Professor: Dr. Michael Sollitto, Ph.D  
Email: michael.sollitto@tamucc.edu  
Office: 327 Bay Hall  
Credit Hours: 3  
Office Phone: (361) 825-2443  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 11:00-1:00pm

**TAMUCC Department of Communication and Media Mission Statement**
“Our mission is to develop students who are effective and ethical communicators with the creative, critical, and collaborative skills necessary to succeed in a diverse global environment.”

**Course Title and Description**
Public Speaking is a three credit course focused on the principles of researching, organizing, and delivering a variety of public presentations. This particular course is intended to assist students in developing competency associated with articulating information, persuading, and exchanging ideas with an audience.

**Course Objectives**
The course is designed to further develop students’ abilities to find the practicality and usefulness of a communication studies degree. This course is in partial fulfillment of the following Communication and Media Department outcomes. Specifically, students should be able to perform the following by the conclusion of the Summer 1 session:
- Define communication.
- Demonstrate the ability to research, organize, and deliver multiple types of public presentations.

**Recommended Materials**

Reading material for selected topics from a variety of sources may be distributed in class and/or Blackboard.

**Attendance**
Attendance and participation are *strongly encouraged* for this course, as they are the strongest predictors of success on presentations, quizzes, and for actual learning to take place.

**Grading Procedure**
Grades will be based on the following scale:
100-90% - A  
89-80% - B  
79-70% - C  
69-60% - D  
Below 60% - E
Grading
Grades are comprised of seven public presentations, and two quizzes. There will be no opportunity to makeup in-class activities. Assignments submitted or delivered late will receive a 10 percent deduction for every day it is late.

Past, Present, and Future Presentation
This presentation provides students an opportunity to become more familiar with one another and gain increased comfort with publicly presenting by organizing and delivering a presentation about their past, present, and future. The time frame will be 2-3 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. Future Presentation is worth 25 points.

Special Occasion Presentation- Best Man/Maid of Honor Speech
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation noting the special occasion of a great friend. Students will be grouped with a classmate and learn information about them in order to deliver a presentation befitting of a wedding reception. The time frame will be 3-4 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be provided at the appropriate time. Students will submit a preparation outline via Blackboard by 11:59pm on June 8. The Special Occasion Presentation is worth 25 points.

Informative Presentation
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation about a substantive topic of interest to them. Students will submit a preparation outline and deliver a presentation including at least three main points about their topic. The time frame will be 5-7 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. Students will submit a preparation outline via Blackboard by 11:59pm on June 19. The Informative presentation is worth 75 points.

Impromptu Presentation
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation with minimal preparation. Students will be provided a topic by the professor, prepare a presentation, and deliver a presentation including at least three main points about their topic. The time frame will be 2-3 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. The Impromptu Presentation is worth 40 points.

Special Occasion Presentation-Commemorative Presentation
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation that commemorates and occasion or location. Topics will be drawn during a class period prior to the presentation and students will prepare presentation focused on presenting an award to a classmate. The time frame will be 3-4 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. Students will submit a preparation outline via Blackboard by 11:59pm on June 22. The Special Occasion Presentation is worth 25 points.

Persuasive Presentation
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation about a substantive topic that they would like to persuade their audience about. Students will adhere to Monroe’s Motivated Sequence to submit a preparation outline and deliver a persuasive presentation that includes attention, need, satisfaction, visualization, and action. The time frame will be 5-6 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. Students will submit a preparation outline via Blackboard by 11:59pm on June 27. The Persuasive Presentation is worth 100 points.

Special Occasion Presentation-Award Presentation and Receipt
This presentation provides students an opportunity to organize and deliver a presentation providing an award to a fellow student. Names will be drawn during a class period prior to the presentation and students will prepare presentation focused on presenting an award to a classmate. The time frame will be 3-4 minutes, and further directions and rubric will be distributed at the appropriate time. Students will submit a preparation outline via Blackboard by 11:59pm on June 29. The Special Occasion Presentation is worth 25 points.

Quizzes
There will be two quizzes in this course. Each exam is worth 20 points, for a total of 40 points in the course. Exam content will be based on textbook material and other readings, lecture notes, in-class activities, and any supplemental information provided throughout the course. The exams will likely feature a combination of multiple choice, matching, true-false, and short answer/short essay items.
Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Disabilities Accommodations
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Grade Appeals
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.
Student Conduct

1. **Know the syllabus**: Be informed on what is to be read, discussed, and submitted for each class meeting.
2. **Islander Email**: Correspondence from the instructor will take place through the TAMUCC email system. Regularly check your Islander email for updates and information.
3. **Respect**: Be courteous of the professor and fellow students and refrain from talking amongst yourselves during lecture and discussion. This also means that proper professional communication is also required.
4. **Preparation**: Attend class ready to contribute and interact with material presented in class.
5. **Punctuality**: Please make best effort to arrive to the classroom before class begins.
6. **Electronic Devices**: Items such as cell phones, tablets, and lap tops should be put away during class time.
7. **Listening**: It is absolutely essential and expected for students to pay attention to class discussions and lectures because the information is vital toward successfully completing the course.
8. **Effort**: This class will be fun and enlightening, yet challenging. Please put forth your best effort each day in the course.
# Tentative Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due/Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue May 31</td>
<td>Syllabus; Introductory Exercise; Basics of Communication</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jun 01</td>
<td>Creating and Delivering Presentations; Outlining Activity</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Jun 02</td>
<td>Past, Present, Future Presentation</td>
<td>Past, Present, Future Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Jun 06</td>
<td>Communication Apprehension; Introductions and Conclusions</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jun 07</td>
<td>Special Occasion Presentations; Interview with Classmates</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jun 08</td>
<td>Organizing Through Outlining</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Jun 09</td>
<td>Best Man/Maid of Honor Speech</td>
<td>Special Occasion Presentation-Best Man/Maid of Honor Speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Jun 13</td>
<td>Speaking to Inform</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 15; Quiz 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jun 14</td>
<td>Delivery; Gathering Materials</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 13, Ch. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jun 15</td>
<td>Using Visual Aids; Audience Analysis</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 14 and Ch. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Jun 16</td>
<td>Informative Presentation Activity</td>
<td>Informative Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Jun 20</td>
<td>Informative Presentation</td>
<td>Informative Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jun 21</td>
<td>Speaking to Persuade</td>
<td>Lucas (2015), Ch. 16; Quiz 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jun 22</td>
<td>Impromptu Presentation; Commemorative Presentations</td>
<td>Impromptu Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Jun 23</td>
<td>Commemorative Presentation</td>
<td>Commemorative Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Jun 27</td>
<td>Persuasive Presentation Activity</td>
<td>Persuasive Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue Jun 28</td>
<td>Persuasive Presentation</td>
<td>Persuasive Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jun 29</td>
<td>Award Presentation Activity</td>
<td>Award Presentation Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Jun 30</td>
<td>Award Presentation/Receipt</td>
<td>Award Presentation/Receipt Speech</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>