

THEA2050 - Self-Staging Sec 4 = MWF 10-10:50, Sec 5 = MWF 11-11:50
CRN: 80973 / 80975

Fall 2007

HUM 228

Instructor: Brad Darvas
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Office: Townsend Center Scene Shop
Office Hours: M,W,F: 12-1:00 pm; T,R:9am-1:00pm
Shop Hours: 1-5:00pm (also available during this time)

Required Text:

[Course Packet] Self-Staging: Oral Communication in Daily Life
VHS Videotape

Web CT: You may log onto the University of West Georgia's home page: www.westga.edu
And follow the links to the library and Web CT.

Web CT Help Lines: Monday, Tuesday,& Friday 9-5 and Wed. and Thurs. From 8 am- 8 pm

Library: <http://www.westga.edu/~library/>

Course Description: Self-Staging is an introduction to the performative basis of real communications and self-presentation. The focus of this course is the variety of means by which we present self in personal and professional venues. Self-staging is by nature interdisciplinary; therefore, presentation and performance with media such as (but not exclusive to) PowerPoint is required.

Learning Outcomes:

- To analyze the performative basis of identity in a range of settings and circumstances applicable to students' personal and professional goals.
- To apply performance theory in creating practical individual identities and exploring others' performance of identity.
- To develop the skills necessary to effectively communicate in a variety of situations and on a range of topics.
- To gain a basic understanding of the art of both formal and informal presentations.
- To develop leadership and collaborative skills necessary to communicate in groups.
- To become active listeners who critically evaluate what they hear.
- To effectively evaluate and develop methods of persuasion in presentation.
- To develop communication and presentation skills necessary to meet changing career demands in the contemporary world.

Student Responsibilities:

- Please be on time for class and plan to stay for the entire class period.
- Be a courteous listener and present your ideas in a way that shows respect for your colleagues.
- Read the assigned material and be prepared to give your speech on the assigned day.
- Complete all assignments by the due date listed on your schedule.
- You are responsible for all the material presented in class. If you miss class, please make sure you get the notes and assignments.
- **The syllabus is subject to change.** Changes will be announced in class - make sure you note these changes.
- Keep copies of all your written work and file your returned assignments in a safe place.
- If you have scheduling conflicts with the schedule or have a documented absence that prevents you from completing an assignment, please contact me as soon as possible to make arrangements.
- If you have any special needs or if there is anything I can do to assist you in succeeding in this course,

do not hesitate to let me know.

Attendance:

Since this is a largely performance-based class, much of the benefit you will gain from enrollment will be received in the classroom. Therefore, attendance is crucial to your success. **You may miss 2 “regular” classes without penalty. Any classes missed after these 2 will result in you losing half a letter grade on your final grade. The exception to this rule are days on which you are scheduled to speak, interview, or participate in class projects.** Do not miss one of these days without bringing documentation justifying your absence or you will not be able to make up class work. Work missed for excused absences will be made up at the instructor’s discretion.

Disability Services:

If you feel that you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please feel free to contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Additionally, the Student Development Center coordinates special services for students with disabilities.

Disability Services Cont.

The office is located in Room 272, Parker Hall or telephone (678) 839.6428. All contacts are confidential.

Grading Breakdown:

Textual and Class-Based Evaluations:

Participation/Notebook	5%
Speech Critiques:	10%

Student Self-Stagings:

Introductory Speech	5% - [Personal Identity - Self]
Occasional Speech	10% - [Emotional Identity]
Informative Speech	15% - [
Group Academic Presentation	20% - [Group and Academic Identity]
Mock Job Interview	15% - [Professional Identity]
Position Presentation	20% - [Professional & Academic Identity]

Grading Components:

Notebook: All written work for class to be neatly saved and presented in a folder due at the end of the semester.

Speech Critiques: (10%) For both your Occasional/Commemorative and Position Presentations, you will be videotaped. Based on this video record, you are to produce a self-critique of your performance due not later than one week following the performance.

Self-Stagings:

Introductory Speech/Anecdote: (10 %) As a means of establishing trust and familiarity in the class, we will do a number of exercises designed to evaluate your own staging of personal identity. These exercises will culminate in a brief introductory speech or anecdote that will also serve as a baseline for the instructor’s evaluation of your progress throughout the semester.

