Syllabus

Course Description

The aim of this course is to develop students’ communication skills with an emphasis on public speaking in the academic context. It helps students to develop strategies for designing well-organized, researched speeches for specific audience. In particular, informative speech on academic topics will be introduced, practiced and evaluated. Topic selection, audience analysis, outline preparation will be emphasized. Besides, students will exercise critical thinking, academic and reading skills as shown in table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading / Academic Skills</th>
<th>Critical Thinking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ Understanding reasons, main ideas &amp; key details, statistics, infographics, sequence</td>
<td>➢ Reflecting on own experience and viewpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Understanding main ideas &amp; classifications, metaphors, reasons</td>
<td>➢ Evaluating an argument, possible problems, pros and cons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Understanding a speaker’s message, a process, figurative language</td>
<td>➢ Analyzing a writer’s claims, an argument for evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Connecting ideas using a concept map</td>
<td>➢ Questioning statements in a text, survey results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Making predictions</td>
<td>➢ Applying information to own context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Identifying reasons &amp; effects</td>
<td>➢ Comparing similarities to other contexts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Linking ideas using a summary chart</td>
<td>➢ Interpreting a statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Analyzing an argument</td>
<td>➢ Making predictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Recognizing main ideas and examples</td>
<td>➢ Synthesizing ideas from multiple sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>➢ Paraphrasing ideas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Purpose of the Course

1. To develop the ability to research and give an oral presentation.
2. To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices.
3. To participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.

**Learning Methods**

This course will be learned in form of:
1. Traditional face-to-face lecture-based discussion with inputs on selected theoretical and practical areas.
2. Self-guided study and group-led discussion, or other findings from readings, videos and case studies.
3. Course readings will be mandatory and should be done before class.

**Teaching Material**

21st Century Reading (Book 3)

**Assessment**

To receive credit for Communication Skill 1, you must achieve a composite course mark of at least a “D” (60 percent). The weighting of the composite mark is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classroom Performance</th>
<th>Individual Speech</th>
<th>Group Presentation</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that:
Classroom performance includes attendance, individual-base or group-led discussion, debate, presentation, pop-up quiz, case reading, etc.

**Assignments:**

(** Please download materials for assignments from iLearn)**

**Meeting Schedule**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Title of Unit</th>
<th>Reading / Academic Skills</th>
<th>Critical Thinking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1-2  | Viewing Nature’s Beauty Through a New Lens | ➢ Understanding reasons  
➢ Understanding key details  
➢ Paraphrasing ideas | ➢ Interpreting a statement  
➢ Reflecting on own experience |
| 3-4  | Hidden Miracles of the Natural World  | ➢ Understanding main ideas & key details  
➢ Connecting ideas using a concept map  
➢ Making predictions | ➢ Making predictions |
| 5-6  | Are you sleeping enough?              | ➢ Identifying reasons & effects  
➢ Understanding statistics  
➢ Understanding infographics | ➢ Analyzing a writer’s claims  
➢ Evaluating an argument |
| 7-8  | How to Succeed? Get More Sleep        | ➢ Understanding main ideas & classifications  
➢ Understanding metaphors  
➢ Understanding a speaker’s message | ➢ Evaluating an argument  
➢ Synthesizing ideas from multiple sources |
| 9-10 | We Are Cyborgs                        | ➢ Understanding main ideas & key details | ➢ Analyzing an argument for evidence  
➢ Evaluating possible problems |
| 11-12| I Listen To Color                     | ➢ Understanding key details  
➢ Understanding a process | ➢ Reflecting on own viewpoint  
➢ Comparing similarities to other contexts |
| 13-14| The Road to Happiness?                | ➢ Linking ideas using a summary chart  
➢ Analyzing an argument  
➢ Understanding infographics | ➢ Evaluating an argument  
➢ Questioning statements in a text |
| 15-16| The Happy Planet Index                | ➢ Identifying key details  
➢ Recognizing a speaker’s message  
➢ Recognizing main ideas and examples | ➢ Questioning survey results  
➢ Applying information to own context |
| 17-18| My Year in the Arctic                 | ➢ Understanding sequence  
➢ Understanding reasons  
➢ Understanding figurative language | ➢ Evaluating pros and cons  
➢ Interpreting a statement |