



MEJO 137: Principles of Advertising & Public Relations

MEJO 137.3, 9:30-10:45 a.m. T/Th, CA 33 | MEJO 137.4 9:30-10:45 a.m. T/Th, CA 143



Quick Links: [Schedule](#) | [Books/Textbooks](#) | [Grading System](#) | [Research Participation](#)

Instructors

Adam Saffer, Ph.D. | Public Relations

🕒 TW 11–12p.m. (*please send calendar invite*)

🏠 378 Carroll Hall | Virtual Office via [Zoom](#)

✉️ adam.saffer@unc.edu §§

Lee Meredith | Advertising

🕒 MW 2-4 p.m. or by appt

🏠 261 Carroll Hall, Second Floor

✉️ lmeredith@unc.edu

Course Overview

This course introduces you to the fields of advertising and public relations along with important concepts concerning effective advertising and public relations practices. Taking this course will provide you with a solid foundation for understanding both disciplines, including historical development, issues and controversies, best practices, job opportunities and components of successful advertising and public relations campaigns. Additionally, the course will help you build a foundation in understanding advertising and public relations and provide a solid understanding of their relationship to each other, journalism, marketing and business.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, you will be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Determine whether a career in advertising or public relations is right for you.
- Examine the role and function of advertising and public relations in business, nonprofits and government.
- Understand the basic components of advertising and public relations process that include publics, research, planning, goals and objectives, strategies, messages, media, issues management and tactics.
- Explore the foundations of advertising and public relations including each profession's unique role in fueling brand movements, the history and structure of the industry – including career opportunities – and how people respond to strategic communication messages.
- Understand the transformation that has taken place in the strategic communication industry driven by digital and social technology and engagement.

The Hussman School of Journalism and Media is an accredited program through the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC), which requires that, irrespective of their particular specialization, all graduates should be aware of certain competencies and be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications;
- Demonstrate an understanding of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and, as appropriate, other forms of diversity in domestic society in relation to mass communications;
- Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information;
- Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles, and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity;
- Think critically, creatively and independently; and
- Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work.

*Please note that regular office hours will start the second week of class (January 13). Office hours will end on Thursday, April 17, to accommodate the high demand of grading, doctoral committee work and final projects/presentations. If you need to meet, please set-up a time with the professors or the TA.

§§ Please email the Teaching Assistant (TA) Yan Qu (yqu12@live.unc.edu) with questions about assignments, due dates, etc.

Method of Study

Two sections of MEJO 137 are team-taught by Professors Meredith and Saffer. For the first half of the course, Professor Meredith will instruct MEJO 137.3 and Dr. Saffer will instruct MEJO 137.4. For the second half of the course, Professor Meredith will instruct MEJO 137.4 and Dr. Saffer will instruct MEJO 137.3.

Lectures, discussions, and assignment/assessments are the major teaching tools for this course. The professor will present lecture material relevant to class readings and, along with any guest speakers, provide real-world examples of a variety of advertising and public relations situations. Each student is expected to have read assigned material before the class in which it is to be discussed and also be prepared to participate actively in class. Ongoing dynamic course material will also be presented as appropriate.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to take this course.

Required Books/Textbooks

- ❑ Kocek, C. (2013). *The Practical Pocket Guide to Account Planning*. Yellow Bird Press.
- ❑ Sullivan, L. & Boches, E. (2016). *Hey, Whipple, Squeeze this: The Classic Guide to Creating Great Ads*. 5th edition. John Wiley & Sons.
- ❑ “Public Relations” (1st edition) by Tom Kelleher, Ph.D. [Rent via Amazon \(recommended\) \\$24.09](#)

Suggested Books/Textbooks

- ❑ “For Immediate Release: Shape Minds, Build Brands, and Deliver Results with Game-Changing Public Relations” by Ronn Torossian [Amazon: \\$19.51](#)

Please note that for the public relations portion, it is strongly encouraged that students get an academic subscription to [The New York Times](#), [The Washington Post](#), or [The Wall Street Journal](#). And these are some helpful Twitter accounts to follow: @nytimes, @washingtonpost, @WSJ, @AdWeek, @PRWeek, @rga, @AdAge, @WeAreSocial, @skarenstein, and @dbreakenridge.

Reading

All reading for the lectures listed on the [tentative schedule](#) are to be completed before class. You may be called on in class to answer questions related to the day’s reading(s). There may be some readings posted on Sakai for specific class sessions. Sakai readings and lecture slides will be posted in the “Resources” section.

