Sample Course Plan for *Communication in the Real World* (15 weeks and 10 weeks)

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**Planning Your Class:**

Teaching the hybrid introductory course is challenging and it can be difficult to organize and fit in the textbook content around speeches that are delivered in class. I also know that departmental, institutional, and even state policies regarding types of and requirements for speeches vary.

The following course plan is based on a traditional face-to-face delivery model with three required speeches. The timing for in class delivery of speeches is based on the number of minutes indicated in the assignments section below and an enrollment of 25 students.

Notes for Instructors:

* If this sample course plan does not work well for you because you have other assignments that are required or that you choose to include in the course or because you offer the course in online or blended (online/face-to-face) format, please contact me at [rgjones@eiu.edu](mailto:rgjones@eiu.edu) and I will be happy to provide an alternative course plan tailored to your course requirements, needs, and wants.
* I also have language for course policies that I have revised and improved over my 16 years of teaching this class that I am happy to share with other instructors so you can adapt them to your own institutions and individual preferences.

**Assignments:**

Speech of Introduction – 4 minutes

Informative Speech – 7 minutes

Persuasive Speech – 7 minutes

Midterm Exam

Final Exam

Note for Instructors: On request, I will provide detailed assignment guidelines for the speeches listed above that you can adapt.

**COURSE CALENDAR (15 Weeks)**

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| **Week:** | **Content:** | **Notes for Instructors:** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to the Course  Chapter 1 – Introduction to Communication Studies |  |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2 – Communication and Perception  Deliver Speeches of Introduction | Note: Speeches of Introduction connect to the content on perception in Chapter 2 |
| Week 3 | Finish Speeches of Introduction  Chapter 3 – Verbal Communication |  |
| Week 4 | Chapter 4 – Nonverbal Communication  Chapter 5 – Listening |  |
| Week 5 | Chapter 6 – Interpersonal Communication Processes  Chapter 7 – Communication in Relationships |  |
| Week 6 | Chapter 8 – Culture and Communication  Chapter 9 – Preparing a Speech |  |
| Week 7 | Chapter 10 – Delivering a Speech  Chapter 11 – Informative and Persuasive Speaking | Note: Could just cover Informative Speaking at this point |
| Week 8 | Research/Outlining Workshop in Class  Midterm Exam |  |
| Week 9 | Deliver Informative Speeches |  |
| Week 10 | Finish Informative Speeches  Chapter 12 – Public Speaking in Various Contexts  Chapter 13 – Small Group Communication |  |
| Week 11 | Chapter 14 – Leadership, Roles, and Problem Solving in Groups  Chapter 15 – Media, Technology, and Communication |  |
| Week 12 | Chapter 16 – New Media and Communication  Research/Outlining Workshop in Class | Note: Could go back to cover Persuasive Speaking at this point |
| Week 13 | Deliver Persuasive Speeches | Note: I often have students connect to some issue related to Media, Technology, and Communication in their Persuasive Speech  Note: I allow more time for these speeches because I require my students to have a brief question and answer period after each speech that is not included in their 7 minutes. |
| Week 14 | Deliver Persuasive Speeches |  |
| Week 15 | Course Wrap Up  Review for Final Exam |  |

**COURSE CALENDAR (10 Weeks)**

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| **Week:** | **Content:** | **Notes for Instructors:** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to the Course  Chapter 1 – Introduction to Communication Studies  Chapter 2 – Communication and Perception |  |
| Week 2 | Deliver Speeches of Introduction  Chapter 3 – Verbal Communication | Note: Speeches of Introduction connect to the content on perception in Chapter 2 |
| Week 3 | Chapter 4 – Nonverbal Communication  Chapter 5 – Listening  Chapter 6 – Interpersonal Communication Processes |  |
| Week 4 | Chapter 7 – Communication in Relationships  Chapter 8 – Culture and Communication  Chapter 9 – Preparing a Speech |  |
| Week 5 | Chapter 10 – Delivering a Speech  Chapter 11 – Informative and Persuasive Speaking  Research/Outlining Workshop in Class  Midterm Exam | Note: Could just cover Informative Speaking at this point |
| Week 6 | Deliver Informative Speeches |  |
| Week 7 | Chapter 12 – Public Speaking in Various Contexts  Chapter 13 – Small Group Communication  Chapter 14 – Leadership, Roles, and Problem Solving in Groups |  |
| Week 8 | Chapter 15 – Media, Technology, and Communication  Chapter 16 – New Media and Communication  Research/Outlining Workshop in Class | Note: Could go back to cover Persuasive Speaking at this point |
| Week 9 | Deliver Persuasive Speeches | Note: I often have students connect to some issue related to Media, Technology, and Communication in their Persuasive Speech  Note: I allow more time for these speeches because I require my students to have a brief question and answer period after each speech that is not included in their 7 minutes. |
| Week 10 | Finish Delivering Persuasive Speeches  Course Wrap Up  Review for Final Exam |  |