

CMST 2060: Public Speaking

MWF- Spring 2014

Instructor: Mollye DeLoach

Office: 151C Coates Hall

Office Hours:

- Monday: 12:30-2:30
- Tuesday: 10:30-11:30
- Wednesday: 1:30-2:30
- or by appointment

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Course Description:

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 rhetorical 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.

Course Goals:

As a result of this course, students should:

1. Understand the principles of rhetoric and effectively utilize them in crafting well researched, reasoned, and appealing speeches.
2. 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.
3. Effectively and critically evaluate message/speech content and delivery, both when examining one's own work as well as that of others.
4. Understand and utilize the verbal and nonverbal elements essential for exemplary speech delivery.
5. Analyze and discuss speeches of historical, political and social significance.

Required Course Materials:

Crick, Nathan. (2013). *Rhetorical Public Speaking* (2nd ed). Boston: Pearson.

*The book, if purchased from the LSU Bookstore, will be accompanied by an online code. You will need this code to access the online resources we will be utilizing this semester.

General Education Statement:

CMST 2060 may be used to partially fulfill General Education requirements in the humanities area. This course introduced students to the fundamental concepts of communication. The areas of rhetoric, performance, and communication theory each provide insights into human interaction. Human beings create messages that enable us to express, criticize, and even negotiate our values – our core ideals about what we consider intrinsically right or wrong that show us how to conduct our lives.

In this course, we will explore how we, as human beings, create socially significant messages which help us shape our identity, persuade others to take action, and shed light on the value systems of our culture. We will learn how individuals create and use messages to generate common meaning with others, to facilitate cooperative action, to perform social and cultural roles, and to reinforce or alter prevailing attitudes in our society.

This course will provide us with a variety of lenses through which to view and examine the communication process. At the end of the semester, we should have a richer understanding of the similarities and differences between the areas of communication and have acquired practical knowledge of the communication process itself.

Considering a Major or Minor in Communication Studies?

Business leaders and other professionals recognize the importance of developing communication skills. Such skills are beneficial to careers in business, government, law, social services, and the arts. Communication courses help students gain practical experience in such areas as public speaking, group decision-making, interpersonal relationships, performance, film, and media arts.

A major in Communication Studies requires 36 hours including 12 hours of core classes and 12 hours at the 3000 or 4000 level. A minor requires 15 hours with one core class and 6 hours at the 3000 level or above.

More information is available at www.lsu.edu/cmst. Or, you may consult our undergraduate advisor, Kent Filbel (135 Coates Hall).

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act and Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states, "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.”

Policies:

Plagiarism

There is a **no-tolerance** policy for plagiarism. If plagiarism is found, I will report it to the Dean of Students. According to LSU’s website, “Plagiarism is an extremely serious violation of academic integrity. The *Code of Student Conduct* defines plagiarism as ‘the unacknowledged inclusion, in work submitted for credit, of someone else’s words, ideas, or data.’ (8.1-C.6) Plagiarism can occur in a myriad of forms and media. Although most commonly associated with writing, all types of scholarly work, including computer code, music, scientific data and analysis, and electronic publications can be plagiarized.” Make sure you cite your sources and give credit where its due when turning in any assignment.

Absences/Late Work:

E-mail me ahead of time if you’re going to miss a speech day. Excusable reasons for missing are, to be frank, few and far between, but include unexpected sickness **proven** by the presentation of a doctor’s note, family emergency **proven** through presentation of an obituary, etc., or a university-sanctioned activity like a sporting event **proven** by a note from an advisor or an instructor. Under these circumstances, I will work out a way for you to make up the speech (either on another day during the same round, or during my office hours in front of myself and other Public Speaking instructors). Make-up speeches are reserved for **students who are in good standing** in the course, provide me with an **outline of their speech within twenty-four hours** of missing it, and **schedule a make-up within one week**.

Missed speeches that are not accompanied by proof of excused absence and an outline may be made up within the week they are missed for the **maximum grade of a C**.

