

**HONORS 101B:
SEMINAR IN ORAL COMMUNICATION:
CONFRONTING FEAR
SPRING 2004
SECTION 42
M - W 1 – 2:15pm
UH – 204**

Professor: Clifford Roth
Office: H –313A
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Office Hours: Wednesday, 11:30am – 12:30pm
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REQUIRED TEXT

David Zarefsky, *Public Speaking: Strategies for Success*, Third Edition, Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2002.

Barry Glassner, *The Culture of Fear* (Basic Books, 1999).

The texts are available at the CSUF bookstore in Titan Shops.

You are required to purchase a VHS cassette.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This second semester Honors seminar emphasizes the development of oral communication skills and the construction of well-organized outlines and presentations. As such, it builds on the skills you practiced last semester: constructing and evaluating arguments and conveying your ideas. Our presentations, plenary sessions, and many of our reading and writing assignments will focus on the subject of: What are we afraid of? Are our fears justified? What generates them, and who benefits from them?

When you attend class, talk with your roommate, watch television, or surf the Internet, you face decisions about what to believe. Should you endorse a newspaper editor's claim that violence in the media is causally responsible for gun violence in the United States? Should you agree with a website's conclusion that Gulf War Syndrome is merely a metaphoric illness? Should you be persuaded by your roommate's claim that crack-use was the primary cause of homelessness in the 1980's? The answers to these questions depend on the quality of the arguments provided in each case.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course has two overall goals: improving your abilities to express yourself orally, and to think rigorously and critically. More specifically, this course should enable you to:

1. Develop and present a clearly spoken message in English.
2. Practice effective listening and speaking.

3. Present an oral message clearly and effectively using relevant and adequate supporting evidence.
4. Understand the influence of culture and context in oral communication.
5. Understand and value difference in communication styles.
6. Negotiate cooperative action and solution to problems.
7. Select and use effectively appropriate techniques and materials to support ideas and to motivate and persuade others.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

(1) ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Each student must give **5 speeches**, all of which will be videotaped.

1. Introductory Speech (3 minutes) on some aspect of the theme.
2. Informative Speech #1 (4-5 minutes) on the positions of a presidential candidate.
3. Informative Speech #2 with a visual aid (5-6 minutes) inspired by an article to be handed out, but must include the use of additional supporting materials.
4. Persuasive Speech #1 (6-7 minutes)
5. Persuasive Speech #2 with a rebuttal step. (7-8 minutes)

Written assignments that accompany speech assignments. The following assignments will accompany each of the two informative speeches and the two persuasive speeches.

1. Preparation Outlines. Must be handed in on the day of the speech.
2. Bibliographies. Must be handed in on the day of the speech.
3. Speaking Outlines. Must be handed in on the day of the speech.
4. Self-Evaluations: Each student will write a 1-page critical analysis of her/his own speech. Must be handed in the day after the speech.
5. Peer Evaluations: For each speech, four of you will be asked to fill out a written assessment form. Complete the forms diligently. Evaluations that are incomplete or vague will be graded negatively for the evaluator. Student evaluations will be factored into the speaker's grade. If there is evidence of grade inflation or unrealistic assessments, such evaluations will not be factored into the speaker's grade.

(2) PLENARY SESSIONS

Each student must attend plenary sessions when announced.

For each plenary you attend, you must write a 1-page summary (typed). Summaries are due at the first class meeting following the plenary.

(3) EXAMS

Each student must take 2 exams. The first is a Mid-term, the second a Final. The final will be cumulative. The exams will be primarily composed of essays, and will ask you to apply the skills you have learned from the Zarefsky text. Be prepared to write cogent essays on the plenary sessions, assigned readings, and on your peers' speeches.

GRADING

| | <u>% of final grade</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| Introductory Speech | 5 |
| Summaries of Plenary Sessions/Peer Evaluations | 5 |
| First Informative Speech | 10 |
| Second Informative Speech | 10 |
| First Persuasive Speech | 15 |
| Second Persuasive Speech | 20 |
| Mid-term Exam | 15 |
| Final Exam (cumulative) | 20 |

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

(1) OFFICE HOURS

Please attend office hours! If you need help with the reading or the assignments, visit me during office hours or make an appointment. Students who need note-taking or test-taking accommodations are encouraged to discuss this with me as soon as possible.