Attendance

Attendance is expected and you are responsible for all announcements and schedule changes made in class. There is no substitute for attending class, participating, listening, and taking notes. Attendance will be monitored, and the instructors reserve the right to lower the course grade for students with a pattern of excessive absences (more than three during the semester). Please note that you have two absences for each half of the semester. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to acquire notes from classmates; the instructors are not expected to provide notes. You can get an excused absence from the [University Approved Absence Office](#) (UAAO).

Email and Communication

Before you draft an email the instructor or the TA, please have a look at this helpful guide titled, [How to Email Your Professor](#). You should treat emails as professional correspondence. All communication should include your name, your class, and a professionally worded message. I (Professor Saffer) check email every weekday between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. My goal is to respond within 24 hours Monday through Friday.



Grading System Your grade is earned by successfully completing the requirements for each advertising and public relations section of the course. The final grade will be computed by adding both advertising and public relations grade percentages. If you have questions about your grades, whether it is an exam or an in-class quiz, you have one week to discuss it. For example, once you have taken an in-class quiz, you will have one week to ask questions about the grade. **Grading scale values are absolute. There will be NO rounding up at the end of the semester.**

Measurement percentages/points

Public Relations Portion 475 points (47.5%):

- In-class quizzes (drop 1) 15% (150 points)
- Assessment One 20% (200 points)
- Assessment Two 12.5% (125 points)

Advertising Portion 475 points (47.5%)

- Weekly quizzes (drop 1) 150 points
- Assignment One 200 points
- Assignment Two 125 points

Research participation requirement 50 points (5%)

- 5% = Completing all 3 studies/3 two-page article reviews
- 3.33% = Completing 2 studies/2 two-page articles reviews
- 1.66% = Completing 1 study/1 two-page article review
- 0.83% = Completing .5 study/1 one-page article review

Grading Scale**

A	= 93.0 -100
A-	= 90.0-92.99
B+	= 87.0-89.99
B	= 83.0-86.99
B-	= 80.0-82.99
C+	= 77.0-79.99
C	= 73.0-76.99
C-	= 70.0-72.99
D+	= 67.0-69.99
D	= 63.0-66.99
D-	= 60.0-62.99
F	= Below 60.0



Quizzes There will be quizzes in both the advertising and public relations portions of this course. In the public relations portion, there will be approximately 10 in-class quizzes that will total 150 points. In both portions, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Assessments/Assignments There will be two advertising and two public relations assessments/assignments. Details about the assessments/assignments will be provided by the instructors.

Research Participation Requirement Students in both sections of MEJO 137 are required to complete three hours of research over the course of the semester. There are two ways you can fulfill the research requirement.

First, you can participate in three hours of academic research studies in the Hussman School of Journalism and Media. Participating in studies is a valuable way for you to receive firsthand experience with research. If you are enrolled in another class that has a research requirement, it may also satisfy the research requirement for this course. If you have questions about the subject pool participation, please contact Professor Joe Bob Hester (joe.bob.hester@unc.edu). **You must fulfill your participation in a research study by April 23, 2020.**

Second, you can write three two-page summaries and critiques of academic research articles. Each review counts for one hour of research participation, so you can combine participation in the studies with article reviews to fulfill the research requirement. You may summarize any research article published in the past two years in the following journals: *Journal of Advertising*, *Journal of Public Relations Research*, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Public Relations Review*, or *Mass Communication and Society*. You must identify the author, date, article title, and journal title on each of your summaries. **Article summaries are due April 23, 2020.**

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 require special accommodations to attend or participate in this course, please let me know as soon as possible. This includes physical needs as well as less apparent needs such as testing anxiety. If you need information about accommodations visit the Accessibility Services website at accessibility.unc.edu or the Learning Center website at <http://learningcenter.unc.edu/ldadhd-services/>.

Diversity

UNC's policy statements on Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination are outlined [here](#). UNC does not discriminate or 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, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act (1964), and Title IX of the Educational Amendments. If you need assistance with a harassment issue, 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 to bring your laptops or tablets for class participation, lecture quizzes, note-taking, research, and other work as assigned in class. However, to minimize distractions to your classmates and to me, 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. Please notify the professor if you are recording the lectures.

Formatting and Writing Expectations

When submitting your assignments, I will tell you on the assignment sheet how I would like you to format the document. Follow these formatting requirements for all assignments. Documents not meeting these standards will not be accepted and are considered late until corrected. This particularly applies to your research article summaries.

