

ADVANCE PERSPECTIVES IN GLOBAL COMMUNICATION (CMST 4330)
Tuesdays 5:00pm-7:30pm, Old Main 207
Spring Semester 2018

Instructor: Jason Gilmore, PhD

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 3:45 – 4:45pm or by appointment (Main 002F)

Course Overview

Many would say that the ultimate era of globalization is not only upon us, but evident in every facet of our daily lives. As we examined in the Introduction to Global Communication course, the increase in international and intercultural connectedness has been made possible by the advent of technologies that allow people to travel across international borders and technologies that allow us to be connected without ever leaving our home countries or even our own homes. This semester, we will delve deeper into these connections and into the ways in which people around the world--from individuals to powerful elites--communicate with one another.

Required Texts:

Banaji, M. R., & Greenwald, A. G. (2016). *Blindspot: Hidden biases of good people*. Bantam.

Henríquez, C. (2014). *The Book of Unknown Americans: A Novel*. Vintage.

Kahneman, D. (2011). *Thinking, fast and slow*. Macmillan.

Course Objectives

1. Learn the fundamental perspectives, theories and principles of global communication as a field and how they function in this increasingly globalized world.
2. Obtain a robust understanding and appreciation of different cultural and national approaches to communication in global contexts.
3. Strengthen students' ability to organize and present thoughts, perspectives, and arguments in written format.
4. Further improve students' ability to think critically about and evaluate different points of view and arguments.
5. Further develop students' ability to maturely engage in intellectual conversations through extensive in-class discussions.
6. Strengthen students' ability to analyze complex subject matter and make sound arguments in order to present them in both oral and written formats.

Course Requirements

- 1) Research Paper. There will be one large research paper due this semester. The full description of the assignment is available on the course CANVAS site (on the Syllabus page) and will be discussed in class extensively. There are three related assignments:
 - a. Research Paper Proposal. Midway through the semester you will turn in a proposal for your final research paper. This will include a full literature review and ideas for what texts you will analyze. See assignment description on CANVAS for more details.
 - b. Draft Day. On the "Draft" Day where you will be required to bring in a fully written, working draft of your research paper for the course prior to the final due date. You will both get feedback on your draft from two fellow students and give feedback to them.
 - c. Research Presentation Poster. On the last day of class we will host a poster session where each student will present a poster representation of their research. Details on CANVAS.
- 2) Global Communication Example. For one class you will be in charge of finding an example of global communication in the world. It should be something that you share at the beginning of class, so short videos or readings are best. For the day of class, please come prepared to share

why you found the example compelling and to lead a brief discussions about the article. To turn in: Please print out a list of 10 questions related to course content to ask your fellow students about the example you share.

- 3) Reflection Papers. You are required to complete five one-page, single-spaced, and typed reflection papers. In these papers you will synthesize the readings for the day by discussing how they relate one another and to concepts and theories discussed in class. You are required to use concepts and theories from class to help explain your evaluations and analyses. You may relate the readings and class concepts back to events and happenings you are exposed to in the real world, to personal experiences, or to information you have learned in other classes. Reflection papers must be turned in only on the days when we have discussants. Look for the *s on the schedule for when these are due. Please note that reflection papers need to be printed and turned in in person at the end of class on the scheduled days.
 - a. NOTE: All students are required to write the first reflection paper. See schedule below for due date.
- 4) Reading Discussant. You will be required to serve as a reading discussant for the weekly readings for one class this semester. The reading discussants will write a “discussant paper” (similar to a reflection paper) but with the added responsibility of serving as one of three or four student discussion leaders for that day’s discussion. This means that you will hand in a discussant paper with a second FULL page—single spaced—of discussion ideas and questions that will help you lead the discussion for the day. You will also need to create a discussion activity to do with your group and provide a full description on the second page you turn in. Please note that the paper you write for this day does not count as your regular reflection papers. Note that a discussant does not dominate the conversation, but guides students to new perspectives and distinct ways of thinking about the subject matter.
- 5) Book Club. There are three assigned books for this semester. This will be divided into two types of assignment.
 - a. Book Club Reflection Paper. These 2 **required** reflection papers will be similar to regular reflection papers, except that they will need to be 2 pages, single-spaced and should reflect on the important findings in the books. These are not book reports, so please do not summarize the readings, but analyze and apply what you have learned from them.
 - b. Book Club Discussant. For this assignment you will work in groups of three to lead a discussion group about the book. The group should produce a 2 page—single-spaced—page filled with discussion questions and two planned activities related to the book. Each member will also need to turn in a 2-page, single-spaced, discussant paper. More details can be found on the full assignment description on CANVAS.
- 6) Class participation. Because this is a 4000-level class a high level of individual participation is expected of each student. As you cannot participate if you are not in class, regular attendance is therefore vital to your overall success in this course. Please arrive *on time* having already completed the assigned reading, ready to engage in the discussion material.

