

Intro to Mass Communications

COMM-1154

Spring 2021 Section E03 3 Credits 01/09/2021 to 05/11/2021 Modified 01/21/2021

Description

COMM 1154 is an introductory survey and critical examination of Mass Communications, of the origins and development of paramount economic, legal/policy, ethical, political, and social effects issues facing print, telecommunications, and electronic media, as well as advertising and public relations support industries. The course is designed to stimulate understanding and critical thinking about mass media's impact on society as well as society's impact on mass media. Particular attention will be given to implications of competition and convergence of traditional and digital mass media.

Simply put, we want to understand the historical development of the media-rich lives we live: how we got to where we are, where we're going – and our relationship as individuals and a culture to both of those things.

Requisites

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

Contact Information

Office Hours: Tue/Thu – 2pm - 3pm & 5pm – 6:30pm

Friday – 2pm-4pm (Course Den Only)

All office hours will be held virtually with some exceptions. Students may contact the instructor to request a meeting day and time for an appointment. This appointment may take place on Google Meet, Collaborative Ultra, telephone, or another platform. If for some reason a student wants to meet in person with the instructor then certain accommodations can be made. In that case, both or all parties, student(s) and instructor, will follow the proper guidelines in terms of wearing masks and proper social distance in a safe environment.

Mobile Telephone: 404-375-7274

Office Telephone: 678-839-4932 or 94932 (campus phones only)

E-mail: Preferably through Gmail awill@westga.edu (option 1) or Course Den (option 2)

Project Email : Course Den Assignment Submissions folder

I am available to address matters of concern via the Course Den system under the Collaborate Ultra tab, Google Meet, via email, telephone, or in-person (if necessary). Please email me if you need to make an appointment so we can decide on which communication method above is preferred.

If you have problems in the class, it is **YOUR responsibility** to initiate contact with me. I cannot help you if you do not communicate with me. Let me know of any problems **early** in the semester. I **will not** accept excuses for poor performance or missing tests, assignments, or projects especially late in the semester.

Meeting Times

This course is online and does not have actual days and times. Students are to complete the work in an asynchronous manner.

Materials

TEXT & ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Biagi, Shirley (2015). *Media Impact: An Introduction to Mass Media* (12th ed.). Cengage Learning.

Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will have a thorough understanding of the relationship between the media and society
2. The student will analyze the impact that the media have on society and the cause and effect of societal behaviors on the media
3. The student will identify with each of the media industries from the historical beginning through today's new technology and the impact that each has on one another
4. The student will apply expertise and gain experience in innovative methods of research
5. The student will apply knowledge and gain experience in individual critical thinking
6. The student will gain experience in creative group relationships and practices through class work and/or group presentations
7. The student will gain experience in topical debate discussions as part of class assignment(s)

Evaluation

Criteria

GRADING POLICY

Grades earned in this class are based solely on the following:

Assignments (4 x 5 percentage points)	20%
Quizzes (2 x 6 percentage points)	12%
Examinations (2 x 8 percentage points)	16%
Exercises (3 x 5 percentage points)	15%
Discussions (3 x 4 percentage points)	12%
Topical Online Presentation	10%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100

Grading Scale:

Points needed to receive grade

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79

D 60-69

F 59 and below

Breakdown

Assignments

Assignments, Quizzes, and Exams will be administered during the semester. All quizzes and exams will be a combination of Multiple Choice and True/False sections. Each will cover textbook chapters, posted PowerPoint lectures or online lectures, and/or posted online articles, videos, audio, etc. Tests will take place online via CourseDen. Assignments will be given periodically throughout semester. Assignments may be on chapter elements taken straight from the textbook and from online research or related to current media topics or trends through online articles, video, or audio. All assignments that are submitted via Assignment Submissions folder must be typed in 11 or 12-pt using a professional font format such as "Times New Roman" or "Courier." Any hand-written assignment or assignment submitted in a cursive style format will not be accepted. ALL assignments will be submitted via Course Den Dropbox for the exception of the online discussions which will take place in the "Discussion" area of CourseDen.

Discussions: There will be three discussion assignments given during the semester. This type of assignment will be one of the following: current news topic, online article, current news video, current news audio. This assignment will begin with the instructor posting a media-related online element in the "Discussion" area of CourseDen with each student commenting on the topic. When the online element is posted, the instructor will ask various questions relating to the topic. Each student must have substance in his or her answer to each question in order to receive full credit for the discussion assignment.

