

## **COM 173-B1: *Public Speaking***

(Fall, 2016)

Site: Sub-Base Groton

Time: M 6:00-8:45 P.M.

Instructor: Mr. Stephen Curtis

Phone: (860) 546-0513

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### Course Description

Students will learn the fundamentals of speech communication. They will learn to deliver, discuss, and respond to presentations of increasing complexity. Emphasis will be placed on organization, analysis, and elements of speech delivery, including effective verbal and non-verbal aspects of communication.

### Learning Outcomes

- Compose and deliver several types of speeches of increasing length and complexity (introduction, entertainment, informative, motivational, and persuasive) representing an increasing development of critical thinking skills and delivery sophistication.
- Develop, research, and compose formal speech outlines.
- Incorporate the appropriate, formal argument models and patterns of organization for each speech delivered.
- Use speaking notes effectively.
- Use verbal and non-verbal communication effectively.
- Demonstrate an awareness of audience analysis and feedback during speech deliveries.
- Use audio and visual aids and power point to enhance speech deliveries.
- Document information using MLA format.
- Provide constructive critiques of speech deliveries of peers.

Text: *Practically Speaking* by J Dean Rothwell; 2014; Oxford University Press.

### Course Evaluation:

80%: Class Presentations

15%: Special Speeches (2-5 minutes)

20%: Informative Speeches (5-7 minutes)

20%: Persuasive Speeches (7-10 minutes)

25%: Informative Speech (6-8 minutes)

10%: In-Class/Homework Exercises

10%: Attendance/Participation

Class Attendance: Simply stated, I expect you to attend each class meeting. Because speeches shall be graded based on the material that is covered in the class, missing classes means that one is less able to ascertain the guidelines for the next speech.

Also, please note that this class begins sharply at six o'clock. The instructor shall take attendance at this time. Tardiness to the class shall result in a third of an absence. In other words, three late arrivals shall equal an absence and shall be reflected in the final attendance/participation grade.

Late Assignments: Assignments are to be turned in and speeches presented on the days that they are assigned. Late assignments or presentations will not be accepted; not being prepared or not being present for a presentation will result in forfeiture of the right to do that speech, except under extreme extenuating circumstances. It is the student's responsibility to contact me via phone or e-mail **before** the class assignment/presentation is due to explain any such situations.

Digication: Each student is required to maintain a learning portfolio in Digication that uses the Three Rivers Community College template.

Students with Special Needs: Any student who possesses a documented disability or who has special academic/physical needs should contact Elizabeth Willcox (892-5751) or consult with a counselor in Student Services at Three Rivers Community College so that those needs may be properly addressed.

Tentative Class Discussion Schedule:

8/29: Introduction to Class; Chapter 1: Communication Competence and Public Speaking

9/12: Chapter 1 (Cont.)

9/19: Chapter 17: Speeches for Special Occasions

9/26: Chapter 2 + 3: Speech Anxiety; Delivering Your Speech

10/3: Special Speeches (Day 1) <2-5 minutes>

10/10: Special Speeches (Day 2) <2-5 minutes>

10/17: Chapters 14: Informative Speaking

10/24: Chapters 4+5: Audience Analysis; Attention: Getting People to Listen

10/31: Chapter 9: Skepticism: Becoming Critical Thinking Speakers and Listeners

11/7: Chapters 6 + 7: Introductions and Conclusions; Outlining and Organizing Speeches

11/14: Informative Speeches (5-7 minutes)

11/21: Chapters 15 + 16: Foundations of Persuasive Speaking; Persuasive Speaking Strategies

11/28: Chapter 10: Argument, Reasoning, and Evidence

12/5: Persuasive Speeches (7-10 minutes)

12/12: Chapters 12: Achieving Style Through Language

12/19: Informative Speeches (6-8 minutes)