

COMM 360 - 201 Digital Media Ethics

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Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 11:30-12:20

Water Tower Campus: School of Communication; Room 014

Office Hours (Zoom): Tuesday and Thursdays - 11am-12pm, by appointment

Course Description:

This course is designed to familiarize students with a new set of ethical dilemmas that have sprung up in the last decade with the rise of new media. Using classical ethical theories, students will formulate appropriate and responsible solutions to ethical dilemmas emerging in a new/digital media context.

Pre-requisites: COMM 200

Course Objectives:

Course Learning Objectives

- Understand classical approaches and theorizations of ethics
- Explore ethical issues related to new media
- Discuss and critically exam current ethical issues in relation to classical ethical theory
- Develop potential solutions to ethical dilemmas

Course COVID Policy:

Please do not come to class if you are feeling unwell, especially if your symptoms include shortness of breath, coughing, difficulty breathing, head and body aches, fever or chills, and loss of smell or taste. Send me an email if you are feeling any of these symptoms and contact Dial A Nurse and follow their instructions. If you have been exposed to a confirmed COVID case and are unsure about coming to class, send me an email and we will figure out what you should do. The health and safety of you and your classmates is very important to me and I will be flexible in accommodating any health concerns. COVID policy subject to change as new guidelines and regulations are released throughout the semester. Go to <https://www.luc.edu/coronavirus/> for information and updates.

Late or Missing Work:

If you are concerned about completing your work or dealing with something that could potentially affect your ability to participate in class, please email me sooner rather than later. I don't need details, but knowing earlier allows me to help find ways to accommodate you and keeps you on track in the class. I publish all due dates and details of assignments from the beginning of the semester so you can plan for them and let me know as soon as possible of any conflicts or concerns. It is disrespectful of my time and dedication to this class to wait until the last few days to reach out and ask for exceptions or accommodations. Additionally, there is often very little I can do or change at the end of the semester due to limited time and university policies.

Course Communication and Information:

- Class announcements and reminders
- Course Sakai Page

- Email
 - sleiser@luc.edu
 - I do not regularly check my email after 5pm or on weekends, but I try to reply within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 on weekends.
- Office hours - via Zoom
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00am-12pm (link on Sakai)
 - By appointment

Required Text:

All required readings will be posted on our class Sakai page, there is no textbook requirement.

Assignments:

Participation and In class engagement - cumulative grade

Completing the in class activities and assignments, participating in the in class discussion, and attending class regularly all will add to this score

Student Case Study Days

Each student will be required to sign up to lead one of the Case Study Day. On their assigned day, students will bring a case study to discuss as a class. They will introduce the case to everyone, create discussion questions and facilitate the class discussion.

Case Study Memos

Following each Case Study Days, all students will write a brief (500 to 1000 words) memo on one of the case studies discussed. Include a summary of the case, key questions asked, points made during the discussion and your own personal reflection of the case.

Take Home Exams

Students will be given two take home exams to complete. They will contain a mixture of multiple choice, short answer questions, and essay questions.

Assignment	Points
Participation and class engagement	200
Case Study Day	100
Case study memos (4)	50 each (total 200)
Take home exam 1	200
Take home exam 2	300
Total points:	1000

Grading Scale:

A 940-1000; **A-** 900-939; **B+** 870-899; **B** 830-869; **B-** 800-829; **C+** 770-799; **C** 700-729; **C-** 700-729; **D+** 670-699; **D** 630-669; **D-** 600-629; **F** 599-0

Accommodations:

Students with Disabilities: If you have documentation from Loyola's Office for Students with Disabilities, let me know as soon as possible and I will make accommodations if there are instances in which course requirements conflict with your needs. If you have a chronic health issue that may become a factor in your ability to complete assignments, do not wait to meet with someone in that office until you have an emergent situation. If there is any possibility that you may need their services or documentation at any time during the semester, please get it now so that there are no questions should an emergency situation arise.

Absences and Tardiness: If you miss a class, you do not need to explain it to me or apologize, but I would appreciate a heads up. However, it is your responsibility to find the information you missed through class resources or classmates. While there is not an attendance grade, missing class means you will also miss that day's lectures and activities, which are part of a cumulative assignment grade. There is a direct correlation between class attendance and overall grades, especially as this class incorporates a lot of applied skill and work on your final project in the classroom.

If you experience illness serious enough to warrant medical documentation and/or the death of someone close to you, please let me know as soon as possible and when you are ready and able, we will create a plan to help you get caught up on material and complete your assignments

If you are late to class, please do not ask me to repeat important information I discussed at the beginning of class. Please get it from a fellow class member. If you are consistently late, your overall grade will be negatively affected.

