DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

CMST 2060- PUBLIC SPEAKING

Fall 2017

Section 39- T/TH 9:00-10:20am, Coates 103

Instructor: H. Shea Smith

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Office Hours: T/TH 11:30-12:30pm or by appointment

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REQUIRED TEXT:

Lucas, Stephen E. (2012) The Art of Public Speaking (12th ed). McGraw Hill.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS/GOALS:

CMST 2060 is a *General Education Humanities Course* designed to familiarize students with the study of public speaking. The act of public speaking is the culmination (and often the beginning) of a long process of critical dialogue with oneself, language, and the imagines responses of the audience. In other words, it takes being confident in who you are, what you want to say, how you are going to say it, who you want to say it to, and why you should say anything at all. Throughout the semester students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of public speaking.

*As a General Education Humanities Course,* CMST 2060 *will enable students to demonstrate an understanding historical, cultural, and philosophical complexity that supports sophisticated discourse.*

As a result of this course, students should:

* Understand the principles of rhetorics and effectively utilize them in crafting well researched, reasoned, and appealing speeches.
* Choose topics for public speaking that are timely, relevant, and adaptable given varying situations in which the message may be delivered, and for different audiences.
* Effectively and critically evaluate message/speech content and delivery, both when examining one’s own work as well as that of others.
* Understand and utilize the verbal and nonverbal elements for exemplary speech delivery.
* Analyze and discuss speeches of historical, political, and social significance.
* Examine one’s own biases as listeners, classroom community members, and consumers of information.

To achieve these goals, we will apply assignments and activities that provide you the opportunity to:

* Practice various speech composition and delivery techniques in many informal “activity” speeches.
* Research, draft, get feedback on, edit, and deliver four original formal speeches.
* Discuss readings of critical material.
* Collaborate with peers to complete a comprehensive final exam.
* Practice critical and empathetic listening skills
* Practice giving and incorporating useful feedback to and from peers.

Please know that this course is not about influencing your personal politics, but the course will periodically ask you to engage with political material and in political discussion. You will never be graded on the content of your opinions (the *composition* of your opinions, however, is always fair game).

COURSE POLICIES:

Special Needs Accommodation

The American with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitations Act of 1973 states: “If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a coordinator in the Office of Disability Affairs (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations can be arranged.” After you receive the accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

Attendance & Participation

Attending class regularly and on time is essential to your success in this course. You are expected to attend all classes just as you would be expected to attend work every day as if this was any other job. Daily activity and discussion points may not be made up. You must be present in order to earn these points. We will cover additional material in class that cannot be found in the textbook, which is fair game for tests and quizzes. So come to class! Additionally, my teaching style often relies heavily on in-class activities that require you to be engaged- this means you should give both energy and commitment in order to earn full points. You are expected to attend all days your peers give speeches. Blatant disrespect or inattention during peer speeches will result in significant deductions from your own speech grades

Missed Speeches & Late Work

The course moves quickly and we all rely on each other to show up on speaking days to make sure everyone’s speeches fit into the tight schedule. If a student is absent the day she/he is scheduled to speak and has not made prior arrangements with the instructor, the presentation will suffer at 10% deduction. If a speaker knows well in advance that they cannot attend class the day of an assigned speech presentation, they can find a replacement without penalty. If you are too sick to make it to a speech day, please stay home and take care of yourself, but plan on going to the health center to get an excuse if you want to do the speech on a different day without a significant penalty. If you arrive late to class on the day of your speech, your assignment will be reduced by 5 %, even if you are “on time” for your own presentation. Showing respect for your classmates by arriving on time to class on the day of presentations is of great importance.

If you are unable to make a scheduled speech time, you may still receive full credit for speech outlines if they are submitted by the start of class on the scheduled speaking day.

Late Work: If you arrive late to class on the day of your speech, your assignment will be reduced by one letter grade, even if you are “on time” for your own presentation. Showing respect for your classmates by arriving on time to class on the day of presentations is of great importance. Major class assignments of course will be accepted prior to an established deadline.

Just as with any other job, you would certainly make every effort to contact your co-workers or boss if extenuating circumstances prevented you from being at work or meeting an important deadline. The same is true for this class. You should treat it like a job.

Prior arrangements must be made with the instructor if extenuating circumstances prevent you from meeting an important deadline. If prior arrangements have been made with me, then later submissions will not be subject to penalty. If you miss class due to a university approved absence, you will be responsible to come into my office and provide original (hard copy) documentation to excuse any late work (no digital documentation). Always see me during my office hours to arrange make-up work—make every effort to arrange makeups before the expected absence. If prior is not possible, then ASAP. You will not be able to make up assignments at the very end of the semester.

