

**University of North Dakota Department of Communication**

**Comm 310 Media and Diversity**

Fall 2019

TU-TH 2pm-315pm

Columbia Hall 1370

Aug 26, 2019- Dec 20, 2019

Final Exam Date: 12/19/2019

Office Hours Wed 2pm and by Appointment

1:00PM - 3:00PM in Columbia Hall 2300C

Instructor: Timothy J. Pasch, Ph.D.

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Office: Columbia Hall 2370S

Office Hours by appointment

This 300-level course considers and evaluates different perspectives on the “Study of minority status within mass media organizations and media content from historical, contemporary and speculative points of view.”

This course additionally examines the implications of new means of creating, storing, manipulating, and disseminating information, along with concomitant impacts on diversity, culture, gender, race, and numerous other aspects. Throughout the course, required weekly readings will be assigned enabling assignments to be completed in Blackboard.

The course will involve reading, writing and researching aspects of societal diversity (and lack thereof) that may have influenced student experiences to date, and will involve continual and thoughtful analysis of the texts and accompanying materials. Each week will focus on a specific theme, and weekly work should be completed with thought of the final paper in mind. Students will follow and read various news sources throughout the course.

As a 300-level course, the expectations will be at a higher level than 100-200 level courses. Having all required texts available at the start of the course is expected, as is participating to the best of your ability. At the 300-level, I expect all students to attend course sessions and to engage with the course material with thoughtful, perceptive work. I am very excited about the material that will be covered as part of this class.

Late work will not be accepted without prior arrangement, and course incompletes will additionally not be given. Students who do not attend the first week of classes will be dropped, enabling students on the waiting list to automatically register. Attendance will be taken for this course and will affect participation grades.

At all times we will adhere to the UND Code of Student Life found at the link below:

<https://und.edu/student-affairs/code-of-student-life/>

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

- 1) Race/Gender/Class/Media: Considering Diversity Across Audiences, Content, and Producers 4th Edition**

<https://www.amazon.com/Race-Gender-Class-Media-Considering-ebook/dp/B07PB5W28X>

**ISBN-13: 978-1138069794**

**ISBN-10: 1138069795**

- 2) Reporting Inequality: Tools and Methods for Covering Race and Ethnicity**

[https://www.amazon.com/Reporting-Inequality-Methods-Covering-Ethnicity/dp/113884988](https://www.amazon.com/Reporting-Inequality-Methods-Covering-Ethnicity/dp/113884988X)

[X](#)

**ISBN-13: 978-1138849884**

**ISBN-10: 113884988X**

In addition to the text above, students will review news media, podcasts, PDF materials, and other work that will be provided via Blackboard.

### **WEEKLY WORK and EXAMINATIONS**

- In order to succeed in the course, you must keep up with the readings and submit weekly assignments on time.
- Late work will not be accepted. This policy is designed to encourage a strong work ethic, awareness of deadlines, and academic/scholarly time-management.
- Weekly assignments and final papers must be submitted electronically via Blackboard (work will not be accepted via email or via paper copy unless announced)
- Attendance and engagement matters. Your grade will be impacted by the extent to which you engage with the course material and your peers.
  - Multiple assignments will be completed in-class, these cannot be made up if missed.
- The quality of your writing is important in the class. At this level I expect writing quality to be at an already professional level. I will provide some corrections/feedback however cannot provide writing tutorials. Rubrics are provided in the course to guide you in assignments and assist in grading.
  - I reserve the right to request that you participate in a UND Writing Center tutorial if I feel that your writing requires special assistance and/or if I feel that

you could benefit from a personalized mentorship experience.

### **POTENTIAL INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**The City of Grand Forks will be making 6 paid internships available this coming Spring, some potentially for Communication students with experience with knowledge of media and diversity. More information will be provided regarding this exciting opportunity as it becomes available.**

### **GRADING**

The University of North Dakota Department of Communication takes scholastic dishonesty and plagiarism very seriously. Read the following information closely and complete the assigned tutorials and corresponding tests if you haven't already.

If you engage in scholastic dishonesty, disciplinary action at both the departmental and university level will be taken, which could result in failing the course and/or expulsion from the university. Examples of scholastic dishonesty include:

Recycling prior work: submitting work previously submitted and evaluated for course credit in prior sections of this course or in other courses.

Cheating: copying from another student's test; possessing or using material during a test not authorized by the person giving the test; collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test without permission from the instructor; knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or in part the contents of an unadministered test; substituting for another student or permitting another student to substitute for oneself to take a test; bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.

Plagiarism: appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another person's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own work.

Collusion: unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing any academic work offered for credit.

All COMM majors and students taking COMM classes are required to pass a brief online course that teaches them how to identify plagiarism. This course was put together by Indiana University, which has kindly allowed us to utilize it for our own students. To pass the course,

use the links provided below. Obtain the certificate, then upload it to the Assignment in this course entitled Plagiarism Certification by the date indicated on the schedule. If you have already obtained this certificate, you don't need to take the Indiana University course again. Simply upload the certificate that you have already earned for all COMM courses. Finally, if you do not turn in this certificate by the deadline indicated on the schedule, you will not receive a grade for this course.

Watch the "How to Recognize Plagiarism" tutorials here:

<https://www.indiana.edu/~academy/firstPrinciples/index.html>

and learn about registration / certification tests here:

<https://www.indiana.edu/~academy/firstPrinciples/certificationTests/index.html>

Participation: Weekly Assignments: 50%

Course attendance and in-class preparation/presentations/participation 25%

Final Examination/Final Project: 25%

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TOTAL- 100%

No late work will be accepted for this course and incompletes are not provided.

See the Blackboard course site for all additional information regarding Weekly Lessons, deadlines, rubrics, and related details. Assignments in Blackboard will be clearly marked with deadlines listed, it is every students' responsibility to be ready for each class period with readings completed. Please contact the faculty member with questions or to schedule a meeting. To access your assignments, click on the folders in the "Lessons" or "Assignments" folders to reveal each individual task along with related deadlines, rubrics and points available.

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