

# coms 180

## Org Comm “Beer” Pong Final Project

### Directions

Each group will be assigned **two** chapters/sets of readings (see topics below)

Each group will craft 10 questions **for each** chapter/set of readings (100 points, 5 pts per question)

To achieve full credit (A-level work), questions should be creatively crafted (*see examples below*). At minimum, questions should be in original language, not cut/paste definitions from the textbook. All questions should include (correct) answers as well.

Each group will craft a study guide for their chapter/set of readings (50 points)

Study guides will consist of the group’s questions for each chapter and set of readings, along with a word bank of concepts/terms that relate to each question provided.

Each group will **choose** from the following options:

**Option A:** Each group member **individually** creates a 2-3 page reflection paper (125 points) that connects what you learned in the process of completing the project with scholarly\* sources (7 sources minimum per **group**, these can be distributed among individual papers)

**Option B:** Each group member collaborates on a 5-6 page **group paper** (125 points) that incorporates 7 scholarly sources and connects what you learned during the project.

**Option C:** Each group member **individually** creates a 2-page reflection paper (100 points) that connects what you learned in the process of completing the project with scholarly sources AND develops a group mini-presentation (~5 minutes, 25 points) about the experience that may also reference sources (7 sources minimum per **group**, these can be distributed among individual papers and the presentation).

**Option D:** Each group member collaborates on a 5-page **group paper** (100 points) that incorporates 7 scholarly sources and connects what you learned during the project AND develops a group mini-presentation (~5 minutes, 25 points) about the experience that may also reference sources.

**\*\*Scholarly sources = PEER REVIEWED ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION RESEARCH\*\***

### Deadlines

Groups must be formed by **Wednesday, April 10** and they must unanimously decide which option (A-D above) they will pursue as well as the chapters they will cover. Turn in your team members’ names, two chapters/topics, and decision about the above options by the end of class.

Questions are due online AND in hard copy **Monday, May 6** at 1:30 p.m.

Study guides are due online (submitted as an assignment AND to a discussion board so the class can access) **Monday, May 6** at 1:30 p.m.

Papers and/or presentations are due at the final exam period, **Monday, May 13** at 12:45 p.m. (online AND in hard copy)

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### Participation

All class members are eligible to participate in the game itself (played during the final exam period), even if they complete a different final project. However, they may be asked to participate on a separate team. Likewise, teams for game day may differ from question-writing teams, depending on the rules we agree upon for play. **The winning team will receive an awesome prize.**

### Grading/Evaluation

- Questions will be evaluated on factual accuracy, creativity (great applications/unique scenarios), answerability (one correct answer), insightfulness of topic (not the most obvious topics), and writing style/originality (not cut/paste definitions from the textbook).
- Papers will be evaluated based upon the degree to which they demonstrate mastery of the course objectives (listed on page 1 of the syllabus), in addition to meeting minimum requirements (7 scholarly org comm sources, formatting as listed in the syllabus, page length). See page 7 of the syllabus for description of grading standards.

### Sample questions

#### C-level, basic question, easy difficulty level

**Question:** Equating personality, charm, and charisma with leadership ability connects best to this theory of leadership.

**Answer:** What is the “Traits Approach”?

#### B-level question, creative, application-based, more challenging

**Question:** You’re leading a department in a communication firm and take on a new person to mentor. Soon, you realize that the person is very similar to you in terms of gender, life experience, goals, and temperament. Without realizing, you’ve participated in what phenomenon? (Gender chapter)

**Answer:** What is Homosocial Reproduction?

#### A-level questions—creative, application-based, difficult

**Question:** “You’re either with us or against us” demonstrates what type of communicative power? (Power chapter)

**Answer:** What is Discursive Closure?

**Question:** If your organization has to let some people go before the holidays, and you work hard to get the remaining employees to see that the lay-offs were necessary and acceptable, you have successfully engaged in this activity. (Leadership Chapter)

**Answer:** What is framing?

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### Topics

Ch 7: Power and Resistance at Work + “Don’t Let Power Corrupt You”

Ch 8: The Postmodern Workplace + “The New Science of Team Chemistry: Pioneers, Drivers, Integrators & Guardians”

Emotion Labor & Emotion Management Chapter + How to Control Your Emotions During a Conflict at Work

Ch 9: Communicating Gender at Work + “The Power of Talk: Who Gets Heard and Why” + “Long Before #MeToo, Researchers Saw Troubling Trends for Women at Work”

Ch 10: Communicating Difference at Work + “Designing a Bias-Free Organization”

Organizational Stigma, Dirty Work & Identity (See list of readings on Canvas)

Ch 11: Leadership Communication & Ethical Leading “Understanding ‘New Power’”

Ch 14: Communication, Meaningful Work & Personal Identity “Happiness Traps: How We Sabotage Ourselves at Work”