Citizenship

Show respect to your classmates and instructor at all times. Do not speak when others are speaking. Give your classmates full attention when they are giving speeches. It is just as important to be an audience member as it is to speak. Failure to attend class on other folks speech days will result in a deduction of points from your own grade.

Plagiarism/Academic Integrity

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarizing a speech or any assignment in this class will result in an automatic zero. You are to assume that all assignments in this course are individual assignments unless explicit instructions are provided for a group project. Any student found to have turned in material not their own (either downloaded from the internet or written by another student) in part or in whole will immediately be reported to the Dean of Students. The Internet has made plagiarism very easy and very tempting. Hundreds of sites offer papers, research, writing, and editing. The ease with which such material is available over the Internet does not lessen the seriousness of claiming material from the Internet as your own. See the LSU policies on plagiarism here: http://www.lib.lsu.edu/instruction/plagiarism2.html. Your paper would be considered plagiarized in part or entirely if you do any of the following:

\* Submit a paper that was written by someone other than you.

\* Submit a paper in which you use the ideas, metaphors or reasoning style of another, but do not cite that source and/or place that source in your list of references. Simply rewording a sentence does not make work your own.

\* Submit a paper in which you “cut and paste” or use the exact words of a source and you do not put the words within quotation marks, use footnotes or in-text citations, and place the source in your list of references.

Technology

Please turn cell phones, laptops and tablets off upon arrival to class. In any instance that they are needed you will be invited to turn them back on. If you use an electronic device during another student’s speech you will automatically lose points from your own speech grade. In emergencies requiring cell phone access during the class session, you should notify your professor before class begins and attempt to sit near the entrance to the classroom.

Extra Credit

There are no extra credit assignments in this class.

TITLE IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a comprehensive federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the gender of students and employees of educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance.

In accordance with Title IX and other applicable law, Louisiana State University (“LSU”) is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free of discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual misconduct which includes sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and retaliation. LSU prohibits sex discrimination and sexual misconduct. This policy applies to all persons without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.

Sex discrimination and sexual misconduct violate an individual’s fundamental rights and personal dignity. LSU considers sex discrimination and sexual misconduct in all of its forms to be serious offenses. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy establishes a mechanism for determining when rights have been violated in employment, student life, campus support services, LSU programs and/or an academic environment.

LSU Commitment to Community

LSU is an interactive community in which students, faculty, and staff together strive to pursue truth, advance learning, and uphold the highest standards of performance in an academic and social environment.

ASSIGNMENTS & EVALUATION:

Speeches (500 points, 50% of overall grade)

4 MAJOR SPEECHES (50% of overall course grade):

Introductory Speech 5% - 50 points

Informative Speech 15% - 150 points

Persuasive Speech 20% - 200 points

Commemorative Speech 10% - 100 points

* A portion of each of the four major speech assignments will be based upon written components (Speech Outlines, Speech Self-Evaluations, etc.) in addition to an in-class presentation component.

***\*\****YOU MUST SUBMIT AN OUTLINE TO EARN CREDIT FOR ANY SPEECH\*\*

Class Participation (120 points, 12% of overall grade)

In-class discussions, activities, etc.

Reading Assessment/Quizzes (150 points, 15% of overall grade)

Throughout the semester you will periodically have in-class evaluations based on the assigned readings, and short, typed reading response of no more than one page applying terms from the chapter to video speeches, in-class speeches, etc.

Midterm Exam (100 points, 10% of overall grade)

You will have a midterm exam based on material covered throughout the semester.

Final Exam (100 points, 10% of overall grade)

You will have a cumulative final exam based on material covered throughout the semester.

Research Participation Requirement (30 points, 3% of overall grade)

You are responsible for reading the further information found below on this syllabus and implementing it; grading for this element of the class is out of my hands.

The material you will learn in this course is the product of research. The goal of the research learning requirement is to help you to gain knowledge about the process by which scholars attempt to understand human behavior. All students taking CMST 1061, 2010, 1150, and 2060 must complete a research learning requirement. For each course in which a student is enrolled, he or she must complete 2 research credits. You can fulfill your requirement by:

1. Participating in research studies conducted in the Department of Communication Studies. All studies that last between 0 and 30 minutes will count as one credit. Any study that lasts between 31 and 60 minutes will count as two credits. Each study will specify the number of credits a student can earn for completion. There will be several survey and experimental studies conducted throughout the semester. These studies are held on campus at various times and in various locations or are administered through online survey software. All available studies are approved by the Institutional Review Board at LSU.

