

SPEECH COMMUNICATION

Academic Year

2011-2012

School

School of Humanities and Social Science [School Web site](#)

School Dean

Janet Dizinno, Ph.D. hssdean@stmarytx.edu

Department

English

Department Chair

Rose Marie Cutting, Ph.D. rcutting@stmarytx.edu

Description of Program/Major

Speech communication helps students build a foundation of oral communication skills. More than just giving speeches, the major includes interpersonal, group, organizational and intercultural communication. The department also offers communication courses in specialized subjects including law, health, business, gender, mass communication and management.

Speech communication at St. Mary's University provides a practical study of the principles and mechanisms of human interaction. Courses prompt students to ask: How can the student be most persuasive? How can the student become an effective and respected leader? How can the student understand, avoid and, when necessary, resolve conflict?

Graduates of the program succeed in becoming more than just persuasive leaders and successful peacemakers. They are ethical and productive members of society with extraordinary careers. The speech communication program grounds its challenging course of study in the Marianist traditions of integrity and community service.

Degree Requirements

Core Curriculum (SMC)

St. Mary's University Core (30 Hours)

All St. Mary's Core SMC13## "Reflection" courses must be completed before registering for SMC23## "Practice" courses. "Reflection" courses can be taken in any order followed by "Practice" courses in any order.

SMC 1301 Foundations of Civilization

3

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SMC 1311	Foundations of Reflection: Self (Formerly PL 1310)	3
SMC 1312	Foundations of Reflection: Nature	3
SMC 1313	Foundations of Reflection: Others	3
SMC 1314	Foundations of Reflection: God (Formerly TH 2301)	3
SMC 2301	Foundations of Practice: Ethics (Formerly PL 2332)	3
SMC 2302	Foundations of Practice: Civic Engagement and Social Action	3
SMC 2303	Foundations of Practice: Fine Arts and Creative Process (Formerly FA 1101, FA 1102, FA 1103)	3
SMC 2304	Foundations of Practice: Literature	3
SMC 4301	Capstone Seminar: Prospects for Community and Civilization	3

School Specific Core (SSC)

School of Humanities and Social Sciences School Specific Core (30 Hours)

Speech	SE 1321 (for international students), SE 1341, SE 2333, SE 3391	3
Composition and Rhetoric (grade of "C" or better)	EN 1311, EN 1313 (for international students)	3
Mathematics	MT 1301, MT 1302, MT 1303, MT 1305, MT 1306, MT 1411, MT 2412	3
Foreign Languages	Six hours at the sophomore level (2311, 2312) in a Foreign Language previously studied for a minimum of one year; Or, 6 hours of introductory level (1311, 1312) in a Foreign Language not previously studied; Or, 12 hours of CLEP credit for a language previously studied.	6
History	HS 1301, HS 1302, HS 1303, HS 1351, HS 1352, HS 3312 (or any HS courses pending AC approval)	3
Science	BL 1301, BL 1302, BL 3311, BL 3312, CH 1303, CH 1304, CH 1401, CH 1402, EG 2300, ES 1300, ES 1303, ES 1304, ES 1373, PY 1300, PY 1310, PY 1401, PY 1402	3
Theology	Advanced Theology 33XX, HU 3303	3
Fine Arts	AR, DM, MU	3
Literature	EN 23XX	3

Four Year Degree Plan

[Sample 4-year degree plan](#)

Department Courses and Descriptions

Voice and Diction (3)

SE 1311

This course deals with the training of the speaking voice as it is explored through breath control and execution, integration of facial and body posture, and the synergism of consonant and vowel action into a

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resonating voice. In mastering the basic applications in this course, one may engage in vital vocal communication and expression of one's personal culture.

Oral Communication for International Students (3)

SE 1321

Introduction to basic skills of oral communication for EFL students. Includes basic training in interpersonal communication, basic public speaking, group discussion and problem solving, parliamentary procedure, interviewing and organizational communication. This course satisfies the Core Curriculum Speech Requirement for EFL students only.

Fundamentals of Oral Communication (3)

SE 1341

Introduction to basic skills of oral communication. Includes training in interpersonal communication, basic public speaking, group discussion & problem solving, parliamentary procedure, interviewing, and organizational communication. Fulfills the Core requirement for Speech and is a recommended foundation for many of the advanced communication skills courses.

Introduction to Speech Communication (3)

SE 1351

Introduction to the basic language, concepts, and theory of speech communication. Provides a general foundation for the whole departmental field. Recommended foundation for many advanced communication theory courses.

Advanced Public Speaking (3)

SE 2321

An advanced introduction to the art of public presentation. This course places a heavy emphasis on performance skill development. Recommended: SE 1341.

Business and Professional Communication (3)

SE 2333

A practical investigation of the principles of speech communication in the business and professional environment. Includes training in interpersonal communication, public speaking, group and organizational communication, creativity and problem solving, parliamentary procedure and interviewing. Special emphasis on leadership skills. Includes classroom exercises. Recommended: SE 1341.

Forensics Participation (1)

SE 3161

Practicum in forensics competition. This one-credit course may be repeated for up to 3 hours credit. Requires consent of Director of Forensics.

Interviewing (3)

SE 3311

A comprehensive introduction to the principles, strategies, and practical techniques of interviewing from a communication perspective. The process of interviewing will be examined from the perspectives of both interviewer and subject and within a variety of contexts. The course will include a number of exercises to develop interviewing and interviewer skills. Recommended: SE 1341 & 1351.

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Interpersonal Communication (3)

SE 3321

A theoretical and pragmatic introduction to the dynamics of human interaction. This course will survey both basic and advanced theories, concepts, terminology, and subject areas of interpersonal communication. The course will also focus pragmatically on the performance skills necessary to apply these materials effectively. Recommended: SE 1351.

