

## **COMM 4312: Gender & Communication**

**Instructor: Dr. Benjamin Brojakowski**

**Summer II 2021**

### **Online Learning**

#### **Instructor Information:**

**Email:** [Benjamin.Brojakowski@angelo.edu](mailto:Benjamin.Brojakowski@angelo.edu)

**Telephone:** (325) 486-6079

**Office:** Porter Henderson Library 306L

#### **Office Hours:**

**Zoom & In-Person:** By appointment

#### **Readings Required:**

Fixmer-Oraiz, N. & Wood, J.T. (2019). *Gendered lives; Communication, gender, & culture* (13th ed.).  
Boston: Cengage

#### **Course Description:**

Gender and Communication is designed to investigate the role of gender in human communication. The course emphasizes the two main areas of conceptual foundations and gendered communication in practice. Students will complete assignments that allow them to review their current beliefs, analyze new topics, and review gender communication in their own lives and media.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

To develop an awareness and think critically about how gender is related to human communications and institutions.

To understand how gender communication processes differ among cultures.

To understand how gendered experiences and power structures impact perception, communication, and identities.

Examine the ways gender communication impacts and influences various industries.

#### **Course Requirements (500 points):**

##### **Gender Communication Journal = 90 points (30 Points Each)**

This project allows students to work independently to improve their knowledge about gender communication during the semester. Students will improve their research and delivery skills by submitting journals in a variety of media formats. All assignment details can be found in the Assignment Page on BlackBoard.

### **Music Video Review = 75 points**

Students must find a music video and write a critical analysis of the video's representation of gender. All assignment details can be found in the Assignment Page on BlackBoard.

### **PSA & Final Paper = 135 points**

Students will create a 3-5 minute Public Service Announcement and write a 5-7 page paper along with it. The topic of this assignment should address a specific issue with gender and communication that you are interested in. All assignment details can be found in the Assignment Page on BlackBoard.

### **Final Exam = 100 points**

Students will demonstrate their mastery of the course material by completing a final exam. The exam will cover material from the textbook, class presentations, & assigned readings. In order to perform well on exams, it is important to complete the assigned readings and be an active participant in class discussions.

### **Discussion Board = 100 points (25 points per discussion; 15/10)**

Students will interact through discussion board prompts each week. Students will have the opportunity to respond to one of four prompts. Word count, media submission, and instructions will be included in each prompt. Students will also need to respond to at least one other student's assignment.

### **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. Late Assignments**

Late work will receive a 25% 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.

#### **2. Missed Exam**

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 to 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 exams will only be granted for *documented* absences.

#### **3. 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.

#### **4. Class Etiquette**

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 class. This includes taking screenshots or

recording class material in online courses. Failure to comply with this rule will result in failure for the semester.

### **5. 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](http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf)

### **6. 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](mailto:dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)  
University Center, Suite 112B

### **7. 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.

### **8. Language**

Under no circumstance will racist, sexist, homophobic, or any other type of oppressive language be tolerated in COMM 4312. 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.

### **9. 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.

## 10. Title IX Statement

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.

*Title IX Coordinator*

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210 325-942-2022

[michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic* at 325-942-2171, *Counseling Services* at 325-942-2371 or the *ASU Crisis Helpline* at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

**Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Chapter Readings</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
<b>1</b> <b>July 12-18</b>	<b>Chapters 1, 2, 6</b>	<b>Discussion Board #1</b>  <b>Journal Entry #1</b>  <b>(All Due July 18 at 11:59 p.m)</b>
<b>2</b> <b>July 19-25</b>	<b>Chapters 3, 4, 5</b>	<b>Discussion Board #2</b>  <b>Journal Entry #2</b>  <b>PSA Proposal</b>  <b>(All Due July 25 at 11:59 p.m)</b>
<b>3</b> <b>July 25-August 1</b>	<b>Chapters 7, 9, 11</b>	<b>Discussion Board #3</b>  <b>Journal Entry #3</b>  <b>Music Video Assignment</b>  <b>(All Due Aug. 1 at 11:59 p.m)</b>
<b>4</b> <b>August 2-8</b>	<b>Chapters 10, 8, 12</b> <b>*TW: Violence in Chapter 12*</b>	<b>Discussion Board #4</b>  <b>Final PSA &amp; Paper</b>  <b>(All Due Aug. 2 at 11:59 p.m)</b>
<b>5</b> <b>August 9-13</b>	<b>All Late and Extended Assignments Due</b> <b>Exam Review</b> <b>Final Exam</b>	<b>*Optional Exam Review on Collaborate"</b> <b>August 9 – 1:00-2:00 p.m.</b>  <b>Exam Opens</b> <b>8:00 a.m. (Aug. 11)</b> <b>Exam Closes</b> <b>11:59 p.m. (Aug. 12)</b>