Evaluation

Written assignment:

Research Paper Proposal	60 points (15%)
Draft Day	5 points (1.25%)
Research Paper and Poster	130 points (32.5%)

Global Communication Example:

10 points (2.5%)

Reflection papers: 5 @ 15 points each 75 points (18.75%)

Reading Discussant: 30 points (7.5%)

Book Club Discussant: 40 points (10%)

Book Club Reflection papers: 2@ 25 points each 50 points (12.5%)

Total: 400 points (100%)

Course policies

Written Assignment Format. All written assignments will be in typed in 12 point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins on all sides of the document. Papers will either be in single (reflection and discussant) or double-spaced (two major written assignments) format. No extra spacing should be added between paragraphs or before or after lines. Although this many seem stringent, it ensures that all students are playing on equal grounds. You can find templates and grading rubrics on the class CANVAS site.

Assignment due dates. The two components of the major research paper must be completed on the date assigned. **Late papers** will receive a 5-point deduction per 24 hours for up to 5 days after the due date (including weekends). No papers will be accepted beyond 5 days and will result in a zero on that assignment. Late reflection papers will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Missed Assignments. If you miss **any assignment** due date because of a documented illness or emergency situation, you **MUST** provide me with an official note (doctor, police, etc.) justifying why you were not able to make the due date. All notes must be accompanied by a contact number, as this number will be called to verify your illness or emergency.

Policy on Academic Honesty. I am counting on your integrity. It is expected that all work turned in will be your own. Any ideas or content that come from another source must be properly cited. This includes any content taken from the Internet. Any acts of plagiarism will be penalized according to the Student Code of Conduct (Article VI) in place by Utah State University. Please check the university's information online regarding their policies on academic honesty:

http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=96#Academic_Honesty

<http://www.usu.edu/studentervices/studentcode/article6.cfm>

Disabilities

Disability Resource Center at Utah State University will work with students needing additional accommodations to academically succeed in this class. Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, (435)797-2444 voice, (435)797-0740 TTY, (435)797-2444 VP, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible.

Expectations of students

Students are asked to come to class with attitudes of respect and openness to learning about themselves and others in relationship to culture. This is a broad field that addresses essential learning about human communication. We cannot come to understand the world in one semester, or even a lifetime. We will cover the core theoretical models in class that will help students form a basic understanding of the patterns of culture that will go a long way in helping each participant function more effectively in intercultural interactions.

Class conduct

No student is permitted to create a threatening, intimidating, or harassing environment in this course. Classroom civility is a part of the Student Code, and infractions will be pursued through the Student Conduct Coordinator. This course will be conducted in a safe and tolerant environment, and any person who detracts from that environment will be first given a verbal warning about the behavior. If said behavior persists, the student will be asked to leave the class and will not be able to return until the case is settled to the satisfaction of the professor by the Student Conduct Coordinator.