



**MASTER OF ARTS  
IN MASS COMMUNICATION**  
College of Journalism and Communications

UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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## PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION

**ACADEMIC TERM: SPRING 2021    3 CREDIT HOURS**

### **Instructor**

Name: Judith Donohue

Email Address: [Donohuej@ufl.edu](mailto:Donohuej@ufl.edu) or via Canvas mail

Office Phone Number and Times: 352-603-3941. Between 8 a.m. and **8 p.m.**

Virtual Office Hours: By arrangement. Please call or email.

**Teaching Assistants- N/A**

## Course Description & Prerequisites

This course examines the fundamental roles that communication plays in corporate reputation. Students will learn how corporate reputation affects conceptualization, monitoring, measurement, management, business ethics and valuation. The course prepares students for work in strategic planning, public relations, market research, competitive intelligence, and general management. Through interactive projects, discussions, and assignments, the students explore the various roles communication plays in reputation building, measurement, maintenance, change repair, defense, and evaluation.

### **Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites**

None.

## Course Delivery Mode & Time Commitment

This is a fully online course. You must log into Canvas with your Gatorlink username and password to access the materials and assignments. The course is organized into modules with due dates. Unless otherwise specified, each module begins on Monday at 12:00 AM, ET, and ends on Sunday at 11:59 PM, ET. The course begins with the Course Orientation (START HERE) Module, which will familiarize you with the course.

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

## Time Commitment

Expect to spend between 10 to 20 hours per week, per course, watching or attending lectures, reading, working on assignments and projects, and engaging in discussions.

## Course-Level Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the role of corporate reputation management. (CO: 1)
2. Create a reputation management plan. (CO:2)
3. Investigate corporate reputations. (CO: 3)
4. Explain how to apply ethical principles to reputation management. (CO: 4)
5. Develop a media relations strategy for reputation management. (CO: 5)
6. Evaluate the global impact of communications on reputation. (CO: 6)
7. Investigate careers in public relations and reputation management. (CO:7)

(CO = Course-Level Objective)

## Textbooks & Materials

### Required Course Textbooks

Doorley, J. & Garcia, H. (2020). *Reputation management: The key to successful public relations and corporate communication*, (4th ed). Routledge.

- SBN: 978-0-8153-7695-8 (hard copy)
- ISBN: 978-0-8153-7697-2 (paperback)
- ISBN: 978-1-351-23502-0 (ebook)

### Recommended

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association: The official guide to APA style*. (7th ed.).

- ISBN-13: 978-1433832161
- ISBN-10: 143383216X

Changes in the APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

**Publisher Materials**

N/A

**Course Reserves**

N/A

## Minimum Technology Requirements & Computer Skills

**Basic Computer Specifications for Canvas**

- [Specifications](#)
- Reliable Web Browser: Login to Canvas and make sure your Internet browser is compatible.

**Peripherals**

- A backup option should be available to minimize any loss of work such as an external hard drive, a USB drive, cloud storage, etc.

**Hardware**

- Dependable computer.
- Computer speakers.
- Headset with microphone.
- Webcam.

**Software**

- [Microsoft Office 365](#).
- [UF Apps](#) – access UF software applications from any device from any location, at any time.
- Canvas Mobile App: Download instructions for [iOS device](#) or [Android device](#).
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- <https://ufl.zoom.us/>

**Internet Connection**

- Recommended: Broadband Internet connection with a speed of 4 Mbps or higher.
- To function properly, Canvas requires a high-speed Internet connection (cable modem, DSL, satellite broadband, T1, etc.). The minimum Internet connection speed to access Canvas is a consistent 1.5 Mbps (megabits per second) or higher.

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

- [Check your Internet speed here.](#)
- Subscriptions, Plug-Ins, and Other Tools ○ [Adobe Flash Player](#)

## MINIMUM COMPUTER AND DIGITAL INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

The general and course-specific computer and digital information literacy skills you must have to succeed in the course include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Accessing the Internet.
- Using Canvas.
- Using email with attachments.
- Creating and submitting files in processing program such as Microsoft Office Tools.
- Copying and pasting functions.
- Downloading and installing software.
- Using presentation, graphics, and other programs.
- Posting and commenting in an online discussion.
- Searching the University of Florida library and websites.

