

# Course Syllabus

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**Department of Communication Studies**

**COM 4022: Portfolio Construction**

**1 unit**

Spring 2021

**Meeting days:** N/A

**Instructor title and name:** Dr. Jeff Birdsell

**Meeting times:** N/A

**Phone:** 619-849-3370

**Meeting location:** N/A

**Email:** [jebirdse@pointloma.edu](mailto:jebirdse@pointloma.edu)  
(<mailto:jebirdse@pointloma.edu>)

**Office hours (remote only):**

**Final Exam:** N/A

Tuesday 12:30-2:30  
Wednesday 1:30-2:30  
Thursday 12:30-2:30

## PLNU Mission

### To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Completion of a portfolio and supporting documentation for assessment and preparation for employment

## **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Successful completion of the course will:

- Improve students' self presentation for prospective employers
- Allow students to construct a coherent narrative of their university, major, and co-curricular experience
- Provide assessment data for program directors

## **PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a required course for a degree in Communication, this course will contribute to the following PLOs

- Learn basic theory and application or performance skills about and within the discipline of communication.
- Use communication competently in a variety of complex environmental and social contexts.

As a required course for a degree in Managerial and Organizational Communication, this course will contribute to the following PLOs

- Develop a sophisticated understanding of communication as the negotiation of meaning.
- Display communication competence both verbally and nonverbally in interpersonal, small group, organizational, and intercultural contexts.
- Formulate a thesis, organize a complex idea, and support it with appropriate evidence using proper grammar and punctuation.
- Demonstrate an ability to present themselves in a professional manner including resume, interview skills, and presentations.
- Analyze and conduct original communication research (quantitative and qualitative) using scholarly journals, data bases, and collecting and analyzing empirical data.
- Demonstrate an understanding of basic theoretical concepts relative to organizational behavior including scientific management, systems theory, and organizational culture.
- Integrate a Christian perspective of values and ethics in their communication in interpersonal, small group organizational and intercultural contexts.
- Develop an awareness of multiple approaches to leadership and develop a personal leadership philosophy.

## **COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION**

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 37.5 total hours (averaging 2.5 hours/week) meeting the course learning outcomes.

## **ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

The course will consist of independent work with submissions of your work throughout the semester on Canvas.

All assignments must be completed at a satisfactory level to pass the course. If one's missing, you will not get credit for the course. Any work submitted that is submitted but does not meet the criteria for completion will be marked as "incomplete" and require improvement. The assignment should be resubmitted within a week (7 days) after being notified that it needs to be improved. If the assignment remains unsatisfactory after that week, I will contact you to discuss your interest in remaining enrolled in, and passing, the course.

### **INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

All assignments are to be submitted by the dates posted in Canvas. Habitual late submissions will result in a conversation about your interest in remaining enrolled in, and passing, the course. The most likely time for your computer/internet connection to crash is minutes before an assignment is due. Please plan ahead.

### **PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=2650#Class_Attendance) ([https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=2650#Class\\_Attendance](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=2650#Class_Attendance)) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

#### **Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition**

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

### **PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization \(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

## PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies \(https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=41&navoid=2435#Academic\\_Honesty\)](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=41&navoid=2435#Academic_Honesty) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

## PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center ([DRC@pointloma.edu \(mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu\)](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

## **SPIRITUAL CARE**

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development) [\\_\(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development)

## **USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) [\\_\(https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349\)](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact [student-tech-request@pointloma.edu](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu) [\\_\(mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu\)](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu).

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

## **ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE**

**Note:** *Given the hybrid and online modalities being used in the 2020-2021 academic year, the content of the course schedule and assignments will be posted in Canvas.*