

COMM 175 -002 Introduction to Communication

Fall 2023

Corboy Law Center Room 301

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1:40 - 2:30 PM

Instructor: Katrina Kemble

Email: kkemble@luc.edu

Office hours: Before and after class and by appointment

Required Text: *Media & Culture: Mass Communication in a Digital Age Thirteenth Edition* Campbell, Martin, Fabos and Becker. Bedford/St. Martin ISBN: 978-1-319-24493-4

Course Description

This course gives a general historical and theoretical overview of communication. By looking at communication through a critical, historical, and theoretical lens, the students will acquire an intellectual framework for further study and practice in communication.

Learning Outcome

Students will increase communication literacy.

Course Rationale

During this semester we will use the history of communication and media as a framework for discussing a number of topics. The course is designed not so much for you to memorize dates and events, but rather to think about how communication has changed and developed over times, and how all this might teach you something about how to communicate effectively and ethically in your life and how media communicates to you.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Understand the cultural context and history of communication
- Demonstrate an intellectual grounding for further study in communication
- Define the history and impact of traditional and new media platforms
- Apply critical thinking skills and critical perspectives
- Increase basic communication literacy

Classroom Policies

1. Students are expected to regularly attend and actively participate in class. Missing more than five classes not due to illness or university obligations could have a detrimental effect on your final grade.

2. If you become ill/ test positive for covid please contact me so we can make arrangements for you to work online. Please do not come to class. You will not be penalized for missing class if you are ill, but you must contact me. I will work with you remotely and come up with an individual plan for you so you do not fall behind in the class.

3. All work is expected to be submitted on time. Work handed in within one week after the due date will result in a 10% grade reduction. Work more than one week late will not be accepted unless we have a discussion about it first and agree to a due date.

4. Plagiarism will result in a grade of 0.

5. Electronics need to be put away during class discussions. You will learn a great deal by listening to your classmates and actively participating on class discussion.

5. Polite and professional behavior is expected at all times. Loyola University is a professional environment and, therefore, professionalism is expected at all times.

School of Communication Statement on Academic Integrity

A basic mission of a university is to search for and to communicate truth as it is honestly perceived. A genuine learning community cannot exist unless this demanding standard is a fundamental tenet of the intellectual life of the community. Students of Loyola University Chicago are expected to know, to respect, and to practice this standard of personal honesty.

Academic dishonesty can take several forms, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, copying another student's work, and submitting false documents.

Academic cheating is a serious act that violates academic integrity. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, such acts as:

Obtaining, distributing, or communicating examination materials prior to the scheduled examination without the consent of the teacher;

Providing information to another student during an examination;

Obtaining information from another student or any other person during an examination;

Using any material or equipment during an examination without consent of the instructor, or in a manner which is not authorized by the instructor;

Attempting to change answers after the examination has been submitted;

Unauthorized collaboration, or the use in whole or part of another student's work, on homework, lab reports, programming assignments, and any other course work which is completed outside of the classroom;

Falsifying medical or other documents to petition for excused absences or extensions of deadlines.

Any other action that, by omission or commission, compromises the integrity of the academic evaluation process.

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the standards of academic honesty. Plagiarism is the appropriation of ideas, language, work, or intellectual property of another, either by intent or by negligence, without sufficient public acknowledgement and appropriate citation that the material is not one's own. It is true that every thought probably has been influenced to some degree by the thoughts and actions of others. Such influences can be thought of as affecting the ways we see things and express all thoughts. Plagiarism, however, involves the taking and use of specific words and ideas of others without proper acknowledgement of the sources, and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Submitting as one's own material copied from a published source, such as Internet, print, CD-ROM, audio, video, etc.;

Submitting as one's own another person's unpublished work or examination material;

Allowing another or paying another to write or research a paper for one's own benefit;
or

Purchasing, acquiring, and using for course credit a pre-written paper.

