

Bio 11 & Speech 10 – Winter 2012

Instructors:	Jeff Schinsky (Biology)	Matt Abrahams (Speech)
Office Hours:	SC1-206 MW 3:30-4:30	F31H M 8:45-9:30 & 1:15-2:00
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Prerequisites: Eligibility for EWRT 1A or ESL 5

Course meets the Science and Oral Communication Requirements: 9 units of credit

Course Description

Welcome to our learning community! *From DNA to Dialog* combines the concepts covered in Biology 11 and Speech 10 by focusing on how biology and communication affect life at the intrapersonal, interpersonal, and societal level. This class is a hands-on, practical class that provides an introduction to the theory, basic principles, and methods of biology and effective oral communication.

We believe that true learning only occurs when everyone is involved and interested in the material presented. Our class will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, group activities, projects, and speeches. Through constructive feedback, we will all have the opportunity to teach and help each other. We encourage you to use this course to explore and broaden your world view.

Speech 10 Course Objectives

Students will:

- (1) Examine, understand, and apply the basic theories of psychology and interpersonal communication.
- (2) Develop skills in preparing, organizing, and delivering informative and persuasive presentations to an audience.
- (3) Learn to detect, evaluate, create, and perhaps resist persuasive appeals using psychological and communication concepts.
- (4) Diagnose, evaluate and suggest improvement strategies for their own persuasive endeavors as well as for their fellow students.

Course Materials

- O'Hair, D and Wiemann, M. *Essential Guide to Group Communication, 2nd Ed.*
- Heath, C and Heath, D. *Made to Stick: Why some ideas survive and others die.*
- Abrahams, M. *Speaking Up without Freaking Out*
- One USB drive of at least 1G
- Package of 4x6 note card

Course Requirements

- (1) Regularly attend class, on time, with an inquisitive mind (see attendance policy).
- (2) Participate actively in class discussions and activities (see participation policy).
- (3) Complete, on time, the required reading, assignments, and presentations.
- (4) Bring Course Reader with you to each class and check email the evening prior to class.

Policies

Please review these policies carefully and thoroughly. Failure to comply with them will adversely affect your grade and possibly result in either removal from, or automatic failure of, this course.

Attendance Policy

Your attendance is essential because this class requires performance, participation and evaluation. One of the most valuable learning tools in a course like this one is the experience of observing others' presentations, evaluating them, and then applying what you have learned.

Absences are a very serious matter. By enrolling in this class, you are committing to attend promptly. Anything less than timely attendance (i.e., no tardiness) will affect your participation grade and could result in removal from the class. Attendance will be taken first thing at every class meeting. Make-up exams and presentations will only be granted for verifiable excuses (e.g., a doctor's note for an illness). If you are going to miss a class or know that you will be late, you must notify one of us as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to get yourself caught up.

Participation Policy

Because this class is an experience-based, skills-focused course, your participation is critical. Your participation grade includes being prepared and adding constructively to the class. You are expected not only to write and deliver your best work, but to be an intelligent and constructively critical discussion participant and audience member.

Specifically, any absence during the first two weeks of class will result in being dropped from the course. Each absence after the first that does not have a legitimate excuse (e.g., doctor's note) will result in a loss of points from your participation grade in addition to the loss of points of any assignment due that day. Three absences will result in a loss of all participation points and possibly result in removal from class. More than two late arrivals will also result in a loss of participation points. Please do not ask if you can make up an assignment or turn one in late.

Participation includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Active, constructive involvement in discussions, activities, and group work
- On time and thorough completion of your assignments
- Staying focused on your work and tasks at hand and asking questions
- Fulfilling your commitments to your fellow students and your instructors
- Turning off all pagers and cell phones during class time

Plagiarism and Cheating Policy

Simply stated: **Don't**. Academic dishonesty and cheating in any way will not be tolerated. To deter plagiarism (claiming others' ideas or words as one's own), most assignments will be scanned by an anti-plagiarism software package. Cheating is grounds for automatic expulsion.

Requirements of All Written Work

All written work is to be typed, grammatically correct (please proof read) and stapled. No emails.

Email Policy

Help me understand the purpose of your communication and reply to you quickly; clear subject lines, proper, professional grammar, spelling and punctuation is expected in your messages and will help me get you what you need. (No IM speak).

