COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2008
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2011
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED:	February 2014
(four years after UPAC approval)	*(month, year)*

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor

CMNS 490	Communications	4
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UCFV CREDITS

Directed Studies in Communications
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide students the opportunity to pursue in-depth independent study of a communications issue, theme, or problem.. The completed project must display the student's abilities as an effective writer, knowledge of audience, and thorough familiarity with the selected topic area.

PREREQUISITES: 60 university-level credits completed; at least 12 credits must be from CMNS, of which 9 credits must be 300-level or higher; and written permission of the instructor and the department.

COREQUISITES:

PRE or COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):

(a) Replaces: **NA**

(b) Cross-listed with: **NA**

(c) Cannot take: **NA** for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: *(department/program)*
NA

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: **75**

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures:	**5**	Hrs
Seminar:		Hrs
Laboratory:		Hrs
Field experience:		Hrs
Student directed learning:	**65**	Hrs
Other (specify): consultation, interviews, and presentation of project	**5**	Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:
Length of course:
Hours per day:

OTHER:
Maximum enrolment:
Expected frequency of course offerings:
(every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)	☐ Yes	☐ No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)	☒ Yes	☐ No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:	☐ Yes	☒ No

Course designer(s): **Raymond Welch**

Department Head:	**Lynn Kirkland Harvey**	Date approved:	**December 2009**
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UPAC)		Date of meeting:	**December 18, 2009**
Curriculum Committee chair:	**John Carroll**	Date approved:	**January 15, 2010**
Dean/Associate VP:	**Jacqueline Nolte**	Date approved:	**January 15, 2010**
Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (UPAC) approval		Date of meeting:	**February 26, 2010**

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of a particular issue, problem, or topic in Communications.
2. Manage a project.
3. Produce effective extended print and electronic documents according to audience requirements.

METHODS: *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

1. At least six weeks prior to the beginning of the semester students must, in consultation with a faculty member from Communications and their discipline, develop a detailed project proposal indicating the rationale, readings, scope, objectives, and methods.
2. Faculty will conduct mentoring interviews to establish and guide student toward the achievement of project objective(s).
3. The student will undertake independent learning which may involve field work and may require approval of UFV Research Ethics Committee.
4. Faculty may conduct lectures/seminars on project planning and management, research methods and presentation of findings, including document design and oral briefing strategies.
5. Students will present their project findings to a panel of faculty.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

☐ Examination(s) ☐ Portfolio assessment ☐ Interview(s)

☐ Other (specify):

☒ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s): This is a process course where the students, through ongoing consultation with faculty, design and develop an independent project.

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

Will vary according to project proposal.

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

Will vary according to project proposal.

STUDENT EVALUATION:

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

10% Interview participation and weekly discussion with faculty advisor

20% Short written assignments (periodic progress reports)

15% Presentation of findings (technical briefing to a panel of at least three faculty members, one of which might be from their discipline area

55% Final project

COURSE CONTENT:

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

Varies according to project proposed/approved. To be determined in consultation with faculty advisor.