



COMM 1311 – Introduction to Speech Communication

Semester: Spring 2016
Days: TR
Times: 11:00-12:15
Location: BAB 304

Instructor: Dominique Sanchez
Office: FAB 202
432.837.8019
dvargas@sulross.edu
Office hours: MW 11-12, TR 8:30-9:30
Walk-ins or by appointment welcome



Required Textbook:

Pearson, J. C., Nelson, P. E., Titsworth, S., Harter, L. (2013).
Human Communication (5th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce you to the major areas and skills of the broad discipline of communication. As your instructor, I will assist you in increasing your knowledge about and skills in employing verbal and nonverbal messages in a variety of settings (i.e., intrapersonal, interpersonal, group, and public contexts). By studying the processes of communication and applying communication theory and principles to diverse real-life situations, you will have an opportunity to practice and analyze communication skills in various contexts.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, you will be able to

1. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
2. To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices.
3. To understand and appropriately apply modes of expression (i.e. descriptive, expository, narrative, scientific, and self-expressive) in written, visual, and oral communication.
4. To participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
5. To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of exposition and argument.
6. To develop the ability to research and write a documented paper and/or to give an oral presentation.

Program Learning Outcomes (Communication, BA):

1. Demonstrates the ability to competently deliver public presentations, including the use of presentation technology such as presentation software, video, and audio.
2. 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. 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.

Attendance:

Attendance is part of your grade and will reflect in your in class participation and your final grade.

You are expected to attend every class, and are therefore responsible for everything that occurs in each class. You are responsible for knowing all announcements, lecture material, assignments, and class schedule modification that includes required reading for subsequent classes. If you must be absent, it is your responsibility to notify the instructor and obtain the necessary information.

If you miss a class for any reason (school-related, family emergency, illness, etc.) you must notify the instructor ahead of time. Late work will not be accepted without prior discussion and approval.

Absence Policy, from the Sul Ross State University 2014-2016 Course Catalog:

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.

Every effort will be made by departments to minimize missed class time of students by careful scheduling of authorized University activities. When a student has to miss a

class due to an authorized University activity, it will be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of the class in advance. The department responsible for the authorized University activity will also notify instructors through the Student Life Office by providing an explained absence list to the office. Instructors will give students participating in an authorized University activity the opportunity to make up class work, including tests, within a reasonable time and at the convenience of the instructor.

A student who is dropped from a course for excessive absences will be notified in writing by the Director of Records and Registration after the drop has been approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. Any student dropped for excessive absences will receive either an "F" or a "W" depending upon the faculty member's discretion.

Classroom Decorum:

1. Students are expected to arrive to class on time. Students arriving 5 or more minutes late regularly will be marked absent.
2. All homework is due at the beginning of the class period.
3. Students must silence electronic devices upon entering the classroom. Students caught using their electronic devices in any way will be asked to leave the classroom and be marked as absent. If you feel you must keep your electronic device on for a specific purpose, you must notify the instructor beforehand.

ADA:

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M.Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. Email: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Grades:

Participation (In Class & Homework Exercises)	200
Chapter Quizzes	100
Oral Reading	100
Informative Speech (Outlines, Peer Reviews, Presentations)	300
Impromptu Speeches (Best of two attempts)	100
Persuasive Speech (Outlines, Peer Reviews, Presentations)	300
Final Project (Group Project – 1/2 individual and 1/2 group)	<u>100</u>
	1300

A = 1170 – 1300

B = 1040 – 1169

C = 910 – 1039

D = 775 – 909

F = 774 or below

Assignment Descriptions:

Assignments are due on the assigned date, at the beginning of the class period. The acceptance of late work is at the sole discretion of the instructor. All late work will be subject to at least one full grade reduction.

Quizzes:

There will be several chapter quizzes throughout the semester.

Oral Reading:

You will select a piece of literature, poem, sonnet, monologue, or an excerpt from a well-known speech. Songs are not appropriate selections. You will bring your chosen piece to present in front of the class. It is expected that you will be very familiar with the material you choose to present. The purpose of this assignment is to further acclimate you to the world of communicating with others. Your selection must be one to three minutes in length, not including your introduction.

Peer Evaluation:

It is my view that people often improve their public speaking skills when given appropriate and immediate feedback. You will find that the most important feedback (in life) is from that of your audience. Before you present both your informative and persuasive speeches, you will have the opportunity to share your outline and presentation with two other students in this class, members of your audience. Each of you will take turns sharing, being the captive audience, and writing feedback on a peer evaluation form.

Informative Speech:

This is the first of two major speeches. Your purpose for this speech will be to inform your audience of a particular topic. You will complete an outline with all the basic elements of what the speech will include, the outline will be typed and turned in. You will

be required to speak for at least five minutes and no longer than seven minutes. Points will be deducted for being short on or over time.

Impromptu Speeches:

There are three different types of public speaking: extemporaneous, manuscript, and impromptu. Impromptu speeches involve little to no preparation. For this speech, you will select a current topic at random, and have about five to ten minutes to prepare. Your speech may be persuasive, informative, or designed for a special occasion. You will be required to speak for at least one minute, up to three minutes is preferred.