I will only accept attachments in Microsoft WORD® 1997-2003 (No .DOCX).

You can expect a reply from me within 24 hours to voice mails and emails. If you don't, it may mean it was not received.

Assignments

We will cover four major units in class. Most units will consist of the same pattern of activities:

- Lecture/discussion
- In-class activities, including individual, one-on-one, and group interactions
- Major deliverable, usually a presentation
- Quiz on relevant topics and concepts from lecture and reading

Your graded assignments by unit will be as follows:

Unit	Assignments
The Self	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show & Tell• Deviant for a Day• Anxiety Management Plan
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dear Abby• Biological Background Report
Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call to Action Presentation• Victim of Persuasion

Speeches, Presentations and Outlines

Specific speaking assignments will be as follows:

Show and Tell	1-1.5 minutes
Deviant for a Day Presentation	1.5-2 minutes per partner
Anxiety Management Plan	2-4 minutes
Biological Background Report	3-5 minutes
Call to Action Presentation	9-12 minutes (3-4 min/person)

Speaking Order

We will do our best to alternate the speaking order so no one always goes first or last. Each student is expected to speak at his or her designated time.

Quizzes

This course has no mid-term or final exams. However, you will be required to take two non-cumulative quizzes. These quizzes will cover the content for a set portion of the class. The quizzes will be on information found in both the reading as well as lecture, and will be multiple-choice format. Each quiz should not take longer than 45 minutes to complete.

Additional Assignments

Beyond presentations, reading and outlines, you will be required to complete the following:

- (1) Self-Review – You will evaluate the digital recording of your major presentations.
- (2) Comprehension Note cards – During each class (at least once), you will have a comprehension note card due.
- (3) Sample Speech Outline – As part of our discussion of speech organization, you will be provided with a sample speech for which you are to type up a complete outline using the format we discuss in class.

Grade Break Down

Quizzes	60 points	Two quizzes at 30 points each
Self-review	20 points	Two self-reviews at 10 points each
Sample Speech Outline	10 points	
Anxiety Management Plan	30 points	30 points
Dear Abby	10 points	
Victim of Persuasion	10 points	
Biological Background Report	40 points	20 points for interview, 10 for questions, 10 for outline
Call to Action Presentation	35 points	25 points for speech, 10 points for outline
Comprehension/Quiz Note Cards	20 points	
Participation Points	15 points	
Total	250 points	

Grades

A+ = 100%; A = 99%-93%; A- = 92%-90%; B+ = 89%-88%;
B = 87%-83%; B- = 82%-80%; C+ = 79%-78%; C = 77%-70%;
D+ = 69%-68%; D = 67%-63%; D- = 62%-60%; F = 59% or less

** We will round up to the .50%, but not for .49%

Class Schedule

Date	Topics	Reading	Assignment (Due Date)
Jan 9	Orientation and Welcome Communication Theory	SU Ch 1-4	Print out material from web site: http://faculty.deanza.fhda/abrahamsmatt
	Communication Apprehension		Show and Tell (1/23) Anxiety Management Plan [AMP] (1/30)
Jan 16	HOLIDAY		AMP Self-Review (2/6)
Jan 23	Delivery & Impression Management Show & Tell	MS Ch 1	
	Deviant for a Day class activity AMP work time		
Jan 30	Listening Audience Analysis	MS Ch 2-3	Biological Background Report [BBR] (2/23) BBR Outline (2/14) Quiz 1 (1/31)
	AMP Presentations		
Feb 6	Organization AMP Self-Review	MS Ch 4-5	Sample Outline (2/13)
	Quiz 1		
Feb 13	Questions and Answers Sample Outline	MS Ch 6	Dear Abby (2/20)
	Conflict		
Feb 20	HOLIDAY		
Feb 27	Interpersonal Dear Abby	Web article	
	BBR Outline BBR walk through <social event>		
Mar 5	Persuasion	Web article	Call To Action (Finals period) Call to Action Outline (3/26) Victim of Persuasion (3/12)
	BBR Presentation		BBR Self-Review (3/12)
March 12	Groups		Call to Action (3/26)
	Victim of Persuasion BBR Self-Review		
March 19	Relationships	Web article	
	Call to Action Issue Report		
March 26	Language		
	Call to Action		
Final = Mar 27th *9:15AM*	Quiz #2		