Instructor information:
Email: tfreitag@angelo.edu  |  Phone: 325-486-6085
Office: 3rd Floor Library/RM 317

Office Hours:
MWF - 10 – 10:50 AM  |  TR: 11 AM – 12:15 PM
or by appointment in faculty office

Required Readings/Additional Materials:
Lucas, S. E. (2015). The art of public speaking (12th ed.). Boston: McGraw Hill. Assignments handed out in class and posted on Blackboard. NOTECARDS (3x5), and a flash drive for storing/accessing presentations. Chapter reading assignments should be read in advance of class, and student should be prepared to answer or ask any questions in class during Chapter review sessions as part of their participation grade.

Course Description:
COMM 1315 is a course designed to help students across academic majors to learn how to communicate effectively in public by understanding and analyzing the audience and situation, then creating an appropriate message. Core public speaking skills are message clarity, organization, language, delivery, and the use of multimedia/presentation technology. Emphasis will be placed on presenting a variety of speeches throughout the semester, and using appropriate research to support message.

Course Grading:
A = 1000-900 points   B = 899-800   C = 799-700   D = 699-600   F = 599 points and below

Student Learning Outcomes:
• Critical Thinking Skills (CT) - Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue, and construct a logical position (i.e. perspective, thesis, and/or hypothesis) that acknowledges ambiguities or contradictions.
• Communication Skills (CS) - Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written, oral, and visual communication.
• Teamwork Skills (TW) - Consider different viewpoints as a member of a team in effort to work effectively with others to support and accomplish a shared goal.
• Attitudes and Behaviors Displaying Social Responsibility (SR) - Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and engagement in the campus, regional, national or global communities.
• Attitudes and Behaviors Displaying Personal Responsibility (PR) - Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision making.

Course Requirements (up to 1000 points possible as follows):
Informative Speech 1 = 150 points
A 5 to 7-minute speech on a topic of controversy at the local, state, national, or international level, which is presented in an unbiased manner and informs the audience of the two sides of the debate. The speech must also include a short visual aide. Speeches will be timed and there is a deduction if you are under or over. *See assignment sheet for details on Blackboard.

Informative Outline 1 = 50 points
Includes a preparation outline that uses the required outline template provided on Blackboard, along with a works cited page for the informative speech.

Persuasive Group Speech 1 (MMS speech) = 100 points
A 12 to 15 minute group speech persuading the audience to volunteer for a non-profit organization, and utilizes Monroe’s Motivated Sequence. The speech must also include a short visual aide. Speeches will be timed and there is a deduction if you are under or over. *See assignment sheet for details on Blackboard.

Persuasive Group 1 Outline (MMS) = 50 points
Includes a preparation outline that uses the required outline template provided on Blackboard, along with a works cited page for the persuasive speech. (MMS) speech.

Persuasive Group Peer Evaluation (MMS) = 50 points
Students will evaluate their group members and themselves for the persuasive group (MMS) speech.
Persuasive Individual Speech 2 = 150 points
A 5 to 7-minute persuasive speech advocating one of the sides introduced in the informative speech. A preparation outline and visual aide presentation will be required. Speeches will be timed and there is a deduction if you are under or over. * See assignment sheet on Blackboard for details.

Persuasive Individual Outline 2 = 50 points
Includes a preparation outline that uses the required outline template provided on Blackboard, along with a works cited page for the informative speech.

Peer Evaluations | 2@25 points = 50 points
Students will be graded on their evaluation of their peers’ individual speeches (Informative 1 and Persuasive 2). Evaluations must demonstrate thoughtfulness, suggest opportunities for improvement, and not be the same for each speaker.

Special Occasion Speech = 100 points
A 2 to 3-minute wedding toast, eulogy, or acceptance speech. Speeches will be timed and there is a deduction if you are under or over.

Quizzes | 5@20 points = 100 points
Students will be given five (5) quizzes on chapter material throughout the course of the semester. Quizzes may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, fill in the blank and essay questions. Quizzes may be written or posted on Blackboard.

Final Exam = 100 points
Students will take a final exam on course material at the end of the course. Final exam may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and fill in the blank questions. For final exam date and time go to: http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/final.php.

