CMST 1150: Introduction to Communication Studies

Fall 2013

Section 1: MWF 12:30-1:20; Section 2: MWF 1:30-2:20

Instructor: **Mr. Kent Filbel**
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Office Hours: **MWF 10:30-11:20 a.m., 2:30-3:20 p.m.; T/Th 10-Noon; & by special appt.**

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

CMST 1150 surveys the history of the Communication Studies discipline and significant areas of communication research. The course introduces students who are majoring or minoring in Communication Studies to the research methods, history, research findings and communication contexts explored within the discipline. Specifically, the course introduces students to the three areas that make up LSU's Department of Communication Studies: rhetorical theory and criticism, performance studies, and communication theory. The course incorporates lectures by the instructor, reading assignments, reading quizzes, guest lecturers, and exercises/discussions. Full participation is expected of all students.

TEXTS

Wood, Julia Introduction To Communication Studies. Thomson/Wadsworth: Belmont, CA, 2008.

Course Reading Packet. Available at *Copies Too*, 5251 Nicholson (at Lee Dr.), 761-1888

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You are expected to attend all regularly scheduled class meetings, read all the assigned material from the text and reading packet prior to coming to class, and participate in class discussions and exercises. In addition, you will be responsible for completing short reading quizzes, and three exams.

Attendance/Class Participation: Attendance and participation is required. The course meetings will include a mixture of lectures, class discussions, and a variety of exercises. On occasion, a guest lecturer will present material relevant to our current topic but not covered in one of your reading assignments. You are responsible for all the reading as well as the lecture material. I will use a portion of the class time to present information designed to reinforce, clarify, or supplement the ideas introduced in your readings. In addition to in-class exercises, all students are required to complete 30 points worth of *research participation* outside of class. A page on Moodle will explain more.

To receive credit for in-class exercises, you must be present during the exercise and contribute to the completion of your task or that of a group.

Your participation grade will be calculated based on the total points of exercises you were present for and participated in. Exercises will not necessarily be announced in advance. Because exercises are designed to facilitate in-class collaboration and discussion among students, let me know if an absence is university-excused. *Because class exercises are not graded, per sé,*