## Technical Support

In the event that you have technical difficulties with your course, please contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) either by filling out an [online request form](#) or calling 352-392-4357 - select option 1. The Help Desk is located on the ground floor of the Hub on the UF campus.

If your technical difficulties caused you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to the Help Desk and then email your instructor. Include the ticket number that you are given from the Help Desk in an email to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test.

### IT Support

For all Technical assistance questions please contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

Phone: 352-392-HELP (4357)

Email: [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)

### Please Note

Your instructor is not able to handle technological issues or answer questions related to computer issues. If a problem of this nature arises that causes you to miss an assignment, you must provide your Help Desk ticket number to the instructor in order to receive an extension.

PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Judith Donohue, Spring 2021

# Course Grading Policies

## Grading Criterion, Late Assignment Policy, and Expectations for Assignments

### GRADING CRITERION

#### Discussion Boards (40%)

Your initial post must be a substantive and scholarly submission. You must reply to at least two other students' posts and your instructor with a substantive and scholarly response. A substantive response adds scholarly value to the discussion by bringing new ideas, research, evidence, etc. to the conversation. Responses such as "I agree," "Ditto," etc., are not acceptable replies and the rules of Netiquette must be followed. Replies are not texts with friends and proper rules of writing must be applied including citations and references (do not plagiarize).

All initial posts for each module discussion board must be submitted by Thursdays at 11:59 PM, ET, so your peers have time to respond to your initial post. Responses to peers are due by Sundays at 11:59 PM, ET. To view the grading criteria rubric for the discussions in the courseroom, click the Settings icon (the 3 dots on the top-right corner) and select the *Show Rubric* button.

#### Group Project (10 %)

You will be required to participate in and complete a group project that will involve collaborating with your peers to produce a final product. This assignment offers you the opportunity to practice virtual collaboration skills that are applicable to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century global workforce. Group work can be challenging; however, it is a reality in nearly every employment setting. Learning to be a collaborative and supportive team member that can resolve conflicts in an appropriate manner is an important part of the skills you will develop and/or enhance through your education at CJC Online Graduate programs.

#### Writing Assignments (40%- 8 papers@5%)

1. You will write a paper about identifying and managing stakeholders to protect and enhance a reputation.
2. You will analyze a recent ethical dilemma and its effect on reputation.
3. You will write a paper addressing the reputational challenges of dealing with "fake news."
4. You will write a report to the CEO analyzing an internal communication problem that is damaging the company's reputation.
5. You will write a paper analyzing a corporation's community relations strategy.
6. You will write a paper distinguishing between integrated marketing and integrated communication, discussing how reputation management relates to each one.
7. You will write a paper comparing, contrasting and analyzing radically different crisis responses of two global corporations.
8. You will write a paper discussing the application of the learnings from this reputation management course to a communication career.

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

**Final Reflection: (10%)** This paper will discuss what you have learned in the course and will include three specific learnings and three strategies you would suggest for an organization in the immediate aftermath of a reputation crisis. (750-1000 words.)

In order to meet the academic rigor and standards of a graduate program, all students are required to use the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) 7th Edition style in their courses. The APA 7th Edition Manual has a plethora of guidelines that includes scholarly writing, publishing principles, elements and format for your papers, writing style and grammar, bias-free language guidelines, mechanics of style, intext citing and references, etc. For additional information on notable changes, see changes between APA 6th Edition and APA 7th Edition.