Font	Size	Page Margins	Page Numbers	Name	Submissions	Lines
Times New Roman	12	1 inch all sides	All text pages	Header	Sakai	Double Spaced

Schedule for MEJO 137.4 (Saffer) First Half of the Semester

DATE	DAY	LECTURE/TOPIC	READING(S)
1/9	1	Introduction	Chapter 1: Does Society Need PR? (Coombs & Holladay, 2013, pp. 4–35)
1/14	2	What is public relations?	Chapter 2: Public Relations Models Through The Ages (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 26–53) Optional Article & Video: The real reason why Americans love bacon for breakfast
1/16	3	Public Relations Today	Chapter 3: Convergence and Integrated Communication (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 54–82)
1/21	4	Public Relations Models & Relationship Management	Chapter 4: Relationship Management (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 83–109)
1/23	5	Research	Chapter 5: Research (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 110–139) Receive Assessment I: Planning Document
1/28	6	Research: Issues and Crises	Chapter 12: Issues and Crises (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 302–330) Optional Academic Article: How publics react to crisis communication efforts
1/30	7	Planning	Chapter 6: Planning (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 140–167) Optional Video: Who Rules The New Media Landscape?
2/4	8	Planning: Writing	Chapter 9: Writing (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 220–248)
2/6	9	Planning: Multimedia and Mobile	Chapter 10: Multimedia and Mobile (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 249–274) Article: Snapchat, Instagram and Influencers: How to Know What's Best for Your Brand
2/11	10	Assessment I	<i>In class we will “workshop” the assignments associated with Assessment I. This is a flexible day. If there are any school closures, this day will be dropped and extended office hours offered.</i>
2/13	11	Implementation	Chapter 7: Implementation (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 168–190) Video (pick one): 5 Ted Talks All Brand Storytellers Must Watch
2/18	12	Implementation: Global	Chapter 13: Global (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 331–354)
2/20	13	Evaluation	Chapter 8: Evaluation (Kelleher, 2017, pp.191–219) Article: Emerging Models of Public Relations Measurement
2/25	14	Careers	Chapter 14: Careers (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 355–380)
2/27	15	Assessment II	Assessment II - Professor Meredith will begin teaching the advertising portion on 3/5

Schedule for MEJO 137.4 (Meredith) Second Half of the Semester

ADVERTISING SECTION SCHEDULE


Date	Day	Lecture/Topic	Reading(s)
3/3	1	Course Introduction	
3/5	2	What is Advertising?	Sullivan & Boches, Ch 1. (A Brief History of Why Everybody Hates Advertising, p. 1-16) & Ch. 2 (The Creative Process, p. 17-30)
3/17	3	Who & How, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 3 (Ready Fire! Aim, p. 31-46)
3/19* *	4	Who & How, Part II	Kocek, Part I (What's in a Name?, Job Description vs. Reality, Who's Who at the Agency, p. 1-19) & partial Part II (The Kickoff Call, p. 21-26)
3/24	5	Consumer Insights	Kocek, partial Part II (Finding Insights, p. 27-57)
3/26* *	6	Brands & Target Audiences	Kocek, partial Part III (Positioning, Brand Architecture, Segmentation Studies, Developing Personas, Consumer Decision Process Maps, p. 100-119)
3/31	7	Strategy	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 7 (Stupid, Rong, Naughty and Viral, p. 121-142) & Ch. 8 (Why Is the Bad Guy Always More Interesting?, p. 143-154)
4/2**	8	Creative Brief	Kocek, partial Part II (Creative Briefs, Selling the Idea, p. 59-70)
4/7	9	Digital, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 10 (Digital Isn't a Medium, It's a Way of Life, p. 171-182) & Ch.11 (Change the Mindset, Change the Brief, Change the Team, p. 183-196)
4/9**	10	Digital, Part II	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 12 (Why Pay for Attention When You Can Earn It?, p. 197-218) & Ch. 13 (Social Media is the New Creative Playground, p. 219-232)
4/14	11	Creative, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 5 (Write When You Get Work, p. 79-104) *****Assignment One due in class*****
4/16* *	12	Creative, Part II	Sullivan & Boches, Ch 6. (The Virtues of Simplicity, p. 105-120) & optional Ch. 4 (The Sudden Cessation of Stupidity, p. 47-78).
4/21	13	Consumer Responses	
4/23* *	14	The Pitch	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 19 (Pecked to Death by Ducks, p. 327-356)
5/1 at 8 a.m.	15	Advertising Wrap-Up	*****Assignment Two due in class*****

