

Communicating Science and Medicine – GSND5330Q

FOR ASPIRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

SPRING 2021 - SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: David Dannenfels / dd178@mgsa.rutgers.edu

CLASS MEETINGS: MON. 5pm-7pm

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1) Alda, Alan. If I Understood You, Would I Have This Look On My Face? NY: Penguin Random House LLC, 2017.

ISBN: 9780812989144

ISBN: 9780812989168 (ebook)

2) Bruder, Melissa, Cohn, Lee Michael, Olnek, Madelein, Pollack, Nathaniel, Previto, Robert, Zigler, Scott. A Practical Handbook for the Actor. NY: Random House, Inc., 1986.

ISBN: 0-394-74412-8

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Effective communication of health and science is a key skill in medicine. This introductory course will focus on a number of areas of instruction for aspiring health care providers: Distilling Information, Team building through ensemble based improvisational exercises, Developing Interviewing Skills, Exploring the Doctor/Patient Relationship and Creating Speeches for Oral Presentation.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Distilling Information

- PowerPoint Introduction to and discussion of techniques for active communication.

Improvisational Exercises & Games

- Increase skills in listening and observation
- Encourage cooperative problem solving through group agreement
- Develop understanding of presence and authentic responses in the Doctor/Patient relationship by practicing those responses with your peers.

Interviewing Skills

- Increase skills in “reading” the cues of the interviewer and responding appropriately
- Learn how to “engage” an audience

Oral Presentation

- Write an effective speech for oral presentation
- Analyze your text and identify the central idea
- Choose objectives and tactics for communicating your speech
- Use Story Telling as a part of effective communication
- Employ Acting and Improvisational Techniques to deliver an oral presentation
- Use the rehearsal process in preparation for oral presentation

COURSE STRUCTURE

Large Group

- Large group gatherings on Distilling Presentations, Group Agreement Improvisational Exercises and introductory experiences in Role Play form.

Small Group

- Several smaller group gatherings focusing on skill development through specific Improvisational Exercises.

Class Participation

Because effective communication is a craft, you will be doing practical exercises designed to teach and then challenge your skills as they develop. These are by definition experiential games, improvisational and acting exercises which will be applied to your work on a text in rehearsal. Your ongoing participation is essential in order for you to succeed in the class. Preparation for class time will be required in order for you to take full advantage of the time we have together. Likewise, a large part of the

assessment of your work in the class will come from the instructor's observations of these activities. Do not take them lightly.

GRADING:

Class work

Grading is most essentially derived from your work in class and to your commitment to rehearsal outside of class. Assessment will be made of your progress in the mastery of skills required of the effective communicator and of your seriousness of purpose in applying those skills in class exercises and in the rehearsal process. This will amount to **40%** of your final grade

Written Assignments

Each of the written assignments will be counted as 10% of your grade. Together they amount to **40%** of your final grade. Your written assignments will include:

- A speech on your particular area of focus for your oral presentation
- A list of goals in preparation for a professional interview
- A two page response paper to the required text (If I Understood You, Would I Have This Look On My Face?)
- A two page response paper to the required text (A Practical Handbook for the Actor)

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Final Exam

Your final will consist of a practical demonstration of what you have learned in the course in the form of an oral presentation and will be counted as **20%** of your final grade.

COMMUNICATING SCIENCE & MEDICINE
 SCHEDULE
 Spring 2022 | MONDAYS | 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Date	Lecture Topic / Activity Theme	Speaker	Assignment
January 10, 2022 (Virtual Only, via Zoom)	Introduction to the course: what is effective communication? Lecture Topics 1) Introduction to Distilling 2) Knowing your audience	David Dannenfelser Doreen Badheka,	Bring your resume to class. Written Assignment: First Reflections (First Week) Take a look at the Key Concepts Document
January 17, 2022	No Lecture: Martin Luther King Jr. Day		
January 24, 2022 (Virtual Only, via Zoom)	Lecture Topics: 1) Storytelling 2) Visualizing Science: How to communicate visually with slides	Doreen Badheka	Written Assignment: A cover letter and supporting materials in preparation for a professional interview Start thinking about a Focus Topic for a 3-5 Minute Speech
January 31, 2022 (In-person only, Room C-987)	Improv and Ensemble Building Rehearsal Process (Handout)	David Dannenfelser	Written Assignment: Continue working on your PowerPoint presentation. Upload Due Feb. 3rd Come prepared to discuss your Focus Topic for your speech
February 7, 2022	In-class Discussion: PowerPoint Presentations uploaded by students. Introduction to Preparing Speeches (Handout)	Doreen Badheka David Dannenfelser	Use Preparing Speeches Handout to develop your speech. Written Assignment: Bring the first draft of your speech to class, Feb. 21st

February 14, 2022	Improv and Ensemble Building	David Dannenfelser	
February 21, 2022	The First Draft: Analyzing Speeches (Handout)	David Dannenfelser	Use the Analyzing Speeches Handout to break your speech down into units of action. Written Assignment: Continue to develop your speech into a second draft, due March 14 th
February 28, 2022	<u>Interviewing For Dental and Medical School</u> Group 1: Dental and Medical Scholars (Separate Classroom) <u>Interviewing For Biopharma Industry or Ph.D. Programs</u> Group 2: Biomedical Scholars (Separate Classroom)	Doreen Badheka & Invited Faculty Invited Scientists from Biopharma industry	Bring cover letter to class for Interview session Written Assignment: Second Reflections (Mid-Term) Due March 7 th
March 7, 2022	<u>The Doctor/Patient Relationship (Role Play and the Pre OSCE)</u> Group 1: Dental and Medical Scholars (Separate Classroom) <u>Interviewing For Biopharma Industry or Ph.D. Programs</u> Group 2: Biomedical Scholars (Separate Classroom)	David Dannenfelser & Invited Faculty Invited Scientists from Biopharma industry	Written Assignment: Second Reflections (Mid-Term) Due Written Assignment: A two-page response paper to the required text (Alda Book Only) Due March 14 th

March 14, 2022	The Second Draft: Begin Read Through and Table Work on speeches	David Dannenfelser	Written Assignment: Continue to develop your speech into a third draft Due March 28 th Written Assignment: A two-page response paper to the required text (Alda Book Only) Due
March 21, 2022	Spring Break- NO CLASS		
March 28, 2022	The Third Draft: Begin Blocking Rehearsal. Performance (Handout)	David Dannenfelser	Written Assignment: Third draft Due Memorize speeches for Off-Book/ Working Rehearsal on April 4th
April 4, 2022	Begin Off-Book and Working Rehearsal	David Dannenfelser	Continue adjustments on speeches towards Dress Rehearsal and Performance Written Assignment: Third Reflections Due April 18th
April 11, 2022	No Class Meeting		Continue to work to get off-book
April 18, 2022	Dress Rehearsal	David Dannenfelser	Written Assignment: Third Reflections Due Continue adjustments on speeches towards performance
April 25, 2022	Performance	David Dannenfelser	