

Research Requirement Process

By participating in a research endeavor, students can receive course credit. (Note: COMM1500 students cannot receive extra credit). Please note that a "research endeavor" is not restricted to participation in a research study. We have five alternatives that students may choose to consider. One option is participating in a lab-based research project. A second option is to summarize a research article. A third option is to attend a department colloquium and write a summary of the talk. The fourth option is to attend the public speaking contest. The fifth is to participate in the debate event. These choices are explained in detail below.

COMM1500 requires you to you satisfy a departmental research requirement Failure to fulfill the research requirement will result in a grade of Incomplete (I) for this class. **Research Participation is due before the last day of class.**

Note: You will need to complete a separate research project or paper for each Communication Studies class that requires or offers research participation.

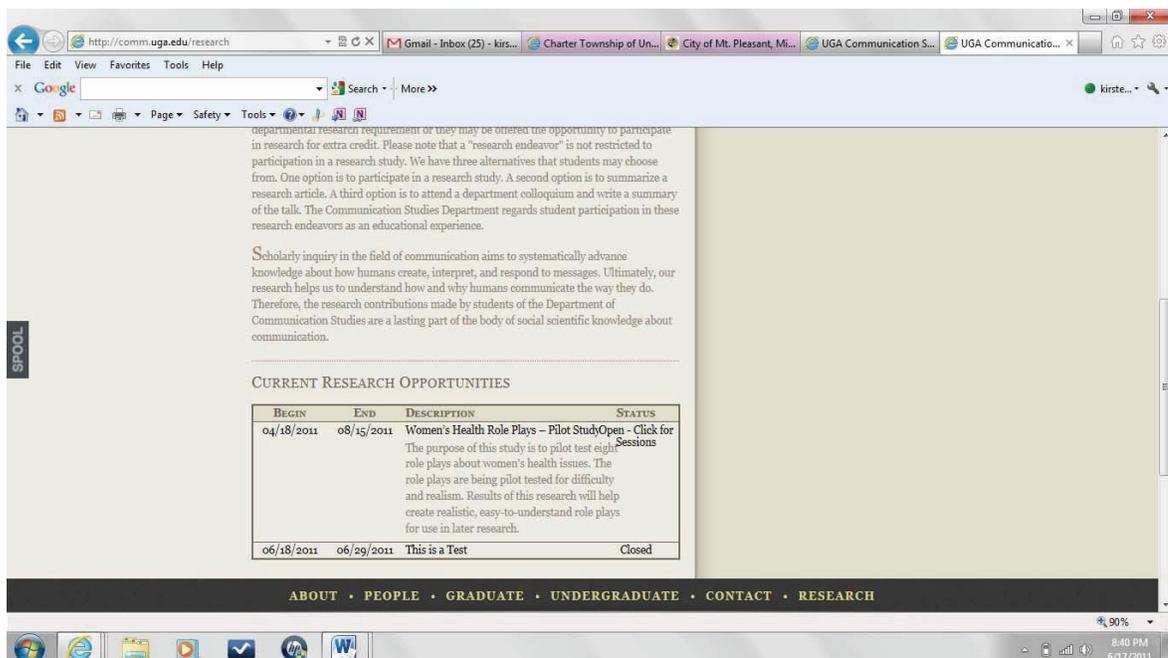
You may choose to do one of the following options.

OPTION 1: PARTICIPATION IN A COMMUNICATION STUDIES LAB BASED RESEARCH STUDY

The Communication Studies Department regards your participation in studies as an educational experience. The participation of students is appreciated and essential to the research of the Department of Communication Studies. The research contributions made by the students are a lasting part of the body of social scientific knowledge about communication.

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPATION OPTION:

Step 1: Sign-up for one of the Lab-Based Studies Posted on the "Research" section of the Department's website, <http://comm.uga.edu>, and select from one of the listed "Open Opportunities" on the page. NOTE: If you elect to do this option, COMM1500 students *must* sign up for a lab-based study.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://comm.uga.edu/research>. The page content includes a paragraph about departmental research requirements and a section titled "CURRENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES" which contains a table with the following data:

| BEGIN | END | DESCRIPTION | STATUS |
|------------|------------|---|---------------------------|
| 04/18/2011 | 08/15/2011 | Women's Health Role Plays – Pilot Study The purpose of this study is to pilot test eight role plays about women's health issues. The role plays are being pilot tested for difficulty and realism. Results of this research will help create realistic, easy-to-understand role plays for use in later research. | Open - Click for Sessions |
| 06/18/2011 | 06/29/2011 | This is a Test | Closed |

At the bottom of the page, there is a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, PEOPLE, GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE, CONTACT, and RESEARCH. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 8:40 PM on 6/17/2011.