2. Participating in an organized departmental function such as debate or public speaking competition. Only departmental sanctioned events will count toward a student’s research learning requirement; thus, no credit will be given for a student attending an outside speaker or performance.

3. Serving as a research assistant for a faculty member in the Department of Communication Studies. The number of units and requirements for those units will be set by the researcher and either accepted or rejected by the student.

The research learning requirement is worth 3% of your total grade; you will receive your 3% if you accumulate 2 research credits during the given semester. Please note that all research learning credits must be completed and allocated by Tuesday December 1 at 11:59 PM (the Tuesday prior to the start of the concentrated study period).

ALL available options to earn credit are posted on an electronic bulletin board located at https://lsuhumanresearch.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=/ . When you go to this website, you will first have to request an account. Once you have secured an account, you will be able to log in and see the options available to you for your various CMST courses.

Please note that various ways to fulfill your research learning requirement will appear on this bulletin board throughout the semester. You are encouraged to check the system on a regular basis for current credit options that fit your interests as well as your schedule.

It is very important that when you sign-up for a credit option that you attend that option or cancel your sign up. Failure to show up twice during one semester will result in your access to the system being restricted and you being unable to complete your research learning requirement. Valid excuses for failing to cancel a sign up and missing a credit option are the same as those found in LSU Policy Statement 31.

Detailed instructions on how to request an account and to navigate the system are posted on the homepage of the Department of Communication Studies, http://www.lsu.edu/cmst. Click on RESOURCES and RESEARCH PARTICIPATION SYSTEM. Scroll down to find the document titled “RPS – Instructions for Students.” You are encouraged to create an account during the first week of classes so that any problems that arise can be remedied before it is too late. If you have questions about this requirement or the online system that keeps track of credits, please email [researchadmin@lsu.edu](mailto:researchadmin@lsu.edu).

**CLASS RESOURCES**

* Moodle – Moodle will be a hub for class readings, additional articles of interest, a place to give and get feedback, general questions, links to databases
* LSU Library System – Research databases for all topics (be sure you are signed into myLSU to access all content); Research Librarian can offer tutorials on LSU’s research capabilities and offer individual help with research projects
* Studio 151 – computer lab; presentation practice room with instant video playback; high quality recording equipment; writing and composition tutoring

GRADES

Final grades will be determined based on scores earned in the previous assignments. All work must be done during the semester.

Grading Scale

Point Range Letter Grade

970.00 - 1000.00 A+

930.00 - 969.99 A

900.00 - 929.99 A-

870.00 - 899.99 B+

830.00 - 869.99 B

800.00 - 829.99 B-

770.00 - 799.99 C+

730.00 - 769.99 C

700.00 - 729.99 C-

670.00 - 699.99 D+

630.00 - 669.99 D

600.00 - 629.99 D-

< 600 points F

Your final grade assignment will be based on your total score at the end of the semester.

HAVE YOU DECLARED A MAJOR OR MINOR?

Business leaders and other professionals recognize the importance of developing communication skills and analysis. Alan Greenspan, for example, stated, “To succeed, you will soon learn, as I did, the importance of a solid foundation in the basics of education – literacy, both verbal and numerical, and communication skills.” We hope this course contributes to your success.

To learn more about communication, you may want to major or minor in the Department of Communication Studies. The program explores how people sustain and change, experience, and make sense of the world through symbolic action. Students develop conceptual skills to analyze written, oral, and visual messages. Students gain practical experience in such areas such as

public speaking, group decision-making, performance, and film. Such skills are elemental to careers in business, government, law, social services, and the arts.

A major in Communication Studies requires 36 hours including 12 hours of core classes and 12 hours at the 3000 or 4000 level. A minor requires 15 hours with one core class and 6 hours at the 3000 level or above.

The Department of Communication Studies offers 6 Pathways of Study as guidance for students interested in taking CMST courses. These pathways include lists of courses that can be taken for students interested in the following areas within Communication Studies:

• Public Discourse

• Art and Culture

• Professional Communication

• Communication in Human Relationships

• Visual and Mediated Communication

• Create your Own Pathway

More information is available at www.lsu.edu/cmst or by contacting our undergraduate advisor Mr. Kent Filbel (kfilli@lsu.edu), whose hours are posted at his office, 135 Coates Hall.