Branding and Social Media Marketing
University of Florida

Fall 2017

COURSE INFORMATION
MMC 6728
Credits 03
Meeting Time: Distance Asynchronous via Canvas Shell
Office Hours By Appointment

INSTRUCTOR
Robert Hughes MA
rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu
970-368-2021
@rjhughes_UF

Please see my Bio—and a place for yours—under the Discussions tab in Canvas.

Note—please use my rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu email address for all communication. Email is the quickest way to get a message to me as it hits my phone, which I always have with me!

Please DO NOT use the email option/tab in the Canvas shell. This does not hit my iPhone on a timely basis and I cannot reply using my iPhone. Please only use my rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu email address to reach me.

IMPORTANT! Follow this syllabus ONLY for your class information. Print it out and check things off as completed. THERE MAY BE INFORMATION INCLUDED HERE THAT IS NOT FULLY EXPLAINED/INCLUDED ON CANVAS PAGES!!

Announcements tab in Canvas shell
Be sure to check the Announcements tab in the Canvas shell regularly for information on class assignments, changes and other class information. In addition, important information (but not all Announcements) will be sent via email when it is posted in this tab.

COURSE WEBSITES
Canvas Classroom: https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/341545

Contact UF Helpdesk http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/ (352) 392-HELP (4357) if you have any trouble with accessing your course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
By the end of this course you will understand the basics of developing an Integrated Marketing Communication (IMC) plan, the role the social media marketing plan plays in the IMC, learn to develop a Social Media Marketing Plan with a focus on branding, and the impact of social media on a brand. With this understanding as a foundation, you will also learn how to:
- Understand the landscape of social media in which marketers operate
- Be able to use the most influential tools in social media marketing and branding
- Develop brand strategies for social media marketing and communicate those strategies
- Audit the competitive scope of social media activities for a brand
- Assess the effectiveness of social media marketing strategies.

COURSE DESIGN/EXPECTATIONS
Lectures: Note that there are no live lectures for this course. You will view recorded materials that help you to understand key concepts and assignments. These are reinforced in an online homework system and in written submissions.

However, I reserve the right to provide you either recorded class updates or live update sessions that will be scheduled as needed during the Fall semester. These will be about ½ hour in length and will be recorded for later viewing if you cannot attend the session.

I expect you to complete work on time and participate in class discussions in a professional manner while respecting everyone involved in our class. These discussions are not limited to the Canvas shell, but all platforms that involve coursework.

Assignments Summary
You will have regular assignments as a part of your final grade.

Each week you will read the assigned materials, view online lectures and answering a question or two that are posed in the recorded lecture under the Discussions tab in Canvas, and discuss a critical issue that is posted under each weekly section of the syllabus. You will post your initial reply in the Discussions tab AND reply to at least one classmates post.
Additionally, you will enroll in HootSuite Academy to gain knowledge and experience using various social media channels. You will receive a Hootsuite Academy Certification upon successful completion of this area of our course.

You will prepare a Social Media Marketing and Branding Plan for a *publicly traded company/brand you select* as a semester long final project. Please post your chosen company for approval from Prof. Hughes by Saturday of Week 6 at 11pm EST and submit your plan to him by Saturday of Week 12 at 11pm EST as a Word document attachment through the Canvas shell under the “Assignments” tab. If you would prefer to submit this plan as a website (using Wordpress or similar platform, instead of as a Word document) that is fine as well.

**Connect and Canvas Homework (5 points each. 11 total)**
Each week (except week 12) you will complete a homework assignment either in Connect or in Canvas. See Weekly Course Work and Schedule in this syllabus for more details.

For weeks that you are completing Connect homework, go to: [http://connect.mheducation.com/class/b-hughes-fall-2017](http://connect.mheducation.com/class/b-hughes-fall-2017) and log in with your username and password. Your scores will be automatically calculated. You do NOT need to submit anything in Canvas.

For weeks you are completing Canvas homework, see the Assignments tab in Canvas. Instructions will be provided in the assignment details. Please submit your assignment as a Word document using the attachments tab. Submit your work in Canvas.

