**COMM 302-Communication Research Methods I**

**Dr. Socha**

Mini Assignment #1

**The Field and I**

Your Name:

Your UIN:

Date Submitted:

***Honor Pledge***: By submission of this assignment I certify that it has been completed in full compliance with the Old Dominion University Honor Code. Signature:

***Description***: Communication researchers make and support descriptive, explanatory, and/or predictive claims or arguments about the many aspects of communication. As a new student-communication-researcher, this assignment asks you to begin to think about the kinds of claims that you’d like to being to make.

***Instructions:***

1. Read the Introduction and Chapters 1 & 2 in Treadwell (and review the class slides)
2. Complete each section below by providing the information requested. Type in your responses on this form, then print it, and submit it via FSCS on the day it is due.
3. **Research topics**

List three **communication** ***research topics*** that **you** are interested in exploring and write ONE substantive reason that justifies why each topic would be worth studying (provide a preliminary warrant) [2 pts for each topic that is clearly about communication and 2 pts for each substantive reason].

NOTE: Topics must focus on ***communication***. To make sure your topics focus on communication, draw the communication model and try to locate the question in the model. You should be able to see the topic in the model somewhere. Does it pertain to message production? Message interpretation? Messages themselves? Also, **substantive reasons** are not your personal reasons. They are reasons that would likely be accepted by many people. That is, of what importance is studying the topic **to others**? Who can be helped if we better understand this topic?

***Communication Topic 1*:**

***Reason to study topic 1*:**

***Communication Topic 2***:

***Reason to study topic 2:***

C***ommunication Topic 3*:**

**R*eason to study topic 3:***

1. Choose ONE communication research topic from #1 above that most interests

you at this point (you can change this later if need be, but think of something that

will likely hold your interest over the course of the term). Be sure that is it is a

communication topic.

My Communication Topic is:

1. For this topic (in section 2) write three **descriptive** research questions. They can

pertain to any aspect of the topic you’d like (2 pts for each correctly worded RQ)

**RQ#1:**

**RQ#2:**

**RQ#3:**

1. For this topic (in section 2), write three **explanatory or predictive** claims in

hypothesis format (2 pts. for each correctly worded H). These can be 1-tailed or 2-tailed. When building a hypothesis you will use one construct or variable (e.g., frequency of telling jokes) to explain another construct or variable (e.g., levels of hopefulness). For example: The frequency a person tells jokes is positively his or her hopefulness. (2 pts each)

**H1:**

**H2:**

**H3:**