



# COMM 200: Foundations of Communication

## Fall 2022

Professor:	Dr. Jennifer Adams
Email:	jadams@depauw.edu
Office Hours:	Tues 10-11AM or by appt

### What this course is about

This class is designed to introduce you to the academic study of human communication. As a foundational class for the Communication and Theatre major at DePauw, we will emphasize our commitment to different fields of study and philosophical approaches to the study of communication and human experience. You will be introduced to basic concepts and theories that try to explain different aspects of human communication and you will be challenged to apply these theories to your experience and interactions with others.

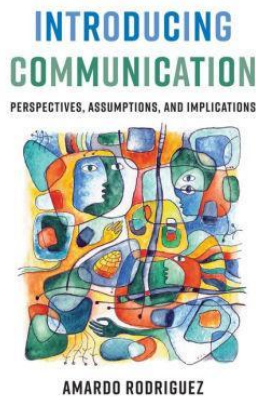
**Objectives** for the course include the following:

- To introduce students to the fundamental theories and perspectives of communication as an academic discipline.
- To familiarize students with the various philosophies and cultural assumptions that underlie various communication theories.
- To apply concepts to communicative behaviors
- To gain practice working with others in a group research context
- To develop and practice skills in oral and written communication.

Table of Contents			
Resources to Buy or Rent	2	Late Work Policy	4
COVID Policy	2	Inclusivity Policy	5
Summary of Assignments & Due Dates	3	Academic Integrity	5
Grading & Progress	3	Additional Assistance	6
Attendance Policy	4	Course Schedule	7

## Resources to Buy or Rent

You will need to have access to the following book that is required for this course.



- Rodriguez, Amardo. (2020). *Introducing Communication: Perspectives, Assumptions, and Implications*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Many other required readings and videos are available as links on Moodle

**Technology:** You must have a computer or other device connected to the internet that can be used to access Moodle, download word and pdf documents, view images, watch videos, and participate in Zoom meetings. You must have a working camera and microphone on a device that you can use to make audio and video clips. You must be able to create word documents and PDF documents.

## COVID Policy



We will adhere to all DePauw's COVID policies. It is your choice to wear a mask in class; however, you must do so if you show any signs of illness. Approved masks include surgical masks, KN94, KN95 or equivalent. For more information about COVID mitigation at DePauw, including masking, please see [Currnt COVID Guidelines](#).

## Summary of Assignments & Due Dates

Assignments will include six essay papers, a group presentation, and an oral final examination. Major assignment due dates are listed below, but this does not include any discussions, quizzes, self-assessment, or activities.

9/8 @ 11:59 PM ET:	Essay #1 Due
9/20 @ 11:59 PM ET	Essay #2 Due
10/6 @ 11:59 PM ET	Essay #3 Due
10/27 @ 11:59 PM ET	Essay #4 Due
11/17 @ 11:59 PM ET	Essay #5 Due
12/8 @ 11:59 PM ET	Essay #6 Due
9/13; 9/22; 10/11; 11/1; 11/22; or 12/6	Group In-Class Presentations Due
12/16	Oral Exam Recording Due

## Grading & Progress

### Course Assignments & Grading:

Your final grade will be determined by your performance on the following course assignments and point values:

1. Short Essays (5)	375 points
2. Group Presentation	75 points
3. Final Oral Exam	75 points
4. Quizzes & Activities	100 points
5. Participation	75 points
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>700 points</b>

Final Grading Scale: A 93+; A- 90-92.999; B+ 87-89.999; B 83-86.999; B- 80-82.999; C+ 77-79.999; C 73-76.999; C- 70-72.999; D+ 67-69.999; D 63-66.999; D- 60-62.999; F < 60

Please remember that at DePauw, A and A- grades reflect "achievement of exceptionally high merit." B+, B, and B- grades indicate "achievement at a level superior to the basic level." C+, C, and C- grades reflect "basic achievement," and D+, D, D- grades reflect "minimum achievement that warrants credit." B grades in

this course reflect very good work; a "B" is not a poor grade in this or any other course at DePauw. C grades also indicate basic mastery of the material.

