

Introduction to Speech Communication

(COM 173)

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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 FOR COM 173

Upon successful completion of COM 173, students will be able to:

- Compose and deliver several primary types of speeches of increasing length and complexity (Introduction, Entertaining, Informative, Motivational, and Persuasive Speeches), representing an increasing development of critical thinking skills and delivery sophistication.
- Develop, research, and compose speech outlines according to formal outlining techniques.
- Analyze, recognize, and incorporate the appropriate, formal argument models and patterns of logic for each given speech.
- Devise, compose, and utilize appropriate *speaking notes* to facilitate and enhance the delivery of speeches.
- Utilize both verbal and non-verbal strategies to effectively communicate with audience during speech presentations.
- Understand the importance of audience analysis and demonstrate an ability to be aware of and utilize audience feedback during speech presentations.
- Use audio and visual aids, including PowerPoint, where appropriate, to enhance speech presentations.
- Document information obtained through research using MLA format.
- Analyze and provide productive, useful, and constructive critique of peer speech presentations.

REQUIREMENTS

- Textbook: *Public Speaking for College and Career*, 7th edition, Hamilton Gregory
- Magazine: The student is responsible for regular access to one of the following magazines throughout the semester: *Time*, *Newsweek*, *New York Times Sunday*

Magazine, *The New Yorker*, or a similar magazine (see me for approval of specific magazines).

POLICIES

Attendance: Regular attendance is essential. A great deal of material will be given out in class and there is considerable in-class work, which often cannot be made up.

Significant absences **will** affect your grade. If you do miss a class, come to the next class prepared by finding out what you missed.

* * * Quizzes cannot be made up.

Late Assignments: We are all adults; deadlines are deadlines. Late assignments will not be accepted unless approved by me in advance.

Student Disabilities: Please see me immediately if we need to make any modifications to meet your individual needs. Students with learning disabilities should see a counselor in student services immediately.

Withdrawal from class: If you stop attending the class, and do not officially withdraw, you will receive a failing grade for the semester.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a violation of academic honesty. It occurs when you take credit for someone else's work (words) and submit it as your own, either intentionally or merely through incomplete documentation of sources. Any plagiarized work in a speech will result in an F for the semester.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

SPEECHES

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| 1. Short Speech 2-4 minutes
Entertaining 10 pts | 3. Persuasive Speech 5-8 minutes 25 pts
20 pts. speech; 5 pts. outline
3 references minimum |
| 2. Two Informative Speeches 4-6 minutes 20 pts
each : 15 pts. speech; 5 pts. outline
(possibly from magazines) | 4. Class work/participation 15 pts |
| | 5. Quizzes 10 pts |

SPEECH REQUIREMENTS

1. Outlines must be word processed and submitted *before* your major presentations.
2. Major speeches must be on varied topics.
3. You must use a visual on the persuasive speech.
4. Use at least two current sources for the persuasive speech.
5. I highly value attendance, participation, and timely cooperation.
6. All speeches in a category are due the first day for everyone.
8. Please **DO NOT** enter the room while a speech is in progress.
9. Behind all good speaking is good thinking!!!!