

Syllabus for Dual Credit Online Public Speaking

Spring 2026

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Office:

Communications Building 141 OR

Online Meeting Space

Office Hours:

South Plains College
Course Syllabus: SPCH1315
Revised Fall 2025

Department: Communications

Discipline: Speech Communication

Course Number: SPCH1315

Course Title: Public Speaking

Available Formats: Conventional, **Internet**, Hybrid

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, **Online Dual Credit**

Course Description: This course will prepare you to communicate in a public and small-group setting, with special emphasis in online contexts to prepare you for the workforce of the future.

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

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

Textbook: Exploring Public Speaking: Edition 4.2, Tucker et al

Blackboard Access IS REQUIRED

Weblink: <https://www.exploringpublicspeaking.com/download>



This text is part of the OER program. The text is free. It can be found at the link above in many formats, including PDF. There is no physical version of the text, but the student can have it printed at their own expense, if so desired.

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- 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:

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)

Course Evaluation:

Course grade will be assessed according to the completion of the following using percentages

Evaluation

Grades in this course are as follows: 90-100% = A; 80 – 89% = B; 70 – 79 % = C; 60 – 69% = D; 59% and below = F

Course grade will be assessed according to the completion of the following using percentages noted:

Major Presentations (speeches)	40%
Exams / major grades	30%
Daily Work, Class Participation	30%

Supplies:

1. Textbook (linked above)
2. Computer, capable of accessing Blackboard
3. Audio / video equipment for the meet and greet, and for recording speeches
4. Speech visual aids

Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to facilitate growth within the individual of those skills necessary to be an effective communicator. The course ensures said growth through instruction in the theories and principles comprising effective communication, as well as the application of those theories to the creation and delivery of speeches.

Technical Requirements

- Desktop or laptop computer
- High speed internet access
- SPC E-mail
- Word Processing software
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching and listening to course content)
- Web camera and microphone (for video conferencing and recording)
- A USB headset with microphone or headphones (for video conferencing)
- All software needs to be updated on computer or laptop

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following

- Word Processing
- Using email for communication, attaching documents
- Internet search engines and browsers
- Recording and uploading video files. Not having a way to record speeches or vlogs will not be tolerated as an excuse for failure to submit assignments.
- The ability to download video files, or to stream files.

Course Requirements:

1. To read the information assigned in the text; anything assigned to be read from the text might appear on an exam.
2. To follow directions on blackboard.
3. To deliver speeches and written materials in a language understood by the instructor, this includes any potential synchronous meetings.
4. To participate in any required forum discussions.
5. To show maturity and professionalism in preparation of assignments and in classroom behavior. This means speech topics must be appropriate.
6. To show courteousness to fellow classmates/speakers.
7. To seek help from the professor if assistance is required in some way.
8. To appropriately cite information obtained from other sources, both in written and verbal formats. Please refer to the academic honesty section below for further details.
9. To initiate withdrawal from the course if absences become excessive.
Your professor will drop you from the course if you miss more than two weeks' worth of class.

Grade Distribution

Major presentations (40%):

- Introductory Presentation
- Informative Presentation
- Persuasive Presentation
- Oration of historical speech
- Group Presentation

Test Grades (30%):

- Exam 1
- Exam 2
- Final Exam

Daily Grades (30%):

- Quizzes on Blackboard
- Peer-evaluations
- Self-evaluations
- Speech rough drafts

Late Work Policy

Module quizzes, learning activities, vlogs/comments, speech uploads, and peer and self-evaluations are due the date mentioned in the syllabus or in class. Late work will not be accepted. Absences / failure to submit may be excused for extended illnesses, death in the family, or conflicting school-sponsored extracurricular events (away games). This is at the Professor's discretion. In such instances, you must submit verifiable and official documentation to your instructor (e.g., a doctor's note or signed form from your coach / teacher sponsor).

Technological issues are not an excuse for late work. Do your assignments, quizzes and speeches early to ensure you have time for any issues that might arise.

Any excused work must be completed within 1 week of the due date listed on the syllabus.

Attendance Policy:

Online courses have a fundamentally different vision of student attendance. Students are expected to check emails daily in order to respond to the professor when contacted. If you are not able to respond to the professor within 1 week of receiving a message, then you may not be suited for online coursework.

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.

Attendance, for the purpose of census drops, is defined as having completed at least one assignment (in my class, the first assignment is to send me an email answering specific questions).

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.

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.

Academic Honesty: Appropriate citation and documentation will be given for materials and information obtained from other sources. Cases of plagiarism will be treated as will any case of academic dishonesty, with AT LEAST a failing grade for the assignment/examination. In addition, the student may be dropped from the course with a failing grade. See the Student Handbook for more information.

Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Nondiscrimination, Title 9 Pregnancy, CARE, Concealed Carry, Covid, Artificial Intelligence statements

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Contacting your professor: Please feel free to contact your professor if you have questions or concerns about your progress in this class. Please try to let him know in advance if you will have to miss class. You may contact your professor in person during office hours, or by email.

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Course Schedule: Tentative, subject to change as needed. Please note that daily activities will be found via blackboard. Finally, all assignments are due the date listed (typically Friday of the week in question, unless specified otherwise here or on Blackboard) by midnight. If you are unable to complete an assignment by that time then I suggest you contact me early.

<u>Week #</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Content Covered</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
<u>Week 1</u>	Jan 12 - 16	Intro to course	Introductory Email
<u>Week 2</u>	Jan 19 - 23	Read Chapter 1 Goals sheet	Ch 1 quiz PRCA
<u>Week 3</u>	Jan 26 - 30	Read Chapter 6 + 2 Intro Speech Assigned	Ch 6 + 2 quiz
<u>Week 4</u>	Feb 2 - 6	Read Chapter 3	Ch 3 quiz Intro speeches due
<u>Week 5</u>	Feb 9 - 13	Read Chapter 4 + 7 Informative assigned	Ch 4 + 7 quiz Informative Topics Due
<u>Week 6</u>	Feb 16 - 20	Read Chapter 9 + 12 Group Projects Assigned	Ch 9 + 12 quiz
<u>Week 7</u>	Feb 23 - 27		Exam 1 Informative Speech Due
<u>Week 8</u>	March 2 - 6	Read Chapter 5	Ch 5 quiz Group progress form
<u>Week 9</u>	March 9 - 13	Read Chapters 8 + 13 Persuasive Assigned	Ch 8 + 13 quiz
<u>Week 10</u>	March 16 - 20	SPRING	BREAK
<u>Week 11</u>	March 23 - 27	Read Chapter 14 + 10	Ch 14 + 10 quiz
<u>Week 12</u>	March 30 - April 3	Oration Assigned Prepare Persuasive Outlines	Oration Excerpts Due
<u>Week 13</u>	April 6 - 10	Read Chapter 11 + 15	Ch 11 + 15 quiz Persuasive speeches due
<u>Week 14</u>	April 13 - 17		Exam 2 Oration Due
<u>Week 15</u>	April 20 - 24	.	Group Project Due
<u>Week 16</u>	April 27 - May 1st	Check Grades	Contact Professor
<u>Finals:</u>	May 4 - 7	Final Exam	Final Due - WED the 6th!

Important Dates - Spring Break March 16 - 20