

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF LIBERAL ARTS
COURSE SYLLABUS

Index #: MCOM 468

Course Title: Senior Seminar

Instructor: Eli Segal, E2566, (708) 534-4084
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays,
confirmed appointments suggested

Credits: 3

Trimester: Fall, 2000

Description: The capstone undergraduate course; individual and group research in contemporary problems in communications and a cumulative portfolio of accomplishments while at GSU

Intended Audience: Required of all undergraduate students in both Communication Studies and Media Communication

Text: DERAILING DEMOCRACY - The America The Media Don't Want You To See, by David McGowan, Common Courage Press, 2000 (Available for \$12.71 from CCP)

Expected Student Outcomes:

1. An awareness of some major problems in the Communication field today
2. Opportunity to engage in supervised individual and group research to find solutions
3. Ability to present outcomes of individual and group projects in an effective manner
4. Creation of a personal/academic/professional portfolio of achievements to date

Activities: Readings, discussion, individual and group research, presentation of findings

Evaluation: Students are expected to attend class and to prepare all work in a timely manner. There will be a midterm exam based on the text. Group topics will be selected by the second session and will be presented per the course calendar. Individual project topics are due no later than the midterm, with specific follow-up consultations with the instructor due on dates indicated in the course calendar.



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468/2

Class & Group Participation	25%	of final gr.
Midterm	25%	"
Individual Project	25%	"
Portfolio	25%	"

90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 65-69% = D, Below 65% = F
Graduation Requirements Require a Grade of C or Higher in MCOM 468.

ALL STUDENTS NOTE THE FOLLOWING

1. If there is any factor you believe will have a significant effect on your performance in this course, it is your responsibility to make this known to the instructor at the beginning of the course.
2. The course calendar lets you know, from the very first day, when assignments are due. There are, therefore, few legitimate excuses for late work. In addition, the first half of the course depends on group cooperation in a timely manner. Late work will receive a grade penalty. Late work that adversely affects the performance of other members of your group is grounds for a failing grade.
3. The grade of Incomplete is not something elected by the student. It may be awarded by the faculty member under unusual circumstances. Please be advised that this faculty member does not plan on giving any grades of 'I' (see '2,' above).

COURSE CALENDAR

Class Meets: Wednesdays, 4:30 - 7:20PM

8/30	Introduction
9/6	Read Pp 1-42 in text; Groups Assigned
9/13	" 44-88 " Group Topics Chosen
9/20	" 90-138 " Career Discussion
9/27	" 140-182 " Preparing a Resume
10/4	" 183-219 " Individual Topics Due
10/11	Midterm Exam; Individual Topic Conferences
10/18	Group Presentations
10/25	Work on Portfolios and Individual Projects
11/1	Last Date for Progress Report to Instructor
11/29	Portfolios and Projects Due At 4:30PM Sharp!