



**RTV 453 Social Media, Spring 2014**  
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**Office Hours: TWTh 12:30-1:30 pm, Tues. 3:30 – 4:30 pm**

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Text:** Assigned readings available online (see course outline at [www.tonydemars.com](http://www.tonydemars.com)) and *Social Media Marketing*, Tuten & Solomon, ISBN 13: 9780132551793

**Course Description:** This course will examine concepts of communication, social interaction and community in a digital world. The course will include such interactive media applications as chat, blog, wiki, avatar, comment, Twitter®, Flickr®, Facebook®, MySpace®, Second Life®, podcast and similar Internet sites and techniques of digital media communication. Students will also study broadcast sales to compare how advertising relates to the marketing and public relations uses of social media.

**Student Learning Outcomes**—Students will:

- Learn and apply skills from use of various social networking web sites and programs.
- Develop a greater understanding of the concept of community and the related questions of how digital media communication intersects and interacts with social communication.
- Practice using various virtual, online and ‘in the cloud’ tools for advertising and marketing
- Discover ways emerging digital media framed within the concept of ‘Web 2.0’ can be used as a new form of business-related mass media.
- Learn how broadcast sales and broadcast-style production connect to Digital and Social Media used for reaching audiences and for purposes of public relations and marketing.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Grading policies:**

Grade evaluation:

Section and Mid-term Exams....(100 pts. each).....	300 points
Final Exam .....	200 points
Project work.....	200 points
Quizzes, Attendance & Participation.....	200 points

**Quizzes:** Each student must log in and take online Chapter Exams every week. You must have read and studied the associated chapter before taking the exam in order to be able to answer each question quickly. Making a high grade on an online exam then making a very low grade in a matching in-class exam will lead to possible cheating investigation—online exams must be your

own work and representative of your own knowledge. Taking every quiz is required--missing quizzes and/or low grades on the online quizzes will reduce your Daily Grade. For example a 65 average on the chapter quizzes would lead to a maximum 65 Daily Grade. Quizzes will each have a window of time available and cannot be made up if you miss that window. Technical or connection issues will not change this—don't wait until the last minute to try to do the quizzes.

**Major Exams:** Approximately 50 short answer and some possible discussion questions over sections of material covered in the class, including a Mid Term over first half of the semester and a comprehensive final exam. No make-ups possible except for unavoidable, unexpected events and only if the instructor is contacted in advance. Make-ups exams would involve fill in the blank and essay type questions. There is no guarantee of ever being able to make up missed work. For authorized university functions you must make arrangements with the instructor in advance.

Practicum is required to be enrolled in this class. If you are not enrolled in and receive a grade for an RTV Practicum course at the end of the semester, your course grade for RTV 453 will be an 'F.'

**Points and work required for:**

"A"— 810-900 'B'— 720-809 'C'—630-719 points; 'D'— 540-629 points

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### **Faculty / Student Commitment:**

- To accomplish the course objectives, the instructor will be in class on time, and prepared to guide each student's learning. Students should also be in class on time, committed to benefiting from the class time by being prepared, arriving on time, and staying involved the full class time.
- If at any time you are doing your part to do well in this course, but are having difficulty, please arrange a time and speak with me in my office. I cannot discuss your course status, grades or other information about your work or activities in the course just before class, during class time (including breaks), or immediately after class—nor can I discuss or respond to any of these issues via phone or e-mail.
- The keys to success in this class: Commit to learning the material we cover, read the required reading, take good notes in class and while reading, study the material as we go through it, ask questions in class about things you do not understand, and do the assigned work and turn it in on time.
- Each student must provide a ream of paper to supply the MMCT mini computer lab

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

**Attendance:** See [www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov) for the correct time—the time that shows on your watch or cell phone may not be accurate. Students arriving late are marked absent. Class begins at the scheduled starting time. **Absence during a 'virtual class meeting' also counts as an absence.** Arriving late or leaving at any time, even if you return, will result in being marked absent. There are no excused absences—when you are sick, stay home. Points related to attendance are based on missing in-class work as noted above, plus deductions of 10 points each time from your attendance grade starting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> late / absence. Excuse reports are not required for this class except as noted above. If you have an emergency reason to arrive late or leave early you should discuss this with the instructor in advance. Note: Very occasionally, an emergency break might be needed. If this occurs, feel free to leave without penalty, and simply remind me to mark it at the end of that

class. If you do not remind me that day, it would remain marked as an absence. You should expect to have no more than one of these per semester. The participation component of the Reports & Attendance grade is the instructor's subjective assessment of each student's involvement and contribution during class times--affected by but not limited to such issues as violating stated course policies, any inappropriate talking during class, disrupting class, late arrivals, not taking notes during lectures, and quality of reports as described above. Children or other guests are not allowed in classes.

