COM 691: HEALTH COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS
Fall 2014 –Tuesday 3:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

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Office Hours: Monday 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
And by appointment

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Email: megan.fisk@asu.edu
Office Hours: 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
And by appointment

OBJECTIVES

This class is designed to make you a more effective researcher, teacher, and user/practitioner of theory and research in this area of health communication campaigns. After taking this class, students will (1) understand the processes involved in designing, implementing, and evaluating health campaigns; (2) be able to identify some of the key variables that lead to attitude and behavior change, (3) understand how these variables relate to one another according to multiple theoretical perspectives, and (4) be able to apply all concepts, theories, and research to a variety different contexts and issues.

REQUIRED READINGS

See end of syllabus for list of required readings – this list may be expanded/adjusted as needed based on class discussion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in this class is a function of three factors: (1) participation, (2) theory application presentation, and (3) a research project.

PARTICIPATION: This portion of your grade consists of active discussion of class material. I expect you to complete the assigned readings ahead of time and to demonstrate that you read them based on (1) answers to questions I ask, (2) questions you ask, and (3) comments you make during class. Obviously if you do not come to class you will not be able to participate. As a general rule, you will lose 5 points for each missed day or each day you attend but do not participate (if you arrive late or leave early participation points will be adjusted accordingly).

THEORY APPLICATION PRESENTATION: Students will be randomly assigned to lead a short discussion (10-12 minutes maximum) and on a health communication campaigns related study that is guided by and/or tests one of the theories covered in class. The discussion should include a short overview of the study, address the following five questions, and also allow time for a few questions:
1) What are the research questions addressed in the article? (Just summarize them rather than quoting them verbatim.)
2) What method was used for data collection?
3) What were the main findings?
4) What are the main strengths/contributions (i.e., why did the study get published)?
5) What are the weaknesses that you see in this article?

Note: If you are not present to hear one or more of your peers’ presentations you will have points deducted from your presentation grade.

RESEARCH PROJECT: The major assignment of this course is an original written research report (20 pages maximum) and conference style presentation (10-15 minutes maximum) on a health communication campaigns related topic. This project will entail obtaining IRB approval for your project and collecting original data using one or more of the following research methods: in-depth individual interviews (N ≈ 15-20 thirty to sixty minute interviews), focus groups (N ≈ 3-4 sixty to ninety minute focus groups with 6-10 people each), survey research (N ≈ 200), or an experiment (N will vary greatly depending on complexity of the study and the number of conditions). Your study must be theory based, and contain all the standard sections of a traditional manuscript, including a literature review and hypotheses/research questions, plus the method, results, and discussion sections. All topics and methods/research designs must be approved by the instructor. The paper must be formatted using rules outlined in the 6th edition of the APA publication manual. In sum, this project will be completed in 5 parts (deadlines for each part are listed in the tentative daily schedule):
   1) IRB certification
   2) Initial proposal
   3) IRB approval
   4) Paper
   5) Presentation

The written portion of this presentation is worth 100 points, and the conference style presentation is worth 50 points. Further, if you are not present to hear one or more of your peers’ presentations you will have points deducted from your presentation grade. And, you will have 5 points deducted from your paper grade for each of the following deadlines you fail to meet: (1) IRB certification, (2) initial proposal, (3) IRB approval.

GRADING CRITERIA

YOUR GRADE IN THIS CLASS IS A FUNCTION OF THE FOLLOWING:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application paper &amp; presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research project presentation</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research project paper</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We will be using the standard grading scale in this class: A+ = 97-100%, A = 93-96%, A- = 90-92%, B+ = 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B- = 80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C = 70-76%, D = 60-69%, E = less than 60%.
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ATTENDANCE: Though there is no formal attendance policy in this class, I will take attendance every day, and you are expected to attend each class meeting. In addition, you may have points deducted from your participation and/or assignment grades if you do not attend class, or if you arrive late or leave early.

MISSED OR LATE WORK: As a general rule, if you do not turn in an assignment or present on a given day, you will receive a zero for a grade. All due dates are noted under the Tentative Daily schedule portion of the syllabus. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. In the rare case when a late assignment is approved by the instructor, you will still have a minimum of 10% deducted from your grade for each day it is late.