**Lecture Replies (5 points each. 10 total)**
There will be weekly lectures posted to Canvas. These weekly lectures will cover class material for that week. These lectures will vary in length but will include questions posed to the class about the week's subject. It is your responsibility to watch each lecture and provide a written reaction. Post your lecture replies in the Discussions tab in Canvas. If you see something in a classmate's post you wish to reply to, please do. This keeps the discussion going!

These in-lecture questions will be clearly noted during the lecture as will the minimum length of the answer. Not all lectures have a question. Length will vary!

Since this is an asynchronous class it is possible to watch these lectures at any time, but you will find it easier to watch in conjunction with the weekly readings as they will build on each other throughout the semester. These lecture reply posts are due by 11pm EST Thursday of the assigned week.

**NOTE; There is no required lecture reply FOR WEEKS 11 AND 12. YOU MAY SAFELY IGNORE THOSE QUESTIONS!!**
You will see additional individual assignments and expectations in the sections that follow.

**REQUIREMENTS**
You will need an Internet connection to access your text, view the lectures, and complete assignments

Ownership Education
As graduate students, you are not passive participants in this course. All students in this Program have a background in marketing, advertising, public relations, journalism, or similar fields. This class allows you to not only take ownership of your educational experience but to also provide your expertise and knowledge in helping your fellow classmates. The Canvas shell will have an open Q&A thread where you should pose questions to your classmates when you have a question as it relates to an assignment or an issue that has come up at work. Your classmates along with your instructor will be able to respond to these questions and provide feedback and help. This also allows everyone to gain the same knowledge in one location rather than the instructor responding back to just one student which limits the rest of the class from gaining this knowledge.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**
- Essentials of Marketing 15th edition, by Perrault and Cannon. Be sure to purchase the Connect version to get access to the homework system. The CONNECT System and text is available at:


  CONNECT will give you both the homework system and the e-book.

- Social Media Marketing 2e by Tuten and Solomon. The text is available at:

  [Social Media Marketing 2nd E](#)

  **PLEASE BE SURE TO ORDER/PURCHASE THE CORRECT EDITION OF EACH OF THE TWO TEXTBOOKS. FOR THE ESSENTIALS OF MARKETING, IT IS THE 15TH EDITION. FOR THE SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING TEXT, IT IS THE 2nd EDITION.**

**COURSE POLICIES**
Attendance Policy
This is an online asynchronously delivered course, attendance in the form of calling roll will not occur;
Late Work and Make-up Policy:
You are expected to prepare and submit your assignments on a timely basis. Due dates are clearly laid out in this syllabus and in the attendant class calendar.

Deadlines are critical to this class. All work is due on or before the due date. Extensions for deadlines will only be for preapproved emergencies. Minor inconveniences such as family vacation or minor illness are not valid reasons for extensions. With this in mind there will be penalties for late work:

- Less than an hour late 05 points off
- More than an hour late but less than 24 hours late 10 points off
- More than 24 hours late but less than 48 hours late 15 points off
- More than 48 hours late 25 points off
- 49 hours and greater late Not accepted at all

Issues with uploading work for a grade is not an excuse. If you have technical difficulties with Canvas, there are other means to submit completed work. You may email .zip files or even links to Dropbox folders to Instructor via UF email. Another suggestion to compensate for technical difficulties by not waiting until the last minute to submit work.

Technical issue policy: Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up. Contact UF helpdesk (352) 392-HELP.

Emergency and extenuating circumstances policy: Students who face emergencies, such as a major personal medical issue, a death in the family, serious illness of a family member, or other situations beyond their control should notify their instructors immediately.

Students are also advised to contact the Dean of Students Office if they would like more information on the medical withdrawal or drop process: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/care/medical-withdrawal-process/.

Students MUST inform their academic advisor before dropping a course, whether for medical or non-medical reasons. Your advisor will assist with notifying professors and go over options for how to proceed with their classes. Your academic advisor is Tiffany Robbert, and she may be reached at trobbert@jou.ufl.edu.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalogue at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx
Coursework Submissions
In general, as noted throughout this syllabus, most coursework should be submitted through the Assignments tab in the Canvas classroom.

