

SOPHIA Learning

COMM1002: Public Speaking (3 semester credits)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sophia's Public Speaking course will take the learner through all of the stages of developing a speech, from preparation to rehearsal to presentation. Along the way, they will learn how to become better listeners, manage their anxiety, and incorporate feedback effectively. Students will apply their knowledge to analyzing their audience, conducting research, presenting a speech, and revising a speech based on feedback.

Course Effective Dates: September 2017 - Present

Prerequisite(s): Lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category – no prerequisites

Length of course: This is a self-paced course. Students have 60 days with an additional 30 day extension (if needed) to complete the course.

ACE CREDIT® Recommendation: In the lower-division baccalaureate/associate degree category, 3 semester hours in public speaking (7/17).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Articulate the responsibilities of ethical communication.
2. Examine the history of public speaking and rhetoric.
3. Analyze best practices in effective public speaking.
4. Evaluate speech topics, considering focus and audience appropriateness.
5. Generate a speech outline.
6. Generate a topic, thesis, and main ideas for a speech.
7. Write effective introductions, conclusions, and transitions for speeches.
8. Conduct research to identify support for a speech topic, evaluating source credibility.
9. Effectively utilize supporting evidence in a speech.
10. Identify characteristics of informative, persuasive, and special occasion speeches.
11. Prepare speeches on a variety of topics with a range of purposes.
12. Differentiate between ethos, pathos, and logos.
13. Employ language that is inclusive, accurate, and audience appropriate.
14. Analyze the importance of tone, pronunciation, and articulation.
15. Identify the impact of nonverbal communication on public speaking.
16. Develop audience awareness and perform audience analysis.
17. Apply techniques for rehearsing a speech.
18. Effectively incorporate visual aids.
19. Identify techniques for reducing anxiety and building confidence.
20. Develop listening skills.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- Benefits of Public Speaking
- Components of Communication
- Informative Speeches
- Persuasive Speeches
- Speeches for Special Occasions
- Ethics in Public Speaking
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Effective Listening
- Audience Analysis
- Choosing a Topic
- Organizing and Outlining the Speech
- Managing Anxiety
- Researching for your Speech
- Using Supporting Evidence
- Getting Attention and Interest
- Establishing Credibility
- Using Transitions
- Variations in Directness, Abstraction and Objectivity
- Cultural and Gender Biases
- The Ethics of Persuasion
- Using Appeals in Persuasive Speaking
- Speech Patterns: Volume, Rate, Pitch, and Pauses
- Nonverbal Communication
- Interaction in Public Speaking
- Rehearsing your Speech
- Q&A Sessions
- Using Visual Aids
- Creating Effective Presentations
- Feedback and Criticism
- Special Occasion Speeches

GRADING

This is a pass/fail course. You are required to complete all 12 formative and 8 summative assessments with an overall course average of 70% or better.