

**CMST 390-E: Applied Communication–Organization**  
**CMST 490-E: Communication Practicum–Organization**

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Craig Engstrom | [craigengstrom.ninja/contact](mailto:craigengstrom.ninja/contact)

**Objectives**

The objective of CMST 390-E and CMST 490-E is to enable Communication Studies majors with interest in organizational communication topics to apply their knowledge to achieve self-determined professional and education goals outside of traditional classroom setting. Activities are supervised and require independent study, including additional reading. Students must be able to explain at the end of the project of their organizational communication skills and knowledge improved and how the application or practicum played a role in this improvement of skills and expertise. Emphasis on the practical application of communication skills in organizational communication.

Courses may be repeated for credit up to a maximum of six hours total from 390, 490 and 491 toward degree requirements.

Prerequisite: twelve hours of communication studies. Special approval needed by the instructor.

**Requirements for Applied Comm or Comm Practicum**

1. Receive permission to register for course
2. Complete a Memo of Understanding (MoU) that outlines the goals and requirements of the application or practicum; minimum requirements:
  - a. 20 hours of project work per credit hour earned (e.g., a 3-credit course requires 60 hours)
  - b. Independent study/continuing education (typically reading of a relevant book' this is "homework")
  - c. Diary of project updates and work completed, including reflections on practical experience, reading outtakes, and questions (short, bullet-point writing)
  - d. Write approx. 2.5 pages of reflective text (single-spaced, approx 700 words) for each credit hour; text should explain experience in the context of professional development (e.g., connecting homework reading to practical experience or classes completed to coursework) or provide self-reflection. This is typically can be accomplished in the journal updates (see 2c), but can also be in the form of blogs or any other writing agreed upon by student and instructor.

3. All work above, plus additional items outlined on the MoU must be completed by the dates specified, or the student shall receive an F in the practicum
4. Project outcomes (items 2.a.–2c.) and the written paper (item 2.d.) will be individually graded based on the criteria outlined below (see also <https://www.craigengstrom.ninja/grading-criteria.html>)

## **Grades**

In general, course work will be graded as follows:

### **A and A-**

represents work whose superior quality indicates a full mastery of the subject and, in the case of A, work of extraordinary distinction.

### **B+, B, and B-**

represents work of good to very good quality; however, it does not merit special distinction.

### **C+, C, and C-**

grades designate an average command of the material and average quality.

### **D+ and D**

grades indicate work that shows a deficiency in knowledge of the material.

**F** is a failing grade representing work that deserves little credit.

All other course requirements, including information on how to appeal grades, is available online: [craigengstrom.ninja/policies.html](http://craigengstrom.ninja/policies.html)