



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016

## PRK 3413 Foundations of Communication

### Programme

Bachelor of PR and Market Communication (1. year)

### Responsible for the course

Peggy S Brønn

### Department

Department of Communication and Culture

### Term

According to study plan

### ECTS Credits

7,5

### Language of instruction

Norwegian and english

### Introduction

This course provides an introduction to the foundations of communication for students interested in public relations and/or marketing communication. The course covers the history of communication study, theories important to all areas of communication, the contexts in which communication occurs, and the issues that must be faced by students of communication. Students receive an introduction to the various types of communication used by organizations: interpersonal, small group, corporate, marketing, organizational, mass communication, and inter cultural communication. It is designed to acquaint students with the broad and exciting field of communication and provide a grounding in the basic concepts that communication practitioners use to help their organizations succeed. The focus of the course is on individuals and communication which provides the basis for exploring effective communication between an organization and its various stakeholders.

### Learning outcome

- Define the fundamental characteristics of communication.
- Describe the characteristics of various communication contexts.
- Explain the key theories associated with the communication process.
- Describe career options in the field of communication.
- Describe the basic communication functions found in organizations and their differences.

### Acquired Knowledge

Students will acquire the basic knowledge enabling them to continue their studies in public relations and marketing communication.

### Acquired skills

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Communicate better on a personal level.

### Reflection

Students will reflect critically and empathically on their communication, the communication of diverse others and the communication of organizations with an awareness of corresponding ethical implications.

### Prerequisites

No particular prerequisites.

### Compulsory reading

#### Books:

Wood, Julia T. 2014. Communication mosaics : an introduction to the field of communication. 7th ed. Wadsworth Cengage Learning

#### Other:

Extra articles as needed. Tilgjengelig på its learning

### Recommended reading

#### Books:

Brønn, Peggy Simcic og Øyvind Ihlen. 2009. Åpen eller innadvendt : omdømmebygging for organisasjoner. Gyldendal akademisk

Cornelissen, Joep. 2014. Corporate communication : a guide to theory & practice. 4th ed. Sage

### Course outline

- Theoretical foundations
- Historical and contemporary perspectives
- Stakeholder theory and issues management

Communication Foundations

- Perceiving and understanding
- Engaging in verbal and nonverbal communication
- Listening and responding
- Creating communication climates
- Adapting communication to cultures and social communities

Communication Processes and Skills

- Personal identity
- Personal relationships
- Groups and teams
- Organizations; managerial, public relations, marketing
- Mass communication
- Digital media and online

Contexts of Communication

### Computer-based tools

No specified computer-based tools are required.

### Learning process and workload

This course will be based primarily on lecture but part of the learning process will require students to engage through active discussion and through presenting in groups of no more than 3 a topic assigned to them by the lecturer. The lecturer will assign students to a group. 42 hours will be used in the classroom divided between lectures and presentations.

Activity	Use of hours
Participation in lectures	36
Presentations	6
Preparation for lectures	36

Journal preparation	18
Home work and reading	69
Exam preparation	35
<b>Total recommended use of hours</b>	<b>200</b>

### **Use of hours**

36 hours class lecture  
6 hours presentation  
3 hours advising

### **Coursework requirements**

### **Examination**

The final grade in the course is based on following activities and weighting:

- 1) Students will present material from the readings assigned to them by the lecturer in groups of 3 to the entire class. All group members must be present for the presentation. Pass/fail
- 2) A two-hour Mid-term exam: accounts 40 %.
- 3) Project paper: accounts for 60 %. The project paper must be done in a group, the group shall consist of not more than 3 students assigned by the lecturer. Any student wishing to work alone must get special permission from the lecturer.

A final grade will be given based on all components of the evaluation. It is possible to fail part of the evaluation and still receive a grade for the course.

A re-sit exam for the mid-term will be given the same semester for those students who have a valid reason for missing the exam. (No re-sit will be given for the final exam or presentation the same semester.)

### **Examination code(s)**

PRK 34131 - Process evaluation accounts for 100% of the final grade in PRK 3413 Foundations of Communication, 7.5 credits.

### **Examination support materials**

Two-hour mid-term exam - native language-English dictionary  
Project paper - all support materials

### **Re-sit examination**

A re-sit is held in connection with the next scheduled examination in the course.  
Students who are taking new examination must take the course all over including all parts of evaluation.

### **Additional information**