

# South Plains College

## Dual Credit SPCH 1315-PUBLIC SPEAKING

**Department:** Communication Department

**Discipline:** Speech Communications

**Course Number:** SPCH1315

**Course Title:** Public Speaking

**Credit:** 3 hours lecture

### Faculty Information

**Instructor:** Cynthia Callaham

**Email:** ccallaham@southplainscollege.edu

### Office Hours

| Monday          | Tuesday      | Wednesday         | Thursday        | Friday            |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 9:00 AM-9:30 AM | 9:00-9:30 AM | 10:30 AM-11:15 AM | 9:00 AM-9:30 AM | 10:30 AM-11:15 AM |

Appointments are available by request.

**Available Formats:** Conventional

**Campuses:** Dual Credit – Ropes ISD

### Course Information

*SPCH 1315 Public Speaking.* This course will require in class and online participation. It is the goal for you to learn and enjoy the process of public speaking. Hopefully, you will gain confidence and improve your public speaking skills.

This course equips students with the skills necessary for successful public speaking. Students will learn to prepare and deliver effective presentations, adapt to various audiences, and adjust to different speaking contexts.

### Course Description:

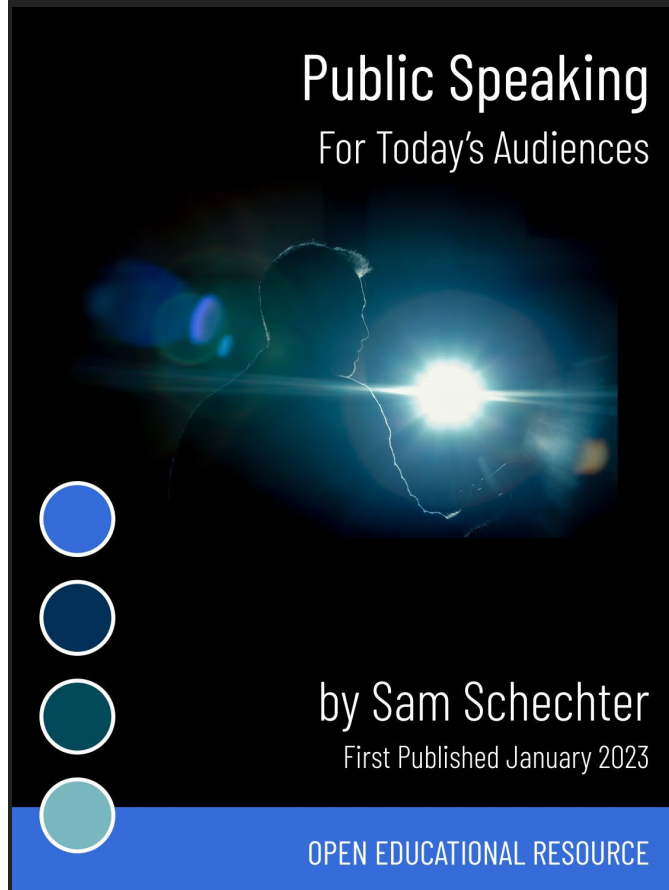
Application of communication theory and practice to the public speaking context, with emphasis on audience analysis, speaker delivery, ethics of communication, cultural diversity, and speech organizational techniques to develop students' speaking abilities, as well as ability to effectively evaluate oral presentations.

**This course partially satisfies Core Curriculum Requirement: Institutional Foundational Component Area (090)**

**Prerequisite:** None

# Public Speaking for Today's Audiences

by Sam Schechter



**Book Description:**Public Speaking for Today's Audiences explains the process and craft of creating and delivering impactful speeches, both for in-person and digital audiences. This book is ideal for students and professionals looking to build skill and confidence in their current and future professions.

**License:**

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attribution as requested by the work's original creator(s) and licensee(s). The authors of Exploring Public Speaking request that you let them know if you plan to use all or a major part of this textbook as a primary text for your basic communication classes.

