

# Course Outline for CMST-493-301: Exploring Comm. Theory Through International Films

Summer 2019 | Comm 1006: M–F, 1.20 – 3.20 p.m.

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## WHEN YOU CONTACT ME

Email subject line = **CMST 493: Topic of email (change to suit)**

Attachments submitted electronically: **LastnameFirst-Assignmentdetails.docx** (or .rtf).

## A. Course Policies and Details: [craigengstrom.ninja/policies](http://craigengstrom.ninja/policies)

### B. Goals/Learning Objectives

#### a. Description

Interpretation and analysis of communication theories and concepts through a discussion of critically acclaimed international films. This course is designed to teach students how to evaluate communication theories, improve techniques for developing communication theory, and discuss everyday communicative situations using international films as a shared text. Common theories of human communication are explored, including intra- and interpersonal communication, public communication, organizational communication, and intercultural communication theories.

#### b. Course Goals

- Enhance understanding of research paradigms and elements of sound and useful communication theory
- Explore a variety of general communication theories from humanistic and social scientific approaches
- Use film as a shared text for identifying and explaining communication theories in practice
- Introduce students to the world through film

#### c. Course Learning Objectives

*By the end of this course, students should be able to*

- Use terminology associated with communication theory development and analysis
- Describe how communication theories are developed and categorized
- Evaluate communication theories using analytical frameworks
- Explain the difference between social scientific and humanistic approaches to communication
- Analyze communication phenomenon from different paradigmatic perspectives
- Analyze communication situations and events using general communication theories
- Explain and demonstrate oral and written communication competence, which can be used to enhance professional success

**C. Assignments/Grades: [craigengstrom.ninja/grading-criteria](http://craigengstrom.ninja/grading-criteria)**

- a. Participation/Attendance .....15%**  
 Students will receive a daily qualitative score that measures their preparation for and participation in in-class activities. This score will be updated in D2L at the end of each week. If you miss a class meeting, you need to request via email a make-up activity. Scores: A = Satisfactory; C = Average; F = Unsatisfactory.
  
- b. Reading Activities (D2L) .....25%**  
 There will be a series of reading activities to complete before class meetings. As with the chapter readings, these will be completed before class meetings. Activities may include quizzes, reading questions, worksheets, reviews, research, annotated bibliography entries, or other creative activities.
  
- c. Film/Theory Worksheets .....15%**  
 Worksheets will be provided with each film. These will be turned in the day following a film and used for in-class discussion.
  
- d. Written Assignment .....30%**  
 Students will complete one comprehensive writing assignment of their design and choosing (must reflect course goals and learning objectives). Writing must equal an equivalent of eight-pages of written text. Ideas include but are not limited to a film review, blog post(s), conference abstract, paper review, prelim exam question (CMST doctoral students), or persuasive essay.
  
- e. Final Exam .....15%**  
 Students will complete a comprehensive final exam. Eight essay questions will be provided in advance. Four questions will appear on the final exam. Students will respond to two questions.

**Undergraduate Students**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Class Topic / Format</b>	<b>Assignment/Activities Due</b>
Monday, June 10	Comm 1006		Short film	
Tuesday, June 11	Comm 1006	Chapter 1 – Intro. to Comm. Theory		Reading Activities (D2L)
Wednesday, June 12	Guyon – Library		Film: <i>3 Idiots</i>	
Thursday, June 13	Comm 1006	Chapter 2 – Theory Development	Film: <i>3 Idiots, Cont'd</i>	Film/Theory Worksheet Reading Activities (D2L)
Friday, June 14	Comm 1006			Written Assignment (See prompt): <b><i>Decision re: project</i></b>

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Class Topic / Format</b>	<b>Assignment/Activities Due</b>
Monday, June 17	Comm 1006	Chapter 3 – Cognition & Intrapersonal Communication		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, June 18	Guyon – Library		Film: <i>Wasteland</i>	
Wednesday, June 19	-----	-----	Workday – No class meeting	
Thursday, June 20	Comm 1006	Chapter 4 – Individual and Social Approaches to Communication		Film/Theory Worksheet Reading Activities (D2L)
Friday, June 21	Comm 1006		Short films	Written Assignment (See prompt): <b><i>Progress Report</i></b>

Meeting	Location	Reading	Class Topic / Format	Assignment/Activities Due
Monday, June 24	Comm 1006	Chapter 5 – Interpersonal Communication		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, June 25	Guyon – Library		Film: <i>A Separation</i>	
Wednesday, June 26	Comm 1006	Chapter 6 – Culture		Reading Activities (D2L) Film/Theory Worksheet
Thursday, June 27	Guyon – Library		Film: <i>Rafiki</i>	
Friday, June 28	Comm 1006	Chapter 7 – Persuasion		Written Assignment (See prompt): <b>Progress Report</b> Film/Theory Worksheet

Meeting	Location	Reading	Class Topic / Format	Assignment/Activities Due
Monday, July 1	Comm 1006	Chapter 8 – Group Communication		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, July 2	Guyon – Library		Film: <i>The Lives of Others</i>	
Wednesday, July 3	Comm 1006	Chapter 9 – Organizational Comm.		Reading Activities (D2L) Film/Theory Worksheet
Thursday, July 4	-----	No Class – Independence Day		
Friday, July 5	Comm 1006 <b>or</b> D2L	Chapter 10 – What Should a Communicator Do?		<b>Final Exam</b> (D2L or in-class), choose by July 3.
Sunday, July 7				Written Assignment (See prompt): <b>Final Document</b> , Due by 11:59 p.m.

