# **COM K173: Public Speaking**

Spring 2013

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Office Hours: MWF 10-10:45 am, W 5-5:45 pm & by appointment.

## **Description of the Course:**

*Prerequisite: ENG\* K101 eligibility.* 

Public Speaking introduces students to the principles and basic skills of effective speech communication. Students will research, compose, and deliver speeches of increasing complexity and sophistication. The course familiarizes students with the strategies and techniques of successful informative and persuasive public speaking so students gain an understanding of how communication happens and how people participate in public discourses. The course also exposes students to the rhetorical dimensions of many types of public speech and teaches them to be more critical listeners who can respond rhetorically to complex issues and ideas.

#### **COM K173 Course Outcome:**

- 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.

## **Required Materials:**

Public Speaking: Strategies for Success, 6th edition, by David Zarefsky

#### **Assignments:**

Multimedia Presentation (10%) Group Presentation (10%) Forensic Speech (15%) Deliberative Speech (20%) Mini Speeches (10%) Classwork/Homework (10%) Participation (5%) Quizzes (20%)

#### **Email and Office Hours:**

If you have any questions or want to discuss a particular reading or assignment, feel free to contact me or drop by my office to chat. In particular, my office hours are times set

aside for the purpose of speaking with you about your educational concerns. If you would like to meet at a time other than my posted office hours, contact me (in person, via email, or via phone) to arrange an appointment. Please email me with any questions or concerns that may arise through the course of the semester. I will respond to emails within 24-36 hours. If you send an email between late Friday and Sunday, I will respond beginning the following Monday. You can also call me on my office phone.

#### **Grade Standards:**

- A Work is uniformly excellent; meets all criteria for the assignment and exceeds them in quality and execution. Totally free from errors and demonstrates extensive outside preparation.
- B Work is uniformly good; meets virtually all the criteria for the assignment and will do so in a highly competent manner. Predominantly free of errors and demonstrates notable outside preparation.
- C Work is sufficient to fulfill the requirements of the assignment; work generally competent and relatively free from errors; acceptable outside preparation.
- D Work does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment; marked by many errors and little outside preparation.
- F Fails requirements completely and lacks outside preparation.

## **Attendance Policy:**

This is a class that requires your regular and engaged attendance. Because of the nature of public speaking and public communication, it is important for you to be in class and prepared and committed to listening, thinking critically, and speaking. You should come prepared every day, meaning having read the assigned reading and prepared for any assignments due. I will be taking attendance daily.

## **Tardiness:**

Due to the nature of this course, tardiness is very disruptive. There will be many days when students are giving formal and informal presentations, and entering the room while they are speaking can be quite unnerving for speakers. Excessive tardiness will negatively impact your grade.

## **Preparation:**

You are responsible for all reading assignments, all material discussed in class, all handouts distributed in class, and all announcements made in class, including schedule changes. We will be writing in class, holding discussions, and giving presentations during the course of the semester. Students are expected to demonstrate professionalism in all of these activities. This includes being prepared to *answer* questions related to the reading, as well as being prepared to *ask* questions of clarification or about issues of interest, during class.

## Question of the Day / Voice and Diction Exercises:

"Question of the Day" and "Voice and Diction Exercises" are designed to provide you with regular classroom practice in the principles of effective public speaking. Most days, class will begin with one of these exercises, so it is crucial that you arrive on time. During the exercises, students will respond to a question posed to the class. Student generated suggestions will be solicited.

## Late Assignments and Make-up Policy:

Late assignments will not be accepted except in the most dire of circumstances. You are expected to attend class on the day you have assignments due. The only exceptions to this will be documented cases of extreme illness, death of a family member, or college or legal obligations. You will be expected to contact me within twenty-four hours of the class meeting and should return to class with the documentation. Even with documentation, you are not guaranteed the opportunity to make-up the missed assignment, and if you are, may do so with a grade penalty. If you are not able to make class when an assignment is due, I will request a digital copy be emailed to me before our assigned class meeting time. When you return, you should bring documentation for your absence as well as a hard copy of the assignment. I do not permit make-ups for in-class assignments.

## **Speech Policy:**

You are expected to come fully prepared for each speech day. All speeches that are assigned are scheduled to be presented on a given day. Because giving speeches takes class time, it is often difficult or impossible to find time for presenting late speeches. Please refer to the late assignment policy for questions about missed speeches. If you have specific questions or concerns regarding the policy, please speak with me privately about your situation.

#### **Quizzes:**

There will be weekly reading quizzes that will be made available on Blackboard. Each quiz will be made available one week before it is due and will need to be completed by 11pm on Friday. There are no make-ups for these quizzes.

