

SYLLABUS
CMST 3060: ADVANCED PUBLIC SPEAKING
Department of Communication Studies, LSU

Advanced Public Speaking (3) Refined skill development in platform speaking. (LSU General Catalog, 2015-2016)

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Office Hours: MWF 1:30-2:20, 3:30-4:20; T/Th 10-noon, and by appointment

Course Description

CMST 3060 provides theory, practice and criticism in the preparation, delivery and analysis of public platform speaking. In this advanced course, you will further develop and refine skills in research, preparation, adaptation, delivery and evaluation. Upon completion of this course, you should be better able to prepare and deliver well-organized and effective speeches from more than one perspective. You should also develop skill in analyzing and evaluating speeches and other public discourse.

CMST 3060 provides a safe environment to challenge the abilities, knowledge, beliefs and worldviews of yourself and others. Honesty with oneself and a willingness to be critiqued for one's ideas holds out the promise of personal and intellectual growth, and is a practical requirement for the effectiveness of this course.

Texts

O'Hair, Dan, Rob Stewart and Hannah Rubenstein. A Speaker's Guidebook, 6th ed.

Course Objectives

As demonstrated by examinations, speeches, and exercises done during the semester, the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Deliver spoken language in a way that increases an audience's interest, understanding and memory;
- Recognize the ways in which audiences actively interpret and participate in speeches;
- Respect the audience's active role by crafting speeches which facilitate a lively and productive interaction with the listeners;
- Identify and apply strategies for gaining audience trust;
- Identify and apply methods for moving audiences emotionally;
- Construct, examine and challenge logical arguments and supporting materials;
- Develop a richer understanding of visual communication techniques; and
- Appreciate the relationship between communication, ethics and action.

Course Assignments

Students will be graded on oral presentation, written compositions, examinations and other specific assignments and exercises. This is the array of assignment emphases:

Exercises	100
Impromptus	100
Elevator speech	50
Interpretation of Poetry	50
Interpretation of Prose	50
Interpretation of Drama	50
Dialectical Advocate speech	200 (including the speech paper)
TED Talk	200 (including the speech paper)
Midterm	100
Final	<u>100</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

Grading Scale and Rationale

The final grade will be determined on a 1000-point scale. ***IMPORTANT!***: Ignore the percents on Moodle. Ignore them all semester. This course is based on points alone.

Coursework will be assessed within the increment grading scale, as follows:

A+ (Excellent)	[968-1000 pts. for the course]
A (Excellent)	[934-967 pts. for the course]
A- (Excellent)	[900-933 pts. for the course]
B+ (Noteworthy)	[867-899 pts. for the course]
B (Noteworthy)	[833-866 pts. for the course]
B- (Noteworthy)	[800-833 pts. for the course]
C+ (Acceptable)	[767-799 pts. for the course]
C (Acceptable)	[733-766 pts. for the course]
C- (Acceptable)	[700-732 pts. for the course]
D+ (Deficient)	[667-699 pts. for the course]
D (Deficient)	[633-666 pts. for the course]
D- (Deficient)	[600-632 pts. for the course]
F (Unacceptable)	[below 600 pts. in the course]

Examinations

The two examinations will each be a combination of objective questions, fill-in-the-blank, and analysis. The objective section of the test will consist of true-false, multiple choice, identification, and/or matching items. Examinations will cover both text and classroom discussion material. NOTE: Students are expected to take the examinations at their scheduled times. Make-up exams will be allowed only in very limited circumstances. Students who miss an examination due to an authorized university activity should make arrangements with the instructor to do the work in advance. Examinations without proper documentation to qualify for a university-approved absence may be made up with a 10% penalty in points. Late exams are given at the discretion and convenience of the course instructor.

Assignments

In addition to the major speeches described below, there will be a variety of smaller skill-building, practice, and analysis exercises to help students maximize their effectiveness. Such exercises will focus on the introductions & conclusions, vividness of language, argumentation strategies, rhetorical analysis of recorded speeches (including one's own), delivery, impromptu speaking, inventiveness skills, etc.