If you miss class to represent Loyola University Chicago in some formal capacity—e.g. athletics, Model United Nations, etc., please bring me the documentation and accommodations will be made.

Academic Integrity

There is no place for academic dishonesty in the School of Communication or at Loyola University Chicago. Please familiarize yourselves with ALL potential errors of judgment, intentional or unintentional that could be perceived as dishonest behavior. For example, a simple failure to cite sources appropriately will likely result in, at minimum, a failing grade for that assignment and a referral to the SOC Dean's office. Citations and reference pages that are obviously copied and pasted (formatting doesn't match) and incomplete citations can also result in a failing grade for the assignment. Since this is a writing course, these policies are especially important.

School of Communication Statement on Academic Integrity

A basic mission of a university is to search for and to communicate truth as it is honestly perceived. A genuine learning community cannot exist unless this demanding standard is a fundamental tenet of the intellectual life of the community. Students of Loyola University Chicago are expected to know, to respect, and to practice this standard of personal honesty.

Academic dishonesty can take several forms, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, copying another student's work, and submitting false documents. Academic cheating is a serious act that violates academic integrity. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, such acts as: Obtaining,

distributing, or communicating examination materials prior to the scheduled examination without the consent of the teacher; Providing information to another student during an examination; Obtaining information from another student or any other person during an examination; Using any material or equipment during an examination without consent of the instructor, or in a manner which is not authorized by the instructor; Attempting to change answers after the examination has been submitted; Unauthorized collaboration, or the use in whole or part of another student's work, on homework, lab reports, programming assignments, and any other course work which is completed outside of the classroom; Falsifying medical or other documents to petition for excused absences or extensions of deadlines; or Any other action that, by omission or commission, compromises the integrity of the academic evaluation process.

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the standards of academic honesty. Plagiarism is the appropriation of ideas, language, work, or intellectual property of another, either by intent or by negligence, without sufficient public acknowledgement and appropriate citation that the material is not one's own. It is true that every thought probably has been influenced to some degree by the thoughts and actions of others. Such influences can be thought of as affecting the ways we see things and express all thoughts. Plagiarism, however, involves the taking and use of specific words and ideas of others without proper acknowledgement of the sources, and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Submitting as one's own material copied from a published source, such as Internet, print, CD-ROM, audio, video, etc.;

Submitting as one's own another person's unpublished work or examination material;

Allowing another or paying another to write or research a paper for one's own benefit; or

Purchasing, acquiring, and using for course credit a pre-written paper.

The above list is in no way intended to be exhaustive. Students should be guided by the principle that it is of utmost importance to give proper recognition to all sources. To do so is both an act of personal, professional courtesy and of intellectual honesty. Any failure to do so, whether by intent or by neglect, whether by omission or commission, is an act of plagiarism. A more detailed description of this issue can be found at <http://luc.edu/english/writing.shtml#source>.

In addition, a student may not submit the same paper or other work for credit in two or more classes. A student who submits the same work for credit in two or more classes will be judged guilty of academic dishonesty, and will be subject to sanctions described below. This applies even if the student is enrolled in the classes during different semesters. If a student plans to submit work with similar or overlapping content for credit in two or more classes, the student should consult with all instructors prior to submission of the work to make certain that such submission will not violate this standard.

Plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will result minimally in the instructor's assigning the grade of "F" for the assignment or examination. The instructor may impose a more severe sanction, including a grade of "F" in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty must be reported by the instructor to the appropriate area head and to the office of the Dean of the School of Communication.

The office of the Dean of the School of Communication may constitute a hearing board to consider the imposition of sanctions in addition to those imposed by the instructor, including a recommendation of expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. In the case of multiple instances of academic dishonesty, the Dean's office may convene a separate hearing board to review these instances. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the hearing board to the Dean of SOC. If the student is not a member of the SOC, the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled shall be part of the process. Students have the right to appeal the decision of any hearing board and the

deans of the two schools will review the appeal together. Their decision is final in all cases except expulsion. The sanction of expulsion for academic dishonesty may be imposed only by the Provost upon recommendation of the dean or deans. Students have a right to appeal any finding of academic dishonesty against them. The procedure for such an appeal can be found at:
http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicgrievance.shtml

The School of Communication maintains a permanent record of all instances of academic dishonesty. The information in that record is confidential. However, students may be asked to sign a waiver which releases that student's record of dishonesty as a part of the student's application to a graduate or professional school, to a potential employer, to a bar association, or to similar organizations.

The School of Communication policy is consistent with the Academic Integrity Policy of the College of Arts & Sciences.