**IMPORTANT: STUDENTS WHO MISS MORE THAN SIX CLASSES MAY FAIL AUTOMATICALLY OR BE DROPPED FROM THE COURSE.**

ALSO NOTE: Practicum is required to be enrolled in this class. If you are not enrolled in and receive a grade for an RTV Practicum course at the end of the semester, your course grade for RTV 453 will be an 'F.'

**UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**13.99.99.R0.01 Class Attendance** – “Students are responsible for learning about and complying with the attendance policy stated in the catalog, Student’s Guidebook, and/or faculty syllabus. Faculty members will provide details on requirements and guidelines for attendance in their classes in their course syllabi.” Students are responsible for reviewing remaining university attendance policy elements.

**Academic Honesty:** If you turn in work that is plagiarized, or take any action that violates TAMU-Commerce Academic Honesty policies, you will fail the course. All TAMU-Commerce students are responsible for knowing the standards of academic honesty. Please refer to the Student’s Guide Handbook for the University Academic Honesty Policy. Plagiarism is the use of someone else’s work as your own and/or failing to properly cite sources. Work submitted will be checked via an Internet search including [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) for each submission. Using a report you did not create or having someone else do any of your work violates Academic Honesty guidelines.

**Classroom Policies:** Students are expected to keep up with assigned reading and be prepared to answer questions in class--be sure you have done all required reading by the date noted on the course outline. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Turn off cell phones before entering the classroom. You may not use any electronic device in the classroom without specific permission from the instructor through a signed form completed during office hours. Any electronic device (computer, PDA, cell phone, iPod, etc.) brought to class must be turned off and stored off your desktop during class. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and stay the entire class session.

**Reading:** Do not come to class if you have not done the required reading for the day as shown on the online course outline. You are subject to being asked to prove, through questions, quizzes or short answers, that you have read the material -- and if you cannot provide a working knowledge of the content, you will be dismissed and counted absent.

**Deadlines:** Work not turned in on time will be late regardless of the reason—it is your responsibility to meet the deadline regardless of technical or other problems. Deadlines are always at the beginning of class in which anything is due. Work submitted incomplete will be marked as not submitted. Any missed deadline on projects means you will no longer get credit for the project.

**Behavior:** “Students are expected at all times to recognize constituted authority, to conform to the ordinary rules of good conduct, to be truthful, to respect the rights of others, to protect private and public property, and to make the best use of their time toward an education.” -- Texas A&M University System Student Rights and Obligations . “All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct) -- Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedures, 12.01.99.R0.05 Guidelines for Content and Distribution of Syllabi: Roles and Responsibilities of Faculty

- You may bring drinks or food into class, but use good manners while eating or drinking, and remove all trash when you leave. You MAY NOT have food or drinks in the editing rooms or production facilities at any time. Course grade penalty is imposed for infraction.
- Read assigned readings in advance. Be prepared to talk about them.

**Changes to syllabus:** I maintain the right to make changes as needed, in my judgment, from the stated plans contained in the syllabus for this class. Such changes will be announced to the class.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library Room 132. Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835. Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**EARLY INTERVENTION FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS:** Early intervention for freshmen is designed to communicate the University’s interest in their success and a willingness to participate fully to help students accomplish their academic objectives. The university through faculty advisors and mentors will assist students who may be experiencing difficulty to focus on improvement and course completion. The process allows students to be knowledgeable about their academic progress early in the semester and will provide faculty and staff with useful data for assisting students and enhancing retention. Grade reports are mailed by the end of the 6th week of the semester.

<b>TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR</b>
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DETAILED OUTLINE AT: <a href="http://www.tonydemars.com">http://www.tonydemars.com</a>
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**Social Media Project:** With each student contributing equally, work with a team to create an original Twitter account and Blogger account for a topic you would like to ‘publish’ about that serves a local community. Once you create the Twitter and Blogger accounts, you will also create other connected ‘social media’ tools, ‘publish’ content every week, and tweet about your new content as you publish it. Specifics will be added to the online course outline. Once you miss any required work, you will no longer receive any credit or points for the project. **Other helpful ‘Social Media’ links** – see Week 1 of the online course outline.

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