General Deadlines
This class, like others, involves many deadlines. Here is a summary reminder.
- Weekly lectures on Monday
- Weekly homework on Tuesday
- Lecture Reply on Thursday
- Initial Discussion post on Thursday
- Discussion post classmate reply on Saturday
- Social Media Plan brand Saturday Week 6
- Hootsuite Academy by Saturday Week 11
- Final Social Media Plan Saturday Week 12

Grading
Grading parameters for the class projects are provided in the form of rubrics. Your course grade will be evaluated according to this distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks 1 – 12</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Replies (5pts x10)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion assignments (10pts x11)</td>
<td>110 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connect/ Canvas homework (5pts x12)</td>
<td>60 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HootSuite U completion</td>
<td>40 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Brand Plan</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>360 points 100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

And grades will be determined as follows
- A 333-360 points  93-100%
- A- 323-332 points  90-92%
- B+ 315-322 points  87-89%
- B 297-314 points  83-86%
- B- 287-296 points  80-82%
- C+ 276-286 points  77-79%
- C 261-275 points  73-76%
- C- 251-260 points  70-72%
- D+ 240-250 points  67-69%
- D- 215-224 points  60-62%
- E 0-214 points  0-59%

Note-- When the grade falls at a .5, I will carry the grade to the next decimal point for rounding purposes.
Grading policy
General University policies regarding grades can be found at
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Course and Assignment Details

Rubric for grading the lecture reply posts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Complete response and posted before weekly deadline. Reaction meets word count minimum and provides student reaction to the lecture, not simply a summary of the presentation. All questions posed during the lecture are answered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Complete response and posted before weekly deadline. Reaction does not meet word count minimum and provides student reaction to the lecture, not simply a summary of the presentation. All questions posed during the lecture are answered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Complete response and posted before weekly deadline. Reaction does not meet word count minimum and does not provide student reaction to the lecture, but is simply a summary of the presentation. All questions posed during the lecture are answered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Complete response and posted before weekly deadline. Reaction does not meet word count minimum and does not provide student reaction to the lecture, but is simply a summary of the presentation. Questions posed during the lecture are not answered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>No reaction post made.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HootSuite Academy
As part of the class, you are enrolled in HootSuite Academy at no cost to you. You will complete weekly modules in HA, which will, upon your successful completion of the modules, result in a HootSuite Platform Certification. During the first week of class, you will receive an email at your UFLEDU email address with access information for registration and directions for setting up your HA account.

*You must use your UFL.edu email address for this assignment. If you already have a Hootsuite account, you cannot use it.*

Please send Prof. Hughes an email confirming you have set your HU account up. HootSuite A work can be completed at your discretion, but must be finished by the end of Week 11.

HootSuite A will provide a parallel learning experience to our class, giving you a view of Social Media Marketing and brand impact from a leading provider of social media services.

By the completion of HootSuite A course, you will be able to:

- Understand social media fundamentals
- Understand basic social media etiquette
- Create a social media strategy
- Publish social media updates and engage with a community
- Apply social media best practices to enhance their personal brand
- Drive traffic to their blog using social media
- Create a content marketing calendar
- Understand social media advertising
- Manage social media using the HootSuite dashboard
- Measure site traffic using Google Analytics
- Create and follow a social media policy

*IMPORTANT*—upon completion of the last module you will receive a HootSuite Academy Platform Certification. Please forward your emailed Certificate to Prof.
Hughes at rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu by 11pm EST Saturday of Week 11 to receive your credit for this area of our course.

**Discussions (10 points each. 11 total)**

Discussion is an integral part of our online course. You will be expected to read the assigned chapter(s) and accompanying readings as well as watching assigned videos (all shared in the syllabus under each week's section) and actively participate in weekly discussions through the Canvas e-learning site. (Under the “Discussions” tab.)

You will be expected to demonstrate that you are thinking about the topic at hand by asking questions, offering your own opinions and share justifications for those opinions, participating in class debate, posting comments and questions to the e-learning site and keeping your eyes and ears open for current events that may relate to class discussions. Please be respectful of the contributions of others and help create a class environment that is welcoming and inclusive.

For each week of the semester (except for Week 12) you will need to provide a thoughtful analysis of a topic or question listed later in the syllabus in the Weekly Assignments section. Each week you will also post responses to at least one of your classmate’s initial posts. These assignments are located in the Discussions tab inside the Canvas shell. Your initial post should average 250 words; the initial reply should average 200 words.

