Course Description: Principles and practices of public speaking. (transfers as TCCN SPCH 1315)

Prerequisites: none


This text is only available at the on-campus bookstore of Kampus Korner. Do not buy a used book or rent. Pages will be removed from this book.

Required Materials: You will need to provide a flash drive for this class. It should be a minimum 4 gb and used only for this class.

Course Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes: At the end of this class, students will be able to

- research information for inclusion in their speeches
- utilize appropriate outlining
- develop informative, persuasive, and special occasion speeches
- employ appropriate delivery skills

Core Area Objectives:

- Communication: students will apply the basic tenets of good public speaking through the development and presentation of three individual speeches and a group presentation, this will include clearly implementing the parts of a speech, the creation of a clear message and appropriate delivery; visual communication skills will also be demonstrated through the creation of, and appropriate use of, visual aids; written communication skills will be demonstrated through the completion of the listener report.
- Teamwork: students will practice teamwork skills while working together to create a group presentation. Students will also evaluate the success with which their teammates enact these same skills.
- Critical Thinking: Students will also demonstrate an understanding of reasoning through the creation of their motivated sequence speeches as they explain the problem, determine its causes and select an appropriate solution. They will also demonstrate an
understanding of critical thinking through a segment of the exam that deals with reasoning and tests of evidence.

- **Personal responsibility:** students will demonstrate an understanding of personal responsibility through the development and presentation of a persuasive speech detailing a choice and its consequences as well as through a portion of the exam which assesses their knowledge of ethical issues including plagiarism and First Amendment issues.

**Class Policies:**

- **Academic Honesty:** Plagiarism, or academic dishonesty of any form, will not be tolerated. A grade of 0 will be recorded for any attempts of cheating. This includes data, research and information obtained via the internet. This is a serious issue and will be reported to administration. You are required to read the communication department’s academic integrity policy, sign the consent form and turn it in within the first week of class. You can find the policy on our class’ blackboard site under content.

- **Disability Accommodation:** Lamar University accommodates students with disabilities pursuant to federal and state law and the University’s commitment to equal educational opportunities. Students with special needs should notify the professor at the beginning of the semester so accommodations can be made. Contact the office of services for students with disabilities (409-880-8026) for additional information.

- **Drop:** It is your responsibility to make sure that you are officially enrolled in this course. If, at any point, you decide not to participate in this course, it is your responsibility to officially drop or withdraw from the course. Failure to do so may result in a failing grade. Drops after the official date may be subject to financial penalty.

- All assignments must be fully completed and turned in on time. All assignments must be typed. Assignments that are not typed are subject to a 1 grade reduction. Late assignments, if accepted, will be subject to a minimum 1 grade reduction.

- **Attendance:** You are expected to attend class regularly. **It is possible to fail this class on the basis of attendance only!!!** After three absences, your grade will be reduced. Missing more than 25% of the class meetings leads to mandatory failure. If you are not able to attend class, particularly if it is a performance day, inform me prior to class.

- **No make-ups for in-class activities or the exams.**

- You are responsible for all class assignments. These are found in the textbook. Many of them require that you remove the page from the book and give it to me. Departmental policy states that I cannot accept photocopied pages. You are also responsible for noting changes that I make to the written assignments (most often these involve time requirements).
• Adjustments may be made to assignments (alteration of time limits, inclusion of visual aids, etc.). These will be announced in class, and you are responsible for being aware of them.
• Outlines and references (required for all speeches) must be typed.
• Work submitted late will be subject to a minimum grade reduction of ten percent.
• If you are late, do not enter the room while another student is speaking.
• Do not talk with other students during speeches or lecture.
• You are required to complete all speeches and exams in order to pass the class.

Assignments:
• **Listener report**: You must attend an outside presentation and complete a critique of that presentation. Guidelines are in the textbook. 100 points
• **Exams**: There are two exams. Test one is multiple choice. Test two is multiple choice and has an additional section dedicated to critical thinking. 100 points each
• **Informative speech**: a basic speech in which you teach the class about something. 4-6 minutes. 75 points
• **Persuasive speech**: using the motivated sequence you will examine a situation, its causes, possible solutions, select a solution and explore the repercussions of that solution. 5-7 minutes. 150 points
• **Group project**: working with a group, you will develop and make a group presentation. Students will also evaluate one another on their employment of group skills. Each speaker should talk for at least 3-5 minutes. 125 presentation, 50 points peer evaluation
• **A fourth presentation** will be selected by your instructor from a list containing informative, persuasive and special occasion speeches. Time to be determined, but all versions will be at least 3 minutes long. 100 points
• **Self Evaluations**: you will complete two self evaluations after viewing your recorded speeches. Forms are in the textbook. 50 points each.
• **Instructor discretionary points**: your instructor will assign another 100 points worth of work.

Grading Scale:

1000-900 A  
899-800 B  
799-700 C  
699-600 D  
Below 600- failure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week One</td>
<td>Overview of the importance of public speaking</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Two</td>
<td>Listening skills and confidence</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Three</td>
<td>Audience analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Four</td>
<td>Research and supporting materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Five</td>
<td>Topic selection and main parts of a speech</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Six</td>
<td>Organization patterns</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>Using visual and presentation aids</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Eight</td>
<td>Delivery skills</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Nine</td>
<td>Informative speaking</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Ten</td>
<td>Persuasive speaking and reasoning skills</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Eleven</td>
<td>Group presentation Skills</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Twelve</td>
<td>Special occasion speaking</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Thirteen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Speeches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Fourteen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Examination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This schedule is a guideline only. It is subject to change as necessary.