

Agricultural Communication 590 -- Senior Seminar -- 5 Credit Hours

The Ohio State University --- Spring Quarter, 2009

Teaching Staff:

Instructor: Mr. Thomas S. Stewart

Room 311B

Agricultural Administration Building

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Secretary: Greta Wyrick

Room 208

Agricultural Administration Building

688.3178

Time & Place:

Class: M&W, 1:00PM-2:48PM, Room 202, Animal Sciences Building

Course Description: The Ag Com 590 Course for Spring Quarter of 2009 will have several objectives. The course is designed to serve as a “capstone” course for Ag Comm Majors at The Ohio State University. The major objective is to prepare those enrolled in the class for their first professional position, including but not limited to the job search, interview process, workplace experiences and workplace expectations. In addition, the course is designed to synthesize the skills and knowledge learned during the college career and to transition from theory to practical applications. Information will be given through course lectures, guest speakers and from the experiences of those enrolled as well.

Course Objectives:

To discuss entry-level employment strategies and avenues for future career growth

To provide an opportunity for critical thinking and writing of editorial material

To discuss what to expect as you transition from college to the workplace

To define excellence in the field of Ag.Com., and the standards used to judge it

Course Requirements: Attendance is the major requirement for this class. Class participation will also be a key factor in the instructor’s student evaluations. There will not be a required text for the course, but hand-outs will be given out during the quarter.

Assignments and Grading: Grades will be assigned on class attendance and participation, two written op-ed assignments, your portfolio package, and in class assignments (i.e. speaker reports, etc.) The course will have a possible total of 1,000 points to be earned throughout the quarter. The point distribution is as follows:

<u>Student Activity</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
Class Attendance	400
Op-Ed Assignment # 1	50
Op-Ed Assignment # 2	50
Portfolio	150
In Class Assignments	350
Total Possible	1,000

Grade Scale: 100-90 = A
90-88 = B+
87-80 = B
79-77 = C+
76-70 = C
69-67 = D+
66-64 = D
63-0 = E

Academic Misconduct: Any violation of the University's Code of Student Ethics will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct as specified by Faculty Rule 3335-31-02. Plagiarism, fabrication and other forms of academic dishonesty are justification for failure on any assignment or the course itself. Materials turned in for a grade are expected to be the student's original work prepared specifically for this course.

Disabilities: Students who need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the instructor to arrange an appointment as soon as possible to discuss the course format, anticipate special needs and to explore potential accommodations. The instructor will rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verification of the need for accommodations and for developing accommodation strategies. Students who have disabilities and who have not previously contacted the Office of Disability Services are encouraged to do so.

Class Schedule (subject to change during the quarter)

Monday, March 30, 2009: **Course Overview & Discussion of Course Syllabus**

Wednesday, April 1, 2009: **No Class Scheduled**

Monday, April 6, 2009: **Preparing for the Job Search; Portfolio Assignment**

Wednesday, April 8, 2009: **History of Agricultural Communication & The Land Grant University System** – Emily Rhoades

Monday, April 13, 2009: **The Rural/Urban Interface and Its Dimensions:**
Findings of the Ohio Rural Poll – Jeff Sharp

Wednesday, April 15, 2009: **Workplace Harassment Comes In Many Forms**
Robert Rissmeyer –VP/HR—Grange Insurance

Monday, April 20, 2009: **Workplace Meeting Dynamics & Teamwork**
Marilyn Trefz-Assistant Dean-CFAES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009: **Portfolio Assignment Presentations**

Monday, April 27, 2009: **The Job Interview**
Mark Evans – Mark A. Evans & Associates

Wednesday, April 29, 2009: **No Class Scheduled**

Monday, May 4, 2009: **Communication Skills – Television Op-Ed**

Wednesday, May 6, 2009: **Portfolio Show & Tell**
All Class Members

Monday, May 11, 2009: **Expectations of a Career in Public Relations**
Robert Wiseman – Burkholder-Flint, Inc.

Wednesday, May 13, 2009: **The Office Setting – Practical Advice to Take to Work**
Bill Rumble – Graduate – The Ohio State University
Broadcast Sales Professional

- Monday, May 18, 2009: **Entrepreneur Skill Set and How To Make It Work**
R. Clayton Davis – Graduate – BGSU
Continental Real Estate – Columbus, Ohio
- Wednesday, May 20, 2009: **Early Saving & Investing**
Brandon T. Smith – Consultant – UBS Corporation
- Monday, May 25, 2009: **No Class Scheduled -- University Closed**
- Wednesday, May 27, 2009: **Budgeting and Expense Controls**
Annette Hoelzer – Senior Partner - SS&G Financial Services
- Monday, June 1, 2009: **Taking Stock of your Physical Health**
Craig Myers – Athletic Director - Scioto Country Club
- Wednesday, June 3, 2009: **Final Class Session**
Course and Student Evaluations