COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar teaches the tools necessary to effectively communicate your messages to the public on topics that may be challenging for the public to understand like health and science information. The communication techniques taught in this seminar do apply to all types of messages - and are therefore not limited to only health and science messages. You will apply the tools you learn in interactive sessions designed to improve your communication with the public using messages that are relevant to you and your studies.

COURSE GOALS

- Improve critical thinking by developing evaluative, problem-solving, and expressive skills.
- Enhance group communication skills through discussions, small-group work, presentations or debates.
- Develop intellectual curiosity and better understand the role of a student in an academic community.
- Speak clearly and vividly about health or science in ways a lay audience can understand and appreciate.
- Connect with an audience, fellow students, professors, friends or any partners in communication in a spontaneous, direct, personal and responsive way.
- Use communication techniques that incorporate cultural competency and health literacy concepts to reach and mobilize the community and key stakeholders on health or science-related issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. **Class Attendance & Participation:** Only excused absences permitted on case by case basis. This class is based on communication so you can only communicate if you are in attendance. Three or more unexcused absences from class will reduce the final course grade by a full letter grade (e.g., A to B).

1. **HDV Program Attendance Requirement:** HDV Students are required to attend at least one (1) **HDV Academic Event** and one (1) **HDV Social Event** during the Spring Semester. Reminders about upcoming events will be sent via email and posted on the HDV Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/hdvcares](https://www.facebook.com/hdvcares) Students can also check the HDV website for event updates and information: [http://ucolleges.stonybrook.edu/hdv](http://ucolleges.stonybrook.edu/hdv). HDV Students are also required to attend the Spring Commons Day Event being held on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 and The HDV End of Year Celebration on Thursday, May 1, 2014.

   **University Scholar students and Athletes are strongly encouraged to attend HDV programs, but are not required. Scholars have their own event requirement, which includes at least one Scholar (for-credit) event and one HDV (for-credit) event per semester, or two Scholars (for-credit) events.**

2. **Required Reading:** NONE but stay tuned to Blackboard for readings on as needed basis.

3. **Assignments:**
   - Assignment 1  Distilling  15%
   - Assignment 2  Storytelling  15%
   - Assignment 3  Media Interview  15%
   - Assignment 4  Connecting with Community group project  30%
   - Class Participation, attendance, Presentation skills  25%

4. **Spring Commons Day:** All students in a Freshman 102 Seminar are required to attend a Spring Commons Day Event on Wednesday, March 26, 2014. For more information about this day visit: [http://ucolleges.stonybrook.edu/spring-commons-day](http://ucolleges.stonybrook.edu/spring-commons-day)

5. **Computer use:** Students are expected to regularly check Blackboard and their e-mail account for information and correspondence with the instructor and Undergraduate Colleges.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES**

Each Freshman 102 Seminar is a 1-credit course. Students may receive a grade between A-C or a U (Unsatisfactory). The grading policy on a 100 point scale is as follows: A (93-100); A- (90-92); B+ (87-89); B (83-86); B- (80-82); C+ (77-79); C (73-76); C- (70-72); U (69 or lower).

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, Room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.

COURSE EVALUATIONS
Each semester Stony Brook University asks students to provide feedback on their courses and instructors through an online course evaluation system. The course evaluation results are used by the individual faculty, department chairs and deans to help the faculty enhance their teaching skills and are used as part of the personnel decision for faculty promotion and tenure.

Stony Brook contracts with an outside vendor to administer the surveys and all results are completely anonymous. No individually identifiable data are ever reported back to the university or instructor. Students who have completed previous evaluations can view all faculty ratings at: tlt.stonybrook.edu/evaluate
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<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>Introductions/improv exercise/ review syllabus – human development &amp; communication</td>
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<td>2/4</td>
<td>Improvisation</td>
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<td>2/11</td>
<td>Distilling your message 1</td>
<td>Distilling assignment due next class</td>
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<td>2/18</td>
<td>Distilling your message 2</td>
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<td>2/25</td>
<td>Picture exercise/story telling</td>
<td>Storytelling assignment due next class</td>
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<td>3/4</td>
<td>Storytelling with feedback</td>
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<td>3/11</td>
<td>Connecting with the Community</td>
<td>Connecting with Community group presentation due 4/8 or 4/15 split class</td>
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<td>3/18</td>
<td>NO CLASS- SPRING BREAK</td>
<td>NO CLASS- SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>3/25</td>
<td>Cultural competency/health literacy</td>
<td>Media interview assignment due next class</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Media interview</td>
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<td>4/8</td>
<td>½ class – connecting with community group assignment presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>½ class – connecting with community group assignment presentation</td>
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