Your initial response posts are due on Thursday by 11pm EST, and your comments/discussion responses on Saturday by 11pm EST. You should complete the readings before you write your initial post. Late submissions will be penalized.

You will be expected to use references in your initial posts (and in your responses) and to create a meaningful discussion with your classmates. Please follow the same guidelines when writing discussion posts throughout the entire semester.

Please keep these guidelines in mind as you create these posts:

1) Your writing should be thoughtful, reflective, and focused. You should also attempt to be persuasive, by which I mean you should try to convince others, especially others who disagree with you, that you have a valid and credible perspective. You may find the following piece helpful as a guide: [http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/04/25/the-shadow-lobbyist/](http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/04/25/the-shadow-lobbyist/)

2) Your initial discussion posts should average 250 words. You are strongly encouraged to document any facts you bring to bear in making your arguments. In general, when you provide factual information, it should be referenced. Be sure to use only your own ideas and writing. If you are unsure about what plagiarism is, read this: [http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/images/plagiarism_26_guidelines.pdf](http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/images/plagiarism_26_guidelines.pdf)
Ignorance of plagiarism will not excuse a grade of zero on any assignment where it is found.

3) Your initial reply should average 200 words.

Personal attacks or disrespect towards others is inappropriate and will cost you points on the assignment. Your goal should be to help the author of the post you are commenting on see another perspective.

Here is an example of a response to the post in the link in point 1 that does a good job of accomplishing this:

The average American, thanks to a substantial educational and social deficit, simply doesn’t understand politics or public policy. The interesting question, then, is how does the political class govern in the name of The People when The People are missing in action? For many decades, the political class maintained the self-delusion of running a democracy by creating their own echo chamber--issues and ideas would echo among elites in D.C. or other capitals of the country until enough steam would build up behind a policy that it seemed like there was a consensus on the issue. As a member of the political elite, if you heard the same story from multiple quarters, you could perhaps convince yourself that what you were hearing reflected the true interests of the public, even if that public was rarely involved in such surges of elite opinion. It was perhaps inevitable that as the technology and capacity to micro-target small portions of the real public have advanced that political lobbyists would eventually realize that they could insert themselves into the political elite echo chamber by manufacturing a ground-swell of 'public opinion' by whipping up opinions on particular policies by enlisting some ideological or ignorant fraction of the public. The real question is whether the political class will eventually tire of the absurdity of this situation and actually enlist the public in meaningful deliberation of issues, though this would mean a loss of control.

Here is another:

Back on July 12, 2002, during a Bill Moyers "Now" interview (transcript here: http://www.pbs.org/now/transcript/transcript_lewis.html) with Chuck Lewis of the Center for Public Integrity, I heard that in 1968 there were a mere 62 registered lobbyists in D.C. - but that this figure had risen to 20,000 by the date of that program.

Three years later, there was a June 22, 2005 Washington Essay article, "The Road To Riches Is Called K Street" (still posted online and easily found with a search of that headline), which told how:

"The number of registered lobbyists in Washington has more than doubled since 2000 to more than 34,750," that hiring was booming, and that fees and retainers had
risen substantially.

Yet a Ross Douthat column from September 22, 2012, "Washington Versus America" - an intriguing commentary which noted that in 2011, seven of the ten most affluent counties in the U.S. were in the D.C. area, stated that:

"For Mitt Romney and the Republican Party, what’s happened in Washington these last 10 years should be a natural part of the case against Obamanomics" - seemingly implying that a surge in influence-buying in D.C. was the fault of the president, and not the Washington Essay-noted boom of the Bush years.