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<https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/speaking/>

### **Supplies and Technical Requirements:**

- ❖ Textbook
- ❖ White 3x5 notecards
- ❖ Paper, pen, and pencil
- ❖ Charged laptop computer that can access Blackboard and all assignments and activities.

### **Core Curriculum Objectives**

- ❖ **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- ❖ **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- ❖ **Teamwork**—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- ❖ **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- ❖ **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.
2. Apply elements of audience analysis.
3. Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic
4. Research, develop and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
5. Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.
6. Identify how culture, ethnicity and gender influence communication.
7. Develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or group (e.g. narrative, informative or persuasive).

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** A pre- and post-test and/or a writing assignment rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

### Class Expectations:

- ❖ Bring all materials (including textbook) to class and take notes.
- ❖ Silence cell phones during class. Cell phones may not be used as a learning device during lecture.
- ❖ Laptops are allowed with instructor permission as needed.
- ❖ I will respond to all messages and emails within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on the weekend.
- ❖ **The last day to drop is December 3, 2026**
- ❖ Technical issues are never a valid reason for an assignment being late.

### Course Evaluation:

|                                                                                                       |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <b><u>Major/Final Grades</u></b> - Exams, Presentations, finals                                       | 70% |
| <b><u>Daily Grades</u></b> - Homework Assignments, Peer/Self Critiques, Outlines, Class Participation | 30% |

### Grading

Access grades on the Blackboard Course Menu (My Grades).

The total number of points you can earn in this class is 1000 points

Final grades are determined as follows:

- ❖ A= 1,000 to 895 points
- ❖ B= 894 to 795 points
- ❖ C= 794 to 695 points
- ❖ D = 694 to 595 points
- ❖ F = 594 or less

### Make-up policy:

\*\*\* ONLY 1 Speech can be made up.

- ❖ Speeches may be made up on a specified day IF the absence is excused (school trip, death in the family, sickness with a doctor's note). This is up to the instructor's discretion and is done on an individual basis only.
- ❖ Missing Speech will result in lowering that speech grade by 20 points.
- ❖ If you do not complete two major or final grades (Speeches), you will be dropped from the class or take an F at the end of the semester.
- ❖ I do not accept LATE work. All daily assignments are due at 11:59pm on the date they are due. Technical issues are not a valid reason for late work.
- ❖ Because exams are online, you will get one make up exam for any exam that was missed and will cost you 10 points. Must be taken within a week of the original due date!

### Callaham's Attendance/Tardy Policy

- ❖ It is important to BE ON TIME to class.

- ❖ Make this class a priority. Attendance is necessary to be successful. Excessive absences may result in you being dropped from the class. Communicate with me when you will miss class for any reason. It is your responsibility to notify me and completing missed work on my time schedule.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

### **Plagiarism and Cheating:**

Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

#### **Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- ❖ Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
- ❖ Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- ❖ Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- ❖ Missing in-text citations.

#### **Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- ❖ Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- ❖ Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- ❖ Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- ❖ Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- ❖ Taking an examination for another;
- ❖ Altering grade records;
- ❖ Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- ❖ Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- ❖ Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

### **Student Code of Conduct Policy:**

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

#### **❖ Intellectual Exchange Statement**

**In South Plains College courses, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.**

#### **❖ Disabilities Statement**

**Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of the individual's disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Lubbock and other centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675.**

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#### **❖ Non-Discrimination Statement**

**South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.**

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❖ Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations Statement (Rev. 6/11/2024)

If you are pregnant or parenting (paternal or maternal) with children under the age of 18 per [Texas Education Code 51.982](#) and Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a [Title IX pregnancy and parenting accommodations request](#), along with specific medical documentation, to the Health and Wellness Center. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email [rcanon@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:rcanon@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

❖ CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team

South Plains College is committed to ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of its students and community. To support its campus community SPC has a CARE Team. This is a dedicated group of campus professionals responsible for assessing and responding to students who could benefit from academic, emotional, or psychological support, as well as those presenting risk to the health or safety of the community. If you see someone experiencing challenges, appearing distressed, posing a threat to their safety or someone else's safety, or causing a significant disruption to the SPC community, please submit a [CARE Team referral](#). You may also submit a referral for yourself if you would like additional support. NOTE: In cases where a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911.

