

Syllabus
SPCH 1110
Public Speaking
2025

Committee Members:

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Facilitator: Andrea Iaccheri

The Institution agrees to the contents in this syllabus including course prefix, number, course description and other contents of this syllabus.

 Chief Academic Officer, Central Community College	02/17/2025		Decline
 Chief Academic Officer, Little Priest Tribal College	02/19/2025		Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Metropolitan Community College	02/20/2025	COMS 1110 at MCC	Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Mid-Plains Community College	02/12/2025		Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Nebraska Indian Community College	02/19/2025		Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Northeast Community College	02/12/2025		Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Southeast Community College	02/19/2025		Adopt
 Chief Academic Officer, Western Nebraska Community College	02/12/2025		Adopt

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

SPCH1110

Public Speaking

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

This course will enable students to recognize and develop the skills required of speaking in today's workplace and society. This course will focus on the organization, preparation, research, and evidence needed for a presentation that is tailored to fit the audience. This course will also enhance the students' active and critical listening skills.

4.5 quarter hours

3.0 semester hours

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES

Course will:

1. Acquaint students with the communication process.
2. Have students identify and perform skills necessary for selected types of public speeches.
3. Provide students with an understanding of effective and appropriate language.
4. Provide students with an understanding of effective and appropriate eye contact, voice, gestures and presentational aids in public speaking.
5. Have students utilize research for a variety of speeches.
6. Incorporate information from outside source(s) ethically, effectively, and appropriately.
7. Have students critically listen, analyze, and evaluate various types of speeches and readings within cultural context.
8. Provide tools for students to effectively communicate in a variety of settings.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

1. Describe and explain the basic speech communication models.
2. Develop an awareness of the impacts of mediated communication.
3. Define the role of the public speaker in relationship to the audience, the content of the speech and the purpose of the speech.
4. Participate in the process of preparing and presenting speeches, with the use of presentation aids.
5. Distinguish between the principles of informative and persuasive speaking.
6. Understand and utilize techniques to effectively manage speech anxiety.
7. Differentiate between and apply, as appropriate, for the speaking situation the various delivery methods: speaking extemporaneously (*i.e.* prepared and practiced in advance), speaking impromptu (*i.e.* spontaneously without preparation or notes), reading from a manuscript, and reciting from memory.
8. Prepare a preparation outline and/or speaking outline that includes proper APA or MLA citation.
9. Evaluate and properly cite credible sources when delivering a speech.

10. Demonstrate the appropriate and adaptable use of presentational aids while speaking.
11. Apply active listening skills to enhance the communication process.
12. Critically evaluate the public discourse of others with attention to (and the demonstration of) professionalism and awareness of cultural context.

IV. COURSE CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE

- A. Speech theory: communication models, ethics, communication anxiety, listening, public theory
- B. Speech preparation: researching, analyzing the audience, writing an outline
- C. Speech presentation: language, oral citations, credibility, delivery methods, presentational aids
- D. Public speaking variations: inform, persuade, special occasion

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Suggested texts
Beebe & Beebe. Public Speaking an Audience Center Approach. Pearson Education.

Exploring Public Speaking: The Open Educational Resource College Public Speaking Textbook (version 4.1), edited by Barbara Tucker as our textbook for Public Speaking. The link to the book is: <https://www.exploringpublicspeaking.com/download>

Lucas, Stephen. The Art of Public Speaking. McGraw-Hill.

Brief texts:

Beebe & Beebe. Concise Public Speaking Handbook. Pearson Education.

O'Hair, Rubenstein, & Stewart. A Pocket Guide to Public Speaking. Bedford St. Martin.

- B. Supplemental texts
A college-level citation handbook or public speaking guide that includes academic level citation/documentation APA and or MLA styles must be readily available for student use. Online citation sources are acceptable.

The style formats provided within the textbook or textbook supplemental sources are acceptable.

VI. METHOD OF PRESENTATION

Instructors should make use of varied pedagogical techniques including several of the following: lectures, small and large discussion groups, collaborative projects, guest speakers, research, peer response and evaluation, self-evaluation of presentations, journals, essays, conferences, computer-assisted instruction, interactive/creative methods, multi-media and field trips.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

Course grades, at the determination of the instructor, will be based on speech presentations, written evaluations, class and group participation, daily work, exams, projects, papers and/or portfolios. Instructor will distribute and discuss evaluation tools and his/her grading policies with students at the beginning of each term.

Specific Course Requirements

- A. Students, in both online and face-to-face classes, are required to deliver a minimum of four speeches. Of the required speeches, one must be an informative speech with research, and one must be a persuasive speech with research that incorporate a minimum of three credible sources, each with a final outline, and source citation page. The two remaining required speeches are up to the instructor discretion.
1. ***Failure to complete and deliver all 4 speeches and outlines will result in a failing grade, regardless of assignments completed. This is a non-negotiable requirement. The Nebraska Transfer Initiative, a consortium of all colleges and universities in the State of Nebraska, has clearly stipulated in Section VII, B, 1-4, that in order to meet the requirements of a public speaking course, all students enrolled in such a class, including online courses, must present speeches to a live audience.***
- B. All speeches must be delivered before a live audience.
1. Must contain a minimum of 4 audience members.
 2. Audience members must be 15 years of age or older.
 3. For online speeches, all audience members must be present during the entire speech, and audience members must be accounted for via video before and after the speech.
 4. The specific requirements of audience members must meet institutional standards.

VIII. INSTITUTIONAL DEFINED SECTION

(To be used at the discretion of each community college as deemed necessary.)