4) Rubric for your weekly discussion post and responses—
   Note: all late work is penalized.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thoughtfulness (25%)</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-9</td>
<td>Post represents outstanding thinking and logical reasoning. The presentation is opinionated but balanced and fair to opposing ideas.</td>
<td>Post represents good thinking and logical reasoning. The presentation is opinionated with mention of opposing sides.</td>
<td>Post shows some weakness in thinking and logical reasoning. It lacks an informed perspective and/or ignores opposing sides.</td>
<td>Missing significant sections or information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation (25%)</td>
<td>All facts in the posts are documented with links to relevant sources. Many sources were consulted and easy sources (like Wikipedia) are used sparingly.</td>
<td>All facts in the posts are documented with links to relevant sources. Adequate sources were consulted and easy sources (Wikipedia) are used sparingly.</td>
<td>Most facts in the post are documented but few sources are used.</td>
<td>Unclear where facts have come from or facts or few sources consulted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherent, clear, persuasive (25%)</td>
<td>Writing is clear, compelling, organized, powerful and grammatically correct.</td>
<td>Writing is straightforward, understandable and avoids most grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Writing has significant problems</td>
<td>Writing quality is poor, difficult to read.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses to</td>
<td>Responses are</td>
<td>Responses are</td>
<td>Response is</td>
<td>Response is</td>
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</table>
the essays of other (25%) engaging, challenge the peer post without demeaning it. Responses show key areas in which the original is flawed, limited or shortsighted.

respectful in challenging the peer’s post. Key areas of disagreement are identified.

opinionated but somewhat lacking in respect. Response fails to clarify the point of difference or the limits of the original post.

opinionated but ignores the strengths or weaknesses of the original post.

Social Media Brand Plan (100 points)
Your semester-long project is to develop a social marketing and branding plan for a brand offered by publicly traded firm. You should propose the company that you will study to Professor Hughes by Saturday at 11pm EST during Week 6 of the class. Please do so via email to rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu In proposing a brand, be sure to indicate your rationale for it’s choice. You should also be sure there is sufficient public information available on the company to develop the plan.

You have the semester to develop and write the plan. You may, if you choose, follow the SMP outline format on page 47 of the Tuten text.

The minimum word count for this plan is 2500 words.

RUBRIC FOR GRADING THE SOCIAL MEDIA BRAND MARKETING PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent (100-90)</th>
<th>Good (89-80)</th>
<th>Fair (79-70)</th>
<th>Poor (&lt;70)</th>
<th>No Credit (0)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completeness (25%)</td>
<td>Plan has material related to all parts of the template selected. Sections are complete.</td>
<td>Plan has material related to most parts of the template selected. Sections are mostly complete.</td>
<td>Plan has some sections that are missing material related to all parts of the template selected or some sections are incomplete.</td>
<td>Missing significant sections or information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality (25%)</td>
<td>Information is of outstanding quality (recent, useful, comprehensive)</td>
<td>Information is of good quality (current, useful, relevant)</td>
<td>Information is of adequate quality</td>
<td>Information is of poor quality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coherent, clear, persuasive (25%)</td>
<td>Writing is clear, compelling and with no spelling or grammar errors.</td>
<td>Writing is straightforward, understandable and avoids most grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Writing has significant problems.</td>
<td>Writing quality is poor, difficult to read.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis (25%)</td>
<td>SWOT analysis is exceptional, and clearly details the company or brand’s paramount issues</td>
<td>SWOT analysis is good, identified company or brand’s important issues.</td>
<td>SWOT analysis is fair, identifies straightforward issues.</td>
<td>SWOT analysis is poor, issues identified seem unrelated to the rest of the plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**University Policies**

**University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

Students with Disabilities who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented. DRC is located in room 001 in Reid Hall or you can contact them by phone at 352-392-8565.

University counseling services and mental health services:

**Netiquette: Communication Courtesy:**
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. [http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf)

Class Demeanor:
Mastery in this class requires preparation, passion, and professionalism. Students are expected, within the requirements allowed by university policy, to attend class, be on time, and meet all deadlines. Work assigned in advance of class should be completed as directed. Full participation in online and live discussions, group projects, and small group activities is expected.

My role as instructor is to identify critical issues related to the course, direct you to and teach relevant information, assign appropriate learning activities, create opportunities for assessing your performance, and communicate the outcomes of such assessments in a timely, informative, and professional way. Feedback is essential for you to have confidence that you have mastered the material and for me to determine that you are meeting all course requirements.

At all times it is expected that you will welcome and respond professionally to assessment feedback, that you will treat your fellow students and me with respect, and that you will contribute to the success of the class as best as you can.

