

Vesalius College

Course description

Course title: Introduction to Human Communication

Course code: CMM 101E

Teacher responsible: Claude Bernard

Course description:

The course allows future communication practitioners the opportunity to study and comprehend the preliminaries to verbal and non-verbal communication. A large section of the course focuses on public communication and, in particular, on the preparation and organization of speeches. It studies the nature, components and purposes of human communication. The course is construed as an opportunity for students to become familiar with the basic theoretical and practical models of communication.

Course objectives:

The Communications Curriculum Committee has created a list of specific skills for Communication majors that must be developed in 100-level, required courses. These skills include:

- *presentation skills*
- *writing skills - structure, content PLUS proper English and professionalism*
- *critical thinking*
- *meeting deadlines/ time management*
- *gaining familiarity with CMM literature/authors/works*

Students will familiarize themselves with how culture and gender affect the communication flow and impact on the decoding process. One of the stated objective of the course is to build confidence in the students by allowing them to do a significant number of presentations and by participating in improvisational and role-playing type settings.

Grade weighting scheme:

In-class exercise/Assignments	
Speeches/presentations	40%
Written assignment	20%
Midterm	20%
Final	20%

Participation means attending class, actively contributing to class discussions and turning assignments in on time. More than three unexcused absences will lead to an incremental drop in your grade for the class (i.e., an "A" will become an "A-", an "A-" will become a "B+", etc.) Students who are absent are responsible for finding out what

was covered in class, *and are still expected to get any assignments in on time.*

Used course material (handbooks, readers, readings, newspapers, magazines) and references:

- Understanding Human Communication
By Ronald B. Adler and George Rodman (Oxford University Press)
- Course reader