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# Public Relations Cases COMM-4413

Fall 2021 Section 01D 3 Credits 08/11/2021 to 12/10/2021 Modified 08/09/2021

## Description

Analysis of public relations cases and situations. Includes analysis of application of principles, processes, and theories of public relations to case management.

### Requisites

Prerequisites:

COMM 3313 and COMM 1154 Minimum Grade: C and ENGL 1102 Minimum Grade: C

Corequisites:

## Contact Information

**Instructor:** Professor Taylor Bryant

**Office Location:** Humanities 217 (Expected to change in September)

**Email:** emails should be sent through CourseDen to the professor unless otherwise instructed

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m./ 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (virtual appointments also available on most days)

**IMPORTANT:** This semester, I am teaching courses in Carrollton and Douglasville. In addition, due to the current transitioning of office spaces, hours may vary. To avoid missing me in-person, please email in advance before visiting the office space.

**Office Phone:** 678.839.4153

## Meeting Times

**CourseDen:** The delivery method for this course is partially online. A large percentage of the course will be delivered through CourseDen. Check it daily for updates, changes and deadlines - no exceptions.

There will only be three in-person meetings this semester. These meeting dates will be used for case presentations.

**In-person:** Miller Hall 2201

**Wednesday, Sept. 22**

**Wednesday, Oct. 20**

**Wednesday, Nov. 10**

## Materials

### Cases in Public Relations Management: The Rise of Social Media and Activism

**Author:** Patricia Swann

Publisher: Routledge

Edition: 2nd or higher

ISBN: ISBN-10: 0415517710

## Outcomes

### Course Learning Objectives

1. The student will understand that public relations as an important communication and management function of corporate, government, agency, and nongovernmental
2. The student will understand the purposes of public relations and the process through which public relations is practiced strategically, including the ability to explain the relationships among research, objectives, programs, and
3. The student will be aware of the major areas of public relations practice (media relations, consumer relations, employee relations, community relations, international relations).
4. The student will practice problem-solving skills by critically analyzing current case studies in public relations, including the ability to define, articulate and develop missions, goals, objectives, strategies and
5. The student will develop a sense of professionalism in the practice of public relations through ethical preparation and meeting deadlines.
6. The student will strengthen their writing, interpersonal communication, oral communication and presentation skills critical to public relations

## Evaluation

		Grade Allocation
Assignments:		
Exam 1	20%	
Exam 2	20%	A 90 –higher
Exam 3	20%	B 80 –89
Final Case Study Project	20%	C 70 –79
Presentations and Assignments	20%	D 60 –69
TOTAL	100%	F 59 –lower

### Group Case Analyses

- Deep understanding of communications challenge
- Comprehensiveness and depth of analysis, including incorporation of one PR model approach
- Insights gained from in-depth research
- Organization

- Clarity of writing
- Strength of argument/critical thinking/recommendations
- Citation of research
- Adherence to AP Stylebook and APA formatting requirements

Each group presentation is graded on a 100% scale. The presentation grade will be factored into your assignment/presentation portion of your final assignment.

## Assignments

Check CourseDen daily for assignment updates, deadlines, and changes.

## Schedule

**IMPORTANT:** The schedule below is tentative and only used as guide. Due dates and deadlines are subject to change at any time. Check CourseDen regularly. If there is ever a discrepancy with dates, please adhere to the deadline provided in CourseDen.

Week	Dates	Topic/Chapter	Assignments
1	Aug. 11-18	Introductions PR review	Discussion
2	Aug. 19-25	Ethics & Law	Discussion
3	Aug. 26- Sept. 1	Corporate Social Responsibility	Discussion
4	Sept. 2 - 8	Media Relations	Discussion
5	Sept. 9 - 15	Conflict Management	Assignment
6	Sept. 16 - 22 Sept. 22 (In-person)	Exam 1 (Online) <b>Presentation (In-Person)</b>	Exam, Assignment
7	Sept. 22 - 29	Activism	Assignment
8	Sept. 30 - Oct.6	Consumer Relations	Assignment
9	Oct. 7 - 13	Entertainment & Leisure	Assignment
10	Oct. 14 - 20 OCT - 20 (In-Person)	Exam 2 (Online) <b>Presentation (In-Person)</b>	Exam, Assignment
11	Oct. 21 – 27	Community Relations	Assignment
12	Oct. 28 – Nov. 3	Cultural and Other Considerations	Assignment

13	Nov. 4 - 10 Nov. 10 (In-person)	Financial Communication Final Groups and Assignments(In-person)	Assignment
14	Nov. 11 - 17	Case Study Group Project	
15	Nov. 18 - Dec. 1	Case Study Group Project – Cont'd	
16	Nov. 29 – Dec. 3	Exam 3	Exam

## \* Course Policies and Resources

### Late work

I do not accept late work. If you anticipate missing a deadline, submit the assignment to me before it is due (uploaded/posted to Course Den). Any assignment turned in after its deadline will receive a zero unless approved documentation of extenuating circumstances (approved at the instructor's discretion) is provided. The very nature of this course demands that we stick to a firm schedule. Readings and assignments must be completed on the day they are assigned on the course schedule. Be sure to read the book and take notes while reading; lectures are intended to complement (not duplicate) that information, so completing readings before class is very important.

