

CMST 2060 - Public Speaking – Fall 2017

Section 31 – TTh 7:30 AM – Coates 234
Section 38 – TTh 9:00 AM – Coates 103
Section 48 – TTh 12:00 PM – Coates 218
Section 57 – TTh 3:00 PM – Coates 237

Instructor: Nicole Costantini, Ph.D.

Office: 136A Coates Hall

Office Phone: 225-578- 6681

Email: ncostal@lsu.edu

Office Hours: TTh 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM and TTh 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM, or by appointment

Required Text: Lucas, Stephen E. (2012) *The Art of Public Speaking* (12th ed). McGraw Hill.

Course Description & Goals:

CMST 2060 is a *General Education Humanities Course* designed to familiarize students with the study of public speaking. The act of public speaking is the culmination (and often the beginning) of a long process of critical dialogue between oneself, language, and the imagined responses of the audience. In other words, it takes being confident in who you are, what you want to say, how you are going to say it, who you want to say it to, and why you should say anything at all. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of public speaking.

As a General Education Humanities Course, CMST 2060 will enable students to demonstrate an understanding of historical, cultural, and philosophical complexity that supports sophisticated discourse.

As a result of this course, students should:

- Understand the principles of rhetoric and effectively utilize them in crafting well researched, reasoned, and appealing speeches.
- Choose topics for public speaking that are timely, relevant, and adaptable given varying situations in which the message may be delivered, and for different audiences.
- Effectively and critically evaluate message/speech content and delivery, both when examining one's own work as well as that of others.
- Understand and utilize the verbal and nonverbal elements essential for exemplary speech delivery.
- Analyze and discuss speeches of historical, political and social significance.
- Examine one's own biases as listeners, classroom community members, and consumers of information.

Course Policies:

Attendance: Attendance is a mandatory part of this class and will count as part of your participation grade. I do understand that sometimes things happen and you will, on occasion, miss a class. That being said, I am allowing you to have two “free” absences that will not detract from your grade. I suggest saving these absences for moments of importance i.e. illness or family emergency. If you miss more than two classes, points will be subtracted from your overall participation grade. University excused absences will be the only exception to this rule.

Students are also required to be in class on **all designated speech days**. It is equally as important to be an audience member for your classmates as it is to deliver a speech. If you are absent on any speech delivery days without speaking to me beforehand, you will be marked down a full letter grade on your speech.

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Participation: All students are expected to participate in class discussions, activities, and workshops. We will explore varying facets of culture and communication, and each of you will bring your own unique experiences and views into the mix. I expect that each student will be respectful of their peers – this means that each student should take care to use language and actions that are comfortable and inclusive for everyone. This also means that you should respect each person's learning process.

Part of your participation in class will include your role as an audience member. This means that you will be present to provide your undivided attention to all in-class speeches. You will also be assigned a partner for peer evaluations – you will write a 1 page response to each of your partner's speeches. Be positive while working with your classmates – offer feedback in a way that is constructive rather than overly critical.

Cell Phones/Laptops/Tablet Devices- The use of cell phones are strictly prohibited in our class sessions. If your cell phone rings during class, I reserve the right to answer it. While I understand that texting has become largely integrated into our communication practices, it is a distraction in class. If you are caught texting, you will lose participation credit for that day. This is not something I will announce in front of the class, I will simply make a note in my records. There will be times where you may want to take notes in class on a laptop or tablet, and you are welcome to do so. If I notice that you are using a device for anything other than notetaking, I will ask you to not bring it to class again. Technology of all kinds should be absent from our speech delivery days.

Late Work: All students are expected to turn in assignments on the days that they are due. I do not accept late work. If you know in advance that there is an event or situation that will cause you to not be able to turn in an assignment on its due date, please talk to me. I will not be able to help you if I'm made aware of the situation after it occurs. I also understand that sometimes events occur that are outside of your control. I will only accept work after the due date with proper documentation – i.e. a doctor's note, a death certificate, etc.

Discussing Grades: Any questions or concerns that you may have about your grades should be addressed in person. I prefer that you come to office hours (or make an appointment with me) for these discussions. You can email me about setting up an appointment or to give me a heads up about coming to office hours, but do not send questions about your grade electronically. Emailed questions will receive the automated response of "please come to my office hours to address your concerns."

We will have a 24/7 policy for discussing grades on major assignments. This means that there will be a 24 hour grace period for you to reflect on your grade before we can discuss it. After the 24 hour grace period, you have 7 days to discuss that particular assignment with me. Once the 7 day period has passed, all grade discussion for that assignment will be over.

After many semesters of hearing this phrase, I have put a ban on the following sentence and any variation of it: "...but I need an A in this class to _____." While I do take sympathy with all of the phrases that could fill in the blank, your grade is your responsibility and pleading with me at the end of the semester is not going to help you. I want each of you to succeed and will do my best to assist you. That being said, all grades in this class will be based on merit. It is your responsibility to complete assignments, keep up with the reading, participate in class, etc. It is also your responsibility to keep up with your grades over the course of the semester. We will have much more productive conversations if we talk consistently during the semester than we would if you only come to see me at the end.

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If there is an outside situation that is affecting your performance in our class, please talk to me about it as early as possible. The earlier that we can make accommodations, the better off you will be; it is much harder to deal with a situation after the fact.

Speeches: During speech delivery weeks, you will bring in two copies of your final script/outline. You will turn in one copy to me on the first day of speeches and use the second for your delivery. These copies should be identical. You are not permitted to make any changes to your final speech after you've submitted it to me; therefore it is your responsibility to craft and revise your speech prior to turning it in.

