

Governors State University
College of Arts & Sciences
Division of Liberal Arts
Course Syllabus

MCOM 511 Communication Ethics (3 credits) Fall Trimester, 2005

Instructor: Eli Segal, E2566, (708) 534-4084, e-segal@govst.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays by confirmed appointment

Course examines the principles of personal, public and media ethics. Historic and contemporary approaches to ethical behavior are explored. Current issues serve as a focus for class discussion, case studies and assignments.

Course is required of undergraduates in COMS and MCOM, and graduates in MCOM.

Prerequisite: MCOM 420 Media & Society or the instructor's permission.

Outcomes: To understand the principles of personal, public, and media ethics
To explore historic and contemporary approaches to ethical behavior and problems
To consider the development of personal and professional codes of ethics

Course is taught through readings, lecture, discussion case study analysis and demonstration. There will be a midterm, a final exam and six writing assignments. Class preparedness and constructive participation count for 50% of the final grade. Midterm and final each count for 15% and the average of written work for 20%. All work is due at the beginning of class on dates indicated on class calendar. No late work will be accepted! Repeat: No late work will be accepted! To receive credit toward the major, undergrads must earn at least a grade of C, grads at least a B. Grad students will receive an extra writing assignment.

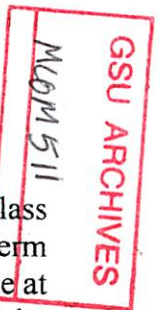
90-100%=A; 80-89%=B; 70-79%=C; 65-69%=D; below 65%=F.

Students with special concerns related to their successful completion of the course should discuss their concern with the instructor at the trimester's inception. Students cannot ELECT a grade of Incomplete. It MAY be assigned by the instructor on rare occasions, and in such cases the student must have completed at least 50% of the course with a grade of C or better for such consideration.

Texts: 1. Ethics in Media Communication, by Louis A. Day, 4th or later edition, Wadsworth Publishing.

2. An Enemy of the People and Other Plays by Henrik Ibsen, Oxford University Press World Classics edition.

(more)



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Calendar:

Class meets Wednesdays, 12:30-3:20PM

DATE	DUE
9/7	Introduction
9/14	Day, Pp. 2-50
9/21	Day, Pp.53-125;
9/28	An Enemy of the People; (write-up optional)
10/5	129-172; write-up one case study
10/12	174-207; write-up
10/19	Midterm Exam –
10/26	208-242; write-up
11/2	245-275; write-up
11/9	278-312; write-up
11/16	314-344; write-up;
11/23	
12/7	Cushion Day; Review for Final
12/14	Final Exam

Calendar is student driven and subject to change by the instructor.