Course Title:
Directed Readings: Mass Opinion and Military Conflict

Course Number:
COMM 5960-420

Course Description:
The purpose of this course is to expose students to public opinion research related to the military and military conflict. Specifically, first, we examine the factors that influence public opinion for or against armed conflict. An important factor related to public opinion is the casualty tolerance hypothesis. This hypothesis will be examined from both a public and military perspective. Other course readings will scrutinize media coverage of military conflict and public reaction.

Course Dates:
September 1 – December 31, 2011
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: September 1, 2011

Site Director:
Please see your local Site Director or e-mail Carolyn Taylor at cataylor@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Glenn J. Hansen
Mailing Address: 610 Elm Avenue
Room 101
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-1571
FAX Number: (405) 325-7625
E-mail Address: gjh@ou.edu
Virtual Office Hours: Contact professor this information.
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).


3. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.
Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

OU E-Mail:
All official correspondence from distance learning instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

Online Learning Resource Center:
The Online Learning Resource Center of the University of Oklahoma’s College of Arts and Sciences Online Program is here to serve you and assist you with any questions, problems, or concerns you may have. For assistance go to http://casweb.ou.edu/olr/ or contact us by telephone at: (405) 325-5854 or Email: casonline@ou.edu

Course Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, successful students will understand the factor that shape opinions for or against armed conflict.

Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:
The course has three assignments:
1) After reading the texts (in the order listed above), each student in conjunction with the course professor will choose a topic that is of interest to them. Based on this topic, students will write a well-researched essay (see due date). The essay should be based on existing empirical evidence gathered from academic literature (peer-reviewed journals and edited scholarly texts). Students should write a double-spaced, typewritten essay of 12 to 15 pages of text (in APA format with separate title page, abstract page, and reference section). All essay topics need to be approved in advance by the professor (see below due dates).
2) Each student will submit the essay to the course professor for grading on or before the due date. Once the essay is graded the course professor will give the student approval to complete the second assignment (see due date). This assignment requires the development of a voice narrated PowerPoint presentation based on the content of the essay assignment. First, using PowerPoint, students will develop a slide presentation that summarizes their essay. Second, using the functionality built into PowerPoint, students will provide voice narration for the content of each slide. The voice narration needs to be additional detail that is not a part of the written presentation. The presentation needs to follow traditional guidelines for an effective public speech (i.e., compelling introduction, speech body with three to four main points, and a memorable conclusion). This assignment requires Microsoft PowerPoint and a computer with a microphone and speakers (most public libraries have this technology available to their patrons). See Microsoft PowerPoint help for details on how to add voice narration (search for “record a voice narration”). The narration should be saved (embedded) with the PowerPoint along with the timing for each slide. When someone views your presentation, all they should have to do is start the slide show and then your voice and slide timings takes over. The presentation should be between 15 and 20 minutes in length. The completed presentation should be uploaded to the D2L dropbox by the due date. Note: If you have never used PowerPoint’s narration feature, you should know that it is user friendly. If you are considering this class, but are unsure about this assignment, you should contact the course professor (he will try to convince you that it is not difficult).
3) Once your PowerPoint presentation is received by the course professor, he will make it available for other students to view. Each student will be assigned to view about three of their peers’ presentations. After viewing each presentation, students should send questions to the presenter (via e-mail).
Important Due Dates:
Approval for essay topic: Friday, September 30, 2011
Completed essay: Friday, November 4, 2011
PowerPoint presentation: Friday, November 25, 2011
Peer Reviews: Friday, December 9, 2011

Grading: This course is graded Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory (S/U). A grade of S is equivalent to B or better.

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

Technical Support Information:
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).

Important information you should know about online courses:
- To sign on to Desire2Learn (D2L), go to www.learn.ou.edu and log in using your 4+4 and your OU network password (note that this is the same 4+4 and password that you use to access your OU email). Once you are logged in, please look on the right-hand side for “My Courses,” locate your course and click on it. Remember to check your course site on D2L every day.
- Students enrolled in online courses may be required to take the CAS student orientation in Desire2Learn. To take the orientation, sign-on to D2L and then click on “Self Registration” at the top left corner of the page. Information about and instructions for the orientation can be found at http://casweb.ou.edu/olr/public/students/orientation.htm
- If the course is using a course website, you will find a link for the website on the first page of this syllabus. Please click on this link to start your course.
- Course Materials are available at Follett/AP Bookstore. On this syllabus you will find a link to the Follett Bookstore.
- If you need to drop or withdraw from a course, please contact your Site Director. You can drop a course without a penalty up to the add/drop date. Courses dropped after the add/drop date may result in a penalty.
- After the class has started, you can only withdraw from the course with the professor’s permission; you will not receive a refund for your tuition. You can only drop without a penalty after the add/drop date by providing proper documentation and receiving approval from the Advanced Programs Theater Director. Provide this documentation to your Site Director.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Note: Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Glenn J. Hansen, Ph.D.

Education

2004 Ph.D. in Communication, University of Missouri

Current Positions

Associate Professor and Director of the Political Communication Center, Department of Communication, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Political Communication
- Mass Media Effects
- Quantitative Methods and Statistics

Representative Publications and Presentations

Published 20 journal articles and presented over 40 research papers at conferences, such as the National Communication Association, the International Communication Association, and the Central States Communication.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Nominated by the Department of Communication at the University of Missouri for the 2004 Graduate School Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award (University results pending)
- Dan Rohrer Memorial Award for Benoit, W. L., Hansen, G. J., & Tillery, R. M. (2003). A meta-analysis of the effects of viewing presidential debates. Communication Monographs, 70, 335-350. This award is given each year by the American Forensic Association to recognize the outstanding monograph in the research concerns of the Association.
- Top Paper in Argumentation and Forensics Division, NCA 2004
- Top Paper in Argumentation and Forensics Division, NCA 2003
- Top Paper in Political Communication Division, NCA 2002
- Top Graduate paper in Mass Communication Division, CSCA 2002
- Top Paper in Political Communication Division, NCA 2001
- Top Paper in Political Communication Division, NCA 2000

Major Professional Affiliations

- National Communication Association
- International Communication Association
- Central States Communication Association