

COMMUNICATION LAW & POLICY

*"The First Amendment, Libel Law, Invasion of Privacy,
The Regulation of Obscenity & Erotic Material, Intellectual Property, The Regulation of Advertising."*

Department of Television & Radio – TVRA 3535 / COMM 3300 / SPEC 3235

Spring 2015

Mondays, 3:40 PM to 6:25 PM

Room: Whitehead 205 A

Professor: Bruce Rabinowitz

Email: bruce_rabinowitz@hotmail.com (Do not use my BC email address.)

Department Office Telephone: 718 951-5555

Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Course Code: TVRA 16564 / COMM 16560 / SPEC 16556

Section: M3

Required Text:

Mass Media Law by Don R. Pember and Clay Calvert, 19th Edition, 2015

Please obtain this particular edition of the textbook.

This textbook **must** be brought to class every time that the class meets.

Attendance / Lateness / Missing Exams:

Attendance is mandatory, and your key to success in this course!

The Brooklyn College Bulletin states that "Students are expected to attend all scheduled sessions of every class for which they register." and "An instructor may consider attendance and class participation in determining term grade".

Two consecutive missed classes will require a written explanation stating the reason for such absences, as well as any documentation that would reasonably be expected in support of such explanation.

Please reconsider taking this class if you cannot, or do not plan to, attend every session that the class is scheduled to meet and to arrive before the class is to begin.

Please note that this class begins promptly at 3:40 PM and that you should be seated at that time.

Frequent lateness will unquestionably have a negative affect on your grade.

Please be prepared to stay for the full class. Leaving early is akin to arriving late and will be duly noted.

Missing an examination will significantly impact the final grade received.

Make-up exams are rarely offered, and only given at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Eating/Drinking:

As this class meets during dinner hours, and students are often arriving directly from work or another class, eating in class will be permitted, provided that students are discreet and do not distract other students or disrupt class discussions while eating.

Use of Electronics:

Please refrain from the using cell phones, including and especially **texting** during the class. **No texting in class. No texting in class. No texting in class.** I can see you.

No portion of the class may be recorded without the express permission of the instructor.

Advisement:

Should you require further advisement regarding the TVRA Department or your course of study within it, please contact Professor Brian Dunphy at TVR_undergradchair@gmail.com, or at Room 303A, Whitehead Hall.

Outcome Assessment:

Approximately 40% - **Participation, Attendance, Punctuality, Contribution, Attitude, Improvement, etc.**

Approximately 30% - **Midterm Exam** – *tentatively scheduled for March 30*

Approximately 30% - **Final Exam** – *tentatively scheduled for May 18*

Current Course Schedule:

In order to maximize class participation, it will be assumed that students will have read each of the chapters below prior to the class held on the corresponding date, and will be prepared to discuss that material.

1.	February 2	MONDAY		
2.	February 9	MONDAY	Chapter 1	The American Legal System
3.	February 18	WEDNESDAY	Chapter 2	The First Amendment: The Meaning of Freedom
4.	February 23	MONDAY	Chapter 3	The First Amendment: Contemporary Problems
5.	March 2	MONDAY	Chapter 4	Libel: Establishing a Case
6.	March 9	MONDAY	Chapter 5	Libel: Proof of Fault
7.	March 16	MONDAY	Chapter 6	Libel: Defenses & Damages
8.	March 23	MONDAY		
9.	March 30	MONDAY	M I D T E R M E X A M	
10.	April 13	MONDAY	Chapter 7	Invasion of Privacy: Appropriation & Intrusion
11.	April 20	MONDAY	Chapter 8	Invasion of Privacy: Publication & False Light
12.	April 27	MONDAY	Chapter 13	Regulation of Obscene and Other Erotic Material
13.	May 4	MONDAY	Chapter 14	Copyright
14.	May 11	MONDAY	Chapter 15	Regulation of Advertising
	TBD		F I N A L E X A M	

Please stay tuned for possible schedule changes.