

**Syllabus for Public Speaking - Online**

Summer II 2020

Instructor: Andrew Vierling

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Office:

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Office Hours:

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**Department:** Communication Department  
**Discipline:** Speech Communication  
**Credit:** 3 credit hours

**Textbook:** The Art of Public Speaking, 13th edition, with Connect access, by Stephen Lucas

Book Isbn: 9781260693430  
eBook Isbn: 9781260412888

**Supplies:**

1. Textbook, with connect access
2. Computer, capable of accessing Blackboard and Connect
3. Audio / video equipment for synchronous class meetings
4. Speech visual aids
5. Access to a computer (SPC has a great computer lab)
6. Access to Blackboard and McGraw-Hill Connect for assignments, grades, and important dates.

**Course Description:** This course includes the basic principles of speech and communication, with a special focus on the creation and delivery of speeches in public settings.

**Course Objectives satisfied:**

Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

Critical Thinking - to include creative thinking, innovation, and inquiry as well as analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

Team Work - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

Social Responsibility - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**Course Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to facilitate growth within the individual of those skills necessary to be an effective communicator. The course ensures said growth through instruction in the theories and principles comprising effective communication, as well as the application of those theories to the creation and delivery of speeches.

**Course Requirements:**

1. To read the information assigned in the text; anything assigned to be read from the text might appear on an exam.
2. To follow directions on blackboard, including using McGraw-Hill

Connect platform to complete assignments.

3. To deliver speeches and written materials in a language understood by the instructor, this includes any potential synchronous meetings.
4. To participate in forum discussions.
5. To show maturity and professionalism in preparation of assignments and in classroom behavior. This means speech topics must be appropriate.
6. To show courteousness to fellow classmates/speakers.
7. To seek help from the professor if assistance is required in some way.
8. To appropriately cite information obtained from other sources, both in written and verbal formats. Please refer to the academic honesty section below for further details.
9. To initiate withdrawal from the course if absences become excessive. Your professor will drop you from the course if you miss more than two weeks' worth of class.
10. Interactive Notebook – you are encouraged to use a composition book to take notes, if you feel it is needed.

**Interactive Notebooks** – You may have heard of this style of note-taking and studying. The basic idea is that you build a notebook which has information from each chapter, along with activities completed in class, end of chapter assignments, and other necessary course materials. This can, by the end of the semester, be something you can keep as a reference guide for future use in class or your career. This style of note-taking can be helpful in every collegiate course you ever take.

**Academic Honesty** - Appropriate citation and documentation will be given for materials and information obtained from other sources. Cases of plagiarism will be treated as will any case of academic dishonesty, with AT LEAST a failing grade for the assignment/examination. In addition, the student may be dropped from the course with a failing grade. See the Student Handbook for more information.

**ADA Statement** - Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information call or visit the Disability Services Office.

**Campus Concealed Carry** - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at:

([http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php))  
Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Diversity Statement** - In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve the challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement** - If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Connect Platform** - The bulk of your daily assignments are found in the McGraw-Hill Connect Platform. Make sure you understand how to access and use this platform.

**Synchronous Meetings** - This class will have four synchronous meetings over the course of the semester. You are required to attend two of them, one for the Informative Speech and one for the Persuasive Speech. That will be the topic of our first Forum Discussion.

**Contacting your professor** - Please feel free to contact your professor if you have questions or concerns about your progress in this class. Please try to let him know in advance if you will have to miss class. You may contact your professor in person during office hours, or by email.

### **Evaluation**

Grades in this course are as follows: 90-100% = A; 80 – 89% = B; 70 – 79 % = C; 60 – 69% = D; 59% and below = F

Course grades will be assessed according to the following percentages:

Major Assignments = 80%

Daily Grades = 20%

### **Grade Distribution**

Major Assignments:

Introductory Presentation  
Informative Presentation  
Persuasive Presentation  
Group Presentation  
Exam 1  
Exam 2  
Final Exam  
Synchronous meeting attendance A  
Synchronous meeting attendance B

#### Daily Grades

Activities from McGraw-Hill Connect  
Peer-evaluations  
Self-evaluations  
Speech rough drafts

#### **Make-up Policy:**

Make-up work is NOT guaranteed. All work has a deadline and deadlines must be met even if the student is absent. See the professor's locator information for emailing work if you are not in class. An absence on the day that you are scheduled for oral presentations or examinations will result in a grade of zero for the assignment unless you meet one of the following requirements. Students may only make up speeches in the event of sickness or the death of a family member and in both cases must provide proof. In the case of sickness, a doctor's note is required to make up a speech. If you don't go to the doctor, then you are not sick enough to miss class! In the event of a funeral, the funeral program or obituary is required. These are the only two cases accepted for any form of makeup speeches. Being unprepared or not knowing the date of your speech is not an acceptable excuse! If, according to the instructor's discretion, the student is allowed to make up such a presentation or exam, the student will automatically receive a grade drop of 10 points for the assignment. Only ONE speech may be made up during the semester or the designated date for makeups.

**Course Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the following areas:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.
2. Apply elements of audience analysis.
3. Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic.
4. Research, develop and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
5. Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.
6. Identify how culture, ethnicity and gender influence communication.
7. Develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or

group (e.g. narrative, informative or persuasive).

**Course Schedule** - Tentative, subject to change as needed. Please note that daily activities will be found via blackboard and your connect account. The synchronous class days count as test grades. This means that missing one or both of your required days will result in a substantial drop in your grade; also, consider this is how you submit speeches.

A note for due dates: all due dates can be found next to the assignment in the Connect platform. Those are final. Anything not included there (such as your group project, or the Informative Speech delivery) will be mentioned via Blackboard Announcements. It is your responsibility to clarify any confusion on due dates. Remember, face-to-face summer courses are expected to be daily meetings of at least 2 hours, with homework.

July 8, 2020 - August 12, 2020

<u>Week # Dates</u>	<u>Content Covered</u>	<u>Major Assignments</u>
<u>7 / 8 - Wed</u> <u>7 / 9 - Thu</u>	Chapter 1 Chapter 19 and 3	Discussion Forum: Synch time Introductory Speech Assigned
<u>7 / 13 - Mon</u> <u>7 / 14 - Tue</u> <u>7 / 15 - Wed</u> <u>7 / 16 - Thu</u>	Chapter 4 Chapter 15 Chapter 6 Chapters 9 and 5	Introductory Speeches due  Informative Assigned
<u>7 / 20 - Mon</u> <u>7 / 21 - Tue</u> <u>7 / 22 - Wed</u> <u>7 / 23 - Thu</u>	Chapter 11 Chapter 10 Chapter 7 Chapters 2 and 8	Exam 1  I.S. Synch Delivery
<u>7 / 27 - Mon</u> <u>7 / 28 - Tue</u> <u>7 / 29 - Wed</u> <u>7 / 30 - Thu</u>	 Chapter 12 Chapter 13 Chapter 14	I.S. Synch Delivery Persuasive Speech Assigned Group Presentation Assigned P.S. Synch Delivery
<u>8 / 3 - Mon</u> <u>8 / 4 - Tue</u> <u>8 / 5 - Wed</u> <u>8 / 6 - Thu</u>	Chapter 16 Chapter 17 Chapter 20 Chapter 18 (optional)	P.S. Synch Delivery  Exam 2
<u>8 / 10 - Mon</u> <u>8 / 11 - Tue</u> <u>8 / 12 - Wed</u>	 Review for Finals	Group Projects due Final Exam

Finals Day: August 12th