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❖ Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Government Code 411.2031, et al. authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

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❖ COVID-19 (Rev. 7/15/2026)

To prevent virus spread on campus, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, FNP-C, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376

1. SPC will follow the recommended 3-day isolation period for individuals that test positive.
  - a. Please note that day 0 is the date of positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result.
2. COVID reporting

- a. Please have students and employees notify DeEtte Edens, FNP-C if they have tested positive to verify dates before returning to class or work.
  - b. The home tests are sufficient, but students need to submit a photo of the positive result. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, FNP-C at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu).
  - c. A student is clear to return to class without further assessment if they have completed:
    - The 3-day isolation period, symptoms have improved and
    - they are afebrile for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
  - d. **HEATH SCIENCE PROGRAMS ONLY:** Due to clinical requirements, students in health science programs returning to class or clinical from a positive test will be required to wear a mask in the health sciences areas including offices, hallways, and classrooms, as well as in the clinical setting for a 10-day period from date of positive test.
3. Please instruct students and employees to communicate with DeEtte Edens prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 3-day isolation.
  4. Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class or work and be tested.

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#### ❖ Student Identification Verification Pictures

In order to comply with institutional identity-verification procedures, students enrolled in courses at South Plains College must have a current photo available in the College's student information system. Approved photos are used solely for instructional, advising, and security purposes and are protected under applicable privacy laws. Students without a photo on file must update their record during the first week of class.

Pictures may be uploaded using these [instructions](#).

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#### ❖ Artificial Intelligence Statement

##### · Purpose of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications:

AI applications are advanced language models designed to aid and engage in meaningful conversations, as well as, generate and revise content. AI is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.

##### · Academic Integrity:

Using AI to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of SPC academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, synthesis, and analysis and appropriately cites all sources, including AI.

· **Collaboration and Consultation:**

While AI can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on AI for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing AI as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.

· **Critical Thinking and Originality:**

AI usage can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on AI for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. In assignments where originality, creativity, and independent thinking are valued, AI would be detrimental to the student learning process. Critical thinking and originality emphasize the importance of independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience apart from outside influence and offers the student the opportunity to refine their unique, individual voice through academic discourse with other students and faculty.

· **Ethical Use and Bias Awareness:**

AI is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and critically evaluate the responses provided by AI. Therefore, when using AI, just like with using any other database, students must verify that the information is from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

· **Responsible Engagement:**

Students should engage with AI in a respectful and responsible manner and avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Students should also uphold the standards of respectful communication in addressing both AI and fellow classmates.

· **Compliance with South Plains College Policies:**

Policies regarding the appropriate use of AI in South Plains College courses are set by instructional departments and individual instructors. Appropriate use of AI may range from strict prohibition to assignments they may require the use of AI. Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific course policies regarding the use of AI and adhere to them throughout the semester.

***Remember, AI can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.***

*Remember, AI can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.*

*For this class, AI may only be used with prior permission from Mrs. Callaham. First offense will result in a meeting with Mrs. Callaham and a reduction in the grade. Any other offense will result in a zero on the assignment.*

| <b>Assignments</b>       | <b>Points</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Introductory Speech      | 100           |
| Informative Speech       | 100           |
| Persuasive Speech        | 100           |
| Famous Speech            | 50            |
| Group Project            | 150           |
| Padlets (3 X 25)         | 75            |
| Group Discussions 3 x 25 | 75            |
| Quizzes (10 points each) | 100           |
| other assignments        | 250           |

Total: 1000 points