### Classroom and Online Etiquette

Exercising personal freedom is an appealing part of college life. In order to create an atmosphere where individual expression and social interchange are both respected, please observe the following: (1) address each other with respect; (2) contribute to discussions, don't dominate them; (3) stay focused on the topic being discussed. During class time, cell phones should be turned off or be set on silent, and should be stowed away where I cannot see them. There will be a 5 point deduction from your participation grade if your cell phone rings during class. Using an electronic device in class for anything other than taking notes or participating in a class activity will result in a 5 point deduction from your participation grade for that day. Other disruptive behaviors may also incur a participation grade deduction based on severity.

### Academic Honesty

While the Common Language Course Syllabi details the UWG Honor Code, I want to make it clear that plagiarism and academic dishonesty are absolutely not tolerated in this classroom. It is so much easier, and better for you, to just do your work. Don't jeopardize your academic or professional career with dishonest behaviors. You are important; you have important things to say, so say them yourself using your voice.

## 🎯 College/School Policies

### Mission

Fair, just, and productive societies require the free flow of news, information, and ideas from communicators of knowledge, skill, and integrity who reflect the diversity of the people they serve. Therefore, the School of Communication, Film, and Media strives to provide high quality academic and experiential learning opportunities to prepare students for successful integration into the global community as industry professionals, leaders, and thinkers in the fields of convergence journalism, digital media and telecommunication, film and video production, and public relations.

### Vision

The School of Communication, Film, and Media is committed to empowering students to communicate clearly, act responsibly, think critically, and understand context(s) to enhance their personal, civic, academic, and professional lives, facilitating active participation in

an evolving and increasingly diverse society.

## Strategic Priorities

### *Invested Teaching*

To inspire and equip students to discover their personal, intellectual, and professional potential through personalized teaching, academic coaching, and career mentoring.

### *Experiential Learning*

To offer students early and on-going multiple and diverse hands-on learning to develop and enhance personal, intellectual, and professional growth.

### *Connectedness*

To serve as the hub that connects and cultivates partnerships among key stakeholders to enhance personal, intellectual, and professional growth. Key stakeholders include administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni, industry, community, and friends.

## Mass Communications Degree Program Learning Outcomes

**ACEJMC Professional Values and Competencies:** The Bachelor of Science degree program in Mass Communications is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC), and the School is committed to preparing students with the requisite knowledge and skills to be successful in the media and communications industries after graduation. The School has adopted as its Mass Communications degree program learning outcomes ACEJMC's 12 professional values and competencies, known as 6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS, that all graduates of an ACEJMC accredited program should be aware of and able to demonstrate as scholars and professionals in the discipline. For the detailed list of the ACEJMC professional values and competencies, see the [UWG Undergraduate Catalog \(https://catalog.westga.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=11&pooid=1991\)](https://catalog.westga.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=11&pooid=1991) or [ACEJMC - Standard 2. Curriculum and Instruction \(http://www.acejmc.org/policies-process/nine-standards/\)](http://www.acejmc.org/policies-process/nine-standards/).

## 6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS

[6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS \(https://www.westga.edu/academics/coss/mass-communications/assets/pics/6x6\\_MC\\_Success\\_Graphic.JPG\)](https://www.westga.edu/academics/coss/mass-communications/assets/pics/6x6_MC_Success_Graphic.JPG)

(click to view image)

1. Freedom of Speech & Press
2. History
3. Diversity
4. Global Impact
5. Theory
6. Ethics
7. Think Critically & Creatively
8. Research & Evaluate
9. Write Effectively
10. Self-Evaluate
11. Apply Numbers & Statistics
12. Apply Technology

## Film & Video Production Degree Program Learning Outcomes

**Overview:** The Bachelor of Science degree program in Film & Video Production is designed to train graduates in the field who are agile, adaptable, and able to employ their skills in an array of roles from entrepreneurial content producers to on-set film work, both above and below the line. It will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the machinery at work behind media production and distribution, along with a set of tangible, marketable, and transferable skills for an array of positions within the infrastructure of film and content production. The FVP degree program learning outcomes include:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking, aesthetic awareness and technical proficiency in the production and assessment of audio-visual

film work.

2. Understand all phases and roles of film production in order to help formulate career goals.
3. Understand the various potentials of film as both a commodity for a targeted audience, and an act of authorship and creative expression.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of cinema in a global society.

## Institutional Policies

### Academic Support

**Accessibility Services:** Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

**Center for Academic Success:** The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or [cas@westga.edu](mailto:cas@westga.edu).

**University Writing Center:** The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu).

### Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

### Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code,

please visit the [Office of Community Standards \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/ocs/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/ocs/index.php) site.

## UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

## Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

## HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: [http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional\\_information#](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information#) ([http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional\\_information](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information))

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php> (<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>)

## Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGCares](#).

## ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the [E.L.L. resource page](#) for more information.

## COVID-19

The health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff remain the University of West Georgia's top priority.

For the most recent information on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) visit:

- [UWG's Guidance on Face Coverings \(https://www.westga.edu/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/faq/what-is-the-guidance-on-the-use-of-face-coverings.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/faq/what-is-the-guidance-on-the-use-of-face-coverings.php)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention FAQ \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html)
- [Georgia Department of Public Health \(https://dph.georgia.gov/\)](https://dph.georgia.gov/)