

Course Syllabus

COMMUNICATION 4240—Rhetoric and Popular Culture- Fall 2023

Instructor: Brian Lain, PhD

pronouns: he/him/his

T TH 9:30-10:50am, Phys 115

E-Mail: blain@unt.edu

Office Hours:

Tuesday 11am-12:30pm and Wednesday 2-3:30pm and by appointment

Instructor's Office: GAB 320D

Communication Expectations: Canvas is the primary tool we use to communicate with students. Secondary communication tools include remind.com and Zoom. PLEASE NOTE WHEN ON ZOOM YOU ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A CAMERA AND MICROPHONE. Personal concerns or questions can be directed to Brian Lain either through Canvas DM, Zoom meeting, or email. Please be aware that it may take up to 24 hours to respond to messages. Grades are posted within 2 weeks of assignments due date.

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT's full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Overview to the Course:

We live in a world of texts. This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to a variety of approaches for understanding the rhetorical effects of the everyday items we encounter. Throughout the course of the semester, students are asked to analyze and design images in order to better understand the impact of texts on our world.

Course Goals:

1. Employ Communication theories, perspectives, principles, and concepts
2. Engage in Communication inquiry
3. Critically analyze messages
4. Utilize communication to embrace difference


5. Create messages appropriate to the audience, purpose, and context

Texts:

Danesi, M. (2024) Popular Culture: Introductory Perspectives. fifth ed. Rowman and Littlefield.

Additional materials available on Canvas

Teaching Philosophy:

A full statement of my teaching philosophy can be found [here](https://presentation.foliotek.com/portfolio/view/7b7c1013-5595-4643-91ba-69f568f2afce?page=4e7463f3-ca92-415e-9c22-3682171e4d8e)  (<https://presentation.foliotek.com/portfolio/view/7b7c1013-5595-4643-91ba-69f568f2afce?page=4e7463f3-ca92-415e-9c22-3682171e4d8e>). For this course I support transparency and accountability. We will never ask you to do anything I have not done ourselves. Every activity and assignment attempts to learn or practice a particular skill toward the course goals.

Course Requirements:

Found Images I, II, and III (3 x 10% of final grade):

This is an opportunity to practice analysis of everyday items. I will post an image for you to think about and consider. Then you should identify some theory, term, or method from our reading and "use" it to write some exegesis of the image. These involve (1) summarizing a part of our existing readings, (2) writing a short description and analysis of the image its content, its context, its rhetoric, or (perhaps) its placement in a cultural logic (2-3 pages total no need for a works cited unless you use sources outside the syllabus).

Major Project, The Modern Ethnographer

Podcast assessing a facet of culture through a rhetorical lens:

The purpose of this assignment is to engage analytically with a specific sub-culture in the popular world around us. The final project will be delivered as a podcast. This assignment helps us complete these learning outcomes:

- Select creative and appropriate modalities and technologies to accomplish communicative goals
- Recognize individual and cultural similarities and differences
- Appreciate individual and cultural similarities and differences
- Respect diverse perspectives and the ways they influence communication
- Articulate one's own cultural standpoint and how it affects communication and world view

There are several elements which lead up to this:

- Podcast Proposal (5% of final grade): A short (2-3 page) paper or audio recording where you make your case for examining a particular subculture.

■ Annotated Bibliography (10% of final grade): You will create an annotated bibliography of *at least* 12 academic sources. The sources may include essays from collections or handbooks, but primarily should be recent scholarly journal articles. This will be an opportunity for you to demonstrate proper use of APA style.

■ Street Interviews (10% of final grade): Conduct a series of three street interviews either with members of this group or people who have experience interacting with this group. Turn in the interviews as well as a one-page reflection.

■ Podcast on Rhetoric in Popular Culture (15% of final grade): For this assignment you will design a podcast episode of 10-12 minutes in length. You will submit the script and the audio recording of the podcast to earn credit.

Packback Questions (10%)

Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback Questions platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback Questions is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications.

Packback Requirements:

Your participation on Packback will count toward 10% of your overall course grade.

