Course Description: This course is designed to enable students to practice speech communication in interpersonal, small group, and public communication situations, and to apply the concepts of communication. No prerequisites.

Text


Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication behaviors.
2. Employ listening behaviors that promote accurate message reception and critical thinking.
3. Choose language and nonverbal behaviors that are appropriate to the audience, purpose, and context.
4. Demonstrate effective leadership behaviors within group settings.
5. Research and organize oral presentations to promote audience comprehension and recall.
6. Demonstrate effective delivery skills during oral presentations.

Course Goals/Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will know how to:

1. Research and organize information for Informative and Persuasive oral presentations.
2. Deliver effectively oral presentations.
3. Participate in interviews using appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication skills
4. Participate successfully in a small group (team) task and discussion.
5. Demonstrate cognitive understanding of the oral communication process.
6. Employ listening behaviors that promote accurate message reception

Student Contributions

ATTENDANCE IN THIS COURSE IS VITAL AND MANDATORY. Speech courses tend to promote student interaction, provoke discussion, and incorporate experiential learning. Not only is your involvement and participation in the class important, but also much of the test information will be provided in a lecture/discussion format.

CLASS PARTICIPATION. Since this is a speech communication course, it is important that you attempt to contribute your ideas, thoughts and feeling regarding the concepts discussed in class. You are encouraged to voice opinions, respond to questions, and offer comments regarding course content and related topics discussed in class in an appropriate and tactful manner. Common courtesy and attentive listening skills are expected of all students.

PAPERS. Periodically you will be assigned a written paper, bibliography, agenda, exercise or exam dealing with a concept discussed in class. The paper should be word-processed and in good form and double-spaced. Excessive grammatical and typographical errors will be noted and will effect evaluation.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS. A variety of oral presentations will be given including reports, speeches, and group discussions. All topics must be approved in advance. Attendance on all presentation days is mandatory. Distracting or poor listening behaviors during another students’ presentation may result in a reduction in your grade. Missed presentations may not be made-up except under unusual circumstances.

TESTS. Exams will be in different formats and will include material from lecture, text, class discussions, and handouts.
Course Policies

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, plagiarism (written and oral), and facilitating academic dishonesty. Disciplinary options include, but are not limited to, suspension and dismissal. (See the Midland College Student Handbook for an explanation of college policy).

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR. Appropriate classroom behavior including, respect for other opinions, courteous listening, and considerate use of language is expected of all students. Never enter the classroom while another student is speaking. Inappropriate behavior can result in your removal from the course. See the attached document, Appropriate College Classroom Behavior, for more insight into the instructor’s expectations.

ORAL COMMUNICATION CENTER. (140 AFA) All Speech students have access to the OCC facilities, which will be explained and detailed in class. Recording of the oral presentations will take place in the OCC. Check posted times for availability of the OCC.

Evaluation of Students

Department Standards for Grading Standards

An "A" student attends regularly, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work at the time assigned, grades average "A," participates frequently and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "B" student attends consistently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work at the time assigned, grades average "B," participates frequently and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "C" student attends frequently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work, grades average "C," participates occasionally and appropriately in class discussion, and projects a positive attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

A "D" student attends infrequently, follows all instructions, completes all oral and written work, grades average "D," participates infrequently and inappropriately in class discussion, and projects a negative attitude toward subject matter and fellow students.

An “F” student does not complete all assignments, participates infrequently and inappropriately in class discussion, projects a negative attitude toward subject matter and fellow students, and misses more than five class sessions.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name:
Office phone:
Office hours:
Office location:
E-mail address:
Division Secretary: Lula Lee, Division 141B, Allison Fine Arts Building
Office phone: 685-4624
Note: Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.