Persuasive Speech:

This will be your second major speech. For this speech your purpose is to persuade your audience on a particular topic. You will complete and outline with all the basic elements of what the speech will include, the outline will be typed and turned in. You will be required to speak for at least five minutes and no longer than seven minutes. Points will be deducted for being short on or over time.

Final:

Your final project is a small group assignment. You will select a product or service to “sell” to the class. You will plan out and present a thorough pitch regarding your product and service using effective verbal and nonverbal communication, including visual aids. The presentation must be four to six minutes in length. Points will be deducted for being short on or over time.

Daily Schedule Breakdown

Schedule subject to change at any point during the semester

Tuesday, January 19
Introductions, Syllabus Review, Expectations

Thursday, January 21
Peer Interviews and Biography Presentations
Oral Reading Assignment Discussion
Homework: Read Chapter 1

Tuesday, January 26
Chapter 1 Discussion and Quiz
Homework: Read Chapter 2, Oral Reading Selection Due Next Class

Thursday, January 28
Chapter 2 Discussion and Quiz, Oral Reading Selection Due
Homework: Read Chapter 3

Tuesday, February 2
Chapter 3 Discussion and Quiz

Thursday, February 4
Oral Readings
Homework: Read Chapter 4

Tuesday, February 9
Chapter 4 Discussion and Exercise
Homework: Read Chapter 5

Thursday, February 11
Chapter 5 Discussion and Quiz
Homework: Chapter 14

Tuesday, February 16
Chapter 14 Discussion and Quiz, Informative Speech Assignment Given
Homework: Read Chapter 10, Informative Speech Topic and Purpose Due Next Class

Thursday, February 18
Chapter 10 Discussion, Informative Topic and Purpose Selected
Homework: Read Chapter 11, Work on Basic Outline

Tuesday, February 23
Chapter 11 Discussion and Quiz
Homework: Read Chapter 12, Basic Outline Due Thursday

Thursday, February 25
Basic Outline with Three Sources Due, Chapter 12 Discussion

Tuesday, March 1
Basic Outlines Returned
In Class Exercise (Group Outline)
Homework: Update Outline

Thursday, March 3
Updated Outline Due

Tuesday, March 8
Updated Outline Returned

Thursday, March 10
Updated Informative Speech Outline Due, Peer Reviews, Speech Order

Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 18 – SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES

Tuesday, March 15
Informative Presentations

Thursday, March 17
Informative Presentations
Homework: Read Chapter 15

Tuesday, March 22
Chapter 15 Discussion and Quiz, Persuasive Speech Assignment Given

Thursday, March 24
Persuasive Topic and Purpose Due
Homework: Read Chapter 6

Tuesday, March 29
Chapter 6 Quiz and Discussion
Homework: Basic Outline Due Next Class

Thursday, March 31
Basic Outline Due, In Class Exercise (Elevator Pitch)
Homework: Chapter 7

Tuesday, April 5
Basic Outline Returned, Chapter 7 Exercise

Thursday, April 7
Updated Outline Due, Impromptu Speech Day One

Tuesday, April 12
Updated Outline Returned, Impromptu Speech Day Two

Thursday, April 14
Updated Persuasive Speech Outline Due, Peer Reviews and Speech Order

Tuesday, April 19
Persuasive Presentations

Thursday, April 21
Persuasive Presentations
Homework: Read Chapter 8

Tuesday, April 26
Chapter 8 Discussion and Quiz
Final Project Discussion and Group Selection
Homework: Read Chapter 13

Thursday, April 28
Chapter 13 Discussion
Group Project Work Day

Tuesday, May 3
Group Project Work Day

Thursday, May 5 – DEAD DAY – NO CLASS

Tuesday, May 10 – FINAL EXAM – 8:00AM – 10:00AM
Final Project Presentations

Some Semester Dates to Know

Wednesday, February 3 – 12th class day, last day to drop a course without creating an academic record

Tuesday, March 8 – Mid Semester

Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 18 – Spring Break. No Classes.

Friday, March 25 – Good Friday Holiday, No Class

Friday, April 8 – Last day to drop a course and receive a “W”

Thursday, May 5 – Friday, May 6 – Dead Days

Monday, May 9 – Thursday, May 12 – Finals Week

Saturday, May 14 – Graduation

Final Exam Schedule

Final examinations in Laboratory and Physical Education activity courses will be given during the last class period of the semester. For times not listed, consult with your instructor.

For Classes Meeting on:	Exam Date and Time will be:
Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Monday
8 a.m.	8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
10 a.m.	10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
1 p.m.	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
3 p.m.	3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday Night Classes	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday	Tuesday
9:30 a.m.	8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
11 a.m.	10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
2 p.m.	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
3:30 p.m., 4 p.m.	3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday Night Classes	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Monday/Wednesday/Friday	Wednesday
9 a.m.	8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
11 a.m.	10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
12 p.m.	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
2 p.m.	3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Wednesday Night Classes	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday	Thursday
8 a.m.	8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
12:30 p.m.	10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
1 p.m.	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Thursday Night Classes	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

