**CSK 3204 TOPICAL ISSUES IN COMMUNICATION**  
This course examines the theory and research related to the communication of information on environmental, sex, gender, agriculture, risks and hazards and communication campaigns Emphasis will be placed on understanding applying and developing theories of communicating this information.

**Course Objectives:**

This course aims at helping a student understand:

* The roles and activities of communication practitioners
* Government-media relations
* Press freedom and controls.
* Communication ethics
* The impact of global communication
* The social roles played by popular African cultural forms in contemporary society.

**Course outline:**

Unit 1: Topical communication issues in the economic context

Issues in technology and economy linkages

Unit 2: Topical communication issues in the community context

Issues in communication and community integration

Unit 3: Topical issues in a political context

Communication and governance issues

Unit 4: Topical communication issues in the kinship context

Issues in social organization

Challenges of social organization and integration

Technology integration and sustainance in relation to human values and social progress

Information and communication structures

Communication and African society

Unit 5: Communication Issues in Development

Communication, Law and Human Rights

Communication and Gender

Ethics and Deontology in Communication

**Learning outcomes**

The student will be able to competently handle all topical communication from all contexts whether social, political, economic and cultural.

**Course assessment:**

Extended coursework essay}

Group presentation} = 30%

Test}

Final Comprehensive Examination = 70%

(End of Semester)

**Instruction methods:**

Lectures

Case Studies

Group Discussion and Class Presentations

Activity Research Work

**References:**

•Liberating Theory Albert Michael/Leslie Cagan/Noam Chomsky/Robin

Hammel/Meg King /Lydia Sargent/et Holly Sklar (1986), *Boston, MA : South End Press.*

•Why I am Not Going to Buy a Computer Berry, Wendell (1993), “r”, *in Albert H. Teich [éd.],Technology and the Future. New York :St. Martin Press, pp. 66-72.*

•Does Improved Technology Mean Progress ?Max, Leo (1993), *in Albert H. Teich [éd.], op. Cit., pp. 3-14.*

•Harnessing Information for Development : A Proposal for World Bank Group Vision and Strategy Talero, Edward et Philip Gaudette (1995), *InformationTechnology for Development, No. 6 pp. 145-188.*

•Can Technology Replace Social Engineering? Weinberg, Alvin M. (1993), *in Albert H. Teich [éd.] op. Cit.,pp. 30-39.*

•Attacking Poverty World Bank (2001), World Development Report 2000/2001*.*