

SYLLABUS FOR HUMAN COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

COURSE NUMBER: SPCH 2301

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: Discussion and theories as they relate to the influence of technology on human communication.

TEXTBOOK: None. Articles will be assigned online. See WebCT website.

PURPOSE OF COURSE: To give theoretical and historical background on how technology influences our communication. To help students become more aware of how they communicate, how they are influenced, and how to become better communicators in a variety of technology mediums.

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:

INSTRUCTOR'S PHONE NUMBERS:

OFFICE:

EMAIL:

OFFICE HOURS:

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM (TJC Policy adopted May 2005):

Tyler Junior College encourages its students to develop abilities to explore and present ideas with integrity through the writing/learning processes and to understand that a reliance on honest academic learning and research procedures is the surest way to success in both college and life.

Tyler Junior College supports the concept of intellectual property: ideas belong to the people who come up with them. Plagiarism and collusion involve offering the ideas and/or words of others as your own and without proper acknowledgement and, as such, violate academic integrity. Within this context, therefore, plagiarism, for example, is theft and is thus a legally punishable offense. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated at Tyler Junior College. It is within this context that the following expected academic integrity and plagiarism/collusion policies are established:

1. The College plagiarism policy is set forth in the "Student Code of Conduct" section and under the grade related academic grievance process in the Tyler Junior College *Student Handbook*.
2. Each instructor at Tyler Junior College has the authority to set guidelines for his/her class in regard to academic integrity – including plagiarism and collusion. These guidelines should be included in the syllabus. (SEE BELOW)
3. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the policies of their individual instructors, and for asking questions of their instructors about any specific point of policy in order to clarify academic integrity concerns. Students are also encouraged to use TJC's Writing Lab as a learning resource for researching, writing, and authenticating documentation procedures.
4. The enforcement of plagiarism policies may vary per instructor. Consequences may include the following: grade on work reduced, work graded as a zero, student required to resubmit new work correcting the plagiarism, and course grade reduced to F.* This list is not exhaustive. In addition, all Tyler Junior College instructors can and may use all available resources available to them to deter and/or detect academic dishonesty. Tyler Junior College has software available to faculty for detection of plagiarism. The software, Turnitin®, compares papers against a database of scholarly work from various institutions.

*In the event of a dispute, the burden of proof regarding academic integrity lies with the student.

COURSE GRADE: Final grade will be averaged from the completed course assignments and exam grades plus a class participation grade. Completion of assignments #1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and all four exams is required in order to pass the course.

1. Personal Inventory	50
2. Technology Lent Paper	50
3. “ “ Speech	100
4. Customer Service Report	50
5. Radio Show (Group Project)	100
6. Radio Show Script	50
7. Peer Evaluation (Radio Show)	50
8. Lyric Analysis paper	100
9. “ “ speech	100
10. TV Show (Group or Individual)	100
11. TV Show Script	50
12. TV peer evaluation	50
13. Internet Report	100
14. Resume (part of Final)	50
Exam I	100
Final Exam	<u>100</u>
Total	1,200 points

Though points are averaged, you can determine your final grade from this range:

- 1080 – 1200 = A
- 960 – 1079 = B
- 840 – 959 = C
- 720 – 839 = D
- 0 – 719 = F

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture, class exercises, individual assignments, group assignments and research assignments will be combined for class instruction.

METHODS OF EVALUATION: Instructor will grade individual student’s participation in all assignments based on how well the student followed the instructions and guidelines.

In general, the basic grades represent these kinds of performance:

- A +/- = Superior – excellent, exceptional, outstanding
- B +/- = Good – competent, respectable, solid
- C +/- = Acceptable – adequate, average, satisfactory
- D +/- = Minimal – barely sufficient, many problems
- F = Failing – inadequate, pervasive problems

Good writing, thinking, participation, and organization contribute positively to your final grade. Absences from class, lack of participation, unfamiliarity with the readings, and late or missing assignments contribute negatively to your final grade. Borderline grades are determined by attendance, participation, insights, spontaneous knowledge of the readings, contributions, and general cooperative disposition. Should you disagree with any grade, please feel free to discuss it with me. Bring a written justification of your position, why you think the grade should be changed, and to what grade you think it should be changed. Explain why your performance merits the above general description. I will review your request and provide you with a written response within 48 hours.

WRITING:

Writing and speaking and listening well are essential to nearly every social and professional activity. Whether the paper is on physics or modernist fiction or best internet sites for how to set up blogs, how you write your paper (spelling, grammar, overall structure and organization, word choice, use of passive and active voice, descriptive subheadings, references- will strongly influence how the reader assesses the content of your paper. So you should not separate these in your mind as you write your papers. Papers get good grades if they are considered interesting and credible, based on both content and form.