There will be a **bi-weekly deadline Fridays at 11:59PM CST** deadline for submissions. In order to receive full credit, you should submit the following:

You should ask at least 1 question and reply to at least 2. You need a curiosity score of at least 50% to get full credit.

How to Register on Packback:

An email invitation will be sent to you from help@packback.co prompting you to finish registration. If you don't receive an email (be sure to check your spam), you may register by following the instructions below:

1. Create an account by navigating to <https://app.packback.co> and clicking "Sign up for an Account"

Note: If you already have an account on Packback you can log in with your credentials.


2. Then enter our class community's lookup key into the "Looking to join a community you don't see here?" section in Packback at the bottom of the homepage.

Community Lookup Key: **853f31fd-275d-46fe-9fbf-d74cfcadf320**

3. Follow the instructions on your screen to finish your registration.

Packback may require a paid subscription. Refer to www.packback.co/product/pricing  (<http://www.packback.co/product/pricing>) for more information.

How to Get Help from the Packback Team:

If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, please read their FAQ at help.packback.co  (<http://help.packback.co/>). If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at help@packback.co.

For a brief introduction to Packback Questions and why we are using it in class, watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmkrD68>  (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmkrD68>)



(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmkrD68>)

Academic Integrity: **Please note that the misuse of iClicker Reef will be considered a violation of proper student conduct and will be treated as cheating. For this class, iClicker Reef is to be used as a learning tool **by you in the classroom**. Misuse would include submitting answers for a friend who is not in attendance in class, submitting answers when you are absent, having someone else submit answers for you when you are absent, or any other use of iClicker Reef by which you are not submitting your own work in class.*

Exams (2x10%)


There will be a midterm and a final exam covering the material we discuss in class and the readings.

Grading The graded assignments are designed to allow the student to demonstrate proficiency in these areas. The following scale will be used:

A	90-100	Clearly Outstanding and exceptional work
B	80-89	Above Average Work
C	70-79	Average Work; Meets all the criteria for an assignment
D	60-69	Below Average Work
F	Below 60	Fails to Meet Minimal Expectations

Course Policies:

Course Materials for Remote Instruction

Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a [webcam and microphone – faculty member to include what other basic equipment is needed] to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Additional required classroom materials for remote learning include: [list specific software, supplies, equipment or system requirements needed for the course]. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>  (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>)

Class Participation

Students are expected to attend each class session, to have read and synthesized the material to be covered that day, and to be prepared to participate actively and intelligently in class discussions. It is impossible to participate intelligently if one has not completed the reading assignment for the day. Class participation is an important part of your grade. Class participation includes attending class regularly, being on time, doing all assigned work outside of class as directed, and being prepared to take part in all in-class activities. These will include informal writing and speaking exercises, as well as large and small group discussions. Note that it is important to balance speaking and listening, to direct comments constructively to the subject at hand, and to show respect to all speakers.

Attendance

Much of your success in this course depends on your active participation in the daily class discussions. Not only is the material covered in class important to your success, but also your participation as an audience member and a participant in the daily activities of the class is crucial to achieving the course objectives. Consequently, you are expected to attend every class session and to be on time. The term *absence* used in this policy does not apply to “authorized absences” as defined by the university. It is not the responsibility of the instructors to keep you apprised of the number of absences you have accumulated. University policies about excused absences can be found at

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/1.4.1_Absence_Attendance_0.pdf ↗ (http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/1.4.1_Absence_Attendance_0.pdf)

Tardiness

Many times in this class, you will be making presentations. Entering during a speech or performance is a rude distraction to the performer and the class. If you arrive after the roll has been taken it is your responsibility to inform us at the end of that class period. Absences will not be removed otherwise.