**Graduate Students**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Class Topic / Format</b>	<b>Assignment/Activities Due</b>
Monday, June 10	Comm 1006		Short film	
Tuesday, June 11	Comm 1006	Chapter 1 – Intro. to Comm. Theory Burrell, G., & Morgan, G., pp. x-9		Reading Activities (D2L)
Wednesday, June 12	Guyon – Library	Burrell, G., & Morgan, G., pp. 10-20	Film: <i>3 Idiots</i>	
Thursday, June 13	Comm 1006	Chapter 2 – Theory Development	Film: <i>3 Idiots, Cont'd</i>	Film/Theory Worksheet Reading Activities (D2L)
Friday, June 14	Comm 1006	Burrell, G., & Morgan, G., pp. 21–37		Written Assignment (See prompt): <b><i>Decision re: project</i></b>

Burrell, G., & Morgan, G. (1979/2005). *Sociological paradigms and organisational analysis*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate.

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Class Topic / Format</b>	<b>Assignment/Activities Due</b>
Monday, June 17	Comm 1006	Chapter 3 – Cognition & Intrapersonal Communication  Craig, R. T. (1999), pp. 119-128.		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, June 18	Guyon – Library	Craig, R. T. (1999), pp. 128-135.	Film: <i>Wasteland</i>	
Wednesday, June 19	-----	Craig, R. T. (1999), pp. 135-145.	Workday – No class meeting	
Thursday, June 20	Comm 1006	Chapter 4 – Individual and Social Approaches to Communication  Craig, R. T. (1999), pp. 145-161.		Film/Theory Worksheet Reading Activities (D2L)

Friday, June 21	Comm 1006		Short films	Written Assignment (See prompt): <b><i>Progress Report</i></b>
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Craig, R. T. (1999). Communication theory as a field. *Communication Theory*, 9, 119-161.

Meeting	Location	Reading	Class Topic / Format	Assignment/Activities Due
Monday, June 24	Comm 1006	Chapter 5 – Interpersonal Communication  Craig, R. T. (2015), pp. 356-365		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, June 25	Guyon – Library	Craig, R. T. (2015), pp. 365-374 Corner, J. (2015) Roloff, M. E. (2015)	Film: <i>A Separation</i>	
Wednesday, June 26	Comm 1006	Chapter 6 – Culture		Reading Activities (D2L) Film/Theory Worksheet
Thursday, June 27	Guyon – Library	Cooks, L. (2001)	Film: <i>Rafiki</i>	
Friday, June 28	Comm 1006	Chapter 7 – Persuasion		Written Assignment (See prompt): <b><i>Progress Report</i></b> Film/Theory Worksheet

Cooks, L. (2001). From distance and uncertainty to research and pedagogy in the Borderlands: implications for the future of intercultural communication. *Communication Theory*, 11(3), 339-351.

Corner, J. (2015). The many spaces of theory: Perspectives on a dispersed future. *Communication Theory*, 25, 416-419.

Craig, R. T. (2015). The constitutive metamodel: A 16-year review. *Communication Theory*, 25, 356-374. doi:10.1111/comt.12076

Roloff, M. E. (2015). Theorizing interpersonal communication: Progress and problematic practices. *Communication Theory*, 25, 420-425.

Meeting	Location	Reading	Class Topic / Format	Assignment/Activities Due
Monday, July 1	Comm 1006	Chapter 8 – Group Communication Fairhurst, G. T., & Putnam, L. (2004).		Reading Activities (D2L)
Tuesday, July 2	Guyon – Library	Putnam, L. L., & Fairhurst, G. T. (2015)	Film: <i>The Lives of Others</i>	
Wednesday, July 3	Comm 1006	Chapter 9 – Organizational Comm.		Reading Activities (D2L) Film/Theory Worksheet
Thursday, July 4	-----	No Class – Independence Day		
Friday, July 5	Comm 1006 <u>or</u> D2L	Chapter 10 – What Should a Communicator Do?		<b>Final Exam</b> (D2L or in-class), choose by July 3.
Sunday, July 7				Written Assignment (See prompt): <b>Final Document</b> , Due by 11:59 p.m.

Fairhurst, G. T., & Putnam, L. (2004). Organizations as discursive constructions. *Communication Theory*, 14(1), 5-26.

Putnam, L. L., & Fairhurst, G. T. (2015). Revisiting 'organizations as discursive constructions': 10 years later. *Communication Theory*, 25(4), 375-392.