ABOUT THE COURSE
This course will provide interpersonal, organizational and mass communication theories impacting the design and maintenance of communication systems.

OBJECTIVES
The purpose of this course is to provide students with a structured forum for examining communication theory and research and the development of this field of study. The course will encourage an interdisciplinary approach to studying the theories, research, issues, and published works of contemporary scholars who have contributed much to this area of study. While it is impossible in one course to study and discuss all the current theoretical positions relevant to the field, we will critically review most of the emergent theoretical perspectives.

COURSE TEXT:
Journal readings (and)

COURSE EXPECTATIONS
Be in class, be on time, and be prepared. As a theory seminar course, I expect that you will be present for every class meeting. It’s critical that you are prepared for each class period. If you are not prepared for class, you are absent. If you are absent, you will lose 10% of your final grade for each day.

Be connected. You should be checking your Angelo State University email on a daily basis. You are responsible for any material sent via email. This means that if you know you are experiencing e-mail problems, you should ask someone in class if she or he might let you in on any e-mail correspondence pertaining to class.

Be respectful. In order to provide class members the opportunity to do their best work, and to provide a relatively comfortable environment for giving presentations and learning, students need to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times.
ASSIGNMENTS
Chapter Book Presentation/Academic Journal via Power Point-100 points

Each student will give a 20 minute chapter presentation from the Littlejohn text. Provide a Power Point presentation/outline to the class before presenting. Your presentation should discuss the major elements of the chapter and provide suggestions for future research. We will use the “lottery draw,” format. Since we have 17 students in this class, you will be paired up and work in small groups of two, for those who do not have a chapter presentation, YOU WILL give a journal presentation to the class.

QUIZZES-200 points (100 POINTS FOR EACH QUIZ)
You will have two Communication Theory quizzes this semester. They will be a take home variety where you will draw from outside journals and research. Each exam will be between 3-5 pages. The due dates of the quizzes will be on February 18, 2019 and March 25, 2019.

SEMINAR SPEECHES 100 POINTS

Each student will give a 20 minute in-class seminar on a topic of Communication Theory as it relates to the study of Communication. Think of your area of interest, then, give a seminar topic of your interest area and infuse an actual Communication Theory from your readings. You will design a Power Point lecture to support your overall Theory. Submit a one-page outline of your theory before your presentation and be prepared to give your Power Point discussion to the class per the, “lottery draw,” from the first day of class.

Final Paper – 600 points
DUE ON MAY 6, 2019 HARD COPY IN CLASS

Finally, you will write a paper for submission to an academic conference or journal on or using an identifiable communication theory. The paper must be in APA style and should be written for a particular journal or conference. If you are writing for a specific journal be sure to check and see if the editors of the journal has limit on the number of pages you may submit to the journal. If there are no requirements as to the length of the paper you are free to write up to 15 pages. Either original research or a critical analysis of a theory is acceptable for this assignment but it must be written for publication in a communication journal or at a specific communication conference. Presentations for this final paper may take the last several weeks of class via Power Point in a 15-minute conference style format. This final paper is due on the final night of class. You will also be graded for your oral presentation as well.

There are many resources to aid learning in our class (e.g., books, articles, assignments, and hopefully me). Perhaps the greatest resources in any classroom are your classmates—your peers. This is why participation is always trumpeted as so important in classes. I see participation as essentially fostering and maintaining relationships with the course topic (communication theory methods in communication), course materials (book, articles, etc.), the professor (me), and—in many ways, tying it all together—each other. I can see you participating in a variety of ways, but I agree with Dr. Garrett (from Wayne State University) as to how participation should manifest (through you) in class:

[Participation] is not just attendance, or just talking. This is practice in scholarly conversation. Doing this requires that you have studied the readings, listened carefully to your colleagues, and thought seriously about the issues. Vital components of scholarly conversation include raising questions, responding to others’ positions critically yet
constructively, and sharing your own insights and suggestions. Monopolizing the discussion, rude or slighting remarks, or participation without preparation detract from scholarly conversation.

While participation is not the same thing as attendance, **I expect that you will be in class.** You can’t participate if you don’t come to class. Don’t just plan on being here physically. Filled seats are nice, but I am looking for more. I am asking that you really be here—be here physically, mentally and emotionally.

**FINAL COURSE GRADES**

The course assignments add up to 1,000 points. Final grades will be calculated using the following point scale.

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<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>900-1000</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>599 and below</td>
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OTHER INFORMATION

Academic Integrity
Violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student's own work and must be work completed for that particular assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing words or ideas of another as one's own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Plagiarism in this course will result in automatic failure (F) for the entire course.

Americans with Disabilities Act
Angelo State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Dean of Student Life and Student Services at 942-2191. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Campus Closures
If the University is officially closed when we are scheduled to meet, then we obviously will not be meeting. If that happens, plan on picking up where we left off before the closure the next class meeting.

Religious Observances
A student wishing to observe a religious holy day must notify me via email at least 14 days prior to the classes scheduled on dates the student will be absent. For religious holy days that fall within the first two weeks of the semester, notice should be given on the first day of the semester.