APPEALING A GRADE: If you have any questions about your grade for a particular assignment, you must submit them to me in writing (email is fine) within one week (seven days) after it is originally returned. In some instances (for reasons beyond my/your control), it may take more than a week to resolve an issue; but that will not be a problem as long as you originally raise the issue within one week. You are always welcome to go over questions after this deadline, but grades will not be adjusted after one week.

READINGS AND PARTICIPATION: All readings should be done prior to the assigned class period. You are expected to participate fully and constructively in class discussions and activities. See the Course Requirements section of the syllabus for more on readings and participation.

STUDENT CONDUCT: I want to build a classroom climate that is comfortable for all. In a communication class, it is especially important that we (1) display respect for all members of the classroom – including the instructor and students, (2) pay attention to and participate in all class sessions and activities; (3) avoid unnecessary disruption during class time (e.g., having private conversations, reading the newspaper, doing work for other classes, receiving cell phone calls, etc.); and (4) avoid racist, sexist, homophobic or other negative language that may unnecessarily exclude members of our campus and classroom. This is not an exhaustive list of behaviors; rather, they represent the minimal standards that help make the classroom a productive place for all concerned.

Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed in the Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual Chapter V – Campus and Student Affairs: Code of Conduct (http://www.abor.asu.edu/1_the_Regents/policymanual/chap5/index.html), and the ACD 125: Computer, Internet, and Electronics Communications (http://asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acad125.html). Students are entitled to receive instruction free from interference by other members of the class. An instructor may withdraw a student from a course when the student’s behavior disrupts the educational process under USI 201-10 (http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/usui/usui201-10.html).

E-MAIL & COMPUTER WORK: We use email for class updates, so please check your email several times a week.

After careful consideration about the use of cell phones and laptops in class, I have come up with the following policy. Cell phones should be turned off or on silent mode and not visible during class time (you should not use cell phones to make or receive calls during class, or to type/send or read emails during class). Laptop computers are allowed, but internet access (including, but not limited to, reading/checking and writing/sending emails and surfing the web) are expressly prohibited during class unless they are an explicit part of a class activity (the instructor will notify you when this is the case). Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis when there a potential emergency or other issues need to be addressed (please notify and
get permission from the instructor ahead of time when you think such a situation exists). I am purposefully not including an explicit penalty for these behaviors at this time since you are graduate students who I hold in the highest regard. However, I reserve the right to change this policy should it become necessary in the future (you will be notified if/when such a policy becomes necessary).

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** In the *Student Academic Integrity Policy*, ASU defines plagiarism as “using another’s words, ideas, materials or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing the rules governing the use of another’s work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately.” You can find this definition, along with other important information and University policies regarding academic integrity, at: http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm.

Academic dishonesty, including (but not limited to) plagiarism, inappropriate collaboration, or copying the work/answers of another student, will not be tolerated. There are severe sanctions for academic dishonesty, including failure of the assignment, failure of the class, and expulsion from ASU.

**ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES:** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the ASU Disability Resource Center will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs (and provide documentation no later than the second week of class). The Disability Resource Center is located at: Matthews Center, P.O. Box 873202, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287. Phone (480) 965-1234, TDD (480) 965-9000, Web Page http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/.

**DISCLAIMER:** The information provided in this syllabus (including the tentative class schedule) constitutes a list of basic class policies. I reserve the right to modify this information when deemed necessary for any reason. You will be notified in class and/or via email/Blackboard if/when any changes occur.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
<th>WHAT'S DUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>TU 8/26</td>
<td>Introduction to class</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>TU 9/9</td>
<td>Planning and strategy development</td>
<td>Silk et al. (2011)</td>
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<td>Noar (2006)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>TU 10/7</td>
<td>Transtheoretical model ** Survey research</td>
<td>Prochaska et al. (2004)</td>
<td>Initial Proposal</td>
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<td>Dillman et al. (2009)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>TU 10/14</td>
<td>Fall Break – No Classes</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>TU 11/11</td>
<td>Veteran’s Day – No Classes</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>TU 12/2</td>
<td>Individual faculty-student meetings to prepare for research project presentation/paper</td>
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<td>Optional rough draft due</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>TU 12/9</td>
<td>Research project presentations</td>
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<td>Research Project Presentation &amp; Paper</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

** Randomly assigned theory application presentation(s) due.
REQUIRED READINGS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)