Getting Help:
For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:
- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml)

** Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help) for:
Counseling and Wellness resources
[http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx)
352-392-1575
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support
Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit [http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints) to submit a complaint.

Course Evaluation:
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct:

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php.

The University of Florida Honor Code was voted on and passed by the Student Body in the Fall 1995 semester. The Honor Code reads as follows:

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. A student-run Honor Court and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

The Honor Code: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

For more information about academic honesty, contact Student Judicial Affairs, P202 Peabody Hall, 352-392-1261.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

All graduate students in the College of Journalism and Communications are expected to conduct themselves with the highest degree of integrity. It is the students’ responsibility to ensure that they know and understand the requirements of every assignment. At a minimum, this includes avoiding the following:
Plagiarism: Plagiarism occurs when an individual presents the ideas or expressions of another as his or her own. Students must always credit others’ ideas with accurate citations and must use quotation marks and citations when presenting the words of others. A thorough understanding of plagiarism is a precondition for admittance to graduate studies in the college.

Cheating: Cheating occurs when a student circumvents or ignores the rules that govern an academic assignment such as an exam or class paper. It can include using notes, in physical or electronic form, in an exam, submitting the work of another as one’s own, or reusing a paper a student has composed for one class in another class. If a student is not sure about the rules that govern an assignment, it is the student’s responsibility to ask for clarification from his instructor.

Misrepresenting Research Data: The integrity of data in mass communication research is a paramount issue for advancing knowledge and the credibility of our professions. For this reason any intentional misrepresentation of data, or misrepresentation of the conditions or circumstances of data collection, is considered a violation of academic integrity. Misrepresenting data is a clear violation of the rules and requirements of academic integrity and honesty.

Any violation of the above stated conditions is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program and will result in revocation of the degree if the degree previously has been awarded.

Students are expected to adhere to the University of Florida Code of Conduct [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code)

If you have additional questions, please refer to the Online Graduate Program Student Handbook you received when you were admitted into the Program.

Weekly Course Work and Schedule
Fall 2017 Semester

WEEK ONE—Aug 22-27
Course introduction and understanding how social media is transforming marketing.

Readings
Ch. 1 Essentials of Marketing
Ch. 1 Social Media Marketing

Discussion Topic
Read The Differences Between Traditional CRM and Social CRM located here: http://oursocialtimes.com/traditional-crm-vs-social-crm-infographic/

The article and infographic raises a number of differences between traditional marketing and Social Media marketing. Choose two of these differences and explain how these differences could impact a brand. Then, please comment on the responses of at least two classmates. In expressing your own opinion, do so critically (i.e., finding both commonalities and differences) but also respectfully and thoughtfully.

This week only schedule:

Read, watch lecture, complete Connect homework: Friday by 11 PM ET. (NOTE: in all following weeks, homework will be due each Tuesday by 11pm EST.)

Discussion assignment posted: Friday by 11PM ET. (NOTE: in all following weeks, initial Discussion post will be due each Tuesday by 11pm EST.)

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

Post response to lecture question: Friday by 11PM EST. (NOTE: in all following weeks, lecture reply will be due each Thursday by 11pm EST.)

Enroll in HootSuite Academy for Platform Certification and send confirmation of registration to Prof. Hughes at rjhughes@jou.ufl.edu by Sunday at 11pm EST.

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WEEK TWO: Aug 28-Sept 3
Developing the Strategic Marketing Plan

Focus on
Elements of the plan
Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC)
4 p’s of Marketing (the 5th P is coming in Week 4!)

Readings
Ch’s. 2 and 3 Essentials of Marketing
Ch. 2 Social Media Marketing

Discussion Topic
Read and watch the Chick-Fil-A “Eat Mor Chikin” case study on page 606 of the Essentials of Marketing text. THE VIDEO IS HERE: http://ezto.s3.mheducation.com/Media/Connect_Production/bne/OLC_Assets/Perreault_19e_0078028981/Video_Cases/ChickfilA.m4v
Then read this article: http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/26/us/gay-rights-uproar-over-chick-fil-a-widens.html?_r=0
Several more recent articles on this subject can be found at

Please briefly answer the case study questions 1 and 2 (you may use bullet points). For Q#3, please describe if the chain’s stance on closing on Sunday is a competitive advantage and how that can impact the brand positively or negatively. To conclude, as a marketer/communicator, explain the role social media played in this event and respond to how the company’s stance on gay rights impacts the brand.

