

# Course Syllabus

## MMC3420: Consumer and Audience Analytics

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Contact me by email anytime. I will try to respond as soon as possible; and in all cases, no longer than 24 hours. (please don't use Canvas Conversations)

### Course Objectives and Goals

The objectives of this course are to introduce you to a wide variety of media and consumer data, the processes it requires to transform such data to knowledge, and the means of developing consumer/audience strategic decisions.

As a professional in the field of communications, media, and marketing, you will often be required to formulate strategies that create greater value for the organization, but how does one go from data to effective solutions for problems? The analytical skills and methods this course introduces will provide you with a strong baseline for the development of these strategies.

Real life examples might include, using social media monitoring tools to help brands identify opinion leaders and online influencers to extend reach; capitalize on product usage data to assist advertisers in segmenting consumers by purchasing potential; analyze audience and Twitter data to help media outlets make content and engagement decisions; finally, how might you conduct market, competitor and consumer intelligence research to formulate strategic decisions.

Upon successful completion of the course, you should possess a basic understanding of the consumer and audience analytics that are valuable in most contemporary workplace. The knowledge is helpful in careers related to analytics/research, social media, media business, advertising/marketing, and public relations.

More specifically, the course should enable you to:

- 1. Understand the characteristics, value, and use of Big Data and analytics*
- 2. Understand the basic consumer/audience/data concepts that have analytics implications*
- 3. Understand the characteristics, value, and use of major digital marketing/communications and media analytics*
- 4. Understand the major analytics tools and process for developing competitive intelligence*
- 5. Understand the basic modeling approaches/metrics for consumer/audience segmentation, targeting, positioning, and valuation*
- 6. Understand how to best communicate the analytics results to others*

## Course Structure

Within Canvas, this course will provide you with a mixture of materials and learning methods, including recorded lectures, required readings, online videos, audio podcasts, online simulations, database searches, and self-paced analytics overviews and exercises from a select number of analytics vendors.

Recorded lectures are devoted to introducing basic principles and utilities of major analytics, the required and supplemental materials are assigned to highlight RL applicability. In addition to providing you with a baseline of analytical skill and tool awareness of today's Big Data environment, the course will work to familiarize you with the process of translating data into useful insights for better decision-making in marketing communications. Google Analytics and Hootsuite online certification modules will be used to complement coursework and provide you with the connective tissue between data and insight. This course will also touch on some basic consumer segmentation, targeting, and positioning modeling approaches. However, the focus of the modeling/metrics segment will not be on the theories or technical applications of the modeling process, but general introduction of the tools and their utilities.

All assignments are due at the specified dates. Any assignment turned in late will be assessed penalty points per calendar day. Additionally, with respect to

assignments, it is assumed that students will present them professionally. This means that students will use proper grammar, word usage, spelling, and content organization. Academic honesty is expected on all assignments and exams.

## Course Content

The course will be divided into the following six modules:

### Module 1: The Building Blocks of Consumer and Audience Analytics

This module overviews the fundamental characteristics, structure, potential value, and uses of Big Data. In addition it covers the basic relationship between Big Data and consumer/audience and business analytics. Research articles and case studies will provide you with the fundamental concepts in audience valuation, consumer behavior and decision making, the impact of digital lifestyles on these decisions/behavior, and the drivers, types, and utilities of analytics, especially for those used to make consumer segmentation, targeting, and positioning (STP) decisions.

### Module 2: Digital Marketing and Communications Analytics

This module introduces the major digital marketing and communications analytics. It reviews the characteristics, value, and use of popular web, social media, search, and mobile app analytics and discusses the functions of key digital metrics in the context of consumer/audience decisions and digital listening/influence analysis. The module also touches on the relationship between digital analytics and inbound marketing strategies.

### Module 3: Media Audience and Consumer Analytics

This module introduces the terminology, data collection, and usage of major audience/consumer information and measurement services. It also reviews relevant audience psychographic analytics and how media audience behavior and measurement have been impacted by the arrival of digital media.

### Module 4: Competitive Intelligence Analytics

This module reviews the nature and utilities of competitive intelligence programs. It introduces the data sources for assessing consumer preferences, firm

performance, and market condition and competition. It also discusses the process of utilizing market-based analytics to develop competitive intelligence, the role and systems of business intelligence, and major approaches in custom and secondary market research.

### Module 5: Modeling, Metrics, and Analytics

This module reviews the utilities and main approaches for constructing models and metrics to analyze enterprise data, especially for purposes of segmentation, targeting, positioning, and evaluating consumer value.

### Module 6: From Data to Insights - Communicating the Analytic Results

This module introduces the process of organizing, writing, framing, and refining analytics reports, delivering effective presentations, and aligning analytic results with stakeholder needs and preferences. It also introduces the tools and concepts of data visualization.

## Learning Materials

There are two kinds of materials associated with this course. Some materials are available to you directly for download from external websites or from this course site. The other set of readings/activities is available for purchase from [Harvard Business Publishing](#)

Please purchase all of the items in the Harvard Business course pack. You will use the materials in various modules through out the semester.

## Grade Components

- Forum discussions 10%
- Online analytics training/certification (module 2) 15%
- Media audience assignment (module 3) 10%
- Competitive intelligence group assignment (module 4) 15%
- Market segmentation simulation assignment (module 5) 10%
- Strategic decisions using data analytics assignment (module 6) 10%
- Quizzes (module 1-5) 30%

## Final Letter Grades and %

A	93-100%
A-	90-92.99%
B+	87-89.99%
B	83-86.99%
B-	80-82.99%
C+	77-79.99%
C	73-76.99%
C-	70-72.99%
D+	67-69.99%
D	63-66.99%
D-	60-62.99%
F	under 60%

## UF Policies

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. 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." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to

report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** All undergraduate 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](#)

**CLASS DEMEANOR OR NETIQUETTE:** All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. These rules of courtesy for online interactions are often called “[Netiquette](#).”

**GETTING HELP:** For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

*Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk 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> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- 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> to submit a complaint.