13 continued

Wed., Apr. 12 *Face-Negotiation Theory* Ch. 31, CD
Speech Codes Theory Ch. 32
Submit application logs.
Oral reports.

Week 14

Mon., Apr. 17 Gender and Communication pp. 467-469
Genderlect Styles Ch. 33
Standpoint Theory Ch. 34
Oral reports.

Wed., Apr. 19 *Muted Group Theory* Ch. 35, CD
Ethical reflections pp. 507-510
Submit application logs.
Oral report.

Week 15

Mon., Apr. 24 Integration pp. 511-515

Wed., Apr. 26 Order Out of Chaos Ch. 36
Submit application logs.

Week 16

Mon., May 1 Some final thoughts on ethics Appendix C
Handouts

Wed., May 3 **Review for final exam.**
Submit application logs.

Week 17

Final Exam



OBR Use

Action

Approved	
Additional Information Requested	
Rejected	
Date	

Ohio Articulation Number Form Directions

This form is each institution's OAN course information. This information will be submitted to the Ohio Board of Regents, as part of the faculty review process for each OAN within a given TAG. This document is a locked form, so the only fields that need to be filled in can be opened. When you open this document, make sure the top of the screen, where the name of the document is displayed, says "Document1". The file can be saved in a Word folder or to your desktop and it creates a blank template to fill in. Please fill it in with as much of the requested information as possible. All of the fields in this document are expandable, and will adjust to fit as many characters as you need. Each field is design to accept cut and pastes from other document sources that you may have on campus.

Once you are done filling in your course information, you need to save this file. Since the Word document opened a blank version of this file, you will need to rename is it to save it. Under file, choose "Save as" and then input the name of the file. The naming scheme for this form is Institution-Year-OAN number-Course Title and Number.

Example, if you were ABC Community College, and you were submitting your Calculus I - Math110 course, the name of the file would be ABC-2005-OMT005-Calculus I-Math110. If two (or more) courses are required to fulfill that same OAN, you would submit ABC-2005-OMT005-Calculus I MTH 110 - Calculus II Math 111, and so on for multiple submissions.

When you are done with your submissions, please send them electronically to the Ohio Board of Regents so we can keep your information on file. Please send these to Ora McRae at omcrae@regents.state.oh.us .