Your grade will be calculated based on the following:

Assignments/Assessments	Points	Weight (%)
<b>Course Orientation:</b> These assignments are required; however, they not count towards the final grade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Introduction</li> <li>• Course Evaluation</li> </ul>	0	0%
<b>8 Discussions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worth up to 100 points each. (80 for initial post; 10 points each for 2 required responses.)</li> </ul>	800	40%
<b>8 Written Assignments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worth up to 100 points each.</li> </ul>	800	40%
<b>1 Group Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worth up to 200 points.</li> </ul>	200	10%
<b>1 Final Reflection Paper</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worth up to 100 points.</li> </ul>	200	10%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>100%</b>

Grade	Percentage
<b>A</b>	<b>92.5-100%</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>89.5-92.4%</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>86.5-89.4%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>82.5-86.4%</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>79.5-82.4%</b>

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

C+	76.5-79.4%
C	72.5-76.4%
C-	69.5-72.4%
D+	66.5-69.4%
D	62.5-66.4%
D-	59.5-62.4%
E	0 – 59.4%

The only passing grades for graduate students are A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, and S. Grades of B-, C+ or C count toward a graduate degree if an equal number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with grades of B+, A- and A, respectively. Grade points are not given for S and U grades; S and U grades are not used to calculate grade point averages. All letter-graded courses eligible to count toward the graduate degree, except 1000- and 2000-level courses, are used to calculate the cumulative grade-point average. Letter grades of C-, D+, D, D- or E are not considered passing at the graduate level, although the grade points associated with these letter grades are included in grade point average calculations. See the [UF grading policy](#) for more information.

#### LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Late assignments will not be accepted unless it is a [University excused absence](#) as stated in the attendance policies. **No late work will be accepted for final projects or work due in the final week of class due to the university grading deadlines.** If potential issue arise concerning submitting final work, students should contact their instructors before deadlines to discuss the possibility of an Incomplete Grade Contract.

1. Late Assignment Grade Reductions
  - a. 0-24 Hours Late: 10% reduction in grade.
  - b. Over 24 Hours (24 hours and 1 minute) to 7 Calendar Days Late: 20% reduction in grade.
  - c. After the 7<sup>th</sup> Calendar Day: Work will not be accepted.
2. **Late Discussions will not be accepted.**

#### EXPECTATIONS FOR ASSIGNMENTS

- **Missed Live Lectures N/A**
  - **Missed Live Virtual Meetings** In courses where there are live virtual meetings (mandatory or optional), a recording of the meeting will be provided if you cannot attend. You will be responsible to view the recorded meetings. In missed mandatory meetings, the instructor may require that you complete an assignment.

PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Judith Donohue, Spring 2021

- **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## Accessibility Policy

Students requiring reasonable access to services and resources required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other applicable federal and state regulations, please access [UF Accessibility](#) for all options available to you. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Please register early!

### Contact Information

- For ADA questions: Dr. Russ Froman, [rfroman@ufl.edu](mailto:rfroman@ufl.edu) , Phone: 352 - 273-1094
- Disability Resource Center: Gerry Altamirano, [galtamirano@ufl.edu](mailto:galtamirano@ufl.edu) , Phone: 352 - 392-8565
- Electronic Information Technology & Communication Accessibility: Anne Allen, [alallen@ufl.edu](mailto:alallen@ufl.edu) , Phone: 352-8712707
- For persons with hearing or speech related accessibility needs: When trying to access an office on campus that does not list a TDD/TTY number, contact the Florida Relay Service at 800-955-8771(TDD) or 711 (V/TDD).

### Accessibility Resource Center

University of Florida  
PO Box 114085  
Gainesville, FL 32611-4085  
Phone: 352-392-8565  
[Email: accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu)

### Address

Environmental Health and Safety Administrative Offices  
916 Newell Dr  
Gainesville, FL 32603

For more information, see UF's [Electronic Information Technology Accessibility \(EITA\) Policy](#).

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**



# Communication Policy

## EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

### Announcements

You are responsible for reading all announcements posted in the courseroom each time you log in.

### Email

You are responsible for reading all your course email and responding in a timely manner (within 24 hours).

### Video Conferencing

N/A

### Course-Related Questions

Post course-related questions to the FAQ discussion board. This allows other participants with the same question to benefit from the responses. Also, make sure you review this forum prior to posting a question. Someone may have already asked and answered the question in previous posts.