Exercises: There will be three exercise assignments. For these exercises, students will be placed in various real life situations pertaining to the actual chapter or chapter discussion, and give thorough answers about handling the situations that are placed in. Proper guidelines will be given for each exercise.

Topical Online Presentation: For this assignment, students, in a small group, will be assigned specific news topics or headlines in which certain questions pertaining to the topic are given. Students will answer the given questions in a Powerpoint structured format with various media content such as photos or video links. More information is discussed in the Class Schedule about this project.

Typed Assignments Rubric – Guidelines to follow (Assignment I)

- 12 pt font using a standard font type for term or research papers such as Times Roman or Courier
- 1" margins on top, bottom, left, and right
- Double-spaced
- Spelling, grammar, proper sentence structure should be used; avoid typos and misspellings
- Subject matter should be followed. If, for instance, you are required to discuss the subject matters on the colors red, green, and blue, don't just talk about green since it's your favored color and leave out the rest. Points will be deducted for leaving out vital, required information.
- If required to write at least one-page, make sure your assignment is one-full page or more. One paragraph, a half of page, or even $\frac{3}{4}$ of a page is deemed for points being deducted.
- No sources are required for this assignment so no "Works Cited" page is needed. This is only an assignment discussing your experiences with the media that you grew up with along with the media that you are currently using.
- Although sources are not required, you may use facts or statistics to support any argument, statement, or story given in this assignment.

Critical Questions Assignments Rubric – Guidelines to follow (Assignments II – IV)

- Each "Critical Questions" assignment can either be typed or hand-written; if hand-written, please scan the document and upload to the Assignment Submissions location. DO NOT take a pic of the hand-written document and upload it. This method is not acceptable.
- If typed, use 12 pt font with standard font type such as Times Roman or Courier
- 1" margins on top, bottom, left, and right
- Single or double-spaced; whichever spacing is chosen be sure to properly space (double or triple) between each question.
- Spelling, grammar, proper sentence structure should be used; avoid typos and misspellings

- Write or type out ALL questions prior to answers and answer ALL questions with complete statements. (Points will be deducted if questions do not precede answers)
- If writing the assignment, PLEASE write legibly in order for answers to be understood; cursive is acceptable as long as it is neat and understood.
- If writing, avoid scratch outs, strike outs or writing outside of margins; DO NOT write in two or more colored inks. This looks very tacky and unprofessional.
- When answering each question, make sure that the question is answered fully. It is best to give more information to a particular question, then to give a little or brief information which may not answer the question enough.
- In the "Critical Questions" assignments, some questions may contain MORE than one question within the numbered question. For instance, question number 1 in the "Critical Questions" section for Chapter 5 *Recordings*, contains three questions within the actual number. If you answer ONLY one or two of the three questions, then points will be deducted.
- All "Critical Questions" assignments have 5 numbered questions (1-5). Each numbered question, whether or not it contains only one question or more, is worth a total of 20 points. Therefore, if all questions are answered correctly and all rules are followed, then your total score would be 100 (5 times 20).

Discussions Rubric – Guidelines to follow (Discussions I through III)

- Spelling, grammar, proper sentence structure should be used; avoid typos and misspellings
- Subject matter should be followed. You should have substance in your answers to each question such as giving an example about something or basing an opinion on facts or statistics
- Follow the instructions as written for the specific discussion. If the instructions say to write three sentences for a particular question, then of course, that would be required.

Exercises Rubric – Guidelines to follow (Exercises I through III and Bonus Assignment)

- Spelling, grammar, proper sentence structure should be used; avoid typos and misspellings
- Type your answers on the given document for each specific exercise given. Do not submit an exercise assignment with only the answers on it.
- Answer each question or situation with a complete sentence. Points will be deducted if this rule is not followed.

Teaching methodology will include, but will not be limited to: Lectures by professor and invited guests) which may be in form of PowerPoints or videos, group presentations, quizzes, exams, current media trend discussions and class participation break-out sessions, home assignments, and class debate (formal or informal). The professor will direct discussions and give written guidelines for each project or assignment.