Other major course assignments will be due in-class or on Moodle. If you can’t make the in-class or Moodle deadline, you can turn the assignment in for **increasingly fewer points** for 24 hours following the due date. After that point, work will no longer be accepted without proof of extenuating circumstances (see above).

Absolutely no late work will be accepted 24 hours after the deadline.

Since most assignments are due online, you should not run into printer issues. However, if you do run into internet connection issues, be aware that campus has wireless internet 24 hours a day, and computers are readily available to you in the library.

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken everyday, and your attendance is expected. However, points are not awarded or taken away for class attendance. There are penalties for work that is not turned in on time (see individual assignments for late work penalties). Reading questions cannot be made up (for exceptions, see "Reading Questions"), and you must be present to earn points. Some lecture material does not come up directly in your assigned reading, and you will be tested on lecture and course readings. **There are no exceptions to these rules.**

E-mail:

E-mail is the best way to communicate with me. I check it very often, but if you e-mail me with a question about an assignment or other concern, please allow at least 24 hours for a reply. If you e-mail me the night before an assignment is due, there is no guarantee I will read or respond to your e-mail before class time. There is also no guarantee that I will check my e-mail over the weekend.

*When e-mailing me, I expect you to **be professional**.

*Please put CMST 2060 and your section number in the subject line.

*I **WILL NOT** discuss your grades via e-mail or phone, this must be done in person to protect your privacy.

Moodle:

Please check Moodle on a daily basis for announcements and assignments. Remember, your syllabus, assignments, additional lecture notes, quizzes, and other information will be posted there. It is your responsibility to gain access to this information.

Also, please keep a check on your posted grades throughout the semester, and let me know **immediately** if there has been an error in grading.

Cell Phone:

You do not need a cell phone in this classroom. Please put it on silent or turn it off for class time. I will have my cell phone on and available to me in the event of a university-wide emergency. If you are found on your cell phone, you will be asked to put it away. Repeated use of your cell phone during class time, will result of the instructor asking you to leave. If you are seen utilizing your cell phone during speech days, you will automatically lose 20 points on your speech.

Grade Appeals:

If you feel as if any assignments were inaccurately graded, you are more than welcome to discuss these issues with me. Do not e-mail me in regards of grades on your assignment. I will only meet with you in person to discuss your grade on an assignment.

Final Grade:

Your final grade in this course is based on the total number of points you have **earned** over the course of the semester. Your final grade is based **solely** on the completion of the course requirements. **Extra credit work (including written exercises, papers, activities, presentations, etc.) to raise a grade will not be given under any circumstances.** A final course grade will be changed only in the case of a calculation error.

Course Content:

○ Reading Questions (34 RQ – 4(drops) = 32 RQ X 3=	96 points
○ Speeches	470 points
○ Introduction Speech	
▪ Introduction Speech	40 points
▪ Introduction Transcription	10 points
▪ Introduction Self-Evaluation	15 points
○ Enrichment Speech	
▪ Enrichment Speech	90 points
▪ Enrichment Topic Proposal	5 points
▪ Enrichment Outline	45 points
▪ Enrichment Note cards	10 points
▪ Enrichment Colleague Critique	15 points
○ Advocacy Speech	
▪ Advocacy Speech	90 points
▪ Advocacy Topic Proposal	5 points
▪ Advocacy Outline	45 points
▪ Advocacy Note cards	10 points
▪ Advocacy Colleague Critique	15 points
○ Commemoration Speech	
▪ Commemoration Speech	50 points
▪ Commemoration transcription	20 points
▪ Commemoration Topic Proposal	5 points
○ Media Share	
○ 5 assignments X 24 points each	120 points
○ Outside Speaker Assignment	30 points
○ Exams	254 points
○ Midterm Exam	104 points
○ Final Exam	150 points
○ <u>Research Participation Requirement</u>	<u>30 points</u>
Total	1,000 points

Reading Questions

Although termed Reading Questions, the in-class daily assignment can entail anything from a question regarding the assigned reading, a reflection on the in-class activity, current assignment, or a colleague critique. The assignment due for each Reading Question will be posted on Moodle. Points will not be awarded for simply attending class, so please make sure you are prepared. There are NO MAKE-UP READING QUESTIONS ALLOWED. There are multiple dropped reading questions to accommodate illness, sudden emergencies, car trouble, parking issues, etc. Exceptions to the policy are on a case by case basis, and must be discussed with the instructor. Exceptions to this policy include: university excused absences, extended leave due to family emergency or illness.

