

**Core Curriculum
Course Proposal Cover Sheet**

Department Communication Studies
College COLFA
Department Head Charles Howard

Course Prefix & Number COMS 101

Course Title Fundamentals of Speech Communication

Course Description This course is designed to improve the individual's understanding of the human communication process. Classroom exercises involve the student in interpersonal, small group, and presentational speaking situations. Special emphasis on developing communication skills needed to check and validate perceptions, control language usage, and analyze and improve reasoning processes.

Please select the THECB Foundational Component Area for which this course is being submitted. (Please select only one)

Communication

COMMUNICATION

FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA JUSTIFICATION FORM

Rationale: Please provide a rationale for the course which explains how the course being proposed fits into this component based on the component's description. For your convenience, the overall description and rationale for this component are included below.

Communication (from THECB Chapter 4: 4.28)

- Courses in this category focus on developing ideas and expressing them clearly, considering the effect of the message, fostering understanding, and building the skills needed to communicate persuasively
- Courses involve the command of oral, aural, written, and visual literacy skills that enable people to exchange messages appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience

The following four Core Objectives must be addressed in each course approved to fulfill this category requirement: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork and Personal Responsibility.

- Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
- Teamwork: to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Rationale for Inclusion in this Category:

COMS 101 focuses on Critical Thinking Skills, oral and visual communication and teamwork. We also cover the ethics of public presentations and communication.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME ALIGNMENT FORM
Communication

Course Prefix/Number: COMS 101

Course Title: Fundamentals of Speech Communication

Core Objective: Critical Thinking CT1: Students will evaluate evidence in analysis, interpretation or arguments

Course SLO(s): Students employ communication skills based on analysis and reasoning process. They learn tests of evidence and evidence credibility.

Learning Activities: In class lectures.

Means of Assessment: Embedded questions on mid-term and final.

Core Objective: Critical Thinking CT2: Students will synthesize varied components of information to form a rational conclusion.

Course SLO(s): Students speak effectively, taking into consideration both purpose and audience

Learning Activities: Speeches will be required that require students to analyze audiences and situations

Means of Assessment: Common rubric with two graders will be used to grade presentations

Core Objective: Communication C1: Students will express ideas in written, visual or oral forms to a range of diverse audiences in multiple settings.

Course SLO(s): Students write, revise, and make effective oral presentations

Learning Activities: In class speeches & Presentations

Means of Assessment: A random sample of student speeches are filmed and assessed by two professionals.

Core Objective: Teamwork TW1: Students will work in coordination to complete specific tasks.

Course SLO(s): Students identify how communication affects interpersonal relationships; students evaluate evidence in informative or persuasive context; students participate effectively in small groups

Learning Activities: Class room lectures, in class exercises and workbook exercises that relate to teamwork and group decision making.

Means of Assessment: Embedded questions on final and midterm. A random sample of group presentations will be filmed and graded by two reviewers.

Core Objective: Personal Responsibility PR1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of ethical standards as applied to decision-making

Course SLO(s): Students know the ethical standards for plagiarism and falsifying evidence.

Learning Activities: Class room lectures, workbook activities.

Means of Assessment: Embedded questions on mid-term and final or reflection papers graded by two readers.

As department head, I will ensure that all faculty that teach this course are aware of the requirements that these core objectives and learning strategies be incorporated into the above referenced course. This action is taken so that Tarleton State University will be in compliance with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board foundational component area and core objective requirements for the General Education Core Curriculum.

Signature _____ Charles Howard _____

We, the undersigned faculty, support the proposed changes to this course and agree to incorporate them into our section of the above referenced course. This action is taken so that Tarleton State University will be in compliance with Texas Higher Education

Coordinating Board foundational component area and core objective requirements for the General Education Core Curriculum.

(Signed document should be kept in department office, listing names below on the electronic document implies acceptance)

Tracey Holley
Cristi Horton
Jennifer Edwards
Karley Goen