Read, watch lecture, complete Connect homework: Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Hootsuite Academy is to be completed at your own pace, but must be completed by the end of Week 11.

Suggested video viewing:
You Tube video series on Preparing a SWOT analysis located here:
http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL47BE70B1D55EC509

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WEEK THREE: Sept 4-10
Social Media Essentials

Focus on
   History of Social Media
   Growth of Social Media
   Channels
Social Media's Impact on Strategic Marketing Plan

Readings
Ch.’s 4 – 5 - 6 Social Media Marketing

Discussion topic
Google and Facebook provide many free services in exchange for customers providing personal data. This has proven to be a controversial topic for both, Facebook in particular. Read these articles:
The Price of Free

The Convenience-Surveillance Tradeoff


Considering Facebook, explain how privacy issues that arise from that company’s use of consumer data impacts the brand. Find another example on the web of a company who has had privacy issues that could impact the brand (either positively or negatively) and explain what the impact was and why.

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

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WEEK FOUR: Sept 11-17
Developing the Social Media Marketing Plan

Focus on
The 4 Zones of Social Media
The 5th P “Participation”
The 4 Phases of Social Media

Readings
Ch.’s 7 - 8 Social Media Marketing

Read: Social Media Branding Strategies

Watch “Building a Brand Through Social Media” located here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oS8RTgFiGzo

Discussion topic
Read “Building Brands Without Mass Media” from the 1997(!) Harvard Business Review located here:

https://hbr.org/1997/01/building-brands-without-mass-media
Choose one of the brands profiled in this study. Using the web, how does that brand use social media today? What social media channels do they use? How would you, as a brand manager for that product, use social media in today's world to meet the marketing objectives for that brand? How would your plan differ from the plan described for the brand described in the article and what do you think the impact would be today?

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Suggested Reading:


https://www.skyword.com/contentstandard/marketing/10-brands-that-have-perfected-their-social-media-marketing-voice/

WEEK FIVE: Sept 18-24
What is a Brand?

Focus on
Why it a Brand important?
• Brand concepts
• Brand elements
• Brand awareness

Readings
Ch. 8 Essentials of Marketing

Discussion topic
Read this article on Brand Architecture located here:
http://www.brandingstrategyinsider.com/2014/01/brand-architecture-strategy-guide.html - _Uv0X7UJdVtk
The author explains how an organization could find that the number of brands and named products they are managing has grown out of control. How could social media aid in managing the various brands? In your discussion, please be specific as to which Social Media channels you would recommend for solving this problem.

Read, watch lecture, complete Connect homework: Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

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WEEK SIX: Sept 25-Oct 1
The role of Branding in Social Media

Focus on
The new rules of branding in the Age of Social Media
Impact on Brand communications

Readings
Social Media Marketing Ch. 5
Essentials of Marketing Ch. 16

The Problems with Social Media Marketing
Protect Your Brand on Social Media

How Brands are Tackling Social Issues with Social Media (video)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeRSZj-WJRk

Discussion topic
Read this article on Coca Cola and Content Marketing located here:
http://bookmarkcontent.com/blog/coca-cola-quit-content-marketing-journey/

The author of the article states “... this statement that goes to the heart of my reasoning that these efforts (i.e. social media) produce little in the way of a justifiable return.”
Refute the author’s statement.
Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Brand selected for Social Media Plan to be posted in Canvas by Saturday at 11pm EST.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

WEEK SEVEN Oct 2-8
The Audience

Focus on
The power of data
Understanding market segmentation

Readings
Ch. 3: Social Media Marketing
Ch’s 4 and 5: Essentials of Marketing

Build Your Brand Voice on Social Media
Research and Locate Your Audience on Social Media
How Social Media is Changing the World

User demographics for popular Social Media channels

Discussion Topic
Read “Social Media and Society: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly” located at:

