

## SPCH 1315 Introduction to Public Speaking

Fall 2020

Location: Online (D2L)

### Syllabus

Instructor: Jennifer Poland

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M.A. Communication (LSU)

M.E. Education (Lamar  
University)

### Course goals:

1. Demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate orally from the podium in clear, coherent, and engaging language appropriate to the specific purpose, the central idea and the audience.
2. Demonstrate competency in listening at college level, analyzing and interpreting verbal and nonverbal communication, and responding appropriately.
3. Demonstrate competency in the speech writing process by germinating, developing, researching, organizing, and properly documenting a speech and the sources used in speech preparation.
4. Demonstrate logical reasoning and critical thinking skills in problem solving and developing, evaluating and presenting oral arguments.

### Textbook

Our textbook is free and can be found online at <http://publicspeakingproject.org/psvirtualtext.html>. The material can be accessed online, saved, or printed if you wish. If you purchased a textbook, you can return it.

### Schedule (What's Due)

All of the assignments are due by midnight on the date listed.

8/30	Syllabus Quiz, Self-introduction Speech
9/6	Ch 1 & 3 Guided Readings, Speech Analysis
9/13	Ch 4 & 5 Guided Readings, Review Speech Topic, Speech Analysis
9/20	Ch 7 & 8 Guided Readings, Review Speech Rough Draft
9/27	<b>Review Speech Video and Outline</b> , Speech Analysis
10/4	Ch 9 & 10 Guided Readings, Speech Analysis
10/11	<b>Midterm Exam</b> , Speech Analysis
10/18	Ch 11 & 12 Guided Readings, Informative Speech Topic, Speech Analysis
10/25	Ch 13 & 15 Guided Readings, Informative Speech Rough Draft
11/1	<b>Informative Speech Video and Outline</b> , Speech Analysis
11/8	Ch 6 & 16 Guided Readings, Persuasive Speech Topic and Rough Draft
11/15	<b>Persuasive Speech Video and Outline</b> , Speech Analysis
11/22	<b>Speech Analysis Week</b> , Final Speech Topic
11/23 - 11/30	<i>Thanksgiving Break (nothing is due)</i>
12/6	<b>Final Exam, Final Speech Video and Outline</b>

### Online Component:

This class will be completed fully online. Because of that, we will be using BC Online to supplement the class (<https://online.brazosport.edu>). You will use this site for reading quizzes, submission of all assignments, and finding resources. You will also use this for our weekly class session (see below). This will give you quick access to grades and feedback and will allow you to download additional copies of assignments as needed. You will need to know your Brazosport login ID and password to access this.

### Student Evaluation:

This class will be graded according to the following:

1) *Guided Reading: 15%*

Each week, you will be responsible for answering questions about the chapters covered. These questions are designed to assess a basic understanding and are based off of the readings and the accompanying videos.

2) *Speech Analysis: 15%*

Throughout the course, you will analyze speeches to look at organization, delivery, purpose, etc.

3) *Speech Workshops: 10%*

You will be responsible for posting your topic selection and rough outline each week. You will also be responsible for critiquing another student's post (one critique per post).

4) *Self-Introduction Speech: 5%*

For this speech, you will introduce yourself to the class. You will be given an outline to fill in and submit.

5) *Review Speech: 5%*

For this speech, you will critique a movie, book, television show, or restaurant. This will be similar to a Yelp review. You'll be given more details later.

6) *Informative Speech: 10%*

You will give a speech informing your classmates on a current event. Topics will be chosen from a list or approved by the instructor.

7) *Persuasive Speech: 10%*

You will give a persuasive speech over a current event. Topics will be either chosen from a list or proposed by you, but all topics must be approved.

8) *Final Speech: 10%*

You will give either a persuasive or an informative speech. You will propose a topic, preferably related to your interests or field of study. Topics must be approved.

9) *Midterm Exam: 10%*

This exam will only cover the chapters that occur before the exam is given.

10) *Final Exam: 10%*

This will be a cumulative exam that will be taken in class. You will be able to use your book, but you will not be allowed to share. You must have your own book in order to use it on this exam.

**All GRADE APPEALS must be submitted **in writing** (email) within one week of the returned assignment! **There are no late assignments accepted.**** Everything is submitted online, so assignments will only be reopened if there is an emergency.

### Speech regulations:

*All speeches*, regardless of topic or length, must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Topics must be approved. Any presenters who have failed to get the topic approved will lose a letter-grade on your speech. There will be *no exceptions* to this policy.
- 2) Speeches must be within the time limits. Speeches that go under or over the time limit will face a point reduction equivalent to a letter grade. The best way to be certain that your speech goes the necessary length is to practice it several times. You will be given a 30 second grace period in either direction.

### Communication:

If you email the instructor for any reason, you should hear back within 48 hours. If you do not, please resend. **For grade concerns, you must email me at my Brazosport email address from your Brazosport email address.** You may also email through the tool in the course, but you might not get as fast of a response. You can use Remind (see below) to ask quick questions that are unrelated to grades.

### Remind

I have a Remind account created so that I can send text message reminders for this course. Mainly, this will be used to

remind you of due dates and give you a way to ask quick questions. If you would like to receive these texts, **please text the number 81010 with the message @bcspch1315**. At the end of the semester I'll remove you from the list.

**Academic Honesty:**

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and may, at a minimum, result in a zero for the assignment. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

**Respect for others:**

This class will be treated as a safe environment for discussion. All students will treat others with respect at all times. Students who have a problem with this policy will be dealt with accordingly. This respect extends to all viewpoints and beliefs expressed in this class.

**Students with Special Needs:**

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor, 979-230-3236 for further information.

**Title IX Statement:**

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College's policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are "Responsible Employees" and must report what you tell them to college officials. You can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below. Additional information is found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at [www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct](http://www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct).

Kelli Forde Spiers, Director, Student Life and Title IX Coordinator  
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