

COM/JOUR 475, Global Communication

Syllabus

Fall 2015

Class Meeting Times and Place	Tuesday & Thursday, 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. GRG 214
Instructor	Ash Rahmani-Shirazi, PGDip., M.A. Crawford Hall 310 arahmani@hawaii.edu
Office Hours	Tuesday, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. By appointment.

Course Overview

Required Resources

- Arnold S. de Beer, ed., Global Journalism: Topical Issues and Media Systems, 5th ed. (Boston: Pearson Education, 2009).
- Other readings and research will be assigned from online resources and handouts throughout the semester.

Description

This course will familiarize students with a variety of topics in international communication. These topics will be discussed in relation to the three main areas of concern in today's international communication: foreign mass communication systems, the interaction between the U.S. and foreign media systems, and the manifestation of international communication in our domestic system. These discussions will also note the different levels of communicative acts simultaneously working in the processes of communication between peoples and among nations.

Studying international communication today will be particularly meaningful for three reasons: 1) It helps us intelligently understand the news and reports of other countries, 2) it enables us to evaluate our own communication systems and practices in comparative terms, and 3) it helps us understand the scope of influences communication plays in today's life across the world, and in particular the ways by which the advanced communication technologies influence the global communication in this new world order.

Students are expected to actively participate in the course. For effective participation, you must relate the readings and lectures to the international news reports and cross-cultural communication you observe. To do so, you will have to keep up with what's happening in the world by reading the daily newspapers, watching television news and following the public debates on foreign issues and international relations.

Assignments, Grading and Assessment

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

This class addresses the following Communication BA Program student learning outcomes (SLOs):

- Design communication and media projects to make meaningful contributions to diverse social, professional or academic communities, communicating effectively orally, in writing, and through digital media.
- Demonstrate preparedness for academic and professional careers in communication.
- Demonstrate global awareness, including an awareness of cultures in the Hawaii-Pacific region and issues related to cross-cultural communication.

EXAMS

You will take 3 exams throughout the course. Questions will be composed of multiple choice and true/false. All questions will come from our lectures and one exam may consist of questions regarding current international events. Study guides will be provided at least a week before each exam. Some material may not appear on the study guides, and this material will be provided in lectures—this demands that students attend lectures.

Examinations will begin promptly at the start of the class period and if you are more than 10 minutes late, you will not be permitted to take the examination. Make-up exams are not administered except in cases of emergency, such as a documented medical emergency. If an emergency does arise, you must contact me via email at **least three hours PRIOR** to the scheduled exam time. Do not expect to make-up a missed exam without clearing it with me ahead of time. In addition, you must provide me with some form of documentation that indicates your reason for missing the exam. If these conditions are not met, you will receive a “**zero**” for any exam you miss.

COURSE MATERIAL

STUDENTS are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class. Some of the lecture material may come from sources other than your text. I will provide this material as “Handouts” via Laulima. It is your responsibility to obtain these “Handouts.” Study guides will be provided prior to each exam. We may not have time to cover all the material in the study guides. If you need further clarification on the material, it is your responsibility to ask questions.

ASSIGNMENTS

You will also be periodically asked to complete short written assignments. You will earn points for these assignments. In various occasions, these assignments must be typed and physically submitted to Ash during class on their due dates or submitted via Laulima.

CLASS DISCUSSIONS & WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARIES

While in class, you are also expected to be prepared for, and participate in, class discussions and activities. Again, you will earn points for participation. **All students should endeavor to speak up at least 3 times during the semester.**

Each week a small group will present a short summary of current world news, which will also count towards your participation points.

Exams (15% X 3 = 45%)
Final project & Presentation (20%)
Attendance, participation, assignments & in-class work (35%)

Final grade requirements

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
93 & above	90-92.9	87-89.9	83-86.9	80-82.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9	67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	59.9 & below

There will be absolutely no adjustment of grades on an individual basis (e.g., "I'm only one point away from a B"). Any requests for exceptions will be seen as an attempted breach of fairness to the rest of the class.

Seeking help

This course should provide a great learning experience for all of us. The success of the course depends largely on effective student-teacher interaction. Don't feel like you have to have a pressing problem to talk to me. I'll be available during my office hours unless announced otherwise. Of course, I'm often in and available at times not posted as office hours. Generally, I'll leave my office door open if I'm available. If my door is closed, that either means I'm out or that I'm in but working on deadline or getting ready for class. In any case, we can set an appointment if that works better.

