

SYLLABUS

COMM 1: PUBLIC SPEAKING

Meets: TH 10:00-3:00 in Zoom
Instructor: Laura Ainsworth
Phone: (707) 703-0632

Office Hours: W & TH 3:00-4:00
Location: Zoom
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Course Description:

COMM 1 is a three-unit course designed to develop proficiency in the understanding, development, and delivery of public speeches. Active listening, research skills, coherent idea formation, and writing proficiency are required for this course. The recommended preparation for this course is eligibility for ENGL 1A. This course fulfills a General Education requirement (CSU A1; IGETC 1C). **Student Learning Outcomes:** •Effectively prepare and present public speeches to a live audience using contemporary technology when appropriate. •Demonstrate active listening skills. •Critically evaluate various forms of communication.

Course Objectives:

The overall objective of this course is to obtain proficiency in public speaking. This includes a detailed understanding of how to effectively create a speech, verbally deliver the speech, and nonverbally accentuate the speech being given. By the end of the course, you should be able to critically analyze and evaluate a speech's content and a speaker's delivery of that speech. This will require us to unravel the corollary art of listening. Finally, you should understand the fundamentals of audience awareness and adaptation. These skills cannot be learned simply from a textbook; the organized settings in which we deliver speeches and our daily interactions enhance what we will learn from the text. Everything you learn here will provide the tools; you will create the craft.

Course Requirements:

- ◆ Text excerpts are provided in Canvas; do not purchase anything
- ◆ Presentation Materials/Visual Aids not to exceed \$10.00
- ◆ 4x6 Note cards

Course Expectations:

Many students are very nervous about the idea of delivering speeches. We can all assist with this process by respecting each other; therefore, a positive learning environment will be fostered at all times. You will need to be just as engaged when you are listening as when you are speaking. Sometimes this is difficult, given the potential for students to express views opposite your own. However, this instructor is committed to the principles of Free Speech. By remaining enrolled in this particular course, you have agreed to co-create a hospitable learning experience.

Teaching Philosophy:

Assimilation not Memorization
Integration not Regurgitation

You are paying for my services. Please take advantage of that fact, because I truly am here to serve you. It is my responsibility to tailor the information to best fit your learning style. Therefore, if you are having any difficulty, need something explained with a different twist, or would like to discuss anything at all, please contact me.

Grading:

Grading will be based on a point system. Your grade is an individualized assessment of the skills you will demonstrate in class; therefore, final grades will not be curved. You may collaborate with others on homework and exams, but you are still responsible for your individual performance.

This is a very interactive course; as a result, failure to “attend” will affect your ability to acquire necessary and comprehensive information. The course material progressively builds upon itself, which requires dedication.

Points:

Speech #1	Introduction Speech (pass/fail)	75	_____
Speech #2	Informative Speech	100	_____
Speech #3	Persuasive Speech	200	_____
Speech #4	Cooperative Question and Answer Speech	75	_____
Speech #5	Impromptu Speech (pass/fail) FINAL	100	_____
Homework (2)		50	_____
Written Outlines (2) [#2=25, #3=25]		50	_____
Exam #1		50	_____
Exam #2		100	_____
Public Speaker Critique <u>OR</u>			
Comprehensive Speech Analysis Paper		200	_____

Total Points 1,000 =My grade

<u>Grading Scale:</u>	90-100% = A	900-1,000 points
	80- 89% = B	800-899 points
	70- 79% = C	700-799 points
	60- 69% = D	600-699 points
	Anything Below is Failing	

No one should fail this course. I am readily available through e-mail, phone, text, Canvas and Zoom. I promise to respond to you within 24 hours. **I will not drop you from the course; it is your responsibility to meet the College’s deadlines. I also follow the attendance policy of the College.** I will be supportive regarding due dates and completion of work; you may choose to complete the course asynchronously or synchronously. Please just let me know when you have questions or need assistance.