Additionally, the course is designed to teach the students about the historical role and significance of each medium, in a lecture format that demands participation from the students. This course provides a solid foundation for more advanced courses in the Department of Mass Communications. Through reading, research and discussions, students will examine the relationships of print media (newspapers and magazines, radio, television, film, book publishing, the internet, and the media support industries: public relations and advertising).

ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, EXAMS AND PROJECTS

Make-up assignments, quizzes, exams and projects: Any make-up work will be administered at the discretion of the instructor. All requests to make-up missed work must be substantiated with official documentation as to why you were absent and unable to complete your work. Acceptable situations include a serious incapacitating illness or a death in your family, among others.

***ALL Make-up assignments must be submitted through the "Make-up Assignments" area** which is located in the Assignments Submission location of CourseDen. A student can only make up an assignment if he or she received prior permission from the instructor. Make-up assignments will not be accepted via email unless approved by instructor. This approval is usually determined if the student is having issues with uploading assignments to CourseDen or if the UWG website is in the maintenance process. If any student is having problems with uploading content to CourseDen, it is recommended that he or she contact the IT department immediately.

Late assignments: Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor. If a late assignment is deemed acceptable, it will suffer a letter grade deduction penalty for each day it is late.

CLASS SCHEDULE - COMM 1154 Intro to Mass Communications – Section E03

(This schedule is subject to change in order to accommodate guest speakers and maintain some flexibility. Additional reading, listening, and viewing assignments may be made throughout the semester. You are responsible for all material assigned.)

January

Week One

Tue. 12- Syllabus review and important elements of the course discussed. Student introductions will take place. **Assignment I – “Media in Your Own Space – What you used or were aware of yesterday and today,”** Write a one or two-page paper (Typed-written) indicating your experience of yesterday (all the way to your childhood) and today’s media in some way, shape or form. Your media experience may be through magazines, CDs, television, etc. For this assignment, you are not only discussing your first cell phone although that can be included. But you are to mainly discuss the older media technology used such as your family’s first TV set, your grandfather’s old 8-track tape machine, or your favorite magazine or book you read as a child. With that being said, you can also talk about past experiences you viewed your parents going through in addition to your own personal experiences. These past experiences will then transition into your current media experiences with various media tools. **This assignment is Due on Tuesday, Jan. 19th by 11:59pm.**

Thu. 14- For next week, read and reflect on **Chapter 1 *Mass Media and Everyday Life***. (As for all chapters discussed through PowerPoint, instructor will upload lecture on CourseDen.) **Assignment II – Complete the “Critical Questions” section at the end of Chapter 1.** This assignment may be hand-written or typed and due on Thursday, Jan. 21st by 11:59pm.

Week Two

Tue. 19- Submit Assignment I **“Media in Your Own Space – What you used or were aware of yesterday and today.”** Continue reflection on Chapter 1 ***Mass Media and Everyday Life***.

Thu. 21- Submit “Critical Questions” Assignment II. Be ready for Quiz 1 - Chapter 1 ***Mass Media and Everyday Life***.

Week Three

Tue. 26- Quiz 1 – Chapter 1 ***Mass Media and Everyday Life*** is posted online. For Thursday, read and reflect on Chapter 2 ***Books: Rearranging the Page***. **Assignment III – Complete the “Critical Questions” section at the end of Chapter 2.** This assignment may be hand-written or typed and due on Thursday, Jan. 28th at 11:59pm.

Thu. 28- Submit “Critical Questions” Assignment III. Read and reflect on Chapters 3 ***Newspapers: Expanding Delivery*** by Tuesday of next week.

February

Week Four

Tue. 02- More reflection on Chapter 3 ***Newspapers: Expanding Delivery***. Be ready for Exam I which takes place on Tue. Feb. 9th

Thu. 04 – Online Discussion I of topic pertaining to books or the book industry. Students will participate in a required discussion regarding Chapter 2 Books. More details will be given in either the Discussions tab or Content of Course Den. Discussion is due by 11:59pm.

Week Five

Tue. 09-Exam I – Chapters 1 through 3 takes place online.

Thu. 11- Online Discussion II of topic pertaining to newspapers or the newspaper industry. Students will participate in a required discussion regarding Chapter 3 Newspapers. More details will be given in either in the Discussions tab or Content of Course Den. Discussion is due by 11:59pm.

