

Syllabus for Online Public Speaking

Summer 2 2025

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Office:

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SPCH 1315 - Online Public Speaking

South Plains College
Course Syllabus: SPCH1315
Revised Summer 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**

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:
Communication (010) or 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 noted:

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 synchronous class meetings
4. Speech visual aids

Online Synchronous Meetings are a requirement for delivering two of your five major speeches. We will use Zoom for this purpose; please ensure that you will be able to attend these meetings regardless of other obligations.

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 (synchronous)
Informative Presentation (synchronous)
Persuasive Presentation (asynchronous)
Oration of historical speech (asynchronous)

Test Grades (30%):

Group Meetings
Exam 1
Exam 2
Final Exam

Daily Grades (30%):

Peer-evaluations
Daily Quizzes from Text - on Blackboard
Speech rough drafts / Topic Submissions, et cetera

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 3 days of the due date 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.

Attendance in Online Education

Missing an email from your professor is a big deal. This is especially true in a summer course. Each day represents about 1 week of class time during a long semester. Therefore, consider it your attendance obligation to check your SPC email daily; I will accept email from non-SPC email addresses, but I cannot send announcements to any email other than your SPC email from the blackboard online system.

Census and Never Attended

I use the introductory email to verify attendance in an online course. If you are not able to send the introductory email by the census date, you may be dropped as having never attended.

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

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

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.

Synchronous Meetings:

This class will meet TWO times over the course of the semester, on the dates indicated in the schedule. Each meeting will be to deliver speeches, and will be from 5 to 8 pm (two sessions each date will be held, the first from 5 to 6:30, and the second from 6:30 to 8). You are required to attend once on each date indicated in the course schedule.

Please note that your attendance at these meetings is noted as a test grade at the end of the semester, in addition to the fact that you will be receiving a zero if you missed the speech.

Contacting your professor:

Please feel free to contact your professor if you have questions or concerns about your progress in this class. You may contact your professor in person during office hours, or by email.

SYNCHRONOUS MEETING DATES:

Intro Speech - Thursday, July 10th OR Friday, July 11th - 5 pm or 6:30 pm (Signups will be part of your intro email)

Informative Speech - Thursday, July 17th OR Monday, July 21st - 5 pm or 6:30 pm (Signups will be part of intro email)

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SYNCHRONOUS MEETING DATES:

Intro Speech: July 10th (Thu) or July 11th (Fri) - 5 pm or 6:30 pm (Signup w/intro email)

Informative Speech - July 17th (Thu) or July 21st (Mon) - 5 pm or 6:30 pm (Signup w/intro email)

Course Schedule: Tentative, subject to change as needed. Please note that daily activities will be found via blackboard. The synchronous class days count as test grades. This means that missing one of your required days will result in a substantial drop in your grade; also, consider this is how you submit speeches. Finally, all assignments are due the date listed (the second date if there are two dates included) by midnight. If you are unable to complete an assignment by that time then I suggest you contact me BEFORE it is due.

<u>Week #</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Content Covered</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
<u>Part 1</u>	July 7 - 8	Intro to course Intro Speech Assigned	Introductory Email
<u>Part 2</u>	July 9 - 10	Read Chapter 1	Ch 1 quiz Intro Zoom Delivery (Thu 10th) Zoom meetings are 5 p or 630 p
<u>Part 3</u>	July 11	Read Chapter 6 + 2	Ch 6 +2 quiz Intro Zoom Delivery (Fri 11th) Zoom meetings are 5 p or 630 p
<u>Part 4</u>	July 14 - 15	Read Chapter 3 Informative Speech Assigned	Ch 3 quiz Informative Topic Submission
<u>Part 5</u>	July 16 - 17	Read Chapter 4 + 7	Ch 4 + 7 quiz Info Zoom Delivery (Thu 17th) Zoom meetings are 5 p or 630 p
<u>Part 6</u>	July 18	Read Chapter 9 + 12	Ch 9 + 12 quiz
<u>Part 7</u>	July 21 - 22		Info Zoom Delivery (Mon 21st) Zoom meetings are 5 p or 630 p
<u>Part 8</u>	July 23 - 24		Exam 1
<u>Part 9</u>	July 25	Read Chapter 5 Persuasive Assigned	Ch 5 quiz
<u>Part 10</u>	July 28 - 29	Read Chapters 8 + 13	Ch 8 + 13 quiz Persuasive Topic Proposals due
<u>Part 11</u>	July 30 - 31	Read Chapter 14 + 10 Oration Assigned	Ch 14 + 10 quiz
<u>Part 12</u>	Aug 1	Read Chapter 11 + 15	Ch 11 + 15 quiz Persuasive Speeches Due Exam 2
<u>Part 13</u>	Aug 4 - 5	Check Grades / Contact Prof.	Oration Due
<u>Part 14/Finals</u>	Aug 6 - 7	Check Grades / Contact Prof.	Final (Exam 3)
<u>Finals:</u>	August 7	Finals due Thursday by Noon	Finals due Thursday by Noon
Important Dates:	Synchronous Meetings - July 10 + 11 for Intro speech and July 17 + 21 for Info speech		