

## **Communication 7160**

### **Graduate Survey of Organizational Communication Research**

**Fall 2004, Wednesdays, 6:00-9:00 p.m., in Union 319**

**Professor George Cheney**

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**Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00-4:00, and by appointment**

### ***Philosophy and Objectives***

To explore broadly and deeply the sub-discipline of organizational communication, including current research as well as historical foundations, practical issues as well as scholarly concerns, research beyond North America as well as within it, and multiple (disciplinary) perspectives on important organizational issues of our time.

### ***Textbooks and Other Readings***

- Jablin & Putnam (2001), *The New Handbook of Organizational Communication*—as a general resource guide
- May & Mumby (2005), *Engaging Organizational Communication*—for treatments of history and theory development (**available in pdf form**)
- Corman & Poole (2000), *Perspectives on Organizational Communication*—for discussions of epistemological traditions
- Cheney (1999, 2002), *Values at Work*—as a multi-dimensional case study
- Articles to be placed on e-reserve or otherwise distributed to the class
- Handouts on various topics

### ***Assignments***

Student performance in this course will be evaluated with a single assignment having two equally weighted parts: the design and conduct of a one-hour class session on an area of contemporary organizational communication research and an accompanying paper on the same topic that is somewhat more focused. The scope, content, and format of the class session are largely up to the student, but the instructor will serve as a resource and a guide and will approve all outlines. The paper may represent any of these genres: a critical review of literature in a “new” area, a coherent research proposal for a future project, an argumentative essay based on a compelling thesis, or a preliminary analysis of data pointing toward a fuller investigation (“pilot project”). The specific goals of the paper should reflect the student’s academic and personal ones (e.g., “terminal” M.A. or Ph.D., academic or non-academic trajectory). Academically oriented students are encouraged to prepare work for publication.

### ***Policies***

Regular attendance, reading preparation, and active participation in class discussions are essential to the success of the course. Late assignments and incompletes will be accepted only in urgent circumstances. Academic dishonesty of any type is unacceptable and would be dealt with according to departmental and university policies.

### ***Evaluation and Grading***

A=Excellent performance, establishing a strong foundation for further work

B=Good performance, but with significant room for improvement

C=Problematic performance at the graduate level

***Tentative Schedule for the Semester***

Week	Day/Date	Topic(s)	Assignment(s)*
1	Aug. 25	Orientation	Personal Interest Statement; Handouts
2	Sept. 1	History	Read Putnam & Cheney; Redding; Taylor et al.; Tompkins; Handouts
3	Sept. 8	Epistemology; A Bit on Methodology	Read Corman & Poole (3 essays); Cooren; Hawes; Handouts
4	Sept. 15	Current Trends	Read May & Mumby (selected chapters); Handouts
5	Sept. 22	Structure; Rationality	Read Holmer-Nadesan; Kuhn; McPhee <b>Student class facilitations begin</b>
6	Sept. 29	Culture; Identity, Including Rhetoric <b>Guest: Connie Bullis</b>	Read Bullis & Bach; Cheney & Christensen; DiSanza & Bullis; B. C. Taylor
7	Oct. 6	Relationships; Networks	Read Contractor & Monge; Corman Harrison; Tracy; Zorn
8	Oct. 13	Leadership; Participation	Read Ashcraft; Barker; Buzzanell; Fairhurst; Parker; Stohl & Cheney
9	Oct. 20	Power; Conflict <b>Guest: Karen Ashcraft</b>	Read Ashcraft; Clair; Deetz; Miller; Mumby; Putnam; Trethewey
10	Oct. 27	Change; Technology	Read Lewis & Seibold; Flanagan; Jackson; Rice; Zorn et al.
11	Nov. 3	Globalization; "Diversity"	Read Ashcraft & Allen; Deetz; Ganesh, et al.; Krone; Townsley & Stohl
12	Nov. 10	<b>NCA: Library Day</b>	
13	Nov. 17	Case Studies	Read Cheney, <i>Values at Work</i>
14	Dec. 1	Ethics; Environment	Read Anderson; Bullis; Cheney, Corbett; Peterson; Redding
15	Dec. 8	<b>All term papers due</b>	Go-around with informal presentations
Final Exam Period			TBA

\**Note:* In cases where more than four articles or chapters are listed for a given week, options will usually be offered.

