Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

COMS 101
SPEECH COMMUNICATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Study and practice in communicating ideas competently in public speaking. Students are also given a foundation for development of communication skills in other human communication contexts, including dyadic and small group communication.

RATIONALE
Communication skills are vital in nearly every career field including education, business, politics, human services, Christian ministry, and the health professions. Learning these skills will also allow students to use their words to become even more effective agents for change and godly influence among their peers and others in our society. Students will understand and apply healthy and effective communication principles and practices to speaking before audiences, in small groups, and in conversations with others.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Blackboard recommended browsers
D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Use foundational communication concepts to evaluate communication texts.
B. Present verbal messages that display creative, critical, and logical thinking.
C. Organize oral and written messages.
D. Use oral and written language that is clear, accurate, vivid, and appropriate to the rhetorical situation.
E. Practice effective nonverbal communication.
F. Demonstrate critical listening skills.

V. **CORE COMPETENCY LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Produce well-structured, sound communications in various modes of discourse.
B. Demonstrate knowledge of diction, syntax, grammar, and mechanics to sentence and essay revision and editing.
C. Write a critical analysis of a literary, historical, and / or rhetorical work.
D. Integrate credible sources accurately and effectively.
E. Compare and contrast the biblical worldview with non-biblical worldviews.

VI. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and video presentations.
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (3)
   Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered communication concepts by composing a critical, thoughtful thread to each of 3 Discussion Board Forum prompts. For each new thread, the student must provide a video or typed response to the prompt, depending on the specific forum instructions. Properly formatted replies to 3 or more other students’ threads must be posted. The student also must reply to any questions or remarks that peers have made in response to the student’s thread no later than 24 hours before the deadline.
D. Speech Outlines (2)
   The student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered communication concepts by composing a complete-sentence outline for the informative speech presentation and the persuasive speech presentation that he/she will submit for credit in this course. The Speech Outline may be submitted, initially, as an optional rough draft and will then be submitted, by its designated due date, as a required final outline. Each speech outline must be composed in Microsoft Word.
E. Major Speeches (2)

The student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered public communication concepts by presenting an informative speech and a persuasive speech, respectively, before a visually documented live audience of 3 or more adults. Each speech must satisfy its specified time requirement and other criteria set forth in the assignment instructions. Once the speech is recorded, the student will upload the recording to YouTube as an unlisted video, and then post the video’s link to the instructor via the designated Blackboard submission link.

F. Quizzes (16)

Each quiz will cover a chapter of textbook readings for the assigned modules/weeks. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain true/false and multiple-choice questions and have a time limit.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (3)</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech Outlines (2 at 75 pts ea)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeches (2 at 100 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (16 at 30 pts ea)</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1010</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Instructor Feedback and Response Time

Responses to student emails will be provided within 48 hours and assignment feedback will be given within 1 week from the assignment due date.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@ liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
VIII. QUALITY MATTERS SEAL OF APPROVAL

This certification mark recognizes that this course met Quality Matters Review Standards.

Quality Matters (QM) is a non-profit organization committed to quality assurance in Online Education. Courses that have received the QM Seal of Approval have passed rigorous reviews by Quality Matters evaluators and maintain their approval for five years.
# Course Schedule

**COMS 101**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 1, 2, 4 1 presentation</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist  Discussion Board 1  Quizzes (3): chs. 1, 2, 4</td>
<td>10 50 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 12, 13, 14 1 presentation</td>
<td>Quizzes (2): chs. 12 and 13-14  Discussion Board 2  Quizzes (2): chs. 5, 6  Informative Speech Outline (Draft)</td>
<td>60 60 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 5, 6 4 presentations</td>
<td>Informative Speech Outline  Quizzes (3): chs. 7, 8, 9</td>
<td>75 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 7, 8, 9 1 presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 10, 11 1 presentation</td>
<td>Informative Speech Presentation  Quizzes (2): chs. 10, 11  Persuasive Speech Outline (Draft)</td>
<td>100 60 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: Introduction (parts 1-2) 1 presentation</td>
<td>Persuasive Speech Outline  Quiz (1): Introduction (parts 1-2)</td>
<td>75 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: ch. 3 1 presentation</td>
<td>Persuasive Speech  Quiz (1): ch. 3</td>
<td>100 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vanderber, Sellnow, and Vanderber: chs. 15, 16 1 presentation</td>
<td>Discussion Board 3  Quizzes (2): chs. 15, 16</td>
<td>60 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.