Of the three points raised by the author, which, as a marketer/communicator, do you tend to agree with? Explain why. Is social media good, bad, or ugly in today's society? Explain your reasoning for your answer. What impact would that have on a brand? For this examination, use McDonald’s as your brand under consideration.
Read, watch lecture, complete Connect homework: Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

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WEEK EIGHT — Oct 9-15
  Aligning Social Media with Marketing/Organization Goals

  Focus on
  Myths of Social Media Marketing and Branding

Readings

Ch. 9 Social Media Marketing
http://www.inc.com/michael-mothner/6-myths-about-social-media-marketing.html
http://www.inc.com/jayson-demers/7-social-media-myths-that-cripple-marketing-campaigns.html

Discussion topic
Bain and Company has written a white paper on putting Social Media to work located here:

In this Bain study, the authors share five key principles in developing a successful social media business approach. Chose two of those principles and share an example of how Starbucks Coffee has made use of them in their branding efforts. In your discussion, please address who Starbucks is targeting with the effort, the channels (sites like Facebook or Twitter), and why you think that channel was chosen.

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.
Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

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WEEK NINE—Oct 16-22
Social Media and Brand YOU

Focus on
The Importance of Brand You in a Digital World

Readings
The Tom Peters article that started Brand You in 1997 located here:
http://www.fastcompany.com/28905/brand-called-you

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeHtvuTcy70  Ted Talk; Building a Personal Brand

Using Social Media to Build Your Personal Brand

The Complete Guide to Building Your Personal Brand

http://www.wsj.com/articles/ignoring-linkedin-is-hurting-your-career-1460482905  Ignoring Linkedin is Hurting Your Career

Optional (But Helpful for your career!)
Appendix C Essentials of Marketing

Discussion topic
Read Forbes article on Brand You located here:

Discuss whether or not you agree with the premise of the article: “Personal Branding is a Leadership Requirement, not self promotion.” Explain why you feel as you do. What channels should one use in building a strong online Brand You? What type of information should be shared on those channels to build an online Brand You?

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): by Tuesday 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET
WEEK TEN: Oct 23-29
Measuring the Impact of Social Media

Focus on
ROI and other Social Media Outcomes

Reading
Ch. 10 Social Media Marketing

Articles:
Please see the Canvas Week 10 page for two Oracle PDF’s on Social Media ROI
Measure Social Media ROI
Delightfully Short Guide to Social Media ROI


Discussion topic
You are the Brand Manager for Coke Zero. Your Vice President does not believe that you can provide an ROI for the social media spending level you are budgeting for Coke Zero. She would prefer you reallocate funds putting more in TV advertising. Please prepare a memo to her refuting her belief. Please include references cited as an appendix for your memo.

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework on (under the Assignments tab):
Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Post response to lecture question: Thursday by 11PM EST.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET

WEEK ELEVEN—Oct 30-Nov5
Social Media, Branding and the Consumer

Focus on
The consumer is in control
Customer service with Social Media and the impact on the Brand
Readings

Social Media Marketing: Chapter 9

5 Ways Social Media is Impacting Customer Service

What customers expect from brands on social media

Why Do We Follow Brands on Social Media?

Social Media Customer Service Stats

Discussion topic
On page 287 of the Social Media Marketing text find Exercise Number 2 and complete the instructions shown. Please include the URL’s for the five YouTube videos you used in your Content Analysis.

To aid you, read these articles:

http://www.socialmediaexaminer.com/social-media-audit/

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUKPf00Z1Ms

Read, watch lecture, complete Canvas homework (under the Assignments tab): Tuesday by 11 PM ET.

Discussion assignment posted: Thursday by 11PM ET.

Respond to at least one classmate: Saturday by 11PM ET.

Hootsuite Academy must be completed by the end of this week. Please email your certificate to Bob by Sunday night at 11pm EST.

WEEK TWELVE—Nov 6-12
The Future of Branding and Social Media

Focus on
What social media means to branding in the future.

Reading
http://www.business2community.com/social-media/10-amazing-facts-future-social-media-01625197 - 1vpU84twSt91vseA.97

There is no homework or discussion topic this week.

Please post your Social Media Marketing Plan to the Assignments tab as an attachment by Saturday at 11pm EST this week. If you have chosen to create your plan as a website (using Wordpress or another platform), please submit the url needed to access the site.