Introduction to Communications

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Williams, M.A. Teaching, Olivet Nazarene University

B.A. History, Olivet Nazarene University

Minor, Speech Communications, Olivet Nazarene University

Credit Hours: 1/2 Credit

Course Description:
Introduction to Communications is an elective course that will provide students with the basic skills needed in a variety public and daily interaction within society. Students will learn the essentials parts of speech. Students at the end of the course will have developed an understanding of both delivery and proper skills in evaluating public speaking.

Course Objectives:
Upon the completion of Introduction to Communications students will be able to understand and apply the following core concepts.
- Develop the basic fundamentals of speech and non-verbal communication
- Understand core group dynamics and communication
- View a variety of communication in a professional setting
- Understand fundamental speech skills
- Develop good listening and skills of a focused audience
- Create a sense of confidence in the delivery of both themselves and the topic in which they are presenting
- Learn to listen with an open mind and evaluate the delivery and not just the message
- Proper technique in developing an opinion and delivery of that through the proper technique
- Development of the speech through discussion and proper research
- Working within a small group setting to solve problems

Required Class Materials:
Textbooks
Notebooks
Writing Utensils
Assigned required readings and or sources
Text:
Glencoe Speech- (Publisher: Glencoe: McGraw-Hill)

Course Outline:
(Subject to change due to time constraints, class size, and individual preference)

August-
- The core concepts in Public Speaking (The Basics)
- Application of core concepts in the proper Speech
- Group Presentation

September-
- Research and Development of a speech
- Grading and Evaluation of sample speeches/practicing Public Speaking
- Create and Develop a demonstrative speech, persuasive speech and an informative speech

October/November-
- Proper Research Technique and Research Time for final speech
- Start work on final speech

December-
- Deliver Speeches for evaluation
- Deliver Final Speech for grading

Major Assignments:
Topics will be discussed in the classroom and assigned at the appropriate time. Students will be required to work on material outside classroom time.

January-
- Self Introduction Speech: Students will deliver a basic speech upon themselves.

February-
- Group Presentations: Students will be assigned a group of 2-3 members and given scenarios in which they must create a consensus opinion within the group
- Speech Evaluation Assignment: Students will be assigned the task of rating and summarizing a variety of in class and out of class examples of Public Speaking

March
- Research on the 3 core speeches: Students will begin to develop a demonstrative, persuasive and informative speech.

April
- Final Speech Research and Development: Students will be assigned a final topic in which they must prepare and research a position. The student will develop this speech and given time in class to prepare portions and receive feedback. Students will also spend out of class time on this task.

May
Final Speech: Preliminary Presentation of speeches for evaluation and critique
Final Exam: Graded Final Speech and Test over material covered throughout the semester.

Grading:
Grading Scale follows the guidelines provided within the student handbook. Students will receive a final exam (15% of grade) and receive a semester grade (85% of grade)

Students will receive a rubric for all individual speeches. This will show the standards needs to achieve desired grade.

Class Policies & Procedures:
All classroom Policies and Procedures follow those provided in the student handbook.

Missed Speeches must made be up immediately. There will be a heavy balance of points assigned to the public speaking done within the course and therefore students must pay close attention to assigned speech dates.

Any questions or concerns will be handled on an individual basis.

Instructor Contact:
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