

SPEECH IN A FREE SOCIETY

COMM 45007 (001)

Call no. 11738 - Fall, 2002

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Class: T - Th. 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.
Room: D303 MSB

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8:45 - 9:15 a.m., 10:30 - 12:00 p.m., and Thurs. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To develop an understanding of speech and the maturing individual, freedom of speech, nature and responsibilities, socio-legal-rhetorical issues.
2. To develop an awareness of specific issues and current controversies regarding freedom of speech in the United States and elsewhere.
3. To develop an awareness of specific issues regarding local and regional free speech issues as well as those issues specific to various organizations and institutions.

Note: At times material will be presented which may be considered offensive to some members of the class. I will try to indicate beforehand when possibly offensive material will be presented. If you are sensitive to such things you may leave the classroom before or during presentation of said material without penalty or embarrassment.

REQUIRED TEXT

Tedford, T. L., & Herbeck, D. A. (2001). *Freedom of speech in the United States* (4th ed.). State College, PA: Strata Publishing Inc.

Speech in a Free Society is a senior-level course with senior-level expectations. In particular, this is a writing-intensive course in which you are expected to develop as a writer as well as know the topical material. That being the case, there are items which are essential to your writing efforts. Students are required to use APA style for all writing assignments. Not using this style consistently throughout a paper could result in a reduced grade for that assignment. I recommend you purchase the following:

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

EXAMS

There will be three exams, including a final exam. The exam dates and topics are as follows.

Exam One: October 3, Over Chapters 1-5.

Exam Two: November 7, Over Chapters 6-10.

Final Exam: December 9, Comprehensive.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments must be neatly typed and must use APA style of citation. Aside from content, written assignments will be graded on grammar, usage, spelling, and style.

Assignment grades will be lowered one letter grade if they are late. However, assignments more than 7 days late will not be accepted.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance. Attendance is expected. Failure to be here for all classes will be hazardous to your final grade.

Plagiarism. Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. University policy with regard to plagiarism and/or cheating is applicable in this course. **A student who plagiarizes could receive a zero for that assignment, a lowering of the final grade, and/or failure for the course. Probation, suspension, and/or dismissal from the university is also possible.**

Please see me for any questions regarding plagiarism or refer to your student handbook as even "unintentional" plagiarism can result in a penalty. Remember, plagiarism and cheating rules also apply to speeches.

Course Registration. It is the policy of Kent State University that students are not permitted to attend classes for which they are not officially enrolled. It is the student's responsibility to ensure proper enrollment in classes. You are advised to review your official class schedule during the first two weeks of the semester to ensure proper enrollment. Should you find an error in your class schedule, you have until Friday of the second week of classes to correct it. If registration errors are not corrected by that date and you do continue to attend and participate in classes for which you are not officially enrolled, you are advised now that you will not receive a grade at the conclusion of the semester.

Students with Disabilities. In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester or when given an assignment for which an accommodation is required. Students with disabilities must verify their eligibility through the Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) in the

Michael Schwartz Student Services Center (672-2972).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Two Written Free Speech Assignments	50 Points _____
Research Project	100 Points _____
Exam 1	100 Points _____
Exam 2	100 Points _____
Final Exam	100 Points _____

Total Course Points = 450 Points _____

GRADES

A = Excellent Scholarship	405-450 points
B = Good, Above Average	360-404 points
C = Fair or Average Attainment	315-359 points
D = Poor, Below Average	270-314 points
F = Failure	0-269 points

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Everything you hand in must be typed unless otherwise noted.
- Always keep up with reading assignments for class. Book readings in this class are far more than supplementary.
- No talking, reading, or sleeping while an instructor or student is addressing the class.
- This syllabus and everything on it is subject to change.

Fall Semester Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READING/TOPIC</u>	
Aug. 27 Aug. 29	Introduction Chapter 1 Early Free Speech Appendices (I, II, III)	
Sept 3 Sept 5	Chapter 2 Free Speech before WWI	
Sept 10 Sept 12	Chapter 3 Political Heresy (Cont.)	Written assignment due
Sept 17 Sept 19	Chapter 4 Defamation/Invasion of Privacy (Cont.)	Topic Proposal for Research Project due
Sept 24 Sept 26	Chapter 5 Religious & Moral Heresy (Cont.)	
Oct 1 Oct 3	Chapter 6 Provocation to Anger (Cont.)	Exam 1 (Chs. 1-5)
Oct 8 Oct 10	Chapter 7 Commercial Speech (Cont.)	Written assignment due
Oct 15 Oct 17	Chapter 8 Prior Restraint (Cont.)	
Oct 22 Oct 24	Chapter 9 Freedom of the Press (Cont.)	

Oct 29	Chapter 10	
Oct 31	Time/Place/Manner (Cont.)	
Nov 5	Chapter 11	
Nov 7	Institutional Constraints	Exam 2 (Chs. 6-10)
Nov 12	Chapter 12 (Copyright Law)	
Nov 14	(Copyright cont.)	
Nov 19	Chapter 13 (Broadcasting/Cable/Internet)	
Nov 21	Final Project Research Day	
Nov 26	(Broadcasting/Cable/Internet cont.)	Final Research Project due
Nov 28		Thanksgiving -- No Class
Dec 3	Chapter 14 (Approaches to Free Speech)	
Dec 5	The future Review for final exam	
Dec 9		Final Exam 12:45-3:00 p.m.

Speech in a Free Society -- Research Project

Due Dates:

September 19th: Topic Proposal--one paragraph, hand written
November 26th: Final Paper Due

1. This research project will be a 12 page paper on a topic of free speech.
2. The topic is up to you but must be narrowed properly for this type of paper. The paper should answer some broad questions specific to the topic. Hypothetical examples are:
 - A paper dealing with new electronic media and the First Amendment detailing recent cases and new questions proposed by technology.
 - The development of, and challenges to, copyright law in this country and abroad. What are the limits of our copyright laws in regards to other countries. Are they upheld?
 - High school and college newspaper First Amendment cases. What past cases helped shape precedent for the operation of such publications today.
 - Campus hate speech codes and the First Amendment. What cases and decisions led to the recent revision of these codes?
3. References for your paper will mainly consist of scholarly journal articles. These will mainly be from law journals that can be found in our library or Akron University Law Library. Do not try to reference one or two articles for a 12 page paper. I would expect about one citation per page.
4. It is assumed that you have written this type of paper before and are familiar with doing library research.
5. The paper must use proper and consistent APA style (i.e., 1 inch margin, proper citation).
6. You can obtain help with your paper at anytime by asking me. If you are not familiar with using the library, ask for help from either me or a reference librarian.