Assignments and Requirements


All assignments are due on the date specified. Late assignments are not accepted, and, excepting authorized absences, make-up assignments will not be scheduled. If you miss a presentation, workshop, or other schedules or informal class activities and you have a University Authorized Absence (i.e. an excused absence from the Dean of Students), we will try to reschedule you at our earliest convenience. You should be prepared to perform whenever you are called upon, certainly the next time you come to class. When a reading assignment is listed in the syllabus for a given day, you should complete the reading assignment by that day.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's

specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website https://disability.unt.edu/](https://disability.unt.edu/)  [\(https://disability.unt.edu/\)](https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.


Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.



Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior


Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct)  [\(https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct\)](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu  [\(https://my.unt.edu/\)](https://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect)  [\(https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect\)](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email


inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/)  (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu (<mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu>) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/)  (<http://www.ecfr.gov/>) (<http://www.ecfr.gov/>). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) (<mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu>) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Academic Support & Student Services

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- **Student Health and Wellness Center** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- **Counseling and Testing Services** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- **UNT Care Team** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- **UNT Psychiatric Services** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- **Individual Counseling** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- **UNT Records** ➦ <https://registrar.unt.edu/transcripts-and-records/update-your-personal-information>
- **UNT ID Card** ➦ <https://sfs.unt.edu/idcards>
- **UNT Email Address** ➦ <https://sso.unt.edu/idp/profile/SAML2/Redirect/SSO?sessionId=E4DCA43DF85E3B74B3E496CAB99D8FC6?execution=e1s1>
- **Legal Name** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>

**UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can **add your pronouns to your Canvas account** ➦ <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-18406-42121184808> so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- **What are pronouns and why are they important?** ➦ <https://www.mypronouns.org/what-and-why>
- **How do I use pronouns?** ➦ <https://www.mypronouns.org/how>
- **How do I share my pronouns?** ➦ <https://www.mypronouns.org/sharing>
- **How do I ask for another person's pronouns?** ➦ <https://www.mypronouns.org/asking>
- **How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?** ➦ <https://www.mypronouns.org/mistakes>

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- **Financial Aid** ➦ <https://financialaid.unt.edu/> (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- **Student Legal Services** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- **Career Center** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)

- **Multicultural Center** ➦ <https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center> (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- **Counseling and Testing Services** ➦ <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services> (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- **Pride Alliance** ➦ <https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance> (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- **UNT Food Pantry** ➦ <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry> (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

- **Academic Resource Center** ➦ <https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources> (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- **Academic Success Center** ➦ <https://success.unt.edu/asc> (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- **UNT Libraries** ➦ <https://library.unt.edu/> (https://library.unt.edu/)
- **Writing Lab** <http://writingcenter.unt.edu/> ➦ <http://writingcenter.unt.edu/> (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

Emergency Situations:

In case of university closure due to emergency situations, such as inclement weather or a widespread infections disease (e.g., swine flu), I will communicate with you via the email you get through Canvas.

Completing the Course

Students are expected to complete all assignments for this course during the semester. Assigning a grade of “incomplete” is rare, and in order to request an “I,” the student must meet these requirements: a) The student must have completed at least 75% of the course assignments; b) The student must be passing the course; c) There must be an unforeseen and compelling reason why the course cannot be completed on time; and d) The student must present a plan for completing the assignments within the time period specified in the catalog.

Course Evaluations:

Course evaluations are conducted online through the university’s program. Log onto my.unt.edu to access and complete the course evaluation.

Academic Dishonesty.

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the University Policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of “F” in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. You will find the policy at: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm> ➦ <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm> (http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm).

Access

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the

semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda> ➞ https://webmail.unt.edu/OWA/redir.aspx?C=2-p95jp_-EWwoilbfsvlphc0yxEpdtAI_GDGEHVXx4kQVv_shUsY-8lvuU2tlikQaYuZ0Dy51Oc.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.unt.edu%2foda.. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.

COMM Library Copier Use Policy

Students conducting research in the Communication Studies Library associated with departmental coursework have access to a printer/photocopier located in the office adjacent to the library. We encourage students to make use of this resource to print research accessed online in the library or to copy essays from any of the department's holdings. Students may not use this resource for other purposes, such as printing courses assignments, class notes, scripts, etc. Students who use the copier for uses other than those outlined above will lose copying privileges.

