

# DRA 198 009, Fall Quarter 2020

Hello Everyone!

Welcome to DRA 198 Presentation, Communication, and Collaboration Skills. This is going to be a unique experience!

Please understand that this class is the remote version of DRA 198, Presentation, Communication, and Collaboration Skills. If you decide to take this course, please enter into it with an open heart, an open mind, and a willing spirit. Be supportive of one another, be flexible, be open to learning, and ready to have some fun while we engage one with another in this alternative format!

This class belongs to ALL of us, and we are going to create this experience TOGETHER, with the goal of giving you the opportunity to learn some presentation skills through this unusual format.

I want us to have to fun. I want us to learn. I want our class to be a safe and creative space for all of us. I want you to succeed! I am offering creative learning opportunities that will give you the practical skills to become effective communicators and collaborators within the framework of this remote learning situation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me!

Contact me at; [mcleavy@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mcleavy@ucdavis.edu)

Let's take this journey together. Looking forward to meeting you all very soon!

All my best,

Michele

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## UC Davis Global Studies Program

### Fall Quarter 2020

#### Syllabus for: DRA 198 – Remote Version

### Presentation, Communication, and Collaboration Skills

Location: **Via Zoom from your home!**

Class Sessions: **Mondays and Wednesdays 5pm-7:00pm**

Instructor: **Michele Apriña Leavy**

Contact: **mcleavy@ucdavis.edu**

Office Location: **Via Zoom from my home!** (When on campus: 243 Wright Hall)

Office Hours: **By appointment via Zoom.**

**Please note: This syllabus is subject to change.**

#### **Course Description:**

Develop your Tele-Presence! This is a fun yet serious course devoted to the development of clear oral and physical communication and collaboration skills that build confidence, presentational style, and clarity while using video conference technology. Students will learn by utilizing exercises and techniques used in actor training for the theater. They will explore various communication styles and situations, discover their communication gifts - as well as communication challenges - and seek to find a clear, confident, generous, and authentic means of communicating.

#### **Course Objectives:**

1. To provide opportunities to engage others in both formal and informal setting using tele-conference technology.
2. To provide students with skills and techniques necessary for various public speaking situations, and to offer where possible, opportunities to practice and apply those skills and techniques.
3. To prepare the mind and body for the task of presenting.
4. To impart the principles and protocols of working in a collaborative environment.

## Student Responsibility:

It is expected that students who enroll in this class come to each class session with an open mind and a willingness to learn, experiment, and *play*. (Yes, play!) The attitude you bring to the course work will have an effect on how you learn and can potentially affect your grade. This course asks students to think in a different way, and to do things they do not have an opportunity to do in other university courses. Please always remember that within the “enjoyment” we create in this class, it is still a university course and there are serious lessons to be learned. Try to find the balance between enjoying yourself and understanding the reasoning behind each exercise. Sometimes you will be working alone and sometimes you will be working with other people. Please try to bring your “best self” to class each day.

## Classroom Protocols:

While the atmosphere of this class is less formal than many other classes, and having fun is encouraged, this means that extra self-discipline is needed on the part of each student in order to maintain the goal of learning. Please use respect, courtesy, and common sense at all times.

Please keep in mind, a shared learning environment is only effective if everyone involved actually shares. Before a class session begins, eliminate environmental distractions that may divert your attention away from the session (music, background noise, social media, unnecessary computer tabs). No multitasking during class please!

Online discussions are more challenging than in-person conversations and taking turns can be tricky. Be aware of your classmates’ speaking turns, body language, and possible delays in audio. Please select ‘Gallery view’ when joining our Zoom sessions. If possible, it is recommended to use headphones with a microphone to eliminate noise and static. Also, please don’t abuse the chat box during Zoom sessions. We will use the chat **only** if an exercise or activity requires it.

## Grading:

Student's assessment will be based on daily participation, preparation for in-class presentations, and engagement with course assignments. **There are no formal written examinations, as the purpose of this course is to develop clear oral and physical communication and collaboration skills, and to be able demonstrate those in class.** There will be one written assignment in the course.

*The following is subject to changes:*

<u>Points Breakdown</u>	<u>Points</u>
Attendance/Daily Participation (Includes homework and various in –class tasks.)	500
<b><u>Assignments &amp; Exercises</u></b>	
Biographies Exercise	25
Presentation Assignment #1 (Joke, Poem, Song)	50
Presentation Assignment #2 (“My Social Distancing Story.”)	50
Commercials	25
Open Scenes Exercise	25
Interpreter Exercise	25
Presentation Assignment #3 (“What’s Your Major?”)	50
Presentation Assignment #4 (Special Occasion Speech)	50
Presentation Assignment #5 (Share a Family Recipe)	50
Presentation Assignment #6 (Persuasive Speech)	50
Final Assignment – (To be determined – Group Project)	50
Video Project	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

## Communication with your Instructor:

You are encouraged to always communicate with your Instructor. If at any time you are unclear about anything, or do not understand something, please ask! Your Instructor is here to help you succeed!

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