Schedule for MEJO 137.3 (Meredith) First Half of the Semester

ADVERTISING SECTION SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Lecture/Topic	Reading(s)
1/9	1	Course Introduction	
1/14	2	What is Advertising?	Sullivan & Boches, Ch 1. (A Brief History of Why Everybody Hates Advertising, p. 1-16) & Ch. 2 (The Creative Process, p. 17-30)
1/16	3	Who & How, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 3 (Ready Fire! Aim, p. 31-46)
1/21* *	4	Who & How, Part II	Kocek, Part I (What's in a Name?, Job Description vs. Reality, Who's Who at the Agency, p. 1-19) & partial Part II (The Kickoff Call, p. 21-26)
1/23	5	Consumer Insights	Kocek, partial Part II (Finding Insights, p. 27-57)
1/28* *	6	Brands & Target Audiences	Kocek, partial Part III (Positioning, Brand Architecture, Segmentation Studies, Developing Personas, Consumer Decision Process Maps, p. 100-119)
1/30	7	Strategy	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 7 (Stupid, Rong, Naughty and Viral, p. 121-142) & Ch. 8 (Why Is the Bad Guy Always More Interesting?, p. 143-154)
2/4**	8	Creative Brief	Kocek, partial Part II (Creative Briefs, Selling the Idea, p. 59-70)
2/6	9	Digital, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 10 (Digital Isn't a Medium, It's a Way of Life, p. 171-182) & Ch.11 (Change the Mindset, Change the Brief, Change the Team, p. 183-196)
2/11* *	10	Digital, Part II	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 12 (Why Pay for Attention When You Can Earn It?, p. 197-218) & Ch. 13 (Social Media is the New Creative Playground, p. 219-232)
2/13	11	Creative, Part I	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 5 (Write When You Get Work, p. 79-104) *****Assignment One due in class*****
2/18* *	12	Creative, Part II	Sullivan & Boches, Ch 6. (The Virtues of Simplicity, p. 105-120) & optional Ch. 4 (The Sudden Cessation of Stupidity, p. 47-78).
2/20	13	Consumer Responses	
2/25* *	14	The Pitch	Sullivan & Boches, Ch. 19 (Pecked to Death by Ducks, p. 327-356)
2/27	15	Advertising Wrap-Up	*****Assignment Two due in class*****

Schedule for MEJO 137.3 (Saffer) Second Half of the Semester

DATE	DAY	LECTURE/TOPIC	READING(S)
3/3	1	Introduction	Chapter 1: Does Society Need PR? (Coombs & Holladay, 2013, pp. 4–35)
3/5	2	What is public relations?	Chapter 2: Public Relations Models Through The Ages (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 26–53) Optional Article & Video: The real reason why Americans love bacon for breakfast
			
3/17	3	Public Relations Today	Chapter 3: Convergence and Integrated Communication (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 54–82)
3/19	4	Public Relations Models & Relationship Management	Chapter 4: Relationship Management (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 83–109)
3/24	5	Research	Chapter 5: Research (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 110–139) Receive Assessment I: Planning Document
3/26	6	Research: Issues and Crises	Chapter 12: Issues and Crises (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 302–330) Optional Academic Article: How publics react to crisis communication efforts
3/31	7	Planning	Chapter 6: Planning (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 140–167) Optional Video: Who Rules The New Media Landscape?
4/2	8	Planning: Writing	Chapter 9: Writing (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 220–248)
4/7	9	Planning: Multimedia and Mobile	Chapter 10: Multimedia and Mobile (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 249–274) Article: Snapchat, Instagram and Influencers: How to Know What's Best for Your Brand
4/9	10	Assessment I	<i>In class we will “workshop” the assignments associated with Assessment I. This is a flexible day. If there are any school closures, this day will be dropped and extended office hours offered.</i>
4/15	11	Implementation	Chapter 7: Implementation (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 168–190) Video (pick one): 5 Ted Talks All Brand Storytellers Must Watch
4/16	12	Implementation: Global	Chapter 13: Global (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 331–354)
4/21	13	Evaluation	Chapter 8: Evaluation (Kelleher, 2017, pp.191–219) Article: Emerging Models of Public Relations Measurement
4/23	14	Careers	Chapter 14: Careers (Kelleher, 2017, pp. 355–380)
5/1	15	Assessment II	<i>We will meet for Assessment II during the final exam time at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 1.</i>