The above list is in no way intended to be exhaustive. Students should be guided by the principle that it is of utmost importance to give proper recognition to all sources. To do so is both an act of personal, professional courtesy and of intellectual honesty. Any failure to do so, whether by intent or by neglect, whether by omission or commission, is an act of plagiarism. A more detailed description of this issue can be found at <http://luc.edu/english/writing.shtml#source> .

In addition, a student may not submit the same paper or other work for credit in two or more classes. A student who submits the same work for credit in two or more classes will be judged guilty of academic dishonesty and will be subject to sanctions described below. This applies even if the student is enrolled in the classes during different semesters. If a

student plans to submit work with similar or overlapping content for credit in two or more classes, the student should consult with all instructors prior to submission of the work to make certain that such submission will not violate this standard.

Plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will result minimally in the instructor's assigning the grade of "F" for the assignment or examination. The instructor may impose a more severe sanction, including a grade of "F" in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty must be reported by the instructor to the appropriate area head and to the office of the Dean of the School of Communication.

The office of the Dean of the School of Communication may constitute a hearing board to consider the imposition of sanctions in addition to those imposed by the instructor, including a recommendation of expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. In the case of multiple instances of academic dishonesty, the Dean's office may convene a separate hearing board to review these instances. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the hearing board to the Dean of SOC. If the student is not a member of the SOC, the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled shall be part of the process. Students have the right to appeal the decision of any hearing board and the deans of the two schools will review the appeal together. Their decision is final in all cases except expulsion. The sanction of expulsion for academic dishonesty may be imposed only by the Provost upon recommendation of the dean or deans. Students have a right to appeal any finding of academic dishonesty against them. The procedure for such an appeal can be found at:

http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicgrievance.shtml.

The School of Communication maintains a permanent record of all instances of academic dishonesty. The information in that record is confidential. However, students may be asked to sign a waiver which releases that student's record of dishonesty as a part of the student's application to a graduate or professional school, to a potential employer, to a bar association, or to similar organizations.

(The School of Communication policy is based entirely on and is consistent with the Academic Integrity Policy of the College of Arts & Sciences.)

Title IX Notice of Reporting Obligations for Responsible Campus Partners

As an instructor, I am considered a Responsible Campus Partner ("RCP") under Loyola's **[Comprehensive Policy and Procedures for Addressing Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, and Retaliation](#)** (located at **www.luc.edu/equity**). While my goal is for you to be able to share information related to your life experiences through discussion and written work, I want to be transparent that as a RCP I am required to report certain disclosures of sexual misconduct (such as sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner and/or domestic violence, and/or stalking) to the University's **[Title](#)**

IX Coordinator.

As an instructor, I also have a mandatory obligation under Illinois law to report disclosures of or suspected instances of child abuse or neglect (<https://www.luc.edu/hr/legal-notice/mandated-reporting-of-child-abuse-and-neglect/>).

The purpose of these reporting requirements is for the University to inform students who have experienced sexual/gender-based violence of available resources and support. Such a report **will not generate a report to law enforcement** (no student will ever be forced to file a report with the police). Furthermore, the University's resources and supports are available to all students even if a student chooses that they do not want any other action taken. Please note that in certain situations, based on the nature of the disclosure, the University may need to take additional action to ensure the safety of the University community. If you have any questions about this policy, you may contact the **Office for Equity** at equity@luc.edu or 773-508-7766.

If you wish to speak with a confidential resource regarding gender-based violence, I encourage you to call **The Line** at 773-494-3810. The Line is staffed by confidential advocates from 8:30am-5pm M-F and 24 hours on the weekend when school is in session. Advocates can provide support, talk through your options (medical, legal, LUC reporting, safety planning, etc.), and connect you with additional resources as needed. More information can be found at luc.edu/coalition or luc.edu/wellness.

