

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
COMM 4303 Studies in Speech**

Summer I 2015
Three times weekly, by appointment
FAB 208

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is for mentorship of students participating in the McNair Undergraduate Research Program. Students enrolled (with instructor permission and only after their research proposal is accepted by the McNair program office) in this section of Studies In Speech will spend the term finishing their proposed research, examining their data, and drafting their papers for submission to the McNair grant.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES

A student graduating with a BA in Communication:

1. Demonstrates the ability to competently deliver public presentations, including the use of presentation technology such as presentation software, video, and audio.
2. Has the ability to analyze communication content for argument, including identification of major elements, such as claims, warrants, data, etc.
3. Demonstrates the ability to complete appropriate discipline specific writing assignments.
4. Has the ability to apply communication theory to the analysis of communication situations appropriate to each degree specialization.
5. Demonstrate competent use of media technology including video, audio, and internet-based technology.

PREREQUISITES

Acceptance of research proposal by the McNair grant office.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this class, students will:

- Complete the research project designed proposed in Spring semester
- Have an intermediate-level understanding of research data analysis
- Demonstrate intermediate-level mastery of either MLA or APA style, depending on paper and research content
- Demonstrate beginner-level mastery of academic presentation skills

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1) Complete the research project proposed in Spring semester
- 2) Tabulate and analyze data collected in the research project
- 3) Completion, via a series of drafts, of a final research paper for submission to the McNair office.
- 4) Full participation in class discussion / critique

Required Textbooks for this class:

None.

Materials Required:

None.

CLASS DATES: Assignments and Deadlines

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

Week	Date	Topics and Assignments
1	June 1	DRAFT DATA DUE. Introduction. Review Syllabus, Assignments, and Deadlines. Expected outcomes.
2	June 8	First Draft due. Review draft papers
3	June 15	Peer exchange – Written analysis of the strengths and weakness of peer papers.
4	June 22	Second Draft Due. Review draft.
5	June 29	Third Draft Due. Review draft. First Presentation.
6	July 6	FINAL DRAFT DUE. Second Presentation.

GRADING

Assignments are valued as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1) Draft Data | 10% |
| 2) First Draft | 15% |
| 3) Second Draft | 15% |
| 4) Third Draft | 20% |
| 5) FINAL DRAFT | 40% |

Grading Criteria:

A = Exceptional. Demonstrates mastery of material beyond expectation. Professional quality of work. Highest level of scholarship.

B = Above average. Demonstrates mastery of material. Work is of better-than-expected quality, but not quite professional. High level of scholarship.

C = Average. Demonstrates proficiency with material. Work is of amateur quality. Ordinary level of scholarship.

D = Below Average. Less than proficient with material. Work shows errors, careless mistakes, or is just plain wrong. Poor scholarship.

F – Failure. Material incomplete. Work grossly negligent or incomplete. No evidence of scholarship present.

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 this business. 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.

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.