

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
COMM 1315 Public Speaking**

SUM II 2023
Asynchronous
Via BLACKBOARD

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M/W 12:15-1pm, walk-in basis
All others by appointment – email me.

Required Text: SPEECH CRAFT by Joshua Gunn
Publisher: Bedford/St. Martin's; Second edition (October 1, 2020)
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I **highly** recommend the Kindle version of this text. It's far less expensive than the physical book, you'll get it instantly, and you can read it on your phone.

Introduction

Fear of public speaking affects approximately fifteen million Americans, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.

Other surveys place public speaking on the top ten list of most common fears or phobias, along with heights, spiders, flying, dogs, claustrophobia, and snakes. By some estimates, more than 52% of people globally experience fear or anxiety when asked to speak in front of a group.

Maybe you're one of them.

Or *maybe* you're the kind of weirdo (like me!) who enjoys public speaking. Even if you're not, this course is intended to give you the skills to speak (and think) clearly, to help manage any public-speaking anxiety you may experience, and to organize your thoughts and ideas into different kinds of speeches.

Because this is an asynchronous, web-based class, you will be submitting your written work via email, and your speeches via digital recording. If you don't have a phone or laptop which records video, and can't borrow one, please contact me ASAP at bscott@sulross.edu. I can help get access for you, but I'm not a magician – I can't make it happen instantly. I need some lead time. PLEASE don't wait until the night before a speech is due to let me know you need help with technology – I won't be able to help you on short notice.

Section I. Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grading

Assignment	Points Possible	GRADING SCALE
Exam One	100	A: 1000-900
Exam Two	100	B: 899-800
		C: 799-700
		D: 699-600
Informative Speech	150	
Informative Speech Outline	125	
Persuasive Speech	300	
Persuasive Speech Outline	125	
Final Exam	100	
Total Points Possible	1000	

Exams. There will be two exams in this course. Exams cover assigned reading and lecture material. The exams likely will include a mix of matching, multiple-choice, and short-answer items.

Informative Speech. This will be your first of two major speeches. For this speech your specific purpose will be to inform the audience on a particular topic. You will be required to speak for at least 4 minutes, but no longer than 7.

Persuasive Speech. This will be your second and final major speech. For this speech your specific purpose will be to persuade the audience on a particular topic. You will be required to speak for at least 4 minutes, but no longer than 7.

Final Exam. The final exam is comprehensive – all material from the semester may (will!) be covered.

LATE PAPERS

Deadlines are an inescapable part of responsible, professional, adult life. Late papers will lose a letter grade for each day that the paper is late.

If you discover, **a week or more in advance**, that you have multiple deadlines converging on the same day, you may request a change in deadline> Such a change may be granted at the instructor’s discretion. Once the deadline has passed, it’s too late to ask for exceptions. Manage your time and deadlines wisely.

TARDINESS / ABSENCE POLICY

As this is an asynchronous, web-delivered class, you may work at your own pace. I will not, however, accept ANY work after Monday, August 14. The FINAL EXAM is Tuesday, August 15.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT

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 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.

Section IV. Course Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to

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

Communication Program

Student Learning Outcomes

SLO 1: Students will be able to analyze communication content for argument, including identification of major elements, such as claim, warrants, and data.

SLO 2: Students will be able to effectively construct messages appropriate to audience, purpose, and context; including electronic media technologies.

SLO 3: Students will be able to apply Communication theories, perspectives, principles, and concepts to the analysis of communication situations.

Communication Program

Marketable Skills

1. Informative and Persuasive Speaking
2. Audience-centered Writing
3. Critical Analysis
4. Research
5. Effective Message Construction Using Technology

THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
AT THE INSTRUCTOR'S DISCRETION

DATE	TOPIC	CHPT	ASSIGNMENT
10-Jul	CLASS BEGINS	1	Read Chapter 1 and syllabus
11-Jul	Listening and Ethics	2	Read Chapter 2
12-Jul	Audience Analysis	3	Read Chapter 3
13-Jul	Choosing a topic and purpose	4	Read Chapter 4
14-Jul	Quizzes for chapters 1-4 open		Quizzes are due no later than 8/14. Late quizzes WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
	WEEK 2		
17-Jul	Researching your speech	5	Read Chapter 5
18-Jul	Supporting materials	6	Read Chapter 6
19-Jul	Outlining	7	Read Chapter 7
20-Jul	Introductions, transitions, and conclusions	8	Read Chapter 8
21-Jul	Quizzes for chapters 5-8 open		
	WEEK 3		
24-Jul	Style and Language	9	Read Chapter 9
25-Jul	Style and Delivery	10	Read Chapter 10
26-Jul	Informative Speaking		
26-Jul	(SKIP chapters 11-13)	14	Read Chapter 14
27-Jul	INFORMATIVE SPEECH		
27-Jul	ASSIGNMENT POSTED		
28-Jul	SUBMIT three informative speech ideas to Prof. Scott via email.		
	WEEK 4		
31-Jul	Research informative speech		
31-Jul	SUBMIT INFORMATIVE SPEECH		
1-Aug	OUTLINE		
1-Aug	SUBMIT RECORDED		
2-Aug	INFORMATIVE SPEECH		
3-Aug	Persuasive Speaking	15	Read Chapter 15
4-Aug	Making Arguments	16	Read Chapter 16
	WEEK 5		
7-Aug	SUBMIT three persuasive speech ideas to Prof. Scott via email		
8-Aug			
9-Aug	Research Persuasive Speech		
9-Aug	SUBMIT PERSUASIVE SPEECH		
10-Aug	OUTLINE		
10-Aug	SUBMIT RECORDED		
11-Aug	INFORMATIVE SPEECH		

WEEK 6

- 14-Aug ALL MISSING WORK DUE BY 5pm
FINAL EXAM will be open from
- 15-Aug 12:01 am to 11:59pm