### **Assignments**

1. Short Essays (375 points). Over the course of the semester, you will be assigned prompts to write 5 essays about topics related to our course material. Each essay will be worth 75 points toward your final grade.
2. Group Project (75 points). Throughout the semester, teams will complete a group project about a topic related to course content. More details are available on Moodle.
3. Oral Exam (75 points). Students will complete an asynchronous (recorded) oral exam.
4. Quizzes & Activities (100 points): You will be asked to complete short quizzes, activities and reflective self-assessments 10 times over the course of the semester. Each will be worth 10 points.
5. Participation (75 points): There are lots of ways to participate in this class. Many classes will include activities and discussions that you should join. Your participation, and the quality of that participation, in discussion posts and forums also reflects your engagement in the course.

## **Attendance & Engagement Policy**

Regular class attendance is vital to your learning in this class. While COVID presents challenges, we will be having normal in-person classes unless absolutely necessary. You are expected to attend class in-person regularly, and your attendance will be part of your final grade. Generally, missing more than 2 courses will result in a lowered grade for the course.

## **Late Work Policy**

All papers and exams due in class must be uploaded into the Moodle drop-box before the due dates and times listed. Once a due date and time has passed, a paper or assignment is considered late. A paper or exam submitted one day late is eligible for 90% of original points. A paper or exam submitted two days late is eligible for 80% of original points. A paper or exam submitted three days late is eligible for 70% of original points. I will not accept assignments more than three days late. If you have an emergency or are ill, contact me before class. Make-up reading quizzes are given only if a serious illness or family emergency prevents a student from taking the quiz while it is open.

## **Inclusivity Policy**

I want students from all backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course and to have their learning needs addressed both in and out of class. Any diversity that students bring to this class is a resource, strength and benefit. I strive to present a curriculum that is respectful and recognizes diversity including race, gender identity, sexuality, ability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, nationality, religion, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups.

## **Academic Integrity**

Please familiarize yourself with DePauw's Academic Integrity Policy. I take academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, very seriously, and at DePauw such misconduct can have a variety of serious consequences. If you are at all unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please ask. If you get behind or overwhelmed, please talk to me. I can't help you if you don't let me know that you need help.

For more information, see:

<http://www.depauw.edu/handbooks/academic/policies/integrity/>

## **Respectful Classroom Policy**

Together, we are going to read and watch some materials that might be controversial.. Undoubtedly, we will disagree with sentiments expressed by others. Even as we learn about the power of rhetoric, we will simultaneously be impacted by the examples we will read. Although we may sometimes disagree with interpretations or ideologies expressed in public discourse across the history of the United States, I have selected each reading carefully to illustrate concepts we are learning.

If you have any concerns along the way, be sure to address them to me. Good luck in this phase of your educational journey.

## Additional Assistance

DePauw has some great resources to help to improve your performance in this and other courses.



**W-Center:** Peer tutors are available online to help you work on your paper's thesis, organization, development, and voice; they can also help with brainstorming, punctuation, spelling, and grammar. Sign up using the left-hand menu here:

<https://www.depauw.edu/academics/academicresources/academic-resource-center/>



**S-Center:** Peer tutors are available online to help you prepare for your group online debate presentation (including both your oral performance and your use of effective visuals). They can also work with you to develop your class discussion skills. Sign up using the left-hand menu here:

<https://www.depauw.edu/academics/academic-resources/academicresource-center/>



**Academic Peer Tutoring:** Peer tutors are available online to help you develop individualized strategies in the areas of study skill development, time management, goal setting, organization, and prioritizing. Tutors meet with students on an individual basis, or upon request, in small groups. Email [acadpeer@depauw.edu](mailto:acadpeer@depauw.edu) for an

appointment or sign up here:

<https://www.depauw.edu/academics/academic-resources/academicresource-center/>



**Counseling Services:** Counselors at DePauw specialize in concerns common among college students, such as personal stress and anxiety, depression, academic- and career-related concerns, relationship concerns, identity development, and substance use. They are currently using an online telehealth approach to their services. To schedule a virtual appointment,

please email [counselingservices@depauw.edu](mailto:counselingservices@depauw.edu) or call 765-658-4268.

