Course Title:
International Communication

Course Number:
COMM 6323-102

Course Description:
This course has been designed as a survey of the main traditions of scholarship in the field of International Communication. The readings assigned for this course have been selected with the following criteria:

a) that students should read foundational theories;
b) that students should become familiar with the classics in the field;
c) that students should become familiar with contemporary scholarship in the field;
d) that there is a strong need to first internationalize, and second, to de-westernize communication;
e) students’ specific interests

On this basis, the readings include theory and research not only in communication but also in other fields such as anthropology, literature, social theory, and economics, because many of the foundational theories emerge in fields other than communication. And finally, I have tried to include readings from scholars from very different cultures, nations, and languages.

I invite you to approach this course as a theoretical journey through different “academic continents:” political economy, cultural studies, postcolonial studies, globalization, gender, development, citizens’ media, and war. The main focus of the course will be on reading and gaining a solid understanding of the theoretical, methodological, and political assumptions of each of these “academic continents.”

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: March 2-4 & 9-11, 2012
Location: 3281 Sheridan Road, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sun 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: February 2, 2012

Site Director:
Tamara Sutteer. Assistant: Anita Bailey. Phone: 580-355-1974; Local Phone: 580-581-2434; Fax: 580-351-9674; E-mail: apftsill@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Kristin Shamas, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
Department of Communication
Burton Hall #101
Norman, OK  73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-3111
Email Address: kshamas@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.
Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
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.

Course Objectives:
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Understand differences analytical frameworks to study the international communication.
2. Understand the political economy of contemporary media.
3. Understand contemporary theories and issues of international communication.
4. Be able to apply different international communication theories to real world issues.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:
There will be a written examination during the final class session.

Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=less than 60.

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.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

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

Kristin Shamas, Ph.D.

Education

• Ph. D. in Communication, University of Oklahoma.
• M. A. in History, University of Oklahoma.
• B. A. in Humanistic Inquiry, Lake Forest College

Current Positions

• Lecturer, Department of Communication, University of Oklahoma
• Advanced Programs Instructor since 2012

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

• COMM 6323 International Communication

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

• Social media and globalization
• Migration, diasporas, and transnational communication
• Cultural identity and political communication.

Representative Publications and Presentations

• “Rural Telephony, Metropolitan Internet and Global Politics of Development in South Lebanon.”
• Blogging Lebanon: “New” Media in the Modern Middle East. Book manuscript in process; proposal under review.