

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	CASS
Programme:	Advertising and PR
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Introduction to Public Relations Practice
Course Code:	COM 4110
Course Leader:	Ruth Wyatt
Student Engagement Hours:	120 (standard 3- credit BA course)
Lectures:	20
Seminar / Tutorials:	20
Independent / Guided Learning:	80
Semester:	Fall, Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces the fundamental principles and tools involved in the professional practice of public relations (PR). It introduces students to the range of techniques used in PR and enables and encourages students to apply practical tools with confidence. This includes designing and presenting their own PR materials. It relates the practice of PR to contemporary issues and developments in the UK and internationally.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

- To engage students with key aspects of contemporary PR practice
- To explore the fundamentals of PR practice through responding to a media relations brief
- To develop professional skills in research, analysis, discussion, presentation and writing

- To develop and display professional creativity based upon the development and use of practical skills in group and individual work.

Programme Outcomes:

A4ii, iii; B4ii, iii; C4i, iii; D4i, ii, iii *TBC*

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification.

This is maintained by the Registry and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of key aspects of contemporary PR practice
- Show an understanding of the fundamentals of PR practice through an ability to respond to a media relations brief
- Demonstrate appropriate professional skills in research, analysis, discussion, presentation and writing
- Display professional creativity based upon the development and use of practical skills in group and individual work

Indicative Content:

- PR tools and media relations skills
- Planning, producing and using PR materials
- The relationship between PR people and those who employ them
- Different PR specialisms
- Ethical, legal and regulatory concerns
- Current issues affecting PR and likely future developments

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

Teaching will include interactive lectures, supplemented with a range of audiovisual aids, designed to introduce students to the key concepts of PR practice. Students will develop their critical understanding of these concepts and their practical application through a range of group and individual exercises taken in and outside class.