## INSTRUCTOR'S PLAN FOR CLASSROOM RESPONSE TIME AND FEEDBACK

### Email Policy

Except for weekends, holidays, and University breaks, the instructor will typically respond to emails within 48 hours. You should ask course-related questions in the FAQ discussion board. If you have questions of a personal nature, please email the instructor.

### Assignment Feedback Policy

The instructor will provide feedback on submitted assignments within one week of the submission date. Some assignments may require a longer review period, which the instructor will communicate to you.

### Course-Related Questions Policy

Except weekends and holidays, the instructor will generally answer questions within 48 hours.

### Video Conferencing

The instructor will provide any information on required video conferencing within the courseroom.

### Electronic Communication Policy

In addition to the University's policy, please consider the following:

- Privacy, confidentiality, and security in all electronic communications. See [Information Security](#).

PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Judith Donohue, Spring 2021

- All electronic communication resources must be used for the course and in alignment with to the CJC Online and University mission. See the [Acceptable Use Policy](#).
- Prohibited use of false identity, false identity pseudonyms, or anonymous (sender's name or electronic identification is hidden).
- Prohibited online access without consent.
- Prohibited disruption of services including introducing computer contaminants (viruses).
- Prohibited [harassment](#) of any kind.

Please see UF's Information Technology [policies](#) for additional information.

## Select CJC and University Policies and Guidelines

### Academic Integrity Policy

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 honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." The [Student Honor Code](#), Violation of the Student 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 the appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TA in this class.

### Netiquette

Casual style of communication is commonly found in the online environment and students are sometimes tempted to relax their grammar, word choice, syntax (arrangement of words to create well-formed sentences), writing mechanics (capitalization, punctuation, and spelling), and/or professionalism. Keep in mind when communicating with others to be courteous, civil, respectful, and professional. Please remember that you are adult students and professionals—your communication must be appropriate.

### Online Attendance Policy

Since the course is online, you should access your course at least four times per week to ensure you do not miss pertinent postings, messages, or announcements. It is imperative that you meet course deadlines and stay active in discussion boards, group projects, etc. If you are experiencing a major illness, absences due to University duties, or other large-scale issues, contact the instructor immediately.

Students are responsible for meeting all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. In general, acceptable reasons for absences include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligation, [severe weather conditions](#), [religious holidays](#), and participation in official University activities. Absences from class for court imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. [Excused absences](#) must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation. For additional information, see the [attendance policies](#).

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is unacceptable; especially, in the academic communities. All academic work must be an original work of your own thought, research, or self-expression. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, prohibited collaboration, consultation, submission of academic work that has been purchased or obtained (see the [UF Policy: Student Conduct Violation](#)). Remember that plagiarism is not acceptable in any of your work including all discussion board posts, journal entries, wikis, and other written and oral presentation assignments. Always cite your sources!

## **Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

## **Notification to Students of FERPA Rights**

There are federal laws ([FERPA](#)) protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments.

## **Student Guidelines for Courseroom Challenges**

Student with questions regarding course content such as assignments, assessments, instructional materials, lectures, meetings, course objectives, course module objectives, or other areas of the course, please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. You should first *approach the faculty member who is teaching the course* to ask for clarifications regarding the course assignments, assessments, materials, lectures, meetings, etc.
  - i) In the Course Orientation Module, you will find the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page which has been placed there for the purpose of addressing course questions, issues, and challenges.
  - ii) In the Course Orientation Module Welcome page, under Meet your Instructor, you find the faculty members email and directions for requesting an appointment where you can address any concerns and/or questions.
2. If after meeting with *the faculty member teaching the course* you are still not clear on the course assignments, assessments, materials, lectures, meetings, etc., then the next step would be to contact online advising ([onlineadvising@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:onlineadvising@jou.ufl.edu)) for additional guidance.

