

COM 173-08: *Public Speaking*
(Fall, 2011)

Site: Room D 221

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

1. Demonstrate, describe, and apply an understanding of the relevant principles of speech communication, reasoning, and argumentation.
2. Critically evaluate examples of public discourse.
3. Demonstrate the acquisition of skills in public speaking and argumentation within several speech structures and contexts.
4. Demonstrate an ethical and effective use of academic research.
5. Demonstrate an appreciation of the relationship of speech communication to society.

Text: *Public Speaking: Strategies for Success* by David Zarefsky; 6th Edition (2011); Allyn & Bacon.

Course Evaluation:

80%: Class Presentations

15%: Special Occasion 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 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:

9/3: Introduction to Class; Chapter 1: Welcome to Public Speaking

9/10: Chapter 16: Occasions for Public Speaking

9/17: Chapters 3 + 5: Presenting the Speech: Analyzing Your Audience

9/24: **Special Speeches (2-5 minutes)**

10/1: Chapters 13 + 6: Informing; Choosing a Topic/Developing a Strategy

10/8: Chapters 9 +10: Organizing the Speech: The Body/Introductions/Conclusions/Transitions

10/15: Chapters 7 + 11: Researching the Speech; Outlining the Speech

10/22: **Informative Speeches (5-7 minutes)**

10/29: Chapter 14: Persuading

11/5: Chapter 8: Reasoning

11/12: **Persuasive Speeches (Part I) <7-10 minutes>**

11/19: **Persuasive Speeches (Part II) <7-10 minutes>**

12/3: Chapter 12: Achieving Style Through Language

12/10: **Informative Speeches <6-8 Minutes>**