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Fall 9-1-2018

# COMX 595.01: Special Topic: Organizations and Communicating Community

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COMM 595 Organizations and Communicating Community

Fall 2018 M 6-9 PM

**Instructor:** Dr. Joel Iverson

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**Office Hours:** Thursday 8:30-10 AM, and by appointment this and some other weekdays.  
I am on email many days, but not constantly, and not evenings typically.

**Required Text:** Textbooks are so 20<sup>th</sup> Century. We will electronically gather readings that are available from the Moodle.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To introduce the concept of community related to communication.
2. To examine a range of perspectives, theories and issues to explore the ways in which varied perspectives can shape, expand, or limit our understanding of communicating and community.
3. To apply theoretical knowledge to an understanding of real world processes through class discussion, research, and application essays.
4. To develop and enhance your analytical communication skills.
5. To connect theory and research to your own lived experiences in communities. Therefore your experiences, insights, questions and concerns will be a key part of the course.

**Policies**

1. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.
2. All students must be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/index.cfm/page/1321](http://www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/index.cfm/page/1321).
3. All celebrations of knowledge will be taken on the assigned date
4. Papers will be typed and proofread and turned in on the date assigned.
5. Electronics: When you come into class, please, be sure your cell phone, fax, or any other electronic device is turned off as it may interfere with the navigation of this classroom. If your phone, etc. rings do not answer, just turn it off. If you are anticipating an emergency call, let me know prior to class and we will work that out.
6. Respectful Environment: You will be expected to act respectfully towards others in class and assist in maintaining a civil and professional atmosphere in class. This includes respecting differing opinions, not using vulgar language, appropriate dress, and creating a supportive environment.

Midterm Celebration of Knowledge	1,000,000
Final paper	2,000,000
Presenting, participating and short written assignments	up to 1 million

**Grading Policy:** A= 90-100%

B= 80-89%

C= 70-or below

Keep in mind the following criteria when completing, and later receiving evaluation on your work:

A=Superior Work. Greatly exceeds requirements by demonstrating high levels of creativity, skill, ability, initiative, and effort. Technically superior. The "A" evaluation reflects achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.

B=Solid Work. Meets/Exceeds requirements by showing above average levels of creativity, skill, ability, initiative, and effort. May have some technical difficulties that impair readability. The "B" evaluation reflects achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.

C=Failing for Grad School. Don't do it. Or don't not do it!

Grades will be returned to students at the end of a class period when evaluation has been completed. I will let you know at the beginning of a class period if grades will be returned. Your patience in waiting for evaluations is most appreciated.

**Questions/Appeals:** If you have questions feel free to talk with me. If you have an appeal or complaint, we will discuss the matter in a respectful manner, but not during class. If you have questions about your grades or you feel something was graded incorrectly, I will not meet with you immediately after the material is handed back unless it is regarding a mathematical (adding) error. I am happy to correct errors, but remember that “feeling you put more into this paper” or “wanting a better grade” does not change the output we received and thus will not result in a changed grade.

**Celebration of Knowledge:** This class has a lot of interesting and different material, so we will have a midterm celebration to cover concepts. It is a take-home set of questions following the comps design to be explained in person starting now...

**Major Project:** You will be asked to complete a larger project that encapsulates community concepts and processes through either a research paper or large project. Details about this assignment are flexible thought I would like to constitute a panel for a conference and see some competitive papers go out. If you want to do a project that includes data, IRB is needed.

**Presentation:** You will present one article or your project to the rest of the class one day in the second half of class. The presentation will take no more than 30 minutes and provide the class with a highlighting, analysis and executive summary of the article.

#### Tentative Schedule

<u>DATE</u>		<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
Aug	27	Introduction to Course/Defining Comm & Organization
Sept	3	Labor Day
	10	Community Defined
	17	Speech and Rhetorical Communities
	24	Communities of Practice (CoP)
Oct	1	International notions of community – Ubuntu, Ujaama, and others – At Imagine Nation?
	8	Identity and Belonging and Fans
	15	CCO and CSOs
	22	International Development
	29	Dark Side & Negative Social Capital
<b>Midterm Due by class beginning – Moodle submission?</b>		
Nov	5	Crisis, Risk and Disaster
	12	Community Development/Collaboration
	19	Food Banks, Food and community, gardening at night
	26	Cultural communities
Dec	3	Technology
	10	Graduate Community at 210 Ben Hogan Dr. – Casa Iverson

Final is Scheduled for Monday, December 10