MMC 1000: Introduction to (Mass) Communication: Professor Pachter

How do I contact you outside of class?
You can e-mail me at pachterm@palmbeachstate.edu or call me at 868-3073. You can also visit me in my office (TL 101) during my office hours, which are posted outside my office and on my faculty homepage.

Do I have to buy a book?
Nope! There is no book to buy for this class.

Do I have to read?
Sorry, you'll still have to read (and write observations on your readings). But you will access all course materials (FREE) via our LibGuide, which can be found at: http://palmbeachstate.libguides.com/pachtermassmedia. Our readings are divided up into “lessons” – you can see what readings are due by checking our class schedule.

Do I really have to show up to class?
Of course! If you aren’t in class, you are missing valuable class discussion, activities and workshops. The college says you can miss up to 10 percent of a course, which means that you can have up to three absences. But be careful – you’ll still be held accountable for any work due and you can’t make up participation! I expect you to be on time and to stay for the entire class period. Three tardies/early dismissals will count as one absence. (And if you miss more than 30 minutes of a class, it’s an absence.)

For each absence, you will incur a penalty of 3 points (deducted from your participation points). Absences beyond those permitted will result in a penalty of ten additional points for each absence. If you stop coming to class, it is your responsibility to withdraw (deadline is 11/6/2018). If you just stop attending class and do not withdraw, you will receive a grade of “FX” for the course.

I missed class, what do I do?
First, check the schedule to see what you missed and make sure you come back to class prepared and caught up. Second, you need to provide documentation if you want the absence to be excused. Finally, if you did not submit any work due by its due date/time, then you will need to submit it immediately upon your return to class (half credit if an unexcused absence).

What happens if I’m late submitting an assignment?
Assignments are accepted for full credit only on the date they are due. If you are absent on an assignment due date or have not completed the assignment on the due date, you may turn in the assignment the following class period for a 50 percent deduction (this policy includes speeches).

Can I have my cell phone or electronic devices out during class?
Technology, while a wonderful tool, can be distracting in the classroom. Therefore, all cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off or vibrated before entering the classroom. Students should not have cell phones out for any reason. Violators of this policy will write a two-page essay reflecting on the issue. This policy includes just having your phone “sitting out” on your desk.

What will I be learning this semester?
This is a “survey” course, meaning we cover a variety of topics, from basic communication theories (process, perception, language, nonverbal communication, listening) to public speaking (how to write, research and delivery a speech) to relational communication (group and interpersonal).

Participation Points 100 points (based on attendance and participation, 3 points deducted per absence)
Article Reviews 400 points (4 @ 100 points each)
Individual Portfolio 100 points (average of individual projects assigned during term)
Sketchbook 200 points
Company Portfolio 100 points (average of all company projects presented during term)
Company Ad/PR Project 100 points

*Note on Participation Points: Attendance is only PART of this grade. Participation is more than just showing up to class. You are expected to be actively engaged in every class. Failure to do so results in loss of points beyond absence deductions.

Grade Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>900-1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>800-899</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>700-799</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>600-699</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 600</td>
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Where can I find course information?
All course information, assignments, Powerpoints, and grades are available on our LibGuide. You can keep track of grades on Blackboard.

One final note .... These are just some of my policies. You must be familiar with the entire syllabus (which is subject to change). Full syllabus is available on my faculty homepage. Read it and know your rights and responsibilities!