I will bring a sign-up sheet to class one week prior to the beginning of speech week. You will be able sign up for a slot that day. If you are not present to pick your slot, I will assign you one.

As stated above, students are required to be in class on all designated speech days. If you are not in class on the day you're expected to present, you will receive a zero on that speech. If you are late to class and miss your assigned slot, you will be allowed to deliver the speech at the end of class if time permits (this will result in points being deducted from your grade). If you miss your slot and there is no time remaining at the end of class, you will receive a zero for the speech. It is your responsibility to be there on time and prepared for your delivery. However, I do understand that things happen - I will be willing to amend this policy only in extenuating circumstances where proper documentation can be provided – i.e. a doctor's note, a death certificate, etc.

If you know that there is a conflict with any date you are assigned to deliver a speech, you may work with your classmates to swap dates as long as they're willing. Please do everything in your power to make sure you communicate any issues with speech delivery dates in advance so that the proper arrangements can be made.

Standards of Work- All work done outside of class is expected to be typed and double spaced. I will not accept handwritten homework or assignments.

Please use the following heading on each assignment:

Name
Due Date
Section
Title of Assignment

All work using citations should be completed in MLA format.

All emails should be written in a professional manner – this means that each email should have a subject line, a greeting and your name at the end.

Plagiarism- There will be a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. All students are expected to do complete their own work and properly cite all sources used in any assignment/speech/project/homework. Unless otherwise stated, all students are expected to turn in their own individual work – the class will be notified of any group assignments. Please refer to LSU policies regarded plagiarism, which can be found here: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/instruction/plagiarism2.html>

****If you have any questions or are unsure of what an act of plagiarism is, please do not hesitate to ask.**

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The Americans with Disabilities Act and Rehabilitation Act of 1973: If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a Coordinator in the Office of Disability Affairs (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your accommodation letter, please meet with me at some time during the first two weeks of class to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

Sexual Harassment and Misconduct: LSU's TITLE IX policy makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here for defining, reporting, and resolving sexual misconduct cases here:

http://www.lsu.edu/hrm/policies_and_procedures/Title_IX_item71081.php and here:

http://www.lsu.edu/hrm/policies_and_procedures/Title_IX_Resources_item71342.php

Grades:

Our class will be graded on a points system. Your grade will be based on the following:

- Research Participation Requirement– 30 points
- Speech Reviews – 90 points
- Commemorative Speech – 100 points
- Introduction Speech – 50 points
- Final – 100 points
- Midterm Exam- 100 points
- Participation – 110 points
- Activity Speeches – 120 points
- Informative Speech – 150 Points
- Persuasive Speech – 150 Points

The grade scale is as follows:

A+ 1000-970, A 969-930, A- 929-900, B+ 800-870, B 869-830, B- 829-800, C+ 799-770, C 769-730, C- 729-700, D+ 699-670, D 669- 630, D- 629-600, F 599>

Research Participation Requirement:

The material you will learn in this course is the product of research. The goal of the research learning requirement is to help you to gain knowledge about the process by which scholars attempt to understand human behavior. All students taking CMST 1061, 2010, 1150, and 2060 must complete a research learning requirement. For each course in which a student is enrolled, he or she must complete 2 research credits. You can fulfill your requirement by:

1. Participating in research studies conducted in the Department of Communication Studies. All studies that last between 0 and 30 minutes will count as one credit. Any study that lasts between 31 and 60 minutes will count as two credits. Each study will specify the number of credits a student can earn for completion. There will be several survey and experimental studies conducted throughout the semester. These studies are held on campus at various times and in various locations or are administered through online survey software. All available studies are approved by the Institutional Review Board at LSU.

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2. Participating in an organized departmental function such as debate or public speaking

Competition. Only departmental sanctioned events will count toward a student's research learning requirement; thus, no credit will be given for a student attending an outside speaker or performance.

3. Serving as a research assistant for a faculty member in the Department of Communication

Studies. The number of units and requirements for those units will be set by the researcher and either accepted or rejected by the student. The research learning requirement is worth 3% of your total grade; you will receive your 3% if you accumulate 2 research credits during the given semester.

Please note that all research learning credits must be completed and allocated by Tuesday, November 28, at 11:59 PM (the Tuesday prior to the start of the concentrated study period).

ALL available options to earn credit are posted on an electronic bulletin board located at <https://lsuhumanresearch.sona-systems.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=/>. When you go to this website, you will first have to request an account. Once you have secured an account, you will be able to log in and see the options available to you for your various CMST courses.

Please note that **various ways to fulfill your research learning requirement will appear on this bulletin board throughout the semester.** You are encouraged to check the system on a regular basis for current credit options that fit your interests as well as your schedule.

It is very important that when you sign-up for a credit option that you attend that option or cancel your sign up. **Failure to show up twice during one semester will result in your access to the system being restricted and you being unable to complete your research learning requirement.** Valid excuses for failing to cancel a sign up and missing a credit option are the same as those found in LSU Policy Statement 31.

Detailed instructions on how to request an account and to navigate the system are posted on the homepage of the Department of Communication Studies, <http://www.lsu.edu/cmst>. Click on RESOURCES and RESEARCH PARTICIPATION SYSTEM. Scroll down to find the document titled "RPS – Instructions for Students."

You are encouraged to **create an account during the first week of classes** so that any problems that arise can be remedied before it is too late. If you have questions about this requirement or the online system that keeps track of credits, please email researchadmin@lsu.edu.