



# CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Fall 2020	COURSE NO: 499	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: Communication Research Project	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, Sechelt, and Tsleil-Waututh people on whose territories our campuses are located.

## COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

## COURSE PREREQUISITES

60 credits of 100-level or higher coursework, and CMNS 462

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Under the supervision of a faculty member, students conduct and present original research in an area of communication studies in the form of a short project. Students will present and defend their project for completion of their degree.

## COURSE NOTE

CMNS 499 is an approved Capstone Course for Cap Core requirements.

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

Readings will be made available via reserve shelf or the "Ebook Central" at Capilano University library, and/or vouchers can be bought at the Capilano University bookstore and paper versions of articles will be handed out in class.

## COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

**On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:**

The course helps students form themselves as communication scholar practitioners by supporting them in the development of an extended, in-depth research project investigating an issue/topic of their choice within the field of communication and media studies. The course content recognizes that research is a process of discovery, interpretation and criticism which relies upon identifying and learning from error. The learning environment is thus based on the importance of dialogic learning especially for the study of communication; we learn together. A final written project will be developed and the research will be presented in a public presentation.

This project will demonstrate:

- Initiation of a self-directed research project emerging from the students own academic and/or professional interests
- Application of foundational learning from previous CMNS courses (knowledge, critical thinking, research skills, ethical and critical judgment) to their extensive research project
- Integration and assessment of concepts, theories, and research practices associated with the field of research with awareness of limits of knowledge
- Consideration and assessment of the potential impact of their interpretive framework, decisions and research actions on people and the environment.
- Ability to synthesize research literature and data to produce a thoughtful and critical written piece
- Ability to share research project via a public presentation

**Students who complete this Capstone course will be able to do the following:**

- Identify a topic of inquiry or practice
- Gather and organize relevant research materials
- Evaluate, synthesize, and apply research findings
- Share findings or results in a means appropriate to a field of study

#### **COURSE CONTENT**

- Research Ethics Process via Capilano University Research Ethics Board
- Development of reciprocal and ethical research protocols
- In-depth, individualized examination of research paradigms and methods; refinement of methods
- Learning to write about positionality and question role of researcher
- Further development of literature review
- Data collection and analysis
- Writing, editing and evaluation
- Colloquium and peer evaluation
- Sharing of knowledge outside of the classroom; public presentation and connection to community, when possible

#### **EVALUATION PROFILE**

Data analysis/project analysis	10%
Project or Thesis Draft	20%
Colloquia	15%
Final Draft	35%
Public Presentation	10%
Peer support/editing/classroom-community work	10%

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100%

## GRADING PROFILE

Credit/No Credit
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### **Incomplete Grades**

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments are due at time and date listed on eLearn. If you have exceptional circumstances please email instructor and exceptions will be made for late assignments. Exception will be made for students with a documented disability and/or supported by Accessibility Services.

### **Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.**

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor. Exception will be made for students with a documented disability and/or supported by Accessibility Services

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities. If classes are missed you will not be allowed to make up any of the in-class assignments unless you have extenuating circumstances, documents from accessibility services or other documents. Assignment marks for that day plus professionalism mark will be deducted. Please consult with your instructor for clarification. Exception will be made for students with a documented disability and/or supported by Accessibility Services.

### **English Usage**

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments. Instructor will also deduct for lack of or poor APA Style formatting.

### **Electronic Devices**

Students may only use electronic devices during class for workshops or specific class activities or unless otherwise instructed. During presentations or lectures no laptops will be allowed to be used. Exception will be made for students with a documented disability and/or supported by Accessibility Services.

### **Online Communication**

Outside of the classroom, instructors will communicate with students using their official Capilano University email addresses only. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

## UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS

### Tools for Success

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-life/>

**Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)**

### Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

### Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information: <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating:** Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud:** Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources:** Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism:** Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism:** Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct:** The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

### **Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

**Emergencies** Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.