

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND THEATRE**  
**Speech 499- Senior Seminar in Communication**  
**Dr. Mark G. Henderson, Facilitator**

**General Information**

**Required Textbooks:**

**Who Moved My Cheese (Spencer Johnson)**

**The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader (John C. Maxwell)**

**Office Location:** Speech/Theatre Main Office (McCoy Auditorium)

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979-2426 (Department of Speech Communication and Theatre)  
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**Proposed Office Hours:**

Monday-Wednesday-Friday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

**All others by appointment only**

**Course Description**

**General Course Requirements**

**EVERY STUDENT IN THIS COURSE IS REQUIRED TO:**

1. Know and understand the extended definition of Speech Communication.
2. Develop their own “Graduate School Purpose Statement”. This is a two page objective statement that includes your projected career goals and the steps you plan to implement to make these goals come to fruition, and your credentials.
3. Write a 2 page analysis of the book **Who Moved My Cheese?** This analysis will include a general overview of the book, a brief critique, and an assessment of how the book relates to your projected career goals. **Do not summarize the book. I already know what it’s about!**
4. Identify 5 graduate programs within your field of study.
5. Acquire a Professional email account through which they will submit week discussion questions and Current events
6. Dress Professional on designated days of the month to conduct career development presentations.
7. Develop a Professional Career Portfolio

8. Participate and offer at least three entries in the weekly threaded discussions
9. Complete all assignments.

**Each of these requirements will be discussed in detail as the semester progresses.**

**Attendance.** Regular attendance is required. A student's final grade will be reduced by **one** letter grade after three absences; the student will receive a grade of **F** after five absences. Notice that you are given three free absences for situations for which you really have an emergency or sickness. Don't use those "freebies" for blowing off the class and then come to me later (after you have gone over the limit) when you are really sick or have an emergency and expect an excuse. In short, please don't take advantage of your "freebies."

**YOU ARE SENIORS AND YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE ON TIME.** You will have missed class if you are not there for the entire class period. Staying for only half the class, coming in 5-10 minutes before the end of class, or consistently coming in 5-10 minutes late does not mean that you attended. If you come in class after the roll has been called, it is your responsibility to let the instructor know at the end of that particular class session.

**FOR EACH TARDY, YOU WILL RECEIVE A 1 POINT DEDUCTION FROM YOUR FINAL GRADE.**

**Late Examinations.** If you miss an examination, and are allowed to make it up, you must make it up within a reasonable time (normally 1 week or less). All arrangements for missing an examination must be made **prior** to the time the examination is scheduled. If such arrangements are not made, then no make-up examination will be given and you will receive a zero for that examination.

All presentations are to be given in professional attire.

***Academic Integrity*** In a course which relies heavily on written assignments, it is essential that students understand that

1. work turned in under a student's name *must be* the work of that student.
2. *plagiarism* or the use of someone else's work without acknowledging and properly handling that source is *unacceptable* and will result in a variety of responses, ranging from no credit for the assignment (or the entire course) to action on a department or university level.
3. any questions about what constitutes fair collaboration between students or the proper use of sources should be brought to the instructor before the assignment is submitted for a grade

### Classroom Civility

There are certain basic standards of classroom civility that should be adhered to, particularly in a communication course. Civility does not eliminate appropriate humor, enjoyment, or other features of a comfortable and pleasant classroom community. Classroom civility does, however, include the following:

1. Displaying respect for all members of the classroom community, both your instructor and fellow students.
2. Attentiveness to and participation in lectures, group activities, workshops, and other classroom exercises.
3. Avoidance of unnecessary disruptions during class such as private conversations, reading campus or any type of newspaper, and doing work for other classes.
4. Avoidance of racist, sexist, or other negative language that may unnecessarily exclude members of our campus and classroom community.
5. These features of classroom civility do not comprise an exhaustive list. Rather, they represent the minimal sort of behaviors that help to make the classroom a pleasant place for all concerned.

**PLEASE!!**

**TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND PAGING  
DEVICES DURING CLASS TIME, AS IT CAN BE  
DISRUPTIVE TO THE DISSEMINATION OF  
INFORMATION!**

**DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE ROOM  
WHEN OTHERS ARE AT THE PODIUM  
SPEAKING!**