Unless noted in the assignment, written parts of assignments should be printed and stapled (no binders, folders, plastic sleeves, etc), single-spaced, with 1" margins, and page numbered. Include your name, the assignment title and number, and the paper title on the first page. Begin your paper just below your title on the same page (in other words...NO cover pages.)

Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the relevant theories, concepts, readings, facts, technical explanations, etc. Provide your own unique contribution through analysis, critique, associations, etc. That is, just summarizing other people's writing isn't a unique contribution, and doesn't necessarily show that you have a good grasp of the material. Provide the reader with a well-organized, structured and formatted paper. You want the reader to understand and enjoy reading your paper! If the instructor provides you with specific questions to answer in your assignment...please do so in the same order.

Provide the reader with a paper free of spelling, typographic, punctuation, and grammatical errors, etc. (A spell-checker and style-checker will catch only some of these problems!) Use one of the free TJC Writing Labs to assist you if you need help in preparing good quality papers.

PERFORMANCE/LEARNING OBJECTIVES (MINIMUM COMPETENCIES):

After studying the material presented in class and in the assigned readings, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Name four of the main technology mediums that influence human communication.
2. Describe the main problems in communication.
3. Demonstrate the ability to use different speaking strategies to adapt to group members with different listening styles.
4. Choose interaction strategies that optimize or maximize group tasks.
5. Discuss ethics as it pertains to communication and technology.
6. Contribute to developing a supportive group climate.
7. Present a meaningful report.
8. List important historical information about the development of technology and communication.

DESCRIPTION OF GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

GENERAL:

CLASS PARTICIPATION (WORTH 100 POINTS)

From time to time during the semester, your instructor will ask you to complete various class exercises and forms. You will be awarded up to 100 points for how well you participate in these class activities. Punctuality and thoroughness of completion as well as your attitude and productive class participation will be the main criteria for this subjective grade.

How well you interact with your classmates during the class exercises and assignments and how well you ask and answer questions during class discussions will be the main determinant of your Class Participation grade. Once again, your attitude and overall productiveness will be the main criteria for this subjective grade.

EXAMS:

Each Exam will be worth 100 points. There will be four objective exams given during the semester that may be taken by an assigned group or individually. All exams will cover assigned readings, class discussions, lecture and handout material. A thorough review will always be given prior to the exam day. The Final Exam will be taken individually and will be worth 100 points. The Final will also cover both assigned readings; lecture and handout material and a review will be given for it.

GROUP PROJECTS:

The class will be assigned one or two group projects during the semester. Each person in each group will be responsible for researching and preparing for their part of the project. Individual papers will be required from each individual for each assignment. The person's individual contribution to each project is extremely important. The breakdown of how the grade will be distributed (what each part is worth) is described under each assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS:

#1 PERSONAL INVENTORY OF TECHNOLOGY USE: (Individual assignment worth 50 points – written paper due; class discussion of results involved.) Use the form provided (and/or see assignment on WebCT) to complete this assignment.

#2 & #3 TECHNOLOGY LENT: (Individual assignment worth 100 points; 50 for the paper and 50 for the class presentation.) Use the form provided (and/or see assignment on WebCT) to complete this assignment.

#4 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT: (Individual assignment worth 50 points; 25 for the paper and 25 for the class discussion.) Use the form provided (and/or see assignment on WebCT) to complete this assignment.

#5 & #6 RADIO SHOW: (Group assignment worth 150 points; 100 for the performance; 50 for the script.) Details for how this assignment will work will be posted on WebCT later in the semester and explained in class. A script of the show is required.

#7 PEER EVALUATION OF RADIO SHOW: (Worth 50 points.) Individuals in groups will be given a peer evaluation form to complete about each of their fellow group members. The scores will be averaged to ascertain the students' recorded score for how well she/he cooperated and worked on the Radio Show project.

#8 & #9 LYRIC ANALYSIS/PRESENTATION: (Individual assignment worth 100 points; 50 for the paper and 50 for the class presentation.) Use the form provided (and/or see assignment on WebCT) to complete this assignment.

#10 & #11 TV SHOWS/REPORT (Individual or group assignment worth 100 points; 50 for the paper and 50 for the class presentation.) Details for how this assignment will work will be posted on WebCT later in the semester and explained in class.

#12 PEER EVALUATION OF RADIO SHOW: (Worth 50 points.) Individuals in groups will be given a peer evaluation form to complete about each of their fellow group members. The scores will be averaged to ascertain the students' recorded score for how well she/he cooperated and worked on the Radio Show project.

#13 INTERNET REPORT (Individual assignment worth 100 points, 50 for the paper and 50 for the class presentation.) Use the form provided (and/or see assignment on WebCT) to complete this assignment.

#14 RESUME (Part of Final and worth 50 points) Each student will prepare and submit a one to two page realistic resume following the guidelines outlined on the website.