

Comm. 1010

Introduction to Communication

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Office: Speech & Presentation Center # 111
Office Hours: By Appointment

Overview

Introduces aspects of human communication that develop and implement presentation of speeches and investigates and executes strategies, principles, and theories, of interpersonal communication. Students will learn the steps of building relationships, teamwork, interviewing skills, and research skills.

Course Objectives

Throughout the semester you will be given ample opportunity on the importance of communication and the roll it plays in their lives. Concepts that will be taught include:

- Ability to research, organize and deliver effective informative and persuasive speeches.
- Locate and identify credible sources aiding them in informing or persuading an audience to a preconceived end.
- Understand the concept of relationship termination and the role it plays in identity construction in personal relationships.
- How communication theories and concepts directly related to relationship development and maintenance in personal and professional contexts.

In essence, this course will be able to help you realize what your social skills are. Thereby expounding your strengths while improving your weaknesses. After all just ask yourself: if we all communicated properly and coherently, would the world be a better place?

Textbook

Communicate, Connect, and Understand: Readings in Communication. (2010). Boston: Pearson
ISBN-10: 055877055X

Course Policies

Participation:

Your active participation in the class drastically increases the value of the course. Your perspectives and opinions are invaluable assets in understanding the material so don't be afraid to share them.

Attendance:

Class attendance is expected, as the material we cover each day will relate to future assignments you have and will be essential in helping you complete the assignment. If you miss a day of class, you are expected to gather notes from fellow classmates. I will not be gathering a daily attendance; therefore your grade is not affected on a day-to-day basis. However if you fail to show up to my class resulting from excessive unexcused absences then you will fail the course. Examples of excused absences include medical/family emergencies. Unexcused absences include weddings, vacations, studying for other classes, SUU athletics...etc. If you are unsure if your absence is excusable then please ask and I will let you know.

Academic Misconduct:

Students are expected to complete his/her own work. Students caught cheating on exams, quizzes or any other assignments (including plagiarism) will be given an "F." If you need clarification on what is cheating or plagiarism please feel free to ask and I will be happy to explain.

Respect: This class delves deep into interpersonal communication and relationships. At times sensitive topics will arise and will be discussed. Please be respectful during these discussions.

Electronics

We are in an advanced age where computers are all around us and are excellent tools to use. I believe in this aspect and thereby support-integrating technology with your studies and utilize this technology when you can. My only request is to please be respectful when doing so during class. If you have a phone call or text you need to take, please leave and take care of your business. It shows respect for not only your fellow students but for me as well. Otherwise you may use your laptops, tablets and other devices (including cell phones/smart phones) to take notes and or follow along in your etextbook.

Late Work

I am a huge believer in deadlines. Deadlines rule our world both in the workplace and in our personal life. However this is a learning environment and as such I do understand that things happen. As such I will accept late work but for everyday your work is late you will be penalized 10 percent. Meaning if you turn your work in one day late the most you can earn is a 90 percent...etc. As long as you keep on task then there should be no problems with this

Student Support:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, please be familiar with the following statement. Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations, or auxiliary aids must contact the Disability Support Center, Room 205D, Sharwan Smith Center, phone (435) 865-8022. The Disability Support Center determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of these services and aids.

Emergency Management Statement:

In case of emergency, the University's Emergency Notification System (ENS) will be activated. Students are encouraged to maintain updated contact information using the link on the homepage of the *mySUU* portal. In addition, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Emergency Response Protocols posted in each classroom. Detailed information about the University's emergency management plan can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/emergency>

HEOA Compliance Statement:

The sharing of copyrighted material through peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing, except as provided under U.S. copyright law, is prohibited by law. Detailed information can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/it/p2p-student-notice.html>.

Office Hours:

I do not have a structured set of office hours. Generally I am in my office the hour before class. This being said I have what I like to call an "Open Door Policy." In essence if you would like to meet with me then please send me an email with your request and I will set up a time. I am extremely flexible with my schedule. Rather than try to force you to fit my schedule I want to be able to work with your schedule. This is to make your life easier. So please if you need anything, even a question, do not hesitate to contact me.

IMPORTANT:

The syllabus and assignments are subject to change as I see fit. I will let you know if anything like that happens.

Grading Standards:

A 94-100% C+ 76-79%
A- 90-93% C 74-78%
B+ 86-89% C- 70-73%
B 83-85% D 65-69%
B- 80-82% F 65 and below

Assignment	Points
Winter Hang Outs	50
Who Am I	10
Informative Speech	75
Persuasive Speech	75
Group Presentations	50
Attending a Speech	25
Logical Fallacies	25
Extra Credit	TBD
Quizzes	10 points each
Exams	100
Mid Term	100

Winter Hang Outs

For this assignment, you are required to “go out” with members of your own class in groups of three or more. During this assignment, you are to observe the communication with your group and how each member interacts with each other. After your Summer Fling is over, you are to write at least one paragraph about the Summer Fling telling me what your group did, who was in the group what was going on communication wise and what you learned about yourself. You are to do 10 of these and must be turned in by midterm. You CANNOT go out with the same group of people all 10 times.

Who Am I

The purpose of this paper is to not only describe yourself but also share how your personal experiences in life (including your culture) has shaped you into the person who you are today. Your paper should be at least two pages in length. If you need help or some ideas, see chapter 2 for more information or speak to me.

Informative Speech:

You will be required to research a topic that you will speak/inform the class about. The topic can be anything you want however I encourage you to choose something that is not commonly known. Your speech will be at least 4-6 minutes long and must include an outline, two visuals and three sources.

Persuasive Speech:

You will deliver a 4-6 minute speech on topic of your choosing where you will persuade the class to see your belief or take your side. You are to use resources and have an outline citing your resources. This speech can be on any topic of your choosing. More will be explained on this assignment later this semester.

Exams/Quizzes:

I will give two exams throughout the semester. One at midterm and one during Finals. It is your job to make sure you have studied for these exams. Taking notes, class attendance, participation, assignments, reading the etextbook will help you achieve an excellent grade. Quizzes will be given once a week throughout the semester.

Group Presentation:

I will assign you into groups by the end of the first week of classes. You will be assigned specific topics or chapters to give a presentation on. The presentations must be at least 25 minutes long and you must make handouts for the entire class. I encourage you to make this presentation creative as that will be part of your grade as well.

Attending a speech:

The best speech givers in the world didn't just have a natural talent to give speeches. They had mentors and witnessed many speeches before they became great speakers. Your assignment is to critique a speech. You will write a one-page paper

Logical Fallacies:

In the second half of the semester we will cover Logical Fallacies. This assignment will require you to find fallacies in an argument and write about them.

Social Experiment/Group Project:

This will be a project that will be worked on for about half of the semester. Towards the beginning of the semester you will be assigned groups and will carry out a project where you will test the theories we have discussed in class and film the results. This should be fun and will be graded on creativity and ingenuity.