

CMST 2060 – Public Speaking, Section 5, 3 Credit Hours  
Class meets MTWThF 9:10am to 10:40pm – 108 Tureaud Hall  
Summer 2014 – Final Exam is Saturday, July 12  
Instructor John LeBret, PhD  
Office Hours 12:30pm – 1:30pm Mondays and Tuesdays or by appointment  
[jlebre1@lsu.edu](mailto:jlebre1@lsu.edu)

Course Text & website:

[http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/j\\_lebret\\_librarysectionlucas11e](http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/j_lebret_librarysectionlucas11e)

Lucas, Stephen E. The Art of Public Speaking, 11<sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw-Hill.  
978-0077601706

**Contact Information** - I can most easily be reached through email at the address above. I am generally in my office, 216 Coates Hall, from 12:30pm until 1:30pm and am easily available with prior appointment. To schedule an appointment please send me an email at least 24 hours in advance. For your convenience, I will be available for drop-ins from 12:30pm – 1:30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. My office telephone number is 225-578-4308 and my mailbox is located in the Communication Studies office in Coates Hall, room 136. Please feel free to talk to me about any issue relating to this course.

**Course Goals** – Welcome! The study of human communication as an academic discipline has a richly storied past that stretches clear back to ancient Greek civilizations. The topic itself is so complex that any single approach inevitably lacks the ability to fully describe and understand what it is and how we go about doing it. We will briefly explore the three ways in which the LSU department of Communication Studies goes about addressing this fundamental human activity. We will also develop the vocabulary needed to better understand your own communicative activities. Finally, we will build the foundations of the critical faculties that you can use to improve communication on both personal and professional levels.

**Assignments, quizzes, and exams** – During this semester, you are responsible for a number of assignments. You are to keep a communication journal in which you apply key concepts from the course to reflect on communication activities you take part in. I will offer writing prompts in class to help guide your efforts. At minimum, you are to complete a total of 10 entries over the semester. Each entry should be approximately one page, double spaced typed (or handwritten equivalent). I will review journals once at mid-term and again at the end of the semester. You will also complete two brief papers, using course content to address particular forms of communication. These are to be between 2 and 4 pages, double spaced, typewritten in 12pt Times font, on 8.5”x11” paper with one inch margins. Over the semester you will prepare and deliver three performances/presentations. The first is an individual effort, the second is a group presentation, and the final performance may be either individual or group. There is a

final exam. Assigned readings are expected to be complete prior to class and you should come prepared to discuss them or ask specific questions. During the semester you will have seven reading assignments and we will drop the lowest two.

**Late Work, Missed Exams** - Late written work is accepted but is penalized 10% per day. Make-up exams will only be granted with an excused absence and must be scheduled as soon as possible. They will be different from the regular exam. Missed presentations cause disruption for everyone in the class. A make-up date will be scheduled for the end of the semester and all make-up presentations will be delivered on that date. Once again, quizzes may not be made up under any circumstance.

**Attendance and Participation** - Participation counts as 10% of your grade. You play two roles in this class; you are both communicator and audience. Your absence from the classroom deprives other students of the chance to deliver their presentations to a full audience. I am aware, however, that there will be times when you are unable to attend class. You may be absent from class - for any reason - up to three times. Absences in excess of three will result in a reduction of the attendance portion of your grade by 33% for each additional absence. Excessive tardiness to class counts as a 1/2 absence. In addition to being present in class and on time, you should be actively listening to the other students and be prepared to offer your thoughtful comments during discussion. If you are not prepared to contribute to class discussion or take part in class activities, your participation grade may be affected.

**Extra-Credit** - There are numerous opportunities on campus to participate as audience members. You may receive an extra credit of 1.5% added to your final grade by attending one of these events and then writing a short (3 - 4) page paper critiquing the communication and message of the event. This must be a critical paper making use of what you have learned in the readings and in class - I will not accept a summary of the event. A program and ticket (where applicable) must accompany your submission.

**Class Decorum** - Feel free to roll out of bed and come as you are but please don't be late, it slows us all down. And the ringer on your phone isn't cute so turn them off - not vibrate, off. As a member of this class you are expected to act appropriately by being prepared and being constructively engaged. Be forewarned that controversial topics and language can, and probably will, be a part of this classroom experience. If you are concerned that frank discussion of social issues or politics might somehow interfere with your ability to learn, please contact me to discuss it.

**The Americans with Disabilities Act and The Rehabilitation Act of 1973** - If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a Coordinator in the Office for Disability Affairs so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations during the first two weeks.

**Plagiarism** - Plagiarism is a violation of the fundamental principles of intellectual property. If you fail to give proper citation for the direct quote or paraphrase of another's idea, you are engaging in plagiarism. Claiming ideas, sentences, essays, or speeches as your own is plagiarism. Punishment can range from failing the assignment to failing the class, depending on the seriousness of the act. In cases of gross misconduct, I reserve the right to petition for expulsion.

**Grading** - This class is graded using a standard A - F grading scale:

100%-90% = A

89.9% - 80% = B

79.9% - 70% = C

69.9% - 60% = D

67.9% - 0% = F

As will be given for work that indicates achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. Bs will be given for work that indicates achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements. Cs will be given for work that meets the course requirements in every way. Ds will be given for work that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet the requirements of the course. Fs will be given for work that fails to meet the basic parameters of the course.

<b>Course Grades</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Attendance	-	10%
Reading Assignments	-	10%
Communication Journal	-	5%
Presentation #1	-	10%
Presentation #2	-	15%
Presentation #3	-	20%
Presentation #4	-	15%
Final	-	15%

Calendar (Subject to change with advanced notice to students)

- 6/9 - Welcome, Introductions, Course Goals & Learning Formats
- 6/10 - Chapters 1 & 2 - Rhetorical Ethics
- 6/11 - Chapters 3 & 4 - Optimum Communication
- 6/12 - Speech #1
- 6/13 - Speech #1
  
- 6/16 - Chapters 5 & 6 - Topic and audience analysis
- 6/17 - Chapters 7 & 9 - Research & organization (topics due)
- 6/18 - Chapters 8, 10, & 15 - Formal considerations
- 6/19 - Speech #2
- 6/20 - Speech #2
  
- 6/23 - Chapters 11 & 13 - Delivery & presentation workshop
- 6/24 - Chapters 12 - Poetics and public address
- 6/25 - Chapters 14 - Creative presentation strategies
- 6/26 - Chapter 16 - Persuasion pt 1 (outlines for #3 due)
- 6/27 - Chapter 17 - Persuasion pt 2
  
- 6/30 - Speech #3
- 7/1 - Speech #3
- 7/2 - Speech #3
- 7/3 - Chapters 18 & 19 - Occasional speaking
- 7/4 - Holiday Begins
  
- 7/7 -
- 7/8 - Speech #4
- 7/9 - Speech #4
- 7/10 - Speech #4
- 7/11 - Final review & last class
  
- 7/12 - Final Examination