OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code and Number: CMNS 490</th>
<th>Number of Credits: 4</th>
<th>Course credit policy (105)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Full Title:</strong> Directed Studies in Communications</td>
<td><strong>Course Short Title:</strong> Directed Studies in CMNS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Faculty:** Faculty of Humanities  
**Department (or program if no department):** Communications

**Calendar Description:**
Students will pursue independent study of a communications issue, theme, or problem and apply that research to a workplace-based project. The completed project must display the student's writing ability, knowledge of audience, and thorough familiarity with the topic area.

**Prerequisites (or NONE):** 60 university-level credits, including at least 12 credits of CMNS, of which 9 credits must be 300-level or higher, and written permission of the instructor and the department.

**Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):** None.

**Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):** None.

**Equivalent Courses (cannot be taken for additional credit)**
Former course code/number:
Cross-listed with:
Equivalent course(s):
*Note: Equivalent course(s) should be included in the calendar description by way of a note that students with credit for the equivalent course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.*

**Transfer Credit**
Transfer credit already exists: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Transfer credit requested (OReg to submit to BCCAT): ☐ Yes ☒ No (Note: If yes, fill in transfer credit form)
Resubmit revised outline for articulation: ☐ Yes ☒ No
To find out how this course transfers, see [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca).

**Total Hours: 60**
**Typical structure of instructional hours:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture hours</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars/tutorials/workshops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field experience hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online learning activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contact hours: consultation, interviews, and presentation of project, student-directed learning</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Topics**
Will the course be offered with different topics?
☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes,
Different lettered courses may be taken for credit:
☐ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit

*Note: The specific topic will be recorded when offered.*

**Maximum enrolment (for information only):** 6
**Expected frequency of course offerings**
(every semester, annually, etc.): annually

**Department / Program Head or Director:** Samantha Pattridge  
**Date approved:** November 1, 2013

**Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)**
**Date of posting:** March 7, 2014

**Faculty Council approval**
**Date approved:** April 11, 2014

**Dean/Associate VP:** Jacqueline Nolte  
**Date approved:** April 11, 2014

**Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval**
**Date of meeting:** April 25, 2014
Learning Outcomes

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

1. Conduct thorough independent research into a communications issue, problem, or topic.
2. Complete a communications workplace-based project that requires research, critical thinking, and document production skills.
3. Manage a project.
4. Produce effective extended print and electronic documents according to audience requirements.
5. Present findings in a technical briefing to an audience of faculty members, peers, and other experts.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

☐ Yes  ❌ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because this is a process course where the students, through ongoing consultation with faculty, design and develop an independent project.

Typical Instructional Methods (guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion)

1. The student will undertake independent learning which may involve field work and may require approval of UFV Research Ethics Committee.
2. 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.
3. Faculty will conduct mentoring interviews to establish and guide students toward the achievement of project objective(s).
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.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials (if more space is required, download supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Surname, Initials</th>
<th>Title (article, book, journal, etc.)</th>
<th>Current Edition</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year Published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Textbook will vary according to project proposal.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required Additional Supplies and Materials (Eg. Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing)

Will vary according to project proposal.

Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final exam: %</th>
<th>Assignments: 100%</th>
<th>Midterm exam: %</th>
<th>Practicum: %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes/tests: %</td>
<td>Lab work: %</td>
<td>Field experience: %</td>
<td>Shop work: %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: %</td>
<td>Other: %</td>
<td>Other: %</td>
<td>Total: 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details (if necessary):

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.

Grading system: Letter Grades: ☑ Credit/No Credit: ☐ Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: Yes ☐ No ☐

Typical Course Content and Topics

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

For Administrative Use Only

Department code: CIP Code: Course Level Code: PDC Code: