

COMM 1303
Intro To Speech Communication

Summer II 2014
Mon-Fri
9:50 – 11:35am
Lawrence Hall 200

Bret Scott, Asst. Professor
Office: FAB 202
432/837-8794
bscott@sulross.edu
Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is designed to introduce students to major areas in the study of communication focusing on theory and practice of speech communication behavior in interpersonal, small group and public communication situations. **This course meets oral communication requirements.**

PREREQUISITES

None.

Textbook (Required): Pearson, J., Nelson, P., Titsworth, S., & Harter, L. (2006) Human Communication, 2nd Ed,

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students will recognize differences between vernacular and academic approaches to communication and will be able to apply theories of perception, the self, culture, language, nonverbal and group communication to real life situations.

COURSE GOALS

- To understand and demonstrate public speaking processes. Students will be expected to be able to: correctly identify the parts of a speech; correctly identify organizational patterns within speeches; and, develop an outline for a speech
- To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose. Students will be able to: describe the audience characteristics; choose an appropriate approach to the topic to match the audience; and, organize their communication to meet the needs of the audience
- To understand and appropriately apply verbal and nonverbal modes of expression. Students will be able to: identify rules that govern language and nonverbal communication use; explain how language and nonverbal communication are intertwined with culture; use specific techniques, like paraphrasing and dating, to demonstrate their verbal communication skills; and, utilize strategies for improving nonverbal communication.

- ❑ To participate effectively in groups. Students will be able to recognize different types of groups; identify and apply steps in the small-group decision making process; and utilize skills necessary for effective and ethical group communication.
- ❑ To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking. Students will be able to evaluate arguments including identifying support; distinguishing between observations and inference; and, distinguishing among emotional proof, logical proof and personal proof.
- ❑ To develop the ability to research and deliver a documented oral presentation.

COURSE PHILOSOPHY:

Learning is an **active** process in which we all participate. This class is a hands-on, active learning experience. Viewing learning as an active process implies several significant distinctions.

1. An active process suggests the importance of **understanding and experiencing** ideas as they relate to our own lives, rather than just remembering a list of facts.
2. Being **prepared** for class is a commitment that is necessary from each of us. Preparation includes reading and reflecting on the assigned chapters prior to the class period as well as completion of all course assignments.
3. Class lectures and discussions contribute to the learning process, thus **attendance and participation** in all class activities is essential to deriving full benefit from this course.
4. The grading for the course reflects this philosophy.

Course grades will be based on a 1000 point scale, allocated as follows:

Attendance	100 points
Class Exercises	250 points
Quizzes	150 points
Informative Speech	100 points
Informative Outline	50 points
Persuasive Speech	100 points
Persuasive Outline	50 points
Group Presentation	100 points
Final Exam	100 points

- 900-1000 points = A
- 800-899 points = B
- 700-799 points = C
- 600-699 points = D
- 599 & below = F

Class Exercises: Students will participate in and complete several in class exercises designed to apply the communication concepts discussed in the book and class lecture. Class exercise grade will be based on the percentage of exercises completed by the student.

CLASS DATES: Assignments and Deadlines

Note that these dates and the details of each class are subject to change at the instructor's discretion

Tentative Semester Schedule

Date	Chapter	Activity	Quiz
10 - July	One	Icebreaker	
11 - July	Two		
14 - July	Three		
15 - July	Four		
16 - July	Five		Quiz 1
17 - July	Twelve & Thirteen		
18 - July	Fourteen		
21 - July	Fifteen		
22 - July	Seventeen		
23 - July		Outline	
24 - July		Speech	
25 - July		Speech	
28 - July	Sixteen		Quiz 2
29 - July	Eighteen		
30 - July		Outline	
31 - July		Speech	
1 - Aug		Speech	
4 - Aug	Nine		
5 - Aug	Six		
6 - Aug	Ten		Quiz 3
7 - Aug			
8 - Aug			
11 - Aug	Seven		
12 - Aug		Group	
13 - Aug		Group	
14 - Aug	Final		Final

TARDINESS / ABSENCE POLICY

Attendance is 10% of your grade. That's the difference between an "A" and a "B"...or an "F" and a "D."

TARDINESS

Class **BEGINS EXACTLY AT THE APPOINTED TIME**. It is your responsibility to be prepared to begin **BEFORE** the class starts.

Three instances of tardiness is equivalent to one absence. See below for the class absence policy.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DENY ENTRY TO STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT PRESENT AT THE START OF CLASS* – ON THE HOUR. PLAN ACCORDINGLY. ON-TIME is EARLY!

*Exceptions will be made only for those with classes located in RAS whose end time makes on-time arrival impossible.

Punctuality is essential in business and life. Tardiness will not be tolerated.

Absence Policy, from the Sul Ross State University 2012-2014 Course Catalogue:

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Regular class attendance is important to the attainment of the educational objectives of the University. Each instructor will keep class attendance records, and the instructor's policy on class attendance will be explained at the beginning of the semester or term.

The instructors will drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. A student will be dropped for excessive absences in remedial courses after nine absences.

An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class; for example, non-attendance in a one and one-half hour class will constitute one and one-half absences and non-attendance in a three-hour class will constitute three absences. An absence because of participation in an official University activity is considered to be an authorized absence.

if you are not in the classroom at the time roll is taken you will be counted as absent. Your attendance grade will be calculated based on a percentage of class meetings attended. Excessive unexcused absences may result in you being dropped from the class with a grade of "F."

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Accessibility Services Coordinator assists students with disabilities in providing academic programming accommodations. If you need accommodations, please see the instructor for a referral to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.