Managing People & Organization (3)

SE 3325

An examination of modern approaches to management at both the micro and macro levels. The micro level of analysis emphasizes such topics as perception, motivation, and attitudes. The macro level of analysis emphasizes such topics as organizational design and structure, organizational culture, and decision-making. The dynamic interaction of these two levels includes topics such as leadership, groups, and job stress. Contemporary issues such as diversity, ethics, and globalization will also be emphasized.

Oral Interpretation (3)

SE 3331

Study and analysis of prose, poetry, and dramatic literature for the purpose of developing the ability to coordinate voice and thought in both informal and formal interpretative reading. Recommended: SE 1341

Corporate Communications (3)

SE 3333

Practice in recognizing audience and being sensitive to a variety of readers—including those who are resistant or even hostile—through a range of communication problems designed to approximate the real work world.

Advanced Business & Professional Communication (3)

SE 3335

Advanced survey of the speech communication principles and skills necessary for success in the business and professional world. The course will emphasize practical research findings which will help students to communicate successfully in interpersonal, group, organizational, and public contexts. Recommended: SE 2333.

Group Communication & Conference Methods (3)

SE 3341

A comprehensive introduction to the principles, strategies, and practical techniques of conference methods and group communication. The course includes a theoretical and pragmatic examination of group processes within a variety of business and professional contexts. Special emphasis on leadership, conflict resolution, problem solving, and group-oriented communication skills. Recommended: SE 1341 & 1351.

Topics in Communication Theory (3)

SE 3351

Survey and study of selected topics in the communication field, such as business and professional communication, nonverbal communication, gender communication, family communication, mass media,

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communication law, and media ethics. Recommended: SE 1351.

Survey of Mass Communication (3)

SE 3353

An overview of mass communication theory. Includes a study of the historical development of mass media, global implications of mass communication, and the relationship between the mass media and modern society.

Gender Communication (3)

SE 3361

This course focuses on the interactive relationship between gender and communication in society. Course content includes theories of gender communication, language, psychological development and culture. To be explored are the role of gender in creating, organizing, and sustaining social and communicative practices. The course will critically consider the functions and influences of gender communication at the personal, interpersonal, mass media, and cross-cultural levels. Students will learn to apply theory and research to their life experiences. Recommended: SE 1351.

Health Communication (3)

SE 3365

The course will explore the theory and practice of communication in health care settings. It will draw upon relevant literature from anthropology, sociology, speech communication, linguistics, medicine, nursing, and related fields. The course will explore the interrelationships among culture, society, and experiences of health and illness. A wide range of current health care issues will be studied. Through this course, students will become better consumers of health care and may better prepare themselves for future roles in the health care profession. Recommended: SE 1351.

Introductory Statistics (3)

SE 3381

An introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics designed for the student of any of the behavioral sciences.

Multivariate Statistics (3)

SE 3385

A survey course of advanced statistical concepts and techniques, including sampling, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, multiple regression analysis, multiple discriminant analysis, and factor analysis. Includes hands-on experience in the use of various statistical computer programs. (same PS3385)

Argumentation and Debate (3)

SE 3391

A study of the fundamental principles of argumentation and debate. Special emphasis on the elements of analysis, research, organization, preparation, and delivery. Highly recommended for students interested in a career in business, law, or politics. Recommended: SE 1341.

Technologies of Communication (3)

SE 3395

This course will critically explore new information technologies. A major focus will be the rapidly

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changing and increasingly technological context of human communication. Students examine multiple dimensions of the information revolution including computer networks and systems; computer-mediated interaction, questions of cyber identity and community formation; issues of gender, race, class, age, and equity in the context of information technology, and various ethical issues. Students also hone their computer skills in assessing and utilizing various information technologies. Recommended: SE 1351.

Intercultural Communication (3)

SE 4321

Introduction to the foundations of intercultural communication theory. Special emphasis on the history, problems, and pragmatics of cross cultural theory and research. Recommended: SE 1351.

Organizational Communication (3)

SE 4341

The study of communication practices and processes within organizations. The theory and practice of employee interactions are explored in a variety of contexts such as the work unit, supervisory relationships, group meetings, inter-group relations, corporate-wide communications, and external public relations. Effective communication strategies are introduced and discussed. Recommended: SE 1351.

Persuasion and Advocacy (3)

SE 4351

This course is designed to be a pragmatic introduction to the theory and practice of persuasion across a variety of professional contexts. The course goals are for students to become more critical consumers of persuasive appeals and to also become more powerful and effective public advocates. This course is highly recommended for business and professional and pre-law students. Recommended: SE 1351.

Special Topics in Speech Communication (3)

SE 4365

Innovative approach to selected topics in speech communication. Stress on the relationship of human communication theory to other fields of interest. Specific course description indicated each time the course is offered. Recommended: SE 1351.

Special Studies in Communication (3)

SE 4391

Independent study or seminar. Consent of the program coordinator required. May be repeated for up to six hours of credit.

Career Seminar (3)

SE 4395

This course focuses on three areas of career development: (1) life-planning, an exploration of talents, skills, education, career interests: (2) intensive careers research, study and practice of procedures used in career search: including (3) resumes, interviews, and letters of application. The course is writing intensive and has a strong emphasis on oral communication skills. Required of all SE majors, this course should be taken in the first semester of the senior year.

Special Studies in Communication (6)

SE 4691

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Independent study or seminar. Consent of the program coordinator required. May be repeated for up to six hours of credit.

Internship in Speech Communication (3)

SE 5390

This course reinforces academic work by providing students with a range of opportunities for pre-professional workplace experience. Open to juniors and seniors only. Internships must follow general University guidelines and be approved by the Internship Coordinator.

Department Faculty

[Speech Communication Faculty Website](#)

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