Occasional/Commemorative Speech: (15%) A great deal of traditional self-staging occurs in formal or ritual settings, such as banquets, weddings, funerals, or award ceremonies. This

exercise is designed to help students develop appropriately staged performances for these events, drawing on emotional language, the ability to move or inspire an audience, and the appropriate behavior for these settings.

Informative Presentation: (15%) To develop the research skills to effectively relay information to an audience. This presentation is a focus on your recently developed skills on general public speaking along with the addition of the basics of research. Visual aids are required (non-computer based)

Group/Academic Presentation: (20%) To develop skills of working in a collaborative process, students will be grouped into teams of 5-7 individuals. They will choose a topic and process, product, or idea that has a direct impact on their fellow audience. Each presenter will be responsible for a portion of the program, and each will be required to cite at least 3-4 sources within their portion of the presentation. Adequate research, visual aids and technology will be a key component of these presentations.

Mock Job Interview: (20%) As one of the practical applications of self-staging, you will undergo a mock job interview. Using resources discussed in class, you will locate and research an appropriate job description/listing, and you will prepare an appropriate resume and cover letter for the job. Then, during class periods, you will interview with the instructor (and possibly a panel of local employers.) You will be evaluated on your resume, cover letter, and your performance during the interview process.

Position Presentation: (20%) Another essential self-staging skill is the ability to construct a position on a controversial issue, research that position, build a persuasive argument around it and defend that position against a counter position. Position presentations will consist of a 5-7 minute presentation by each member of a pair, followed by a brief Q&A and rebuttal session. This speech must also be well-organized and researched, containing at least 5 outside sources cited within the speech. More details will be provided during class.

Grading Scale:

100-90 = A 89-80 = B 79-70 = D 69-60 = D 59>F

Schedule and Class Assignments

W 8/15	Course Introductions Go over Introductory speech
F 8/17	Introduction speeches

M 8/20	Performing Identities Read Chapter 1
W 8/22	Performing Identities Dramatic identities Basics of public performance
F 8/24	Dramatic Identity

Participation activity
Last day to drop/add

M 8/27 Emotional Identity
Read Chapter 3
W 8/29 Emotional Identity
F 8/31 Emotional Identity
Basic of public speaking

M 9/3 **Labor Day - No Classes**

W 9/5 Occasional Speeches

F 9/7 Occasional Speeches

M 9/10 Research Development

W 9/12 Research Development cont.

F 9/14 Library Tour

M 9/17 Basics of non-computer visuals/graphic design and lay out

W 9/19 Informative presentation

F 9/21 Informative Presentation

M 9/24 Group Identity
Read chapter 2
Leadership

W 9/26 Group Identity
P-Mops, Communication skills

F 9/28 Group Identity
Conflict Resolutions, Conflict Management

M 10/1 Group/Academic Identity
Read Chapter 4 88-98
Listening//Communication

W 10/3 Group/Academic Identity
Time Management and stress management

F 10/5 Group/Academic Identity
Academic success secrets

M 10/8 Group/Academic Identity
Read Chapter 4; 98-106
Academic strategy

W 10/10 Group/Academic Identity
Academic strategy

F 10/12 **Fall Break - No Class**

M	10/15	Power Point basics
W	10/17	Power Point basics cont.
F	10/19	Group/Academic Identity Review
M	10/22	Group Presentations
W	10/24	Group Presentations Introduction to the professional self
F	10/26	No Class - Research chosen profession (turn in 10/31)
M	10/29	No Class - Data input sheets (turn in 10/31)
W	10/31	The Professional Self HAPPY HALLOWEEN
F	11/2	The Professional Self Attitude and approach
M	11/5	The Professional Self Personal Development
W	11/7	The Professional Self Cover letters, resumes, and applications
F	11/9	The Professional Self Cover letters, resumes, and applications
M	11/12	Job Interviews
W	11/14	Job Interviews
F	11/16	Job Interviews
M	11/19	TBA
W	11/21	Thanksgiving Recess
F	11/23	Thanksgiving Recess
M	11/26	Preparation for Position presentation
W	11/28	Preparation for Position presentation
F	11/30	Preparation for Position presentation

M	12/3	Preparation for Position presentation	
W	12/5	Review	
F	12/7	Exam Sec. 4 Position presentation	8-10:00am
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M	12/10	Exam Sec. 5 Position presentation	11am-1:00pm

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