(2) ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required. You are responsible for notifying me in advance, if you are going to miss class. You are responsible for all information that was provided in your absence.

(3) MAKE-UPS

Exams

A student will be allowed to make up an exam if and only if: (1) she/he notifies me before the missed exam; and (2) she/he has a documented excused absence for the day of the exam. Proper documentation consists of an Official Absence from Health Services, the Dean's Office, or the Athletic Department. If you miss an exam, and you have not met both of the aforementioned conditions, you will receive a 0.

Introductory Oral Presentation/Final Project

Because of the compressed schedule, there will be no make-ups granted for the introductory oral presentation or the final project.

(4) IMPERMISSIBLE BEHAVIOR

It is impermissible to look at, copy, or consult the work of another student or one's books during an exam. It is impermissible to copy someone else's written work, or allow someone else to copy yours. Doing so constitutes plagiarism, which is punishable by expulsion.

Turn off cell phones/pagers while in class.

INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- (1) Coming to class prepared to teach the material, raise questions for discussion, and answer your questions.
- (2) Grading and returning your assignments within 14 days of receiving them.
- (3) Promptly notifying you of any revisions in the course schedule, or my availability outside of class.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(May be subject to revision)

Reading and written assignments are due on the day they are listed.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING

Week 1

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|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Feb 2 | Introduction to course and syllabus. | Introductory speech assigned. |
| Feb 4 | Public Speaking, Listening | Zarefsky Ch. 1 & 2 |

Week 2

| | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Feb 9 | <u>-Introductory Presentations-</u> | |
| Feb 11 | Choosing and Researching a Topic | Zarefsky Ch. 4 & 5 |

Week 3

| | | |
|--------|--|--------------------|
| Feb 16 | <u>Classes Canceled – President's Day</u> | |
| Feb 18 | Organizing and Outlining <u>GO TO LIBRARY TODAY</u> | Zarefsky Ch. 7 & 9 |

Week 4

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Feb 23 | Organizing and Outlining | Zarefsky Ch. 7 & 9 |
| Feb 25 | Organizing and Informing | Zarefsky Ch. 8 & 13 |

Week 5

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| March 1 | Organizing and Informing | Zarefsky Ch. 8 & 13 |
| March 3 | <u>-Informative Speech 1-</u> | |

Week 6

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|--|
| March 8 | <u>-Informative Speech 1-</u> | |
|---------|-------------------------------|--|

March 10 Presentation and Visual Aids Zarefsky Ch. 11 & 12

Week 7

March 15 -Informative Speech 2-

March 17 -Informative Speech 2-

Week 8

March 22 EXTRA DAY FOR CATCH-UP AND REVIEW FOR MID-TERM

March 24 MID-TERM EXAM – IN CLASS

NO CLASSES DURING WEEK OF MARCH 29 – APRIL 2

Week 9

April 5 Reasoning and Persuading Zarefsky, Ch. 6 & 14

April 7 Reasoning and Persuading Zarefsky, Ch. 6 & 14

Week 10

April 12 -Persuasive Speech 1-

April 14 -Persuasive Speech 1-

Week 11

April 19 -Persuasive Speech 1-

April 21 -Persuasive Speech 1-

Week 12

April 26 Language and Audience Zarefsky, Ch. 10 & 3

April 28 Language and Audience Zarefsky, Ch. 10 & 3

Week 13

May 3 -Persuasive Speech 2-

May 5 -Persuasive Speech 2-

Week 14

May 10 -Persuasive Speech 2-

May 12 -Persuasive Speech 2-

WEEK 15

May 17 Occasions for Public Speaking Zarefsky, Ch. 15

May 19 COURSE WRAP-UP AND REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

FINALS WEEK

Final Exam