SPCH 1315 Public Speaking, Section 9B5

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Joshua Cobb

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Office Location: ECHS: Austin Innovation Center, Rm 310; LIT: T5 102

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday morning, from 9 a.m. – noon, via Blackboard
        Collaborate, and Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, from 3-5 p.m., via Blackboard
        Collaborate or on the LIT campus, T5 building, room 102

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Face to Face

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
None.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Application of communication theory and practice to the public speaking context, with
emphasis on audience analysis, speaker delivery, ethics of communication, cultural diversity,
and speech organizational techniques to develop students' speaking abilities, as well as ability
to effectively evaluate oral presentations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to
- Demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.
- Apply elements of audience analysis.
- Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic.
- Research, develop and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
- Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.
- Identify how culture, ethnicity and gender influence communication.
- Develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or group (e.g. narrative, informative or persuasive).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
- Our textbook for SPCH 1315 is Exploring Public Speaking, 4th Edition. This is a free e-book available online at https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/communication-textbooks/1/ in Word, PDF and EPUB (earlier editions) formats. You can also view and download the PDF attachment on Blackboard.
- 1 package of 3x5 or 5x8 index cards
- Material for creating visual aids
- Must have the ability to upload/print documents for class
- We will be using Blackboard for this course, as well at LIT email.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance in this course is vital to your success. It is your responsibility to sign in each class day. Students missing more than 25% of the class meetings will automatically fail the course.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:
- 3 Speeches   27.5%
- MMS Speech (Common Assignment)   15%
- Homework / Participation   32.5%
- Tests   25%

GRADE SCALE
- 90-100   A
- 80-89   B
- 70-79   C
- 60-69   D
- 0-59   F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

COURSE CALENDAR (subject to change at the instructor's discretion)

Week/Date	Readings/Assignments/Due Dates	Points
Week 1 Jan. 17-22	1. Orientation to the course – Read Syllabus & Syllabus Addendum 2. Chapter 1 discussion board post due Jan. 22 at 11:59 p.m.	 5 pts
Week 2 Jan. 23-29	1. Chapter 2 discussion board post due Jan. 29 at 11:59 p.m.	5 pts
Week 3 Jan. 30 – Feb. 5	1. Chapters 3 and 4 discussion board posts due Feb. 5 at 11:59 p.m. 2. Intro Speeches given in class during Week 3. 3. Intro Speech Evaluation due by Feb. 5 at 11:59 p.m.	10 pts 75 pts 11 pts
Week 4 Feb. 6-12	1. Chapters 5 and 12 discussion board posts due Feb. 12 at 11:59 p.m.	10 pts
Week 5 Feb. 13-19	1. Chapter 6 discussion board post due by Feb. 19 at 11:59 p.m. 2. Library Assignment due Feb. 19 at 11:59 p.m. 3. PRACTICE outline (extra credit) due by Feb. 19 at 11:59 p.m.	5 pts 75 pts 5 pts
Week 6 Feb. 20-26	1. Informative Speeches given in class during Week 6. 2. Informative Speech Evaluation due by Feb. 26 at 11:59 p.m.	100 pts 13 pts
Week 7 Feb. 27 - March 5	1. Chapter 7 discussion board post due March 5 at 11:59 p.m.	10 pts
Week 8 March 6-12	1. Exam 1 due by March 12 at 11:59 p.m.	125 pts
Week 9 Mar. 13-19	Spring Break!	
Week 10 March 20-26	1. Listening Report due by March 26 at 11:59 p.m. 2. Chapters 8 and 9 discussion board posts due by March 26 at 11:59 p.m.	100 pts 10 pts
Week 11 March 27 – April 2	1. Chapters 10 and 11 discussion boards due April 2 at 11:59 p.m.	100 pts
Week 12 April 3-9	1. Problem-Solution Speeches given in class during Week 12. 2. Problem-Solution Evaluation due by April 9 at 11:59 p.m. 3. Begin working in groups for MMS Speech.	100 pts 13 pts
Week 13 April 10-16	1. Chapters 13 and 14 discussion board posts due April 16 at 11:59 p.m. 2. Continue work in MMS Groups.	10 pts
Week 14 April 17-23	1. Chapter 15 discussion board posts due April 23 at 11:59 p.m. 2. Continue work in MMS Groups.	5 pts
Week 15 April 24-30	1. Persuasive Speech Group Project given in class during Week 15. 2. MMS Group/Self Evaluation due by April 30 at 11:59 p.m.	150 pts 13 pts
Week 16 May 1-7	1. Exam 2 (Chapters 15-26) due by May 7 at 11:59 p.m.	125 pts

GRADING NOTES

• For each of your **four speeches and two written assignments**, the Library Assignment and Listening Report, there are instructions and requirements on Blackboard. See "Assignments" under "Course Content." It is very important that you review these instructions BEFORE completing your work and that your work fulfills the requirements. Also, look for the evaluation form that accompanies the instructions for each speech. These forms are for me to complete, but take a look anyway. They will give you an idea what I will be looking for as I grade your speeches.

• After you have presented each of your speeches, complete a **self-evaluation** on Blackboard. Find these under "Assignments." This is an opportunity for you to look back at your preparation and delivery. What went well? Where can you make improvements? The evaluation for your final speech, the group project, is different in that you will be evaluating not only yourself but also your group members. There's a form for that attached to the assignment.

• **Discussion Board Posts** are due on Blackboard the Sunday after the chapter appears on the course calendar. For example, Chapter 6 is on the calendar for Week 5, Feb. 21-27. That means your Discussion Board responses for that chapter is due by Sunday, Feb. 27, by midnight. There is no minimum length for these posts, but most can be answered in about 100 words. Make sure that your response is complete, answers the question and demonstrates an understanding of your textbook. DO NOT simply Google the question. Use your textbook. Type your response directly into the "Message" field in Blackboard or copy your response from an external Word document and paste your response into the "Message" field. Please DO NOT answer in an attached document.

• Your **Exams** are each 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions coming primarily from your textbook. These two tests will be taken online via Blackboard. In advance of each test, I will supply a list of terms for review.

• To earn the 25 **Participation points,** it's important that you participate in class discussions, whether online or face-to-face. Have you asked good questions? Have you commented in a meaningful way on someone else's Discussion Board Post? Have you offered constructive criticism or praise on a classmate's speech? Have you submitted all of your work? These are the questions I will be asking to determine how many of the available points each student receives at the end of the semester. These points can sometimes make the difference between one letter grade and the next.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
1. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated. On the first offense, you will fail the assignment. On the second offense, you will fail the class.
2. Incompletes in this course will only be allowed if ALL of the following conditions are met: 75 percent of the coursework has been completed; a dire situation documented by evidence makes completion during the regular term impossible; and a student formally requests an incomplete.

3. I do not accept late work. If you disappear during the semester, for whatever reason, you won't get to make up missed assignments when you reappear. I'm a reasonable man, but it is vital that you communicate with me in a timely manner. Email is your best option.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Upon completion of reading the Master Syllabus and Syllabus addendum, you're required to email Mr. Cobb at jscobb@lit.edu with a message confirming you have read and understand the course policies. Grades will not be posted until you have done so, but if you do this by 11:59 p.m. on Jan. 22, you'll earn 5 points extra credit.