Student Accommodations

Any student who needs special accommodation during exams or class periods should provide documentation from the Student Accessibility Center confidentially to the instructor. The instructor will accommodate that student's needs in the best way possible, given the constraints of course content and processes. It is the student's responsibility to plan in advance in order to meet their own needs and assignment due dates. For more information about registering with SAC or questions about accommodations, please contact SAC at 773-508-3700 or SAC@luc.edu.

Managing Life Crises and Finding Support

Should you encounter an unexpected crisis during the semester (e.g., securing food or housing, addressing mental health concerns, managing a financial crisis, and/or dealing with a family emergency, etc.), I strongly encourage you to contact the Office of the Dean of Students by submitting a CARE referral (LUC.edu/csaa) for yourself or a peer in need of support. To learn more about the Office of the Dean of Students, please find their websites here: LUC.edu/dos or LUC.edu/csaa; phone number 773-508-8840, email deanofstudents@luc.edu

Assignments and Grading

Eight Reading Responses to assigned reading in textbook: 80 Points

Small group presentations: 50 Points

1-2 page reflection on presentation: 20 Points

4-5 page essay on *The Boston Globe* and investigative journalism: 50 Points

Final presentation: 50 Points

Final Essay: 50 Points

300 Points Total.

Grading Scale

100-93% - A	79-78% - C
92-90% - A-	77 - 73%- C
89-88% - B+	72 -70% - C-
87-83% - B	69- 60% - D
82-80% - B-	

You may keep track of your progress in the course through the gradebook on Sakai.

Course Schedule

**Subject to change

Week 1 – 8/28

Introduction to the course and syllabus. Class introductions. Media survey and discussion on the role of media in our world today.

Week 2 – 9/04

Media, Culture, and Communication: Read Chapter 1 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 1 due before class time Monday.** Discuss chapter 1 in class.

****Last day to add/drop a course - 9/10****

Week 3- 9/11

The Internet and Digital Media: Read Chapter 2 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 2 due before class time Monday.** Discuss Chapter 2 in class.

Week 4 – 9/18

Newspapers: Read Chapter 8 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 8 before class time Monday.** Discuss Chapter 8.

Week 5 – 9/25

Investigative Journalism. *Spotlight*. We will view the film *Spotlight* in class and discuss the role of investigative journalism and democracy.

Week 6- 10/02

Class discussion on *Spotlight* and the *Boston Globe*. Watch interviews with *Boston Globe* journalists. **Essay on *Spotlight* Due Friday.**

Week 7- 10/09

No Class Monday. Mid-Semester Break.

The Culture of Journalism: Read Chapter 14 in *Media Ethics* and discuss. **Reading Response to Chapter 14 Due before class time Wednesday.**

Week 8 - 10/16

Fake News. Read Case Study: A Guide to Identifying Fake News pg. 485 in *Media and Culture*. Discuss fake news and assign group presentations. Work with small groups to prepare Fake News presentations.

Week 9 – 10/23

Fake News Presentations Due. Reflection essay on presentation due Friday.

Week 10- 10/30

Books and the Power of Print: Read Chapter 10 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 10 due before class time Monday.** Discuss Chapter 10

****Friday 11/03- Last day to withdraw from course**

Week 11- 11/06

Advertising and Commercial Culture: Read Chapter 11 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 11 due before class time Monday.** Discuss advertising and chapter 11.

Week 12 – 11/13

Public Relations and Framing the Message: Read Chapter 12 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response to Chapter 12 due before class time Monday.** Discuss Chapter 12.

Week 13 – 11/20

Monday: Continue discussion and in-class presentations on public relations and framing the message.

Wednesday and Friday: **No Class Thanksgiving**

Week 14 – 11/27

Discuss Final Essay and Group Presentation. Begin brainstorming and organizing for final project. Work with groups to prepare for presentations. Discuss media ethics.

Week 15- 12/04

Legal Controls and Freedom of Expression: Read Chapter 16 in *Media and Culture*. **Reading Response due before classtime on Monday.** Discuss Chapter 16

Finals Week Final Presentations and Essays Due

