

**Methods of Teaching Communication Arts**  
**Spring 2016**  
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**Minnesota State University, Mankato**

**TEXTBOOK:**

All course materials will be provided. Sample textbooks will be available for you to use in developing course curriculum for Communication courses in secondary schools, and text materials and lectures are available on D2L as resources for you to use in developing course curriculum.

**COURSE OVERVIEW, PURPOSE, AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

This course fulfills secondary licensure requirements for Communication Arts and Literature. The course covers teaching methods and materials needed to develop units for communication courses. The purpose of this course is to help you prepare to teach communication courses in secondary schools. After completion of the course, you will be able to:

- explain the importance of communication in the school curriculum
- plan, prepare, present, and evaluate communication content for students in grades 5-12 utilizing pedagogy and communication theories
- evaluate the public speaking skills of speech communication students in the classroom
- discuss teaching strategies utilizing best practices of pedagogy
- explain your own teaching strategies and compare and contrast with teaching strategies of others

Successful completion of this course signifies that a student has demonstrated specific components of the Standards for Effective Practice for Initial Teacher Licensure in Communication Arts and Literature. The specific components of the Standard which are demonstrated in this course include: (A3, A6, A8, A10, A13, A15, B5, B6, B7, C3).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

*1. Attendance (100 points):* Class attendance is expected and is critical to be successful in this course. You will get points based on how many classes you attend. For example, there are 14 class days, thus, if you miss 4 days (and thus attend 10 classes), you will receive 71% of the points allotted since you attended 71% of the classes. If, however, you miss no more than 1 class throughout the semester, I won't deduct any points--incentive to attend class!

*2. Observation Paper (100 points):* You will have the opportunity to observe a secondary school teacher during a Communication lesson. Placements are arranged through the Office of Field Experience. In the rare case in which arrangements cannot be made, you

may observe a Communication class at MSU (not a class you are taking), with permission of the instructor. Following the observation, you will write a 2-3 page reflection paper on the experience and also post highlights to D2L so that you and your classmates can learn from each other's experiences.

*3. Teacher Interview Reflection (100 points):* You will have the opportunity to interview a secondary school teacher of Communication courses. Placements will be made through the Office of Field Experience. You will write up a reflection paper about what you learned from the experience and also post highlights to D2L so that you and your classmates can learn from each other's experiences. Detailed guidelines will be given.

*4. Course Portfolio (150 points):* Your team will have the opportunity to develop a course to be used in a secondary school in the field of Communication. This will include a syllabus, learning objectives, unit plans, and individual lesson plans. Each individual group member will develop a lesson plan that contributes to his/her group's course curriculum. This lesson plan should be designed for a class that is approximately one hour long. This lesson plan may include any variety of lecture material (please attach lecture notes and/or PowerPoint presentation), discussion facilitation, and/or classroom exercises. Students should also include a discussion of how they plan to assess student learning (both formative and summative) and attach any quiz/exam questions or pertinent paper or project assignments that are related (i.e. used in summative assessment).

*5. Micro-teaching Presentation (100 points):* You will have the opportunity to choose a theory or concept from the curriculum your team develops to teach to the class. You will need to include lecture material (in which you incorporate research from scholarly sources, examples, narratives, etc.) as well as some type of classroom exercise/activity or discussion questions to engage the students. You may choose to do this individually (in which case you will be allotted 20 minutes to teach your lesson) or with a partner (in which case you will be allotted 40 minutes to teach your lesson).

*6. Micro-teaching Reflection (50 points):* You will write a 1-2 page reflection on your micro-teaching presentation. You will analyze what you did well and what needs improvement. Guiding questions will be provided.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

<i>Class 1:</i> Intro to Course, Course Syllabus, Icebreakers, Create Curriculum Teams <b>Study Course Materials to Build Curriculum</b>	<i>Class 2:</i> Teaching Philosophy, Teaching Style, First Day <b>Study Course Materials to Build Curriculum</b>
<i>Class 3:</i> Library Visit <b>Study Course Materials to Build Curriculum</b>	<i>Class 4:</i> Developing Learning Objectives & Syllabus <b>Study Course Materials to Build Curriculum</b> <b>Bring 2 syllabi to class</b>
<i>Class 5:</i> Creating Lectures & Planning Classroom Exercises <b>Syllabus &amp; Learning Objectives Due (post to D2L Dropbox)</b>	<i>Class 6:</i> Facilitating Discussions; Motivating Students & Classroom Management
<i>Class 7:</i> Develop Lesson Plans in Curriculum Teams <b>Lesson Plan Format Due (bring hard copy)</b> <b>Sample Communication Lesson Plan Due (bring hard copy)</b>	<i>Class 8:</i> Guest Speaker Laura Bemel on AVID Teaching Strategies
<i>Class 9:</i> Lesson Plan Review; Grading & Assessment; Discussion on Teacher Interviews & Observations <b>Lesson Plans Due (bring hard copy &amp; post to D2L Dropbox)</b>	<i>Class 10:</i> Micro-teaching Presentations <b>Teacher Observation Paper Due (post to D2L Dropbox)</b>
<i>Class 11:</i> Micro-teaching Presentations	<i>Class 12:</i> Micro-teaching Presentations <b>Teacher Interview Reflection Due (post to D2L Dropbox)</b>
<i>Class 13:</i> Micro-teaching Presentations	<i>Class 14:</i> Jigsaw: teach other groups <b>Group Course Portfolios Due (bring hard copy to class and post to D2L <u>Discussion board</u>)</b> <b>Micro-teaching Reflection Due (post to D2L Dropbox)</b>