1.0 Course Description

Where does communication happen? This course will examine how place and environment shape communicative practices. Using concepts from rhetoric, cultural studies and various communication theories, students will develop an understanding of the "communication environment" and how to consider environmental constraints when constructing meaningful messages for audiences. The course will use examples from popular culture, economics, politics, architecture, science and technology to help students understand the importance of space, place and time in the process of communication. **Lab: 1 hour. Lecture: 2 hours.**

2.0 Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

• Give students a theoretical foundation in critical concepts in media, communication and rhetorical studies
• Help students understand the role of physical and cultural situations and spaces in the crafting of persuasive messages
• Provide students with skills in analytical writing and composition

3.0 Topics Covered

3.1 Communication in the cultural environment
   3.1.1 Introduction to ideology
   3.1.2 High and low culture
   3.1.3 Globalization and communication

3.2 Politics, place and communication
   3.2.1 Rhetorics of time and space – *kairos* – the rhetorical situation
   3.2.2 Public sphere and private sphere
   3.2.3 Political structures and communication constraints

3.3 Communication and media spaces
   3.3.1 Society and the spectacle
   3.3.2 Where we watch, where we are watched – where we “do” media
3.4 Communication in the built environment
   3.4.1 Geography and digital communication technologies
   3.4.2 Architecture as communication

All topics will be covered but not necessarily in the order listed above.

4.0 Teaching Method

4.1 Graded Assignments

Students will complete two longer written assignments, and will have weekly “Think Papers” on the theoretical topics, perform one oral presentation, and write one final exam. Additional work relating to the topics may also be assigned by the instructor. The weighting of each assignment will be announced by the instructor.

5.0 Course Materials

5.1 Textbook/Readings

Course reading materials may be provided in electronic form OR in a reading package titled CMN225: Communication in Place.

In addition, other readings may be assigned and provided by the instructor.

6.0 Course Policies

6.1 Students must adhere to university policies; see http://www.ryerson.ca/senate/policies. The most relevant policies are the following:

- Policy #46 Policy on Grading, Promotion, and Academic Standing ("GPA Policy")
- Policy #60 Academic Integrity
- Policy #61 Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct
- Policy #134 Undergraduate Academic Consideration and Appeals
- Policy #135 Examination Policy
- Policy #145 Course Management Policy
- Policy #150 Accommodation of Student Religious, Aboriginal and Spiritual Observance
- Policy #157 Establishment and Use of Ryerson Student E-Mail Accounts For Official University Communication
- Policy #159 Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities
6.2 Print and Digital Copying Guidelines

Ryerson University complies with Canada’s Copyright Act which protects both creators/owners and users of copyrighted materials. Students should familiarize themselves with Ryerson’s Copyright policies and procedures, and contact the Copyright and Scholarly Engagement Librarian at copyrt@ryerson.ca for questions, concerns and clarification of the copyright rules.

6.3 Turnitin.com

By taking this course, students agree that all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site. Students who do not want their work submitted to this plagiarism detection service must, by the end of the second week of class, consult with the instructor to make alternative arrangements.

*Please note the following from Policy 145 Course Management Policy:*

4.3.1.2 *Even when an instructor has not indicated that a plagiarism detection service will be used, or when a student has opted out of the plagiarism detection service, if an instructor has reason to suspect that an individual piece of work has been plagiarized, the instructor is permitted to submit that work in a non-identifying way to any plagiarism detection service.*

6.4 Email Communication

Ryerson requires that any official or formal email communication from students be sent from their official Ryerson electronic accounts.

6.5 Video and Audio Recording

No video or audio recording is permitted in class without the express permission of the instructor.

7.0 Ryerson’s Learning Management System

Ryerson University supports Brightspace by D2L as its official Learning Management System. University Policies governing Brightspace have been documented at the Courses @ Ryerson Privacy and Security website.