



**SPCH 1315
Public Speaking
Summer 2022
Online Course**

Student hours and location: Online Classroom. Meet with instructor by appointment only.

Required Textbook: Optional

Course Description: The ability to communicate effectively is essential to success in contemporary society. This course is designed to develop students' abilities to construct and deliver responsible public speeches. Although some students have no prior public speaking experience, at the end of this course students should be able to minimally do the following;

1. Analyze an audience and adapt to it.
2. Select a topic.
3. Establish their credibility as speakers.
4. Research and organize relevant material (critical thinking).
5. Begin and end a speech appropriately.

Course requirements: Students will be required to log into the online classroom on a regular basis, perform critical thinking, and go online to seek out resources not provided in the textbook.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula: This course contains a variety of activities to include quizzes, tests, a several written assignments.

Grading Scale:

89.5-100 A

79.5-89.4 B

69.5-79.4 C

59.5-69.4 D

Below 59.4 F

All scored items are equally weighted.

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: This is **NOT** a self-paced course!! It is the student's responsibility to know and keep up with due dates and deadlines. Late assignments may be accepted and makeup tests allowed, IF AND ONLY IF: (a) you make every effort possible to contact me PRIOR TO the due date and time, (b) you provide official documentation to verify your explanation as to why you could not turn in your assignment, and (c) documentation is

official (i.e., written on official stationary or letterhead, and signed by the appropriate authority). Informal notes from your mother/father/friend/roommate do not qualify as appropriate documentation. If you do not meet the above criteria, you will receive a ZERO for your assignment or test.

All deadlines are posted on the schedule. Be aware of these deadlines as it is your responsibility to hand in all assignments, submit speeches, and complete tests by the deadline.

Attendance Policy: This course is designed to enable you to access information and complete assignments at times that are convenient to your schedule. This does not mean you may pop in and out whenever you feel like it. Failure on your part to take online tests, respond to group discussions, or submit any assignment or speech by the deadline, will be recorded as absences. If you have trouble reading and following directions, this class is not for you!

If you miss more than 2 weeks turning in work, you cannot receive full credit for the course. Please remember, your participation will be noted. I will monitor your progress weekly via assignments and the weekly check-in. Even though this is an on-line course, absenteeism still hinders the learning process and may result in your failing this course.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Blackboard or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Analyze an audience and adapt to it.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Introduction post
2. Select a topic.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Persuasive Topic
3. Establish their credibility as speakers.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Informative speech
4. Research and organize relevant material (critical thinking).	Communication Skills (CS1, 2)	Persuasive speech
5. Begin and end a speech appropriately.	Communication Skills (CS3)	Informative and Persuasive speech and outlines

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams, is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the

appropriate discipline action.

Plagiarism: The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. Plagiarism is defined as “the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work” (Dictionary.com). All work must be the original composition of each student. Although you must use outside sources, you must cite them appropriately. Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. Assignments will be checked for plagiarism by *any and all means available*, including electronic checking services (i.e. Turnitin.com). The College and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Link(s) to resource(s) about ways to avoid plagiarism:

<http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

Remember – if you are worried about potential plagiarism or if any of this is unclear you can reach out to your instructor anytime. You will never be penalized for submitting questions!

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Brian Anderson, Department Chair for the Humanities Department at (409) 933-8186 or banderson@com.edu.

Course outline:

This schedule is tentative and subject to change at the instructors discretion. All changes will be communicated in a timely manner to students.

Start	Due	Assignment Due
6-Jun	12-Jun	Introduction Video/Replies
13-Jun	19-Jun	Nerves in Public Speaking
20-Jun	26-Jun	Creating an Outline
27-Jun	3-Jul	Informative Speech Outline & Video, Persuasive Speech Topic
4-Jul	10-Jul	Persuasive Speech Outline & Video
12-Jul		End of Semester

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of*

the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.
https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is March 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 25. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 4.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information

site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.