COMM 1315-Public Speaking

"Be sincere; be brief; be seated."
-Franklin D. Roosevelt

Instructor’s Name:  
Office Location:  
Phone:  
Email:  
Office Hours: 

Course Description: This course acquaints students with the skills and process included in Research, composition, organization, delivery, and analysis of speeches for various purposes and occasions.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will apply a range of public speaking tools to demonstrate their communicative competence.
2. Students will construct logical and effective arguments in writing and presenting ideas.
3. Students will analyze texts critically using standards and criteria for the purpose of critiquing oral, listening, and written communication skills to support their views and opinions.
4. Students will evaluate the credibility of sources through the implementation of ethical guidelines.
5. Students will determine the value of evidence for the purpose of making ethical decisions in written and oral communication.
6. Students will demonstrate effective persuasive skills.


Materials: to be determined by instructor

Student Responsibilities: to be determined by instructor. At all times students are required to be strong, creative, and respectful of their learning environment. All assignments and research must be completely the work of the student. Academic integrity is a priority set forth through the university, department, and the class instructor. Academic dishonesty (plagiarism) is not tolerated. For a complete definition, see Plagiarism and Cheating in the Policies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Attendance Policy: to be determined by instructor. TAMU policy indicates that students are expected to be in class unless students are involved in a university excused activity, can provide a doctor’s excuse for an illness, or experiences an unavoidable emergency. In the case of planned absences, assignments may be turned in before the due date.
Grading Policy

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Total points 800 points

Point values: A (720-800) B (640-719) C (560-639) D (480-559) F (0-480)

Assignments Details

**Speeches:** Students will present 3 speeches over the course of the semester. Speeches are designed to engage students in two modes of public speaking and examine the different types of speeches.

- **Impromptu Speech:** The goal of this speech is to present with limited/no preparation time. Students are required to adapt to their audience, create speaking outline, conform to time limits (2-3 minutes), and have appropriate introduction, body, and conclusion.

- **Informative Speech:** The goal of this speech is to educate/enlighten/teach the audience. Students are required to adapt to their audience, include appropriate source citations orally and written (at least 5-scholarly sources), establish their credibility, create a bibliography, preparation outline, and speaking outline, conform to time limits (4-5 minutes), incorporate appropriate presentation aids, and have appropriate introduction, body, conclusion, and transition statements.

- **Persuasive Speech:** The goal of this speech is to advocate for a specific action for the audience. Students are required to use Monroe’s Motivated Sequence Pattern, adapt to their audience, include appropriate source citations orally and written (at least 7-scholarly sources), establish their credibility, create a bibliography, manuscript, preparation outline, and speaking outline, conform to time limits (6-7 minutes), incorporate appropriate presentation aids, and have appropriate introduction, body, conclusion, and transition statements.

**Annotated Bibliography:** Students will complete an Annotated Bibliography for their Informative Speech. This will include 10 sources, all sources must be scholarly or from credible Websites.

**Manuscript:** Students will complete a manuscript of their Persuasive Speech incorporating Monroe’s Motivated Sequence pattern.

**Speech Analysis Paper:** The student will write a paper with at least 10-scholarly sources. They will include analyzing one of the “Top 100 Speeches” from www.americanrhetoric.com using the 5 Canons of Rhetoric, utilizing Cicero’s Five Canons of Rhetoric as their criteria.
**Group Project:** Students will prepare a 15-20 minute group presentation. The students will be required to thoroughly discuss a global conflict/problem and work collectively to resolve the issue. Students will present their findings making use of academic and popular research. Students will also be responsible to reflect upon and discuss the overall group experience.

*Optional Service Learning Group Project:* Students will work in groups with community partners to create effective visual aids for presentations. This will require students adapt visual aids to specific audiences designated by community partners. The project will include the following components: interview component, pre/post reflection, rough/final draft, and a presentation.

**Quizzes and Assignments:** Instructors may use pop quizzes and or homework assignments to evaluate students’ progress.

**Portfolio/ Self-Evaluation:** Students will evaluate their progress through self-reflexive exercises. These exercises coupled with a portfolio (including work during through the semester). The final section of the portfolio will include a self-reflection essay on students’ progress in the course worth *at least* 20% of the grade for this assignment. Students will present their portfolios in a oral presentation at the end of the semester.