Special accommodations

Students requiring special accommodations must notify me and present appropriate supporting documentation by the end of the second week of class.

Academic honesty

Academic dishonesty of any sort will not be tolerated. I take cheating issues very seriously. Please see me if you have any questions about academic honesty, and we'll be happy to discuss such issues *in advance* of you taking an exam or submitting your work.

All students are expected to abide by the rules of conduct outlined in the UH Student Conduct Code (e.g., do not plagiarize). Violation of the academic honesty portion of this Code will automatically result in a course grade of "F" and referral to the Dean of Social Sciences. The complete Code can be viewed at the following site:
<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/students/conduct/>

Plagiarism occurs when one submits the work of another person as his or her own or does not adequately attribute another's work (including when one paraphrases materials without sufficiently acknowledging their source). Make sure that all of your assignments and final project are in your own words, and cite references where applicable. If you have questions about how to do this, ask before submitting an assignment.

Other Policies

- To avoid distractions, be sure to turn off any cellular phones or other potentially disruptive mobile devices before class begins. Similarly, please do not wear headphones in class.
- Side discussions during presentations are not appropriate as they are very distracting and are not fair to those who are trying to listen.
- Attendance is often determined at the start of class – if you are not present at that time, you will be considered “absent”.
- You are welcome to bring your computer or other device to take notes, but it is not appropriate to browse the Internet, check your email, or engage in other activities not directly related to class during our meeting times.

Finally, please note the following (written by School of Communications faculty): “We appreciate the role of new communication technologies in society but feel that professionalism and common courtesy call for those technologies to be used in appropriate ways and places. We ask that when you are in class, you fully engage with the subject matter at hand, with your classmates, and with the instructor. An important part of effective communication and collegiality involves giving the class your complete attention without distractions, and without distracting others. Please do not take phone calls, text messages or use laptop computers in class unless they are being used exclusively for class-related purposes such as note-taking. Show up for class on time, if not early, and stay for the duration of class unless previously arranged with the instructor. Adhering to a classroom code of conduct prepares students for exemplary deportment in the professional world. Thank you for your cooperation in the creation of a mutually respectful classroom environment.”

Preliminary Class Timeline

Please make a careful note of the exam dates. Make sure that you do not have any scheduling conflicts. The exam dates are very unlikely to change. Other topics and readings are subject to change, especially to accommodate current events and guest speaker schedules. Additional readings, speakers and activities may be added as we go.

Class Days	General Topics	Required Reading	Assignments Due & Scheduling Notes
Aug. 25 & 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro, Go over syllabus, Course overview • Euny Hong Talk (Crawford 105) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read syllabus • “Manufacturing Cool: How South Korea became a global trendsetter.”
Sept. 1 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Western Journalism Theory • Critical and non-Western Press Philosophies 	Chapter 1 Chapter 2	
Sept. 8 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global and National News Agencies • Barriers to Media Development 	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Peace Corp presentation for part of Sept 8 th .
Sept. 15 & 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of the Press Around the World • Catch up, Exam 1 Review 	Chapter 5	Assignment 1 due Sept. 15 th at 11:30pm.
Sept. 22 & 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam 1 • Western Europe 	Chapter 13	
Sept. 29 & Oct 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and Russia 	Chapter 14	
Oct. 6 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Middle East and North Africa • Sub-Saharan Africa 	Chapter 15 Chapter 16	Assignment 2 due Oct. 6 th at 11:30pm.
Oct. 13 & 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latin America • Exam 2 Review/Catch up 	Chapter 19	Assignment 3 due Oct 13 th at 11:30pm.
Oct. 20 & 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam 2 • Asia and the Pacific 	Chapter 17	
Oct. 27 & 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia and the Pacific • Discuss/Work on projects 	Chapter 17	

Nov. 3 & 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting foreign places • ICT4D 	Chapter 11	
Nov. 10 & 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT4D • TBC (possible field trip) 		Extra reading assigned for ICTs in the Pacific.
Nov. 17 & 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch up, Exam Review • Exam 3 		
Nov. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Ash to discuss final projects 		Happy Thanksgiving!
Dec. 1 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations • Presentations 		
Dec. 8 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations • Presentations 		