Extra Credit Opportunities

Please contact Brian Lain before submitting any other event as extra credit. You can add up to 4 points to your final grade for the course by doing any combination of the following activities: Attend a debate tournament or other public performance and write a one-page summary of the event and how it related to the content of the class (2 points per review). Participate in one of the studies going on in the Department of Communication Studies. Write a brief summary of the study and what aspect of communication it is intended to investigate (1 point per study). Other speaking and argument events may also qualify for extra credit with short writing summaries. The number of points will be awarded based on the quality of your work. Completing an assignment does not automatically guarantee that you will receive all of the available points. If 80% of the course participants complete the course evaluation system on my.unt.edu, the entire class will gain 1 point of extra credit.

Netiquette: An Introduction

Netiquette provides guidelines for an appropriate way to interact with others in a professional online environment. This brief summary draws from Virginia Shea's [The Core Rules of Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html) ➞ <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>).

Rule 1: Remember the Human

Practice the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. Remember, your written words are read by real people, and the words you are read are written by real people-- all interactions are deserving of respectful communication.

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life

Ask yourself would you behave rudely to someone face-to-face? Before you press "submit," ask yourself, "Would I be okay with this if I was telling this person face-to-face?"

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace

"Netiquette varies from domain to domain." (Shea, 1994). Your context and audience matter - What you text to a friend may not be appropriate in an email to a classmate or colleague.

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth

Electronic communication takes time: time to read and time in which to respond. Make your written communication meaningful and to the point, without extraneous text or superfluous graphics or attachments that may take forever to download.

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online

Put your best foot forward. Keep in mind that others will note the quality of your writing, so keep the following tips in mind:

- Always check for spelling and grammar errors
- Know what you're talking about and state it clearly
- Be pleasant and polite

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge

The Internet offers its users many benefits; one is the ease in which information can be shared or accessed and in fact, this "information sharing" capability is one of the reasons the Internet was founded. Remember to post resources and references about your subject matter.

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control

What is meant by "flaming" and "flame wars?" "Flaming is what people do when they express a strongly held opinion without holding back any emotion." (Shea, 1994). Don't feed the flames; extinguish them by guiding the discussion back to a more productive direction.

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Depending on what you are reading in the virtual world, be it an online class discussion forum, Facebook page, or an email, you may be exposed to some private or personal information that needs to be handled with care. Just as you expect others to respect your privacy, so should you respect the privacy of others. Be sure to err on the side of caution when deciding to discuss or not to discuss virtual communication.

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power

Just like in face-to-face situations, there are people in cyberspace who have more "power" than others. They have more expertise in technology or they have years of experience in a particular skill or subject matter. Just remember: knowing more than others do or having more power than others may have does not give you the right to take advantage of anyone. Think of Rule 1: Remember the human.

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

Not everyone has the same amount of experience working in the virtual world. And not everyone knows the rules of netiquette. At some point, you will see a stupid question, read an unnecessarily long response, or encounter misspelled words; when this happens, practice kindness and forgiveness as you would hope someone would do if you had committed the same offense.

Adapted from [The Core Rules of Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>), Shea, V. (1994). Core rules of netiquette. *Netiquette* (Online ed., pp. 32-45). San Francisco: Albion Books.

This syllabus is not a contract. It is a guide and may be changed by the professor at any time without prior notice.

Tentative Class Schedule:

This schedule indicates class meeting days, items which are due on those days, and items which should be read from the texts in advance of those meetings. This schedule is subject to change.

