

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

COMS 622

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION THEORY AND PRACTICE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analysis of theories and research of historic and current communication practices within a variety of organizational contexts.

RATIONALE

This course examines the theories and practices of contemporary organizational communication. This course will allow the students to understand how and why organizations operate as they do. Upon completion of the class students, should have a better understanding of managing people, motivating employees, managing organizational stress, developing teams or groups in organizations, making decisions in organizations, leading employees, and designing organizational jobs. The class should prepare students for conducting research in organizations and for developing effective organizational communication skills.

I. PREREQUISITES

None.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click on the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
- D. Digital video recorder or similar device (available through MBS)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Summarize and compare organizational communication theories.
- B. Compile research surrounding a particular organizational communication theory.
- C. Explain to people, within an organization, communication concepts.
- D. Discriminate between effective and ineffective communication in organizations.
- E. Explain small group and team dynamics in organizations.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

- B. Chapter Presentation

Students will be expected to lead class discussion once during the course. Students will be in charge of outlining a chapter in the textbook, presenting the chapter and leading discussion regarding the chapter. The instructor will randomly assign students to a chapter in the text. Students will create and upload a ten-minute video to YouTube and then embed the video in the Discussion Board. In addition, students will create a corresponding PowerPoint presentation. Students will then pose one thoughtful question to which other students will respond.

- C. Chapter Presentation Replies (3)

During the modules/weeks in which students are not responsible for submitting a Chapter Presentation, they will answer at least one presentation question. Replies should be at least 150 words and enhance the content of the chapter.

- D. Literature Review

Students will write a 5–6-page paper on a theory of organizational communication. It will include a bibliography that cites at least fifteen resources, formatted according to APA style. It will be due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. (ET) of Module/Week 3.

- E. Research Paper

Each student will write a Research Paper concerning a specific aspect of organizational communication. Students will be randomly assigned to a topic by the instructor. The research paper will be no fewer than six full pages in length and no greater than eight full pages in length. It will contain an outline and an annotated bibliography citing ten resources in APA format. The Research Paper is due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. (ET) of Module/Week 5. Late submissions will not be accepted.

F. Research Paper Presentation

Research papers will be presented to the class in a video presentation. For each paper presentation, students will create a 6–8-minute video using a digital video recorder and upload the video to YouTube, and then embed the video in the Discussion Board. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Wednesday of Module/Week 7.

G. Research Paper Presentation Reply

During the module/week in which students are not responsible for completing their Research Paper Presentation, they will post a 150-word reply to at least one classmate's presentation. The reply should include one positive comment and one constructive criticism. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 7.

H. Exams (2)

Students will have a midterm and a final exam. These exams will be open-book and open-notes, and they will each contain ten questions that cover material from the textbook reading. Students will have 2 hours and 45 minutes to complete each exam.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Chapter Presentation	180
Chapter Presentation Replies (3 at 20 pts ea)	60
Literature Review	80
Research Paper	150
Research Paper Presentation	110
Research Paper Presentation Reply	20
Exams (2 at 200 pts ea)	400
Total:	1000

B. Scale

A = 940–1000 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 F = 759 and below

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

COMS 622

Textbook: Griffin and Moorhead, *Organizational Behavior: Managing People and Organizations* (2012).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 1–3	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions	0 --
2	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 4–6	Chapter Presentation (1–6) OR Reply*	180 or 20
3	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 7 & 8	Literature Review	80
4	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 9 & 10	Chapter Presentation (7–10) OR Reply*	180 or 20
5	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 11–13	Research Paper Midterm	150 200
6	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 14 & 15	Chapter Presentation (11–15) OR Reply*	180 or 20
7	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 16 & 17	Research Paper Presentation Research Paper Presentation Reply	110 20
8	Griffin & Moorhead: chs. 18 & 19	Chapter Presentation (16–19) OR Reply* Final Exam	180 or 20 200
TOTAL			1000

*Students will be assigned to complete one Chapter Presentation throughout the course. During the modules/weeks in which no Chapter Presentation is due, the student will reply to other classmates' presentations. The student will complete one Chapter Presentation and three replies for this course.

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.