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- a. Of the studies “open” at the moment, you may choose a lab-based study in which you wish to participate.
- b. When signing up for a lab-based study, please note what time you chose to participate, what will be expected of you, the approximate amount of time the study will take to complete, and the researcher’s contact information. Also, be sure to fill in your full name, instructor’s name, phone number, AND email address so the researcher can contact you if he or she needs to reschedule or send you additional information.
- c. If there are no “open lab-based opportunities,” you may wait until other lab-based research opportunities are posted on the website. Check the website occasionally over the semester.
- d. Keep in mind that you don’t earn credit by signing-up. You have to actually participate in a lab-setting to earn the credit.

Step 2: Participate in a lab-based Study

- a. It is your responsibility to show up at the designated time and location. If it is necessary for you to miss an appointment because of illness or an emergency, please call the phone number listed on the sign---up sheet.
- b. When you show up for the study, please **sign in** using both your name and your instructor’s name. We need both your name and your instructor’s name to ensure you receive credit.
- c. Make sure that you keep a copy of the consent form from the study; this is **your proof of participation**.
- d. If for some reason you do not receive credit later for participating in a study, notify your instructor and ask him/her to check with the researcher. The researcher keeps a copy of the sign---in sheet that you signed and also the list of participants that were given to the instructor. He/she has the responsibility to double check and find out whether you participated.
- e. Research must be completed **before the beginning of final exams week**.

OPTION 2: COMMUNICATION ARTICLE SUMMARY

This option is designed primarily for students who are not able or do not wish to participate in communication research studies. You must adhere to the following guidelines carefully; shoddy work will not be accepted. **Note: Any paper that is entirely or partly copied**

word---for---word from a research article (or from another student) is not acceptable. This is plagiarism, which is a very serious academic offense. Both your instructor and the research pool coordinator will check to make sure that your work is original.

Step 1: Select an article from one of the following journals:

Communication Quarterly
Communication Research Reports
Southern Communication Journal
Human Communication Research

Communication Reports
Communication Studies
Western Journal of Communication
Communication Monographs

- a. The article must have been published **within the last year**. **Note: It is your responsibility to locate a copy of the journal in the library or online (check in the current periodicals section first).**
- b. The article must describe a research study (hint: look for headings such as "Method," and "Results")
- c. Check with your instructor to make sure the article is one that is suitable before you write your paper.

Step 2: Write a 2-Page Summary and Analysis of the Article

- a. Your summary and analysis of the article should be 2 pages, double spaced. The purpose of the paper is to demonstrate that you have read and have understood the research article. It should be partly a summary and an astute description of what you learned from the article. Papers that contain simple phrases like "I didn't like the article" or "it didn't make much sense" will not be accepted for credit. You need to critically evaluate the material. The paper should contain at least two full pages of text.
- b. Include a title page for the paper that includes the following:
 1. Your name
 2. Your instructor's name & class time
 3. The title of the article you read and the author of the article
 4. The name of the journal
 5. The date and/or volume number of the journal
 6. The page numbers of the article
- c. A hard copy of the article stapled to the back of your paper.
- d. The paper must be typed and double---spaced. You must use a standard 12 point font size, with 1" margins.

Failure to heed these guidelines will result in the paper not being accepted for credit.

Step 3: Turn In Your Paper:

Submit your paper to your instructor on the last official day of class (note: the last day your class meets, not your final exam day). Any papers turned in during final exam week will not be accepted for credit, nor will any unacceptable papers receive credit.

OPTION 3: PARTICIPATION IN A COMMUNICATION STUDIES COLLOQUIUM

This option is also designed primarily for students who are not able or do not wish to participate in communication research studies. A colloquium is similar to a speech; each speaker takes about 1 hour and talks about his or her most recent communication research. In

addition to attending the colloquium, you must write a 2---page summary of the talk in order to receive course credit. **Note: Any paper that is entirely or partly copied from another student is not acceptable.** This is plagiarism, which is a very serious academic offense. Both your instructor and the research pool coordinator will check to make sure that your work is original.

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Step 1: Select a Communication Studies Colloquium to Attend

The colloquium schedule is posted in the department; your instructor may also notify you of upcoming colloquia. Most of the colloquia take place on Tuesdays at 12:30 in Caldwell Hall, room 502

Step 2: Attend a Communication Studies Colloquium

- a. Make sure that you are able to attend the entire colloquium (*at least an hour*). *You will need to sign up for a specific colloquium session using the online system.*
- b. Make sure your instructor verifies you are there or get another instructor to write down your name.
- c. Take notes during the colloquium so you can write an analysis of the talk.