## **Academic Integrity and Ethics:**

The decision to enter college and undertake advanced study is a choice that entails an important set of ethical commitments. One of these commitments is a mindfulness of plagiarism: knowing what it is and how to properly complete assignments competently and ethically. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any assignment found to be plagiarized or to come from plagiarized material will receive a grade of zero and the student will be reported to the Academic Dean and Student Services Dean where disciplinary action may be taken

#### **Disability:**

If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations cannot be provided until you provide written authorization from a DSP.

TRCC Disabilities Service Providers  Counseling & Advising Office  Room A-119		
<b>Matt Liscum</b> (860) 383-5240	<ul> <li>Physical Disabilities</li> <li>Sensory Disabilities</li> <li>Medical Disabilities</li> <li>Mental Health Disabilities</li> </ul>	
Chris Scarborough (860) 892-5751	<ul><li>Learning Disabilities</li><li>ADD/ADHD</li><li>Autism Spectrum</li></ul>	

## **Student Email:**

Your default email address is your college email address and this email address must be used for class-related communications. If you have not set up your email address yet, you will need to do this immediately. A secondary way I will be communicating with you is within our Blackboard course shell. If you have any questions regarding use of college email or Blackboard, you can contact the IT Help Desk at (860) 885-2334.

## **Class Cancellation Policy:**

In the event that I am not able to attend class, you should find a note posted outside our classroom door. If there is no note but I am not in the classroom, please wait ten minutes before concluding that class has been cancelled. In the event of cancellation, I will make every effort to notify you by email ahead of time. For instructions on class cancellation due to inclement weather, please consult your student handbook, which can be accessed online through the TRCC website.

## Sign up for MyCommNet Alert!

myCommNet Alert is a system that sends text messages and emails to anyone signed up in the event of a campus emergency. Additionally, TRCC sends messages when the college is delayed or closed due to weather.

All students are encouraged to sign up for myCommNet Alert. A tutorial is available on the Educational Technology and Distance Learning Students page of the web site. This tutorial can be found at:

http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/div\_it/educationaltechnology/Tutorials/myCommNetAlert/MIR3.html

COM K173: Spring 2013 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change. If there are any changes, you will be notified in class.

Week 1		Week 1		
(Jan 25)	Course Introduction			
Week 2 (Jan 28 – Feb 1)	Speech of Introduction An Introduction to Rhetoric & Communication Controlling Nervousness	Read: Chapter 1 Quiz: Deadline is 2/1 at 11pm		
Week 3 (Feb 4 – 8)	How-to Speech Planning Your First Speech	Read: Chapter 2 Due: Speech Outline Quiz: Deadline is 2/8 at 11pm		
Week 4 (Feb 11 - 15)	Speaking with Visual Aids Topic Selection & Strategy	Read: Chapters 6 & 15 Quiz: Deadline is 2/15 at 11pm		
Week 5 (Feb 18 - 22)	Organizing the Speech (No classes on 2/18 for President's Day)	Read: Chapters 9 & 10 Quiz: Deadline is 2/22 at 11pm		
Week 6 (Feb 25 – Mar 1)	Multimedia Presentation (No class meeting on 3/1)	Due: Speech Outline Due: Speech Reviews on Blackboard		
Week 7 (Mar 4 – 8)	Researching the Speech Outlining the Speech	Read: Chapters 7 & 11 Quiz: Deadline is 3/8 at 11pm		
Week 8 (Mar 11 - 15)	Group Presentations	Due: Speech Outline & Bibliography		
Week 9 (Mar 18 - 22)	Spring Break – No Classes			
Week 10 (Mar 25 – 29)	Analyzing Your Audience Informative Speaking (No classes on 3/29 for Spring Recess)	Read: Chapter 5 & 13 Quiz: Deadline is 3/29 at 11pm		
Week 11 (Apr 1 – 5)	Presenting the Speech Listening Critically	Read: Chapter 3 & 4 Quiz: Deadline is 4/5 at 11pm		
Week 12 (Apr 8 – 12)	Forensic Speech	Due: Speech Outline		
Week 13 (Apr 15 – 19)	Persuasive Speaking Reasoning	Read: Chapters 8 & 14 Quiz: Deadline is 4/19 at 11pm		
Week 14 (Apr 22 - 26)	Achieving Style Through Language Online MLK Activity (No class meeting on April 24 & 26)	Read: Chapter 12 Due: MLK Activity on Blackboard.		
Week 15 (Apr 29 – May 3)	Occasions for Public Speaking Deliberative Speech Workshop	Read: Chapter 16 Due: Rough Draft Outline Quiz: Deadline is 5/3 at 11pm		

Week 16	Deliberative Speeches	Due: Speech Outline
( <i>May 6 - 10</i> ) Week 17 ( <i>May 13 - 17</i> )	Deliberative Speeches	Due: Speech Outline
Week 18 (May 20)	Closing Thoughts	

<sup>\*</sup>May 13<sup>th</sup> is the last day to withdraw from classes and May 20<sup>th</sup> is the last day of classes. May 21<sup>st</sup> is a potential Make-up/Supplemental session.