

CMST 2060 Public Speaking Syllabus

Summer 2015

Instructor Information

Instructor

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Email

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Office Location & Hours

By appointment

General Information

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.

Expectations and Goals

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:

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.

Course Requirements

Required Text

Lucas, Stephen E. (2012). *The Art of Public Speaking* (11th ed). McGraw Hill.

Additional Requirements

YouTube account (Vimeo is acceptable as well) for uploading speeches.

Assignments

Students will be graded on their work on:

- **Four speeches.** The speeches will vary in length and purpose. Details about each speech, including the grading sheet, will be available on Moodle at least a week before the speech is due. The first three speeches will be video recorded and uploaded to YouTube, with the link posted on the set discussion board on Moodle to allow for peer reviews. The fourth speech will be delivered in class.
- **Midterm and final examinations.** The examinations will consist of questions on the textbook and Moodle material (50 questions each, multiple choice, scantron B, study guides will be provided).

- **Participation in class activities.** As this is in large part an online class, activities will include peer review of classmates' online speeches, and being an attentive audience for in-class speech deliveries. For each of the peer review assignments, each student will be assigned three speeches by their classmates. A peer review form will be provided. Each student will watch and review three speeches and submit the reviews to me via email as attachment. This will be done three times in the semester, for speeches of introduction, information, and persuasion.
- **Other assignments.** During the first four weeks, when the class is exclusively online, every Friday we will have a quiz on the reading material (both book chapters and readings/videos posted on Moodle) from that week. The quiz will consist of 25 multiple-choice questions. It will be available on Fridays at the end of each week (with the exception of week 4, when the quiz will be available on Thursday as Friday is the Independence Day holiday). Once started, you will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz. The quiz cannot be retaken. Each quiz will become unavailable on Friday at 6 p.m. Later in the semester, we will have a group exercise in storytelling as an important part of public speaking. These activities together carry 200 points.

Final grades will be determined based on scores earned in these assignments. All work must be done during the semester and not made up after the fact.

Course Assignment	Percentage of the Grade	Maximum Points
Introduction Speech	10%	100
Informative Speech	10%	100
Persuasive Speech	10%	100
Demonstration Speech	10%	100
Storytelling	10%	100
Class Activities	10%	100
Quizzes	10%	100
Midterm Exam	15%	150
Final Exam	15%	150
Total	100%	1000 points

Grading Scale

The final grade will be determined based on the usual scale: 90%-100% (900-1000 points) = A; 80%-89% (800-899 points) = B; 70%-79% (700-799 points) = C; 60%-69% (600-699 points) = D, below 60% (below 600 points) = F.

Classroom Decorum

As this class largely consists of speeches, in-class exercises, and group discussion, please respect the work and the presentations of your classmates.

- Watch/Listen to speeches and presentations. Show support. You will be required at one point or the other to provide feedback to your peers.
- Controversial subjects may arise. Be open-minded about topics of your classmates' speeches and considerate of their delivery.

Course Schedule (Tentative)

Week 1 Assignments

Review the syllabus (with special attention to requirements, assignments, schedule, and the summary of course assignments)

Read book chapters 1, 9, 10, and Moodle material

Take the quiz on the week's assignments (available on Moodle Friday, 06/12)

Record a brief (up to 1 minute) self-introduction, upload it to YouTube and post the link on Moodle

Week 2 Assignments

Review the PowerPoint presentation on speech structure

Read book chapters 4, 11, pages 354-356 of chapter 18, and Moodle material

Take the quiz on the week's assignments (available on Moodle Friday, 06/19)

Introduction Speeches due Friday, 06/19

Week 3 Assignments

Read book chapters 5, 12, and 15. and Moodle material

Take the quiz on the week's assignments (available on Moodle Friday, 06/26)

Peer review of assigned introduction speeches due

Information Speeches due Friday, 06/26

Week 4 Assignments

Read book chapters 6 and 13, and Moodle material

Take the quiz on the week's assignments (available on Moodle Thursday, 07/02)

Peer review of assigned information speeches due

Demonstration Speeches due Friday, 07/03

Week 5 Assignments

Midterm exam Monday, 07/06, in-class

Read book chapters 7 and 8, and Moodle material

Peer review of assigned demonstration speeches due

Week 6 Assignments

Read book chapters 16 and 17

Persuasive Speeches, in-class

Week 7 Assignments

Group storytelling assignment, in-class

Week 8 Assignments

Final exam Thursday, 07/30, 1:30-3:30, in-class

Check the next page for the summary of course assignments and their respective points.

SUMMARY OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Use this sheet to keep record of your total points earned for this course:

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS	DUE DATE	POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS EARNED
Class activities (100 points/10%)			
Week 1 self-introduction video	06/12	25	_____
Week 2 Introduction speech peer reviews	06/26	25	_____
Week 3 Informative speech peer reviews	07/02	25	_____
Week 4 Demonstration speech peer reviews	07/10	25	_____
Quizzes (100 points/10%)			
Week 1 Moodle quiz	06/12	25	_____
Week 2 Moodle quiz	06/19	25	_____
Week 3 Moodle quiz	06/26	25	_____
Week 4 Moodle quiz	07/02	25	_____
Speeches and other assignments (500 points/50%)			
Introduction speech	06/19	100	_____
Information speech	06/26	100	_____
Demonstration speech	07/03	100	_____
Persuasive speech	07/17	100	_____
Storytelling	07/24	100	_____
Exams (300 points/30%)			
Midterm exam	07/06	150	_____
Final exam	07/30	150	_____
Total points		1000	_____

Additional Information and Resources

Plagiarism

There will be no tolerance for plagiarism. You are to assume that all assignments in this course are individual assignments unless explicit instructions are provided for a group project. Any student found to have presented material not their own (either downloaded from the internet or written by another student) will immediately be reported to the Dean of Students. The Internet has made plagiarism very easy and very tempting. Hundreds of sites offer papers, research, writing, and editing. The ease with which such material is available over the Internet does not lessen the seriousness of claiming material from the Internet as your own. See the LSU policies on plagiarism here: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/instruction/plagiarism2.html>.

Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be allowed.

Missed Speeches and Exams

If you know that you will miss a scheduled exam due to a university-approved absence, please speak to me before the exam date so we can make appropriate arrangements. If you have an excused absence, accompanied by a note describing the date a reason of your absence, you can make up a missed speech or midterm exam within one week of its date. No make-ups will be allowed after this time and zero (0) points will be given for that assignment.

A brief make-up period will be allowed for speeches and midterm exam missed due to an unexcused absence, with every day between the original speech/exam date and the make-up date carrying a 10% penalty to the speech/exam grade.

Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act and the 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 can be arranged." After you receive the accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

Do you have a major?

Business leaders and other professionals recognize the importance of developing communication skills and analysis. Alan Greenspan, for example, stated, "To succeed, you will soon learn, as I did, the importance of a solid foundation in the basics of education - literacy, both verbal and numerical, and communication skills." We hope this course contributes to your success.

To learn more about communication, you may want to major or minor in the Department of Communication Studies. The program explores how people sustain and change, experience, and make sense of the world through symbolic action. Students develop conceptual skills to analyze written, oral, and visual messages. Students gain practical experience in such areas such as public speaking, group decision-making, performance, and film. Such skills are elemental to careers in business, government, law, social services, and the 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 by contacting our undergraduate advisor Mr. Kent Filbel (kfilli@lsu.edu), whose hours are posted at his office, 135 Coates Hall.