Introduction

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 Intro to Class, Intro to Popular Culture

Thursday, August 24, 2023 What is Pop Culture Ch. 1 Danesi

Unit1- Foundations

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 What is Rhetoric- Canvas Reading

Thursday, August 31, 2023 What is Rhetoric -Canvas Reading

Tuesday, September 5, 2023 What are Subcultures/Fandoms?

https://www.hugoribeiro.com.br/biblioteca-digital/Hebdige-The_function_of_subculture.pdf ➦ https://www.hugoribeiro.com.br/biblioteca-digital/Hebdige-The_function_of_subculture.pdf

Thursday, September 7, 2023 Examples of Analysis- Fathallah, J. (2023). 'When it comes to the true crime community, Taylor is a legend': Social and symbolic capital among murderabilia fans. *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, (0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/13678779231191810> ➦ <https://doi.org/10.1177/13678779231191810>

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 Explaining Pop Culture- Danesi Ch .3

Thursday, September 14, 2023 Being Critical- Canvas- Brummett Ch.3

Unit 2- Print, Radio, Music

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 Print Culture Danesi Ch.4

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 Radio Culture Danesi Ch 5

Thursday, September 28, 2023. **Field Trip to Denton Historical Society**

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 Pop Music Danesi Ch.6

Thursday, October 5, 2023 Donofrio, T. A., & Samek, A. A. (2019). Jeopardized Bodies: Representations of Race, Gender, and Mortality in the Notorious RBG. *Women's Studies in Communication*, 42(2), 140-160.

Tuesday, October 10, 2023-Review for MidTerm/ Annotated Bibliography HOW TO

Thursday, October 12, 2023- MidTerm Exam in Class

Unit 3 Fashion, Movies, TV

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 Barnard, M. (2020). Fashion as communication revisited. *Popular Communication*, 18(4), 259-271.

Thursday, October 19, 2023 Clothing and Advertising-Bahrainwala, L., & O'Connor, E. (2022). Nike unveils Muslim women athletes. *Feminist Media Studies*, 22(3), 469-484.

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 Visit to Texas Fashion Collection

Thursday, October 26, 2023 Visit to Texas Fashion Collection

Tuesday, October 31, 2023How to Conduct Interviews

Thursday, November 2, 2023 Movie Culture- Dansi Ch.7

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 TV Culture- Danesi Ch.8

Thursday, November 9, 2023 Kelly, C. R. (2016). The man-pocalypse: Domsday Preppers and the rituals of apocalyptic manhood. *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 36(2-3), 95-114.

Unit 4 Language, Sport, Social Media

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 Pop Language Danesi Ch. 10

Thursday, November 16, 2023 How to Construct a Podcast

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 Sport Culture Borda, J. L. (2021). The embodied maternal rhetorics of Serena Williams. *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, 18(4), 349-368.





Thursday, November 30, 2023 Young (2015). Running like a man, sitting like a girl (CANVAS)















Tuesday, December 5, 2023 Interactive Culture- Danesi Ch. 11









Thursday, December 7, 2023 Review for Final Exam

Thursday December 14, 2023- Final Exam 8am-10am

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Dec 8, 2022	 Extra Credit (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853967)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Sep 11, 2023	 Found Images I (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853968)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Sep 15, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961414)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Sep 25, 2023	 Podcast Proposal (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853972)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Fri Sep 29, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961434)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Oct 2, 2023	 Found Images II (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853969)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Oct 12, 2023	 MidTerm (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1926780)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 13, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961438)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Oct 16, 2023	 Annotated Bibliography (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853966)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 27, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961437)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Oct 30, 2023	 Found Images III (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853970)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 10, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961433)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 13, 2023	 Street Interviews (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853971)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Dec 4, 2023	 Podcast of Rhetoric in Popular Culture (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853973)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Dec 8, 2023	 PackBack Discussion (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961435)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Dec 14, 2023	 Final Exam (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1926781)	due by 11:59pm
	 iClicker Grade (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1853976)	
	 Packback (due 09-01-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961290)	

Date	Details	Due
	 Packback (due 09-15-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961285)	
	 Packback (due 09-29-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961287)	
	 Packback (due 10-13-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961286)	
	 Packback (due 10-27-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961291)	
	 Packback (due 11-10-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961288)	
	 Packback (due 11-24-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961294)	
	 Packback (due 12-08-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961293)	
	 Packback (due 12-15-2023) (https://unt.instructure.com/courses/90777/assignments/1961289)	