Sample Course Plan for *Our Communication, Our World* (15 weeks and 10 weeks)

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**Planning Your Class:**

I have taught many iterations of this course over my 17 years of teaching and the structure that I have come to appreciate the most and that I have gotten consistently positive feedback on from students is as follows for each chapter:

Lecture or class discussion facilitation

Activities such as small group discussion or media applications (see instructors manual for suggestions)

Student presentations and content debriefing/review

Notes for Instructors:

* If this sample course plan does not work well for you because you have other assignments that are required or that you choose to include in the course or because you offer the course in online or blended (online/face-to-face) format, please contact me at [rgjones@eiu.edu](mailto:rgjones@eiu.edu) and I will be happy to provide an alternative course plan tailored to your course requirements, needs, and wants.
* I also have language for course policies that I have revised and improved over my 17 years of teaching this class that I am happy to share with other instructors so you can adapt them to your own institutions and individual preferences.

**Assignments:**

* Prepare to Participate Questions. These are 3–6 questions for each chapter that students prepare responses to before class that help facilitate class and small group discussion. These can be used as an alternative to lecturing. PowerPoint slides are provided with the supplements and I can provide sample Prepare to Participate Questions on request.
* Current Event Paper/Presentations
* Midterm Exam
* Final Exam

Note for Instructors: On request, I will provide detailed assignment guidelines that you can adapt.

**COURSE CALENDAR (15 Weeks)**

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| **Week:** | **Content:** | **Notes for Instructors:** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to Course  Chapter 1 – Communication History, Theory, and Research | I do not have any students do current event presentations this week since class time is taken for the course introduction and since students do not have much time to prepare. |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2 – Communication Processes and Principles | Student current event presentations start. Depending on your class size you may have 1 – 2 students present per chapter |
| Week 3 | Chapter 3 – Communication and Perception |  |
| Week 4 | Chapter 4 – Verbal Communication |  |
| Week 5 | Chapter 5 – Nonverbal Communication |  |
| Week 6 | Chapter 6 – Listening |  |
| Week 7 | Chapter 7 – Interpersonal Communication  Processes |  |
| Week 8 | Chapter 8 – Communication in Relationships  Midterm Exam | To accommodate the midterm you could not have current event presentations this week. Or you could make the midterm online. |
| Week 9 | Chapter 9 – Culture and Communication |  |
| Week 10 | Chapter 10 – Small Group Communication |  |
| Week 11 | Chapter 11 – Organizational Communication |  |
| Week 12 | Chapter 12 – Health Communication |  |
| Week 13 | Chapter 13 – Public Communication |  |
| Week 14 | Chapter 14 – Media, Technology, and Communication |  |
| Week 15 | Chapter 15 – New Media and Communication  Course Wrap Up  Review for Final Exam | To accommodate the course wrap up and review you could not have current event presentations this week. |

**COURSE CALENDAR (10 Weeks)**

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| **Week:** | **Content:** | **Notes for Instructors:** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to the Course  Chapter 1 – Communication History, Theory, and Research  Start Chapter 2 – Communication Processes and Principles | I do not have any students do current event presentations this week since class time is taken for the course introduction and since students do not have much time to prepare. |
| Week 2 | Finish Chapter 2 – Communication Processes and Principles  Chapter 3 – Communication and Perception | Student current event presentations start. Depending on your class size you may have 1 – 2 students present per chapter |
| Week 3 | Chapter 4 – Verbal Communication  Start Chapter 5 – Nonverbal Communication |  |
| Week 4 | Finish Chapter 5 – Nonverbal Communication  Chapter 6 – Listening |  |
| Week 5 | Chapter 7 – Interpersonal Communication Processes  Start Chapter 8 – Communication in Relationships  Midterm Exam | To accommodate the midterm you could not have current event presentations for one chapter this week. Or you could make the midterm online. |
| Week 6 | Finish Chapter 8 – Communication in Relationships  Chapter 9 – Culture and Communication |  |
| Week 7 | Chapter 10 – Small Group Communication  Start Chapter 11 – Organizational Communication |  |
| Week 8 | Finish Chapter 11 – Organizational Communication  Chapter 12 – Health Communication |  |
| Week 9 | Chapter 13 – Public Communication  Start Chapter 14 – Media, Technology, and Communication |  |
| Week 10 | Finish Chapter 14 – Media, Technology, and Communication  Chapter 15 – New Media and Communication  Course Wrap Up  Review for Final Exam | To accommodate the course wrap up and review you could not have current event presentations for one chapter this week. |