Important College Policies:

This course adheres to Santa Rosa Junior College’s **Health & Safety Regulations:**

<https://police.santarosa.edu/health-safety-regulations> By remaining enrolled in the course, you agree to the Campus’ **Drug and Alcohol Policy**, and the **Student Standards of Conduct**, including the provision that applies to **Sexual Harassment & Unlawful Discrimination**. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is motivated on the basis of a person’s race, color, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy, marital status, ancestry, service in the uniformed services, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or perceived membership in any of the classifications. You also understand that SRJC does not tolerate Academic Dishonesty, most notably, plagiarism.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a disability or will need special accommodations, please notify me. I would be more than happy to make necessary arrangements for you. Additionally, you can contact Disability Resources at <http://drd.santarosa.edu/> (707) 527-4278, or disabilityinfo@santarosa.edu.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Speech #1-** A Speech of Introduction You will give a one to three minute speech that briefly introduces yourself. For this assignment, you will need to go to the library and read a newspaper or magazine from the week you were born. Select an article or photo that interests you and relates to an aspect of you that you'd like to share with us.
- Speech #2-** A Speech to Inform You will demonstrate your ability to apply the principles of speech composition and delivery covered in class. This assignment requires you to speak on a topic for four to six minutes. The goal of the speech is to provide information or explain relevant facts about your topic. You will need to use a Visual Aid for this speech and utilize at least four references. Your typed outline should follow the Basic Speech Model format.
- Speech #3-** A Speech to Persuade Your attempt here is to persuade us of a position or view we should adopt concerning your chosen topic. You must persuade on the basis of a question of fact, value, or policy. Your speech should last approximately six to eight minutes. You will also be required to present logically sound arguments. You may use a Visual Aid, but one is not required for this speech. Identify your reasoning in your outline and follow Monroe's Motivated Sequence for the format.
- Speech #4-** A Cooperative Speech followed by a Question and Answer period You may choose to work as a group to present a Symposium, or as partners to present a Debate. You may also choose to participate in a panel interview. These speeches will be shortened versions of what we discuss in class.
- Speech #5-** An Impromptu Speech will serve as your Final Exam. You will be given three topics from which you will choose one. These topics will consist of quotes, historical events, or movie titles. You will be given two minutes to prepare a speech and a maximum of four minutes to deliver it. You may follow either BSM or MMS for this assignment; however, you do not need to provide an outline.
- Public Speaker Critique** You will need to watch a public speaking engagement. Many examples will be provided in class. The critique should be two pages, typed and double spaced. In addition to summarizing the nature of the event, you will need to demonstrate your ability to critically analyze the content of the speech you heard and how well it was delivered. You will be graded on how well you present the information: the clarity and insightfulness of your observations, and the weight you ascribe to particular public speaking skills.
- Speech Analysis Paper** After viewing or listening to more than twenty in-class clips of public speeches, you will select the speech that you feel is the most memorable. This paper requires you to explain the role of the medium and the nature of the communication situation. Many examples will be provided in class. The analysis paper should be two pages, typed and double spaced. You will be graded on how well you present the information: the clarity and insightfulness of your observations, the weight you ascribe to particular public speaking skills, and the use of proper English.

The Fine Print (because I'm out of room): *Whew! Having pointed out all of this on the first day, I want to remind you that your grade is your grade. Any grade is possible. Start thinking about what you want out of this course now (I hope more than just a grade), and go for it. If you're feeling the need to be proactive and preemptive, I welcome extra credit from class one to the final class. A few points here and there really do make a difference.*

Extra Credit Opportunities:

- Extra Credit #1
20 points Select a movie and analyze the use of nonverbal communication. Spirit, Spy Games and Hart's War are some great choices. Identify your findings in a well-written two-page paper.
- Extra Credit #2
20 points Find fifteen fallacies and correctly identify the types you have found and explain why they are deceptive. Then, provide an argument against each illogical claim.
- Extra Credit #3
10 points Use a stylistic device in your persuasive speech. At the end of your outline, explain why you chose the specific device and the persuasive effect you wanted it to accomplish.