Step 3: Write a 2 Page Summary & Analysis of the Colloquium Presentation

- a. Your paper should contain at least two full pages of text (not including title page and references).
- b. The purpose of the paper is to demonstrate that you have carefully listened to and understood the talk. It should be partly a summary and an astute description of what you got out of the talk. Papers that contain simple phrases like "I didn't like his/her research" or "it was confusing" will not be accepted for credit. You need to critically evaluate the research content of the talk.
- c. Your paper should be prefaced with a **cover page**, which must list the following (in order):
 1. The title of the speaker's talk
 2. The speaker's name
 3. The date of the colloquium
 4. Your name
 5. Your instructor's name
- d. The paper must be typed using a 12-point font and double-spaced.

Step 4: Turn In Your Paper

Submit your paper to your instructor on the last official day of class (note: the last day your class meets, not your final exam day). Any papers turned in during final exam week will not be accepted for credit, nor will any unacceptable papers receive credit.

OPTION 4: PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Step 1: Sign Up To Attend the Public Speaking Contest

The public speaking contest is held in fall (November) and spring (April) semesters. The event will be created as a research opportunity posted on the "Research" section of the Department's website, <http://comm.uqa.edu>, about two weeks ahead of the contest. Sign up as you would sign up to participate a research study. There are limited spots so sign up early.

Please note the time and location of the public speaking contest. Attendance will be taken at the public speaking contest. Your name must appear on the attendance sheet to receive credit.

Step 2: Attend the Public Speaking Contest

- a. Make sure arrive early and check in. You need to provide the information of your instructor and class
- b. Take notes during the public speaking contest so that you are able to write an analysis of the speeches.

Step 3: Write a 2 Page Summary & Analysis of the Speeches

- a. Write a paper on the speeches. Your paper should contain at least 2 full pages of text.
- b. The purpose of the paper is to demonstrate that you have carefully listened to and understood the speeches. It should be partly a summary and an astute description of what you got out of the public speaking contest. It should include the following
 1. Choose 2 speeches you like. What did you like about each speech? State 2 “take away” points per speech
 2. Choose a speech you did not like. Why didn’t you like it? Articulate the problem with the speech. Papers that contain simple phrases like “I didn’t like the speeches” or “they were confusing” will not be accepted for credit.
- c. Your paper should be prefaced with a **cover page**, which must list the following (in order):
 1. The date of the contest, and the winner of the contest
 2. Your name
 3. Your instructor’s name
- d. The paper must be typed using a 12---point font and double---spaced.

Step 4: Turn In Your Paper

Submit your paper to your instructor on the last official day of class (note: the last day your class meets, not your final exam day). Any papers turned in during final exam week will not be accepted for credit, nor will any unacceptable papers receive credit.

OPTION 5: PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE (LOUD AND CLEAR)

Step 1: Sign Up To Attend the Loud and Clear Event

The Loud and Clear event will be created as a research opportunity posted on the “Research” section of the Department’s website, <http://comm.uga.edu>, about two weeks ahead of the debate. Sign up as you would sign up to participate a research study.

Please note the time and location of the event. Attendance will be taken.

Step 2: Attend the Loud and Clear Event (or other debates if offered this term).

- a. Make sure to arrive early and check in. You need to provide the information of your instructor and class

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- b. Take notes during the debate so that you are able to write an analysis of the debate.

Step 3: Write a 2 Page Summary & Analysis of the Debate

- a. Write a paper on the debate. Your paper should contain at least two full pages of text.
- b. Your paper should include the following:
 1. Topic of debate
 2. 2-3 main arguments advocated by the affirmative team (the team speaking first).
 3. 2-3 main arguments advocated by the negative (the team speaking second).
 4. Indicate which team *won* the debate: Affirmative or Negative
 5. Why did they win the debate?
- c. Your paper should be prefaced with a **cover page**, which must list the following (in order):
 1. The date and location of the debate, and the winner of the debate team
 2. Your name
 3. Your instructor's name
- d. The paper must be typed using a 12---point font and double---spaced.

Step 4: Turn In Your Paper

Submit your paper to your instructor on the last official day of class (note: the last day your class meets, not your final exam day). Any papers turned in during final exam week will not be accepted for credit, nor will any unacceptable papers receive credit.