Week Six

Tue. 16- Online Exercise I is given to class pertaining to Chapter 5 Recordings. Exercise I is due on Thursday by 11:59pm. Guidelines for exercise will be posted in the “Assignments” area of Course Den.

Thu. 18- Submit Online Exercise I by 11:59pm.

Week Seven

Tue. 23- Online Discussion III of topic pertaining to radio broadcasting or the radio industry. Students will participate in a required discussion regarding Chapter 6 Radio. More details will be given in either in the Discussions tab or Content of Course Den.

Discussion is due by 11:59pm. Read and reflect on ***Chapters 5 Recordings: Demanding Choice*** and ***6 Radio: Riding the Wave***.

Assignment IV – Complete the “Critical Questions” section at the end of Chapter 5 ONLY. This assignment may be hand-written or typed and due on Thursday, Feb. 25th at 11:59pm

Thu. 25-Submit “Critical Questions” Assignment IV of Chapter 5 by 11:59pm.

Week Eight

Tue.-02-Continue class reflection on *Chapters 5 Recordings: Demanding Choice* and *6 Radio: Riding the Wave*. Be ready for Quiz 2 on Chapters 5 and 6.

Thu. 04 - Quiz 2 - Chapters 5 and 6 takes place.

March

Week Nine

Tue. 09- **Topical Online Presentation** – Instructor will assign specific news topics or headlines to a group of students in the class as a group assignment. Each group will answer specific questions pertaining to the given title and submit in a PowerPoint structured format which will include photos and/or video links of topic. Instructor will choose the set of students, for instance, first 5 students on roster assigned to topic on plane crash in Brazil. Each student will then communicate with each other and decide on which sections each group member will cover. This will make it a little easier on each of you. More details will be given in the “Group” or Content location of Course Den. This assignment is due on Thu, March 25th at 11:59pm.

Thu. 11-Students work on Topical Online Presentation.

Week Ten

Tue. 16 & 18 – SPRING BREAK – Turn Up, Get Lit!!! or whatever the new phrase is

Week Eleven

Tue. 23- Continue work on Topical Online Presentation.

Thu. 25- Submit Topical Online Presentation in Group submission location. Following Spring Break, read and reflect on *Chapters 7 Movies: Picturing the Future* and *8 Television: Changing Channels*. Bonus Assignment – Class Exercise - This assignment is due on Tuesday, March 30th.

Week Twelve

Tue. 30- Submit Bonus Assignment. More reflection on Chapters 7 and 8.

Thu. 01 (April)-Reflect and study for Exam II – Chapters 5 through 8.

April

Week Thirteen

Tue. 06- Exam II – Chapters 5 through 8. (Given Online) – Read and reflect on *Chapter 11 Public Relations: Promoting Ideas*.

Thu. 08- Online Exercise II is given to class pertaining to Chapter 11 Public Relations. Exercise II is due on Tuesday, April 13th by 11:59pm. Guidelines for exercise will be posted in the “Assignments” area of Course Den.

Week Fourteen

Tue. 13- Submit Online Exercise II by 11:59pm.

Thu. 15-Continue reflection on Chapter 11 Public Relations. For next week, read and be ready to discuss *Chapters 14 Law and Regulation: Rewriting the Rules* and *15 Ethics: Placing Responsibility*.

Week Fifteen

Tue. 20- Online Exercise III is given to class pertaining to Chapter 14 Law and Regulation and Chapter 15 Ethics: Placing Responsibility. Exercise III is due on Tuesday by 11:59pm. Guidelines for exercise will be posted in the “Assignments” area of Course Den.

Thu. 22- Work on Exercise III and reflect Chapters 14 and 15.

Week Sixteen

Tue. 27- Submit Online Exercise III by 11:59pm.

Thu. 29- Students use this day to focus on Final Exam which will cover Chapters 1-3, 5-8, 10 and 11 and 14 and 15. Study guide will

be uploaded for student reflection.

Week Seventeen

Tue. 04 & Thu. 06-Last week of school. Students use this week to continue focusing on Final Exam which will cover Chapters 1-3, 5-8, 10 and 11 and 14 and 15. Study guide will be uploaded for student reflection.

Final Exam Date and Time: May 6th and 7th (Online Test Portal Open 48 hours)

Anyone who has a schedule conflict should contact the instructor in order to schedule the exam on a different date.