Attendance

For university purposes, attendance will be taken each class period. However, your education is your responsibility, so when you miss class--for whatever reason--you need to get the missed information as best as possible. You will need to rely on the willingness of other students to share their notes with you. *If you miss a day on which graded coursework is returned, it is your sole responsibility to specify what work you would like returned.*

Students who are present and on time are appreciated. I like to treat students of upper-division courses like adults. Show me good work habits and you will persuade me that you are credible--you must know by now that such ethical proof, according to Aristotle, can only help you! There is no make-up credit for missed in-class exercises. Some exercises may not lend themselves to being made up outside the classroom context, but those that have bearing on success in developing the two speech assignments may be made up without credit wherever possible and practical.

It is possible to make up the exams and major speech assignments late without a university-approved excuse, but the student will have to take a letter grade penalty (10%). Review the LSU Student Handbook for university-approved reasons for absences. **All speaking assignments must be delivered in class!** *There are no exceptions to this. There will be no make-up speeches scheduled outside of class. You must have that audience in order to get credit for the course. You must deliver both major speech assignments to pass the course! For this, too, there is no exception.*

Classroom Policies

Because this is a speech course, everyone should respect the rights of other speakers and the right of the audience. Such respect requires that you:

- Turn off all cell phones and other such electronic devices at the start of each class;
- Pay attention to all speakers rather than doing homework, texting, etc.;
- Come to class prepared to listen and to participate in all exercises and discussions;
- Bring an open mind to class discussions and a willingness to entertain new ideas; and
- In general, treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself!

Format Requirements for Written Work

All written work turned in for a grade in this course must observe the following format requirements:

- ❖ Word-processed in a clean, readable typeface no larger than 12-point;
- ❖ Double-spaced to provide room for your instructor to make comments;
- ❖ Your name, the course number, and the date should be at the top of the first page;
- ❖ Each page after the first should have your last name and the page number at the top;

- ❖ Pages should be held together with a staple (no paper clips or plastic covers, please);
- ❖ All work should be proofread for errors in grammar and spelling; and
- ❖ If information from research sources is used, a bibliography should be included.

ADA Statement

With regard to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the 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 special accommodations, please see a coordinator in the Office for Disability Affairs (112 Johnston Hall) within the first two weeks of the semester so that such accommodations may be arranged. After you receive your accommodation letters, please meet with me as soon as possible in order to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

Ethical Standards

I am convinced that only a minority of students cheat. However, the university very jealously protects the academic integrity of the institution. Technically, you do not “earn” a degree, you are awarded a degree. This means that a diploma represents the standards, traditions, values, integrity and honor of the university. Additionally, the diploma represents your acceptance into a fellowship of academics reaching back nearly a millennium. The university grants this honor, and it can take it away at any point it discovers you are not worthy of the honor.

Cheating will not be tolerated in this course. Cheating includes, but is not limited to copying or representing work of others as your own (i.e., plagiarism), stealing quizzes or exams, and copying the questions or answers of quizzes or exams. Any cheating will be dealt with according to the discretion of the instructor. The minimum punishment will be a failure grade for an assignment. More dire punishment may include a failure grade for the course and expulsion from the university. Please see the university’s Code of Student Conduct for information regarding this policy.

Finally, and importantly, I hope you find that honest intellectual achievement is a life-long reward that results in the kind of personal growth for which you may be always proud.

Toward this end, you will be required to print, sign and turn over to your instructor the **LSU Pledge of Honor** before you can have grades recorded.

Motivation

This course just may be one of the most important gifts you ever give yourself! It has the potential for transforming your life. Just as importantly, the proper use of developed communication skills can transform the world. It is a fearsome and wonderful power. It deserves your utmost respect and concerted effort. As with all good things of promise, it remains what you make of it.