Introductory Speech:

For your first speech, you will share a narrative (story) about yourself. This story may be humorous or serious, and this speech will be a way for you to introduce yourself to your classmates, while learning how to tell a story clearly, coherently, and in an entertaining and expressive manner. *This speech should be 3-4 minutes long.* You will need to turn in an outline the Sunday before speeches begin (via Moodle.)

Enrichment Speech:

For your second speech, you will prepare a speech that both informs and entertains. Your task is to pick a topic that we're interested in, but may not know much about. This speech will require research on the topic, and prepare a speech for the college classroom audience. *The speech should be 5-6 minutes.* You will need to turn in an outline and bibliography the Sunday before speeches begin (via Moodle). You must cite at least three researched sources in your speech.

Advocacy Speech:

For your third speech, you will utilize persuasive techniques to craft a speech to a "generally sympathetic audience to challenge the recalcitrant beliefs, attitudes, and values of a larger spectator public" (Crick, 53). Your task is to advocate for a particular stance on an issue, object, individual, action, or event. Your goal is to advocate for a particular stance on the issue. Keep in mind, the goal is not to ostracize others' points of view, but to investigate an issue from a particular point of view or stance. All topics must be approved by the instructor. Your goal is to persuade each member of your audience to rally around that idea, and do something to take it public. That is, the audience can directly act themselves, or they can ask others to take action. The goal of this speech is to make a statement, to inspire your audience to action. *The speech should be 6-7 minutes.* You must cite at least three researched sources in your speech, and turn in your outline and bibliography the Sunday before speeches begin. You will also turn in your note cards the day your speech is due.

Commemoration Speech:

Your final speech will be a commemoration speech that addresses a specific topic that exemplifies memorable or exemplary values. This speech is more performative in nature, so I encourage you to be creative and think outside of the box. Costumes and props are not necessary, but highly encouraged. Also, in this assignment you are free to transcend the realm of reality to a certain degree. This creative and humorous sort of approach is acceptable. *This speech should be 3-4 minutes long.* An outline will need to be turned in on the day of the speech.

Media Share:

This class will be utilizing the online video forum Media Share. Access to this interface is required, which can be purchased with the required textbook.

You will be recording yourself (via web-cam or other recording device) to complete assignments to post on our course's forum. Be mindful that the website is in association with Louisiana State University, and any inappropriate material posted to the forum will not be tolerated.

More details on how to register and utilize Media Share will be discussed during the first days of class.

Outside Speaker Assignment

For this assignment, you'll write a short essay that analyzes and evaluates an event involving public speech. There are plenty of opportunities to hear lectures or public talks on campus and in the community. You might also consider attending a public hearing on a controversial issue, in which everyday citizens are invited to express their viewpoints and advocate specific policies or actions. Or, you could attend a public demonstration, if it will include speeches that attempt to raise awareness of an issue or influence action. For the purposes of this assignment, the event cannot be a fee-based event (such as a business seminar) or a non-event instance of speaking, such as a church sermon or a regular classroom lecture (which occur on a regular basis and have less of a rhetorical exigency). You must attend in person. If you are not sure whether an event fits the assignment, check with the instructor.

Midterm & Final Exam:

Both exams will test your knowledge acquired throughout the semester utilizing T/F, short answer, discussion, matching, and M/C questions. The Midterm will be taken during a class period, while the final is scheduled. See the University Registrar for dates and times of final exams. Both exams will occur in 109 Coates Hall.

Research 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.

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 April 29 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 <http://lsuhumanresearch.sona-systems.com/>. 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 once

logged in can be found on the homepage of the Department of Communication Studies. Go to <http://www.lsu.edu/cmst>. Then click on RESEARCH and STUDIES. 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.