

Comm 5: Group Discussion and Problem Solving

Instructor: AC Panella

Contact numbers and Conference Hours

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M/W 11- 1pm (online),

Tuesday 3:30-4:30 Our House (Jacobs 116),

Th 12- 1pm Office (Call 659)



“Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures.”

--Cesar Chavez

My teaching philosophy

I believe public speaking is one of the fundamental skills students need to master before graduating from college. It is a skill that can travel with you. It is a lens for understanding and explaining the world around you. I, also, believe that public speaking is an art. It is something that requires continuous practice, critique, and an understanding that there is always room for improvement. I've designed this course in a way that allows for personal growth through one-on-one, group activities, and across a range of topics.

Teaching methods

We will be using a variety of methods including but not limited to: small group discussions, readings, online activities through Canvas, in class performance, and lecture.

“No one is born fully-formed: it is through self-experience in the world that we become what we are.” -Paulo Friere

Student Learning Outcomes

- #1 Employ a systematic method within a group to solve a problem.
- #2 Communicate effectively within groups.
- #3 Observe and explain effective group processes.

Textbooks:

Rothwell *In Mixed Company* ISBN: 9870495567677

Bordas *Salsa, Soul, and Spirit* ISBN: 9781609941178

<https://santarosa.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=260670&site=eds-live&scope=site>

Campus Resources

Disability Resources- The Disability Resource Department (DRD) is designed to enable eligible students with a verified disability(s) to participate fully in all of SRJC's academic and vocational programs. Those with learning, physical, developmental, visual, hearing, speech/language, other health impairments, and/or psychological disabilities may inquire about services by contacting the DRD office.

<http://online.santarosa.edu/presentation/page/?81524>

Health Services- Student Health Services provides quality health services and health education that empowers students to be self-directed and well-informed participants in their health care.

http://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/student-services/student-health-services/

Psychological Services- The Psychological Services Program is committed to helping college students increase their awareness, knowledge, and resources in order to successfully meet the challenges of encountering new ideas, relating to others from diverse backgrounds, and coping with the transitions of adulthood.

http://www.santarosa.edu/for_students/student-services/student-health-services/student-psychological-services/

Library- The Library is a great resource for learning how to research, cite sources, and study. Our librarians have won national awards. Meet them. You'll like them.

<http://www.santarosa.edu/petaluma/mahoney/>

Our House Intercultural Center- This is a great resource to see cool events, meet new folks and participate in all kinds of campus activities.

<https://petaluma.santarosa.edu/our-house-intercultural-center>



Safe Zone Ally

SRJC works to ensure that every student has access to a meaningful education. I am an employee who is trained to support our LGBT and Undocumented student populations. I have an open door policy. Come and see me.

If you're stressed about succeeding:

- *Use the buddy system to get homework done.*
- *Focus & Breaks: Do homework in 20-minute increments.*
- *Build in rewards.*



Policies and Practices

Absences

Emergencies happen. Absences will only be excused with appropriate written documentation and clear communication. After 5 absences, you are subject to being dropped. You may make up absences by attending another section, if available. Unexcused absences will result in a loss of participations points.

Missed or Late Work

Late work is **not** accepted without previous approval or proper documentation. Something is late if it is not submitted online or in class by the time attached to the assignment and discussed in class.

Academic Integrity

“When it is indicated that citizenship is unsatisfactory, the student may be subject to the following: reprimand, disciplinary probation, administrative class withdrawal, suspension or expulsion, as conditions warrant. Unsatisfactory citizenship includes, among other things, cheating, plagiarism, hazing and conduct disruptive to the teaching-learning process.” SRJC Catalog, p. 50

Don't cheat, plagiarize, or disrupt the learning process.

Classroom Behavior & Participation

Each student should be “familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct and with regulations of the College. Students attending the College are expected to maintain satisfactory standards of citizenship at all times on the campus and in the community. Satisfactory citizenship includes conduct that respects the rights of all individuals, which avoids actions disruptive to the ongoing education program and which does not violate specific prohibitions outlined in the Education Code.”

In addition, I use the colleges “Early Connect” system. Help me help you connect to the programs and services you need to succeed in class.

Class Accommodations

If you are a registered DRD student and have a need for class accommodations, please contact me in advance of any assignments that might need accommodation or adjustment.

thrown away within two weeks of the end of term. Please make arrangements to collect any work before that time.



Phones

We will be using phones in class to record and time speeches. This said, please try not to use your phone unless otherwise instructed.

Canvas

In addition to in class activities, we will be using Canvas as an online classroom space. It will house activities, assignments, and the classroom grade book. You will need to create a profile here: <https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas>

Returned Work

Written work or tests will be returned within two weeks. At the end of the semester, any uncollected work will be thrown away within two weeks of the end of term. Please make arrangements to collect any work before that time.

Changes to the Syllabus

Sometimes changes to the syllabus and schedule will occur because of outside circumstances. Students will be notified with as much notice as possible and the changes will be posted to the Canvas page and discussed in class.

Extra Credit

Extra credit is given periodically throughout the course. Extra credit assignments are at the instructor's discretion and may include: impromptu speeches, field trips, or outside activities.

Electronic Communication

I work to return messages within 24 hours during the week. If it is a weekend, please allow 24 hours from the following Monday.

Major Assignments

The following activities are a combination individual & group activities designed to help understand the speech writing and performance process.

This class is based on a standard scale.

100-90% = A 89-80% = B 79-70% = C 69-60% = D 59% or less = F

Online Quizzes & Discussions 10 points each

There will be online journals based on the reading, lectures, and in-class activities.

Exams I & II 100 pts each

These will be multiple choice, true/false, and short exams based on the reading and lecture. They will be administered through an online format.

Participation 100 pts

Participation is required in this class. It is comprised of attendance and quality of in class interaction.

Leadership Project 200 pts

You and a group will research and analyze one of the leadership principles described in Salsa, Soul, & Spirit. Then you will give a presentation to the class.

Community Project 300 pts

You and a group of 3-5 other students will create a culminating project that works to show mastery of group communication skills.

Extra Credit 25 pts each

You will have 2 options for 25 points each to attend intercultural activities and write a paper about your experience.



Student Responsibilities

The classroom environment is co-created. This means we all contribute to on another's teaching and learning.

In order to succeed in this class, everyone must employ their best communication practices.

You are highly encouraged to have passed your English 1A before taking this class.

- *come to class on time, if you are not present when role is taken you will be considered absent for the day*
- *read & be prepared to discuss reading before class*
- *papers will be typed on time and original content*
- *plagiarism of any sort will result in failure of the course*
- *miss no more than two classes*
- *maintain communication with Panella to discuss absences and course work*
- *meet with Panella at least once during office hours*

****** No late work will be accepted without proper documentation. ******

This includes being absent on speech day or emailing written work before class without pre-approval.