MCOM 2351: Intro to Social Media  
Fall 2021

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Office Hours: Mon & Wed 12 - 2 PM  
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            & By appointment

Class Location: ONLINE
Class Times: ONLINE

Course Description
This course will provide an overview of social media and information networks for students. It will explain the rise of social media, impact on society and media strategies for engagement.

MCOM 2351 “Introduction to Social Media” (3 credits; fully online) spans 15 weeks. The course contains daily readings, two content exams, daily discussion posts, a reaction paper, and students must complete two online social media certifications. These activities average at a minimum of 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrate strong creativity, ability and writing in creating social media. Analyze the elements that make social media unique.
2. Research social media using libraries, archives, documents, databases and electronic sources.
3. Assess social media campaign effectiveness using at least two media formats in both written and visual form.
4. Demonstrate the ability to work within professional standards and deadlines

Required Text
There is no required textbook for this course. You will, however, be required to read articles, website content, videos and chapters on D2L during the course of the semester.

Assignments
Discussion Posts 20%
Quizzes (10) 30%
Midterm 15%
Reaction paper 10%
Final paper 15%
Final video presentation 10%
SFA policies

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

Students Mental Health and Wellness
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due
credit. Using other’s speeches or preexisting PowerPoint presentations is considered academic dishonesty and will be treated accordingly.

Basically- don’t cheat, I’ll catch you, and then I’ll have to report you- and that’s not fun for anyone.

More Policies

Final Grade Rounding Policy
I will round final grades with a .5 or higher. I will not raise final grades with a .4 or lower for any reason. I will also not round “9” grades. Therefore if you make an 89 in the class, do not email me asking if I will bump in to a 90. Unless you make an 89.5 or higher, I will not round.

Late Work & Late Tests
Late work will not be accepted for any reason. If a group turns in an assignment or project late, all group members will receive a 0. No exceptions.
If you miss a test, you will not be allowed to make it up for any reason.

BRIGHTSPACE/Brightspace
All course material will be posted on D2L. Check it, use it. In order to be successful in this course I recommend checking and participating in D2L daily.

Seeking Help
If you’re not doing well in class it is in your best interest (and your responsibility) to meet with me as soon as possible!!!!!! I can only help you before you hand in assignments. I cannot help you once you have handed in an assignment.

Written work
I expect all written work to follow APA guidelines - no exceptions. You will need to use APA guidelines for papers in your upper level comm classes, so this is a good opportunity to learn these guidelines. If you have questions about APA see the Purdue Online Writing Lab website (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/). Papers should also be well written and proofread for typos and style. I know you won’t catch everything (I know I don’t), but put forth a solid effort. If a paper is excessively bad, I reserve the right to return the paper to you ungraded. I will accept a revision, but the assignment will be considered late and you will lose 15 percent for each day it takes you to revise the paper.

Email and computer work
We will use electronic mail for class updates. Please read your mail regularly so you can keep up-to-date on upcoming assignments. In some cases, you may find out about changes to the class schedule via email. Let me know if you have any questions about potential changes or email.
Discussing class content
When discussing class content it is imperative that your ideas are grounded in credible information. Your job is to approach these topics as if you were a social scientist, which means the information needs to be verified before being released to the public.

Notification of objectionable material
It is possible that we will discuss content that you may find objectionable. This could range from information with which you disagree, criticism of certain political figures, or specific content (e.g., violence or sex). Any criticism is non-partisan (both parties do dumb things).

Tentative nature of this syllabus
This document represents a draft of the syllabus. Events that transpire over the semester may, and in rare circumstances, require me to modify the syllabus. I will announce the modification in class through BRIGHTSPACE. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to keep up with any such modifications and be aware of current policies, deadlines, etc.