**Student Accessibility Services:** If you need accommodations, you have a right to have these met. If you have a documented disability, please contact Student Accessibility Services to arrange for any needed accommodations. Also, if you suspect that you have a disability but don't yet have documentation, please reach out to Student Accessibility Services to talk. Disabilities entitled to accommodation include mobility impairments, hearing or vision issues, speech impairments, learning disabilities, ADD, ADHD, psychological disabilities, neurological impairments, and chronic medical conditions such as migraines, AIDS, cancer, and diabetes.

DePauw's ADA syllabus statement follows: *"It is the policy and practice of DePauw University to provide reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Accessibility Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please contact Student Accessibility Services. Allow one week advance notice to ensure enough time for reasonable accommodations to be made. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be provided on a timely basis. Accommodations are not retroactive. Students who have questions about Student Accessibility Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability (psychiatric, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical, medical, etc.) are invited to contact Student Accessibility Services for a confidential discussion. Student Accessibility Services can be reached by phone at 765-658-6267 or [studentaccessibility@depauw.edu](mailto:studentaccessibility@depauw.edu). Meetings with SAS staff will be conducted virtually this semester."*

## COURSE READING SCHEDULE

Date	TOPIC	READINGS
8/25	Introductions	
8/30	Communication as Language and Symbols	Rodriguez, Ch. 1 e-reserve: Introduction to Communication Studies e-reserve: Language & Meaning
9/1	Communication as Language and Symbols	e-reserve: Using Words Well e-reserve: Language, Society, Culture Additional Readings & videos
9/6	Communication as Messages	Rodriguez, Ch. 2
9/8	Communication as Messages, Rhetoric	e-reserve: Aristotle's rhetoric Additional Readings & videos
9/13		Group 1 Presentation
9/15	Communication as Media	Rodriguez, Ch. 3
9/20	Communication as Media	e-reserve: Media Ecology Additional Readings & videos
9/22		Group 2 Presentation
9/27	Communication as Meanings	Rodriguez, Ch. 4
9/29	Communication as Meanings	e-reserve: Symbolic Interactionism Additional Readings & videos
10/4	Communication as Narratives	Rodriguez, Ch. 5
10/6	Communication as Narratives	Additional Readings & videos
10/11		Group 3 Presentation
10/13	Communication as Narratives	FILM: Advertising at the Edge of the Apocalypse
10/17 - 10/21		FALL BREAK !!!!
10/25	Communication as Performances	Rodriguez, Ch. 6
10/27	Communication as Performances	e-reserve: Goffman Additional Readings & videos
11/1		Group 4 Presentation
11/3	Communication as Relationships	Rodriguez, Ch. 7



11/8	NO CLASSES TODAY	ELECTION DAY !!!
11/10	Communication as Relationships	e-reserve - Foundations of Relationships: Stage Model
11/15	Communication as Relationships	e-reserve: Privacy Management e-reserve: Communicative Competency in Organizations
11/17	No Class Meeting Today	Additional Readings & videos
11/22		Group 5 Presentations
11/24	NO CLASSES TODAY	FALL/THANKSGIVING BREAK
11/29	Communication as Modes of Being	Rodriguez, Ch. 8
12/1	Communication as Modes of Being	e-reserve: Conquergood
12/6		Group 6 Presentations
12/8	TBA	
TBA	Asynchronous Oral Examinations	