**MEJO 490.2: International Public Relations**

**Spring 2020**

MW 3:30-4:45 p.m.

Carroll 143

Instructor: Dr. Suman Lee

Office: 358 Carroll Hall

Phone: 919-962-4077

Email: [suman@unc.edu](mailto:suman@unc.edu)

Office Hours: W 1:00-3:00 pm or by appointment

**Course Description**

This course aims to introduce students to the global and international perspectives of public relations. Corporations, governments, and non-government organizations (NGOs) actively seek to build and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with the publics in other countries beyond their national boundaries. Public relations agencies serve foreign clients facing a variety of issues and challenges on a global scale. The readings on international public relations, public diplomacy, global reputation management, and international media relations will be covered with practical applications and real-life cases.

**Learning Objectives**

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

1. Conduct research and evaluate information about international public relations
2. Identify key global publics and analyze their characteristics
3. Plan and conduct international public relations strategies and tactics
4. Learn principles to be an effective public relations professional in a global setting

**Accreditation Core Values and Competencies by this course**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society
2. Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity
3. Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
4. Think critically, creatively and independently
5. Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work

**Required Text**

None. Readings will be assigned by instructor.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Evaluation**

The evaluation of coursework will be based on the following point system:

Exam 1&2 200

Team project

Case Report 100

Peer evaluation 20

Presentation 30

Class participation 50

Maximum Points **400**

The grading scale is as follows:

370-400 A

360-369 A-

340-359 B+

330-339 B

320-329 B-

300-319 C+

290-299 C

280-289 C-

240-279 D

0-239 F

**Participation**

Class participation consists of attendance, in-class exercise, and overall participation to class discussion. Students with more than **three unexcused absences** will receive zero participation point and **the course grade will be lowered by one letter grade**. Students are required to submit document verification for excused absence upon instructor’s approval.

**Exam**

Exam is designed to test the student’s cumulative knowledge and understanding of the main ideas covered in the readings, class discussion, and in-class exercises. Students need to contact instructor in advance if conflict of schedule with excusable reason is anticipated. There is no make-up exam for unexcused absence.

**Team Project**

As a team effort, the students will collaborate to produce a comprehensive international public relations case report and to present it to the class. In consultation with instructor, your team will select a client organization (corporation, government, or NGO) which faces an international public relations challenge or opportunity. The key sections are; (1) background, (2) client organization overview, (3) target nation analysis, (4) SWOT analysis, (4) target publics, (5) summary and critique of current IPR activities and messages, and (6) strategic suggestions for the future. The detailed instruction will be provided.

**Professionalism**

Communication managers must be professional in every sense. Professionalism in this course means:

1. You are required to update yourself about current news cycle, especially business and international news related to international public relations.
2. Attending class, and team meetings held outside of class, throughout the semester.
3. Being prepared for class (including completion of readings and assignments)
4. Treating classmates with respect during discussions and other interactions. Discrimination or harassment with regard to race, gender, creed, etc., will not be tolerated.
5. Completing class and team assignments on time. Any late assignment will receive 20 percent deduction from the original grade.

**Honor Code**

The Honor Code, embodying the ideals of academic honesty, integrity and responsible citizenship, has governed the performance of all academic work and student conduct at the University for 125 years. Your acceptance of enrollment in the University presupposes a commitment to the principles embodied in this code and a respect for this most significant University tradition. Your participation in this course comes with the expectation that your work will be completed in full observance of the Honor Code. For more information, go here: honor.unc.edu.

**Student Accommodations**

If you need accommodations to participate in this course, please let the instructor know as soon as possible. If you need information about accommodations visit the Accessibility Services website at accessibility.unc.edu. Using recording devices in class is subject to accessibility approval (<https://ars.unc.edu/faculty-staff/students-using-recording-devices-class>).

**Diversity**

The University’s policy statements on Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination are outlined at http://policy.sites.unc.edu/files/2013/04/nondiscrim.pdf. In summary, UNC does not discriminate in offering access to its educational programs and activities on the basis of age, gender, race, color, national origin, religion, creed, disability, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression or disabilities.

**Harassment**

UNC does not tolerate harassment based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, culture, disability, or for any other reason. It is also a violation of the Honor Code and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act (1964) and Title IX of the Educational Amendments. If you need assistance with a harassment issue or problem, bring it to my attention or The Office of the Dean of Students, dos@unc.edu or 919.966.4042.

**Use of Laptops and Other Technology**

You are required bring your laptops or tablets for class participation, lecture quizzes, note-taking, research, and other work as assigned in class. However, to minimize distractions, please do not use your laptop for non-class activities (e.g. Facebook, iMessage, etc.). You should not be on your phone during class for non-lecture related activities.

**Form**

All writing assignments should be (1) submitted on letter size paper; (2) printed on one side of the page only; (3) prepared in a Times New Roman 12-point typeface; and (4) one inch margin at all sides, and (5) double-spaced.

**Course Schedule**

The following is a tentative outline of topics over the course of the semester and is subject to change by the instructor.

***Week Date Topics Readings***

1 1/8 Orientation to the course

2 1/13 What is IPR? GPR-1

1/15 Global Organization and PR Agency Globalization

3 1/20 **MLK Holiday, No Class**

1/22 Global Publics Hofstede

4 1/27 Country of Origin Jaffe & Nebenzahl, 4 & 6

1/29 Trade Conflict US beef in S. Korea (WSJ)

5 2/3 Nation Branding Anholt, 2 & 3 2/5 International Tourism

6 2/10 Olympic Games and IPR Manheim, 6

2/12 Olympic Games and IPR

7 2/17 Exam Review

2/19 **Exam 1**

8 2/24 Team Project Meeting

2/26 Team Project Meeting

9 3/2 International PR Crisis Apple and Samsung news

3/4 International PR Crisis TBA

10 3/9-13 **Spring Break (No Class)**

11 3/16 International News Shoemaker

3/18 International Media Relations Manheim & Albritton

12 3/23 Public Diplomacy Nye 3/25 Cultural Diplomacy Schneider

13 3/30 The United Nations (UN) and NGOs Doh & Guay, 2006

4/1 Global Connection and Digital Age Thrail et al., 2014

14 4/6 Exam Review

4/8 **Exam 2**

15 4/13 Team Project Meeting

4/15 Team Project Meeting

16 4/20 Presentation

4/22 Presentation

17 5/4 **Course Review and** **Team Project Due** (**Monday** **4:00 p.m.**)