Participation = 50 points
Students will be graded on their ability and willingness to discuss course material during class lectures as well as participation in exercises, and classroom participation roles. The following scale will be used to determine participation points, and will be determined by the instructor at the end of the semester:

50 points = Excellent  40 points = Good  30 points = average  20 points = fair  10 points = poor

Departmental/Course Policies
1. Attendance - regular attendance is required in this course. Attendance will be taken and counted beginning on the first day of class and it is student’s responsibility to sign the attendance sheet. If you do not sign in, you will be considered absent. A student can miss 3 days (MWF), or 2 days (T/R), without penalty to the final grade. However, a student’s absence will result in a zero for all work/assignments completed on that day.

When a student misses more than the allotted absences noted above, two (2) points will be deducted from the student’s FINAL average for each additional absence. This number includes both EXCUSED and UNEXCUSED absences. Student will be counted absent if you are not present for the entire class.

Three tardies (more than 10 minutes) will result in an absence.

To be considered excused for a class absence, the student must be excused through the school/instructor/coach with written documentation (hard or electronic copy) if they will be attending a school sponsored event. Other absences due to illness, family emergency, et.al. must be documented with evidence, and be forwarded to instructor for review to be considered as excused. An e-mail or verbal explanation by student will not be suffice.

It is the responsibility of the student to complete any assignments they will be missing prior to their departure. Instructor should be contacted as soon as student knows they will be missing a class they wish to be considered excused.
2. Late Speeches - if student is not present when scheduled to give a speech, and does not have a legitimate reason for being absent (i.e., hospitalization, funeral of close family member), STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A ZERO for that presentation. Only if an absence is excused through the school or the instructor will a student be allowed to make up a speech. If you have a legitimate reason for missing, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE UP YOUR SPEECH THE DAY THAT YOU RETURN. This means that student must have documentation legitimizing the absence and speech materials ready. You will be FIRST to present on the day that you return.

If you do not have a legitimate reason, departmental/course policy states: Failing to give a speech on the assigned date will result in a zero. Not delivering all four speeches will result in automatically failing the class regardless of your numerical average.

Showing up late on your scheduled speech date will result in 15 points being deducted from your speech. If you are late, do not enter the classroom while a classmate is delivering her/his speech.

3. Late Tests - if a student misses a written class test due to an excused absence (i.e., hospitalization, funeral of close family member), the student must make the test up within a reasonable length (no more than one week). Arrangements for making up work should be made prior to the absence, if possible, and is the student’s responsibility. A typed, signed and dated explanation must be given to the instructor upon returning to class.

For quizzes posted on Blackboard, there are NO makeup except when technology issues are documented by the ASU IT department.

4. Academic Misconduct - plagiarism in your speech will result in a zero for the assignment, and the instructor may pursue additional measures. Speeches are to be the original composition of each student. Outside sources are required for each assignment with proper citing in a bibliography as required.

5. Class Etiquette - please be a courteous student and peer. Unauthorized use of CELL PHONES and/or EARBUDS in class will result in student being counted absent for the day, and will result in a ZERO for any work completed on that day.

Students may not use Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, or any other social media outlet in class; Posting pictures or videos of other students or their performance in the classroom will result in student being reported to the Dean of Student Life.

No food in class – beverages are fine but please bring in cups with lids or other spill-proof containers.

Be connected – I DO NOT accept assignments by e-mail. You are responsible for any material posted on Blackboard and/or sent via an email reminder. If you know that you are experiencing e-mail problems, ask someone in class to help. We will use Blackboard extensively for communication outside of class.

6. Dress Requirement - appropriate dress is required for each speech. Formal presentation attire is not required; however, attire should be comfortable but more formal during student’s speech. No hats allowed during speeches. *See assignment sheet for details on Blackboard.

7. Honor Code Policy - violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student’s own work and must be work completed for that class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Please see full Honor Code Policy at http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf
8. Disability Statement
The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:
Mrs. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Development - University Center, Suite 112B
325-942-2047 office or 325-942-2211 or e-mail dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

9. Religious Holiday Observance
A. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code 11.20.
B. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.
C. A student who is excused under section 2 may not be penalized for the absence, however; the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.