

COM 173-08: *Public Speaking*

(Spring, 2009)

Site: Room E221

Time: S 9:00-11:45 A.M.

Instructor: Mr. Stephen Curtis

Phone: (860) 546-0513

E-mail: eastprof@charter.net

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: *Public Speaking for College & Career* by Hamilton Gregory; 8th Edition (2008); McGraw-Hill.

Course Evaluation:

75%: Class Presentations

10%: Special Speeches (2-5 minutes)

20%: Informative Speeches (5-7 minutes)

20%: Persuasive Speeches (7-10 minutes)

25%: Wild Card Speech (dependent on speech choice)

10%: In-Class/Homework Exercises

15%: 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 nine 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.

Students with Special Needs: Any student who possesses a documented disability or who has special academic/physical needs should contact Chris Scarborough (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:

1/24: Introduction to Class; Chapter 1: Introduction to Public Speaking; Introductory Speeches

1/31: Chapters 2 + 5: Controlling Nervousness; Selecting a Topic

2/7: Chapters 4 + 18: Reaching the Audience; Special Types of Speeches (Choose Topic)

2/14: Special Speeches (2-5 minutes)

2/21: Chapter 15: Speaking to Inform

2/28: Chapters 10 + 11: Body; Introductions and Conclusions

3/7: Chapters 6 + 7: Finding Information; Using Information Wisely and Ethically

3/14: Informative Speeches (5-7 minutes)

3/28: Chapters 16 + 17: Persuasive Speeches; Persuasive Strategies

4/4: Chapters 8 + 9: Supporting Ideas; Visual Aids

4/18: Persuasive Speeches (Part I) <7-10 minutes>

4/25: Persuasive Speeches (Part II) <7-10 minutes>

5/2: Chapter 13: Wordings the Speech

5/9: Chapter 14: Delivering the Speech

5/16: Wild Card Speeches (Time depends on type of speech)