Instructor information:
Email: Benjamin.Brojakowski@angelo.edu
Telephone: (325) 486-6079
Office: Porter Henderson Library 306L

Office Hours:
MW 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 p.m.; 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; By Appointment
TTH 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.; By Appointment
F 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; By Appointment

Course Description:
In GS 1181 – Trust in Digital Environments, students will learn about the benefits and dangers of putting information on social media, specifically how it can impact their relationships with important people in their lives and potential employers. Students will have the opportunity to receive various perspectives about this topic through lectures, assignments, interaction with classmates and other faculty, and reflecting on what they learn throughout the semester.

Student Learning Outcomes:
CS1: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication.
CT1: Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue.
PR1: Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions, and consequences as related to ethical decision making.

Course Requirements (500 points):
Information Literacy Quizzes = 60 points
Students will learn the importance of finding scholarly information and the ways they can access it using the Angelo State University library databases. Students will review several videos and complete short quizzes.

Student Surveys = 40 points (4 Surveys – 10 points each)
During the first week of the semester, students will fill out four short surveys to examine general student information, their thoughts/feelings about college courses during COVID-19, their social media proficiency, their expectations for what this class can offer them.

Expectancy Violation Group Activity = 100 Points
Students will work in groups to create a fake social media profile as a way of learning about expectancy violation theory. Students will complete a worksheet and lead a short discussion in class.

Professor Interview = 100 points
Students will contact one professor to ask about how these faculty members view social media. Students will have flexibility in the types of questions they ask, but should focus on pros/cons of social media, how social media may impact their jobs after college, and ways faculty believe students should adjust their social media habits at this point in their college careers.

Cybervetting/Would I Hire Me? = 100 points
Students will search for themselves online to get a better understanding of what employers may see. They’ll also be asked to think critically about and review their email habits and their goals for improving their online presence. Students will be asked to complete a worksheet and write a short response about their findings.

**Reflection Journal = 50 Points**

Students will write a reflection paper about what they learned, changed, fixed, etc. during the semester. Students will need to incorporate information from at least three scholarly journals into their reflection and include an APA-style Works Cited page.

**Attendance & Participation = 50 Points**

Students will be graded on their ability and willingness to discuss course material during class lecture. The following scale will be used to determine participation points:

50 points=Excellent 40 points=Good 30 points=average 20 points=fair 10 points=poor

**Course Grading**

A=500-450 points  B=449-400 points  C=399-350 points D=349-300 points F=299 points and below

**Course Policies**

1. **Attendance**

Regular attendance is required in this course. Attendance will be taken and counted beginning the first day of class. The student is allowed to miss 3 days (MWF) without penalty to the final grade. However, a student’s absence will result in a zero for all work/assignments completed on that day. Once a student misses more than the allotted absences mentioned above, points will be deducted from the student’s attendance grade. You will be counted absent if you are not present for the entire class. Three tardies (more than 10 minutes) will result in an absence.

To be considered excused for a class absence, the student must be excused through the school as they will be attending a school sponsored event. In these cases, it is the responsibility of the student to complete any assignments they will be missing prior to their departure. Please come talk to me as soon as you know you will be missing a class.

2. **Late Assignments**

Late work will receive a 20% point deduction every day that it is late (including weekends). If students are unable to submit their work on BlackBoard because of technology issues or because a deadline has passed, they should submit the work to me by email as soon as possible.

3. **Missed Exams**

   1. Contact me within 24 hours of the missed exam. If you are aware of your need to be absent prior to the exam, you should contact me before missing the assignment.
   2. By the next class session you attend, provide documentation of your absence.
   3. I will view your documentation and make a final decision as to whether or not you are permitted to make up the exam.
   4. Make-up presentations will only be granted for documented absences.

4. **Academic Misconduct**

Plagiarism in your assignments will result in a zero for the assignment and the instructor may pursue additional measures. All assignments are to be the original composition of each student. Outside sources are required for each assignment with proper citing in a bibliography as required.
5. Class Etiquette

Please be a courteous student and peer.

Laptops and tablets are encouraged for in-class activities and note taking. If any student uses this technology for non-class activities, he/she will lose all attendance and participation points for the day. If any student is disciplined for using this technology inappropriately two times throughout the semester, they will lose the ability to use their laptops and tablets in class for the remainder of the semester.

Students may not use Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, or any other social media outlet to post pictures or videos of other students or their performance in the classroom. Failure to comply with this rule will result in failure for the semester.

6. Honor Code Policy

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 class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the 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. Please see full Honor Code Policy at http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf

7. Disability Statement

The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Development
325-942-2047 office or 325-942-2211 Fax
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
University Center, Suite 112B

8. Religious Holiday Observance

A. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code 11.20.

B. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

C. A student who is excused under section 2 may not be penalized for the absence, however; the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.

9. Language

Under no circumstance will racist, sexist, homophobic, or any other type of oppressive language be tolerated in GS 1181. Please think before you speak and use your language carefully. I reserve the right to ask you to leave class with no credit for attendance if your language crosses this boundary.

We must respect one another’s opinions, even when we disagree with them. This is not to say that debate is unwelcome. Rather, I expect healthy, reasoned, thoughtful debate that in all ways respects and values the individual person. Be prepared to provide and support your arguments.
10. Social Media

I do not communicate with students on social media. All of my active social media accounts are set to private and I will not accept/request social media connections with students.

11. Title IX Statement

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022                        E-Mail: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171). For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

12. COVID-19 Class Procedures

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Tuesday: Introduction</td>
<td>Aug. 23 Surveys Due on BlackBoard by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday: Collaborate Class</td>
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<td>Week of Aug. 17</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Tuesday: Social Information Processing</td>
<td>Aug. 30 Submit the Expectancy Violation</td>
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<td>Violations</td>
<td>Social Media Profile by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday: Communication Privacy Management</td>
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<td>Week of Aug. 24</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Library Skills Week</td>
<td>Sept. 6 Complete ALL Information Literacy</td>
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<td>Quizzes by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Dangers of Social Media &amp; Cancel Culture</td>
<td>Sept. 20 Professor Interview Assignment Due</td>
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<td>by 11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>Week of Sept. 7</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends Relationships</td>
<td>Sept. 27. Cybervetting Assignment due by</td>
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<td>11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>Week of Sept. 14</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Cybervetting</td>
<td>Oct. 1 Social Media Reflection Due by</td>
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<td>Will Someone Hire Me?</td>
<td>11:59 p.m.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Social Media Reflection</td>
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