## **Video Conferencing Etiquette**

Video conferencing is an excellent tool to interface with your peers and instructor(s) and there are also netiquette expectations to ensure that all participants are respected and treated with civility. Please make sure that you follow all of the netiquette and [etiquette](#) expectations including the following:

1. Be punctual and courteous.
2. Position your camera at eye level with good lighting.

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

3. Show respect and professionalism by dressing business casual or business professional.
4. No smoking or drinking.
5. Make sure your background is in a proper setting with minimal distractions.
6. Mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

### Writing Style

In order to meet the academic rigor and standards of a graduate program, all students are required to use the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) 7<sup>th</sup> Edition style in their courses. The APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Manual has a plethora of guidelines that includes scholarly writing, publishing principles, elements and format for your papers, writing style and grammar, bias-free language guidelines, mechanics of style, intext citing and references, etc. For additional information on notable changes, see [changes between APA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition and APA 7<sup>th</sup> Edition](#).

## Academic and Student Resources

### Academic Resources

- [One UF Student Portal](#) – Course registration, final grades, transcript requests, degree audit.
- [GatorEvals](#) – Online faculty evaluations and results.
- [UF Bookstore](#): Phone: 352-392-0194, Email: [ufbookstore@bsd.ufl.edu](mailto:ufbookstore@bsd.ufl.edu)
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. [UF Library Services for Distance Students](#)  
[Ask a Librarian](#) – chat with librarians online.  
CJC Librarian - [April Hines](#), Phone: 352-273-2728, Email: [aprhone@uflib.ufl.edu](mailto:aprhone@uflib.ufl.edu).  
[Course Reserves](#): Electronic resource reserve items that can be accessed via links or files.
- [Copyright Concerns of Graduate Researchers](#): Information and resource guide on copyright concerns.
- [Teaching Center](#): General study skills and tutoring. Broward Hall, Phone: 352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420.
- [Writing Studio](#): Provides one-on-one consultations and workshops tailored to specific classes (graduate and undergraduate). 302 Tigert Hall, Phone: 352-846-1138.
- [On-Line Student Complaints](#): This process is designed to make every attempt to resolve student complaints within its academic and administrative departments at the program level.
- [Information for Veterans](#): Veterans Affairs Certification: Phone: 352 - 294-2948

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**

## Student Resources

- [Graduate Student Resources](#): Available resources for graduate students. Your advisors are here to support you, answer questions, help with registration, and other sources. Email [onlineadvising@jou.ufl.edu](mailto:onlineadvising@jou.ufl.edu).
- [U Matter, We Care](#): If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or Phone: 352-294-2273 so that a team member can reach out.
- [Counseling and Wellness Center](#): [3190 Radio Road, Gainesville, FL 32611](#) Phone: (352) 392-1575, Fax: (352) 273-4738
- [Sexual Violence Response](#): Victim services, Care Area, UF Police Department, and Title IX.
- [University Police Department](#): Resources available include the Office of Victim Services and Community Services Division. Emergency: 9-1-1; Non-Emergency: 352-392-1111.
- [Academic Planning](#): Academic advisors that can refer you to the wide array of resources that are available to UF students.
- [Gator Connect](#): Online database of student organizations.
- [Career Connection Center](#): Career assistance and counseling. Reitz Union, Phone: 352-392-1601.
- [Veteran Services](#): Office of Student Veteran Services, Phone: 352-294-2948, email: [vacounselor@ufl.edu](mailto:vacounselor@ufl.edu). | Collegiate Veterans Success Center, Phone: 352- 294-7215, email: [charlotte.kemper@va.gov](mailto:charlotte.kemper@va.gov).
- [Student Financial Affairs](#): Financial aid counseling including Aid-a-Gator program. Phone: 352-392-1275.
- [Student Success Coach](#): Meet with a graduate student coach that can support you in numerous ways during your time in graduate school, such as time and stress management, motivation, organization, and much more.



**The instructor reserves the right to adjust this syllabus, as necessary.**

**PUR 6616 CORPORATE REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Judith Donohue, Spring 2021**