Exam will be given online

(Class Schedule may change at discretion of course instructor)

* Course Policies and Resources

@ College/School Policies

Mission

Fair, just, and productive societies require the free flow of news, information, and ideas from communicators of knowledge, skill, and integrity who reflect the diversity of the people they serve. Therefore, the Department of Mass Communications strives to provide high quality academic and experiential learning opportunities to prepare students for successful integration into the global community as industry professionals, leaders, and thinkers in the fields of convergence journalism, digital media and telecommunication, film and video production, and public relations.

Vision

The Department of Mass Communications is committed to empowering students to communicate clearly, act responsibly, think critically, and understand context(s) to enhance their personal, civic, academic, and professional lives, facilitating active participation in an evolving and increasingly diverse society.

Strategic Priorities

Invested Teaching

To inspire and equip students to discover their personal, intellectual, and professional potential through personalized teaching, academic coaching, and career mentoring.

Experiential Learning

To offer students early and on-going multiple and diverse hands-on learning to develop and enhance personal, intellectual, and professional growth.

Connectedness

To serve as the hub that connects and cultivates partnerships among key stakeholders to enhance personal, intellectual, and professional growth. Key stakeholders include administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni, industry, community, and friends.

Mass Communications Degree Program Learning Outcomes

ACEJMC Professional Values and Competencies: The Bachelor of Science degree program in Mass Communications is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC), and the Department is committed to preparing students with the requisite knowledge and skills to be successful in the media and communications industries after graduation. The Department has adopted as its Mass Communications degree program learning outcomes ACEJMC's 12 professional values and competencies, known as 6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS, that all graduates of an ACEJMC accredited program should be aware of and able to demonstrate as scholars and professionals in the discipline. For the detailed list of the ACEJMC professional values and competencies, see the [UWG Undergraduate Catalog \(https://catalog.westga.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=11&poid=1991\)](https://catalog.westga.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=11&poid=1991) or [ACEJMC - Standard 2. Curriculum and Instruction \(http://www.acejmc.org/policies-process/nine-standards/\)](http://www.acejmc.org/policies-process/nine-standards/).

6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS

<p>6 X 6 MASS COMM SUCCESS (https://www.westga.edu/academics/coss/mass-communications/assets/pics/6x6_MC_Success_Graphic.JPG)</p> <p>(click to view image)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Freedom of Speech & Press2. History3. Diversity4. Global Impact5. Theory6. Ethics7. Think Critically & Creatively8. Research & Evaluate9. Write Effectively10. Self-Evaluate11. Apply Numbers & Statistics12. Apply Technology
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Film & Video Production Degree Program Learning Outcomes

Overview: The Bachelor of Science degree program in Film & Video Production is designed to train graduates in the field who are agile, adaptable, and able to employ their skills in an array of roles from entrepreneurial content producers to on-set film work, both above and below the line. It will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the machinery at work behind media production and distribution, along with a set of tangible, marketable, and transferable skills for an array of positions within the infrastructure of film and content production. The FVP degree program learning outcomes include:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking, aesthetic awareness and technical proficiency in the production and assessment of audio-visual film work.
2. Understand all phases and roles of film production in order to help formulate career goals.
3. Understand the various potentials of film as both a commodity for a targeted audience, and an act of authorship and creative expression.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of cinema in a global society.

Institutional Policies

Academic Support

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty

cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.

University Writing Center: The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the [Student Handbook \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing

activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information# (http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php> (<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>)

Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGcares](#).

ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the [E.L.L. resource page](#) for more information.

COVID-19

Proctored Exams/Online Instruction: Students should be aware and plan ahead for the possibility of having to complete all courses and/or exams online or in a proctored environment. This means talking with your instructors about what minimum technical requirements (software and hardware) will be required should your class move online or a student's personal needs dictate. This also includes making plans for internet access at whatever location participation may occur.

Virtual or in-person proctored exams, if your instructor should require them, may result in an additional cost to the student. Please discuss these details with your instructor or see the information provided here.

Face Coverings: Effective July 15, 2020, University System of Georgia institutions, including the University of West Georgia, will require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing.

Face coverings are not required in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons.

Student FAQs: For more information about UWG COVID-19 guidance for students visit the [Student FAQ webpage](#) (<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php>).

Additional Items
