*Hebert COM 230 Honor’s Cohort*

**What is HTDA?**

**HTDA stands for “HONORS TOPIC DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENTS”**

 **(There will be 4 total).**

*HTDA 1-3 (50 pts each=25 points =written summary and 25 points for pertinent discussion regarding the study)*

*HTDA-4 is worth 200 points total (50 points written summary and 50 points discussion and 100 points overall panel discussion) total points= 200*

**For the purposes of a Communication Honor’s cohort** there will be a focus on communication enhancement and scholarship by providing you with opportunities to develop leadership, presentation and team building skills through experiential learning known as a weekly Honor’s Topic Interactive Discussion. This year you will also get the opportunity to attend a guest speaker lecture specific to Communication and research. Each semester the HTDA is required if you choose, I will also mentor you to participate in a study for the student conference based on your idea and filling out the proper abstract requirements and handouts per YOUR request via the first 2 weeks of this course.

**Purpose:**

* Identification and discussion of current Communication issues as identified in research studies
* The development of research proposal skills, leadership skills, written/oral communication skills, a deeper level of inquiry into a scholarship with peers and increased timely knowledge in the field of communication.
* Practical social exchange about a current weekly topic with your colleagues based on research findings. Relevant to your interests.

**Assignment:**

**A:** (written summary) I will assign one research article per group for the first two HTDA’S. The third study you will find in a Communication-related data base in an area that interests you and the fourth is your choice (specific to your field or area of interest). Number 4 will be presented in a panel format (to be explained). Each student will be assigned to a group based on interest areas. For every written summary you turn in follow these guidelines:

In your written summary

1. ***Summarize the article by title, with citation (use APA format). Skip a line. Next, Introduction: State your topic and why it is important. (5 points)***
2. ***Give a brief explanation of the study using two examples from the study to support your opinion. (5 points)***
3. ***Generate two further questions you have about the topic. (5 points)***
4. ***Give at least 2 ideas about how the researchers might study this topic further (qualitative, quantitative design, different questions, different samples, limitations, demographics….). (5 points)***
5. ***Lastly, students MUST indicate how did the study directly relates to the field of COMMUNICATION ( 5 Points)***

***(Written Summary =25 points)***

Please type up your summary in **less** than a page Times New Roman 12 point. (This portion you will turn in, no late papers will be accepted as you will be DISCUSSING the study you found the day it is due. Therefore, you must bring the assignment to class on the assigned date for part 2 (25points)

**B.** Assignment (oral/discussion 25 points)

Students will break into discussion groups. A brief discussion will take place regarding the findings. Each student will report out their viewpoint of the study and the group will report out the information regarding the topic, findings, viewpoints of the group and overall discussion and thoughts (this part is a discussion).

**Outcome:**

Students will acquire skills to critically address real-world, timely research in the area of Communication and synthesize this information to develop possible research questions as an initial introduction to developing a research proposal. Students will enhance their intellectual development in the discipline through rich discussion based performance linked to high standards of teaching and learning. Through these experiences, students may transform their thinking about Communication outside themselves and into their communities and environment thus assisting them with their life and career goals as they learn about research and the research process.

Grading will be based on the actual written summary 25 points if all (5) elements in part A are present on the indicated due date and 25 points for the discussion and report out to the class.

Before receiving or finding each study you will have educational modules to supplement current course competencies relevant to the following:

Module 1 Research Basics: Understanding and evaluating research (peer reviewed journals, data bases)

Module 2 Dissecting a research study, literature review, samples, designs and methods, conclusion, implications.

Module 3 Research questions, hypothesis, surveys, statistics, quantitative vs. qualitative research

Module 4 IRB, Recommendations, theory, presentation, interests and panels

Module 5 Panel discussions and research (how to make panel discussions more interesting, creativity, format, the Q and A).