

Technical Requirements: It is in your best interest to have reliable access to Internet service and a computer so that you can send and receive e-mail, access lectures and assignments, participate in Collaborate sessions, and take exams. In the event that the school is forced to go fully online sometime during the semester, you must try to find access to a remote computer without relying only on a smart phone. There will be WiFi hotspots on the SPC campuses. Please see: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/wifi-resources.php>

Please visit with me about computer issues! I can't help you if I don't know what your issues are.

Please avoid using Google Docs to turn in assignments.

Technical Skill Requirements. Be comfortable with the following:
Microsoft Word or a word processor that can save Word compatible files (.docx)
Using email for communication, attaching documents
The ability to download video files, or to stream files
The ability to take digital photographs and upload them as .jpg files into Blackboard

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement:

Yes- Language, Philosophy, and Culture

Core Objectives addressed:

- Communication skills- to include effective written, oral, and visual communication
- Critical thinking skills- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information (REASON)
- Social Responsibility- to include intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities
- Personal responsibility skills- to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making. Understanding that all choices and actions have consequences.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the fundamental types, purposes, and relevance of mass communication.
2. Demonstrate understanding of mass media in historic, economic, political, and cultural realms.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the business aspects of mass media and the influence of commercialism.
4. Demonstrate understanding of evolving media technologies and relevant issues and trends.
5. Demonstrate understanding of mass media effects on values, ethics, laws, and industry guidelines.
6. Demonstrate understanding of globalization of mass media.
7. Demonstrate understanding of media effects on society.

Course Evaluation: Students' grades in this class will be determined by the following: Points are earned as follows:

Covid Preparedness – 50 points {This includes: wearing a CDC-compliant face covering in class at all times (you will have a 1x for the semester ability to receive 1 replacement mask if you have forgotten yours), coming to class on correct day, sitting in assigned seat, using hand sanitizers, keeping 6 feet apart, wiping down area}

Class Blog	80 points,
{4 original Blog posts about an assigned topic worth 20 points each}	
Podcast	50 points
Projects (Generations, SWOT, Books, etc)	250 points
Chapter Homework assignments	100 points
4 Exams	130 points each = 520points
Total:	1000

Sometimes the final number of points available for the course may not reach the mark or it will exceed it. If either is the case, the scale will be recalibrated and you will be notified.

Please do NOT assume that I will contact you to tell you about missed work. In response to Covid concerns, all class materials will be available on Blackboard so you can keep track of all materials week by week. You can find the information inside the Chapter Folders in Blackboard.

The assignments in this class will be deadline driven. You must keep track of deadlines and submit work when it is due. Do NOT assume that I will move deadlines for you unless you contact me.

There will be multiple reasons for class absences this semester such as quarantine, isolation, and/or illness. But all class material is available online through Blackboard, so you can access all assignments on your own.

If you do not participate in class, in any form, for a minimum of 3 weeks without any communication, and you are earning a solid “F”, you may be administratively withdrawn from the class. You may contact me by phone, e-mail, or Collaborate. But you must stay in contact with me.

Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award may be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

Deadlines- ALL projects will have deadlines. While some of these may change because of Covid, the goal is to work within them. Late assignments may or may not be accepted depending on the assignment and the reasons for missing the deadlines. Due dates for missed deadlines will need to be discussed with the professor.

SPC Face Covering Policy:

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Spring 2021 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation.

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) at 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Non-Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement (updated 6/2019)

If you are pregnant, or have given birth been within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations

request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or e-mail cgilster@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement- Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Diversity Statement-In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Civility Code:

As future professionals, you are to communicate with each other in a professional and civil manner. Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.