



SPCH 1315-302C-303C-304C

Public Speaking

Spring 2025

Monday thru Friday

Instructor Information: Mr. George tgeorge@tcisd.org

Student hours and location: Texas City H105 LaMarque High School A213

Required Textbook/Materials:

- This course does not require the purchase of a textbook
- This course will rely on multiple supplemental readings/videos that will be provided electronically.
- Readings/videos should be read/watched before the project starts.
- Readings, videos, assignments, and discussion posts will be posted in D2L

Course Description:

- SPCH 1315. PUBLIC SPEAKING (LECTURE 3, LAB 0). CREDIT 3. ACGM
- 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.

Course requirements: (including description of any special projects or assignments)

Assignment Description:

- Pet peeve Speech 3-5 minutes
 - Purpose is to learn how to use correct speech organization
 - Speech about yourself (Not a List)
 - Outline 50 pts
 - Speech 100 pts
- Researched Informative (Current Event Speech) 4 minutes
 - Purpose is to learn how to cite credible sources in the speech
 - Minimum two credible sources
 - Credible sources have an author, date, and year of publication.
 - Event has happened in the last 90 days
 - Outline 50 pts
 - Speech 100 pts

- Researched Persuasive Speech 4-5 minutes
 - Purpose is to use at least three credible sources to build a Persuasive speech
 - Credible sources have an author, date, and year of publication. Sources are usually no more than three years old.
 - Outline 100 pts
 - Speech 200 pts
- Special Occasion Speech 4 minute
 - Purpose is to write and perform a common speech that people encounter in their lifetime.
 - This semester we will focus on Eulogies and Acceptance Speeches
 - Outline 50 pts
 - Speech 100 pts
- Chapter quizzes 30pts each
- Unit exams 50pts each
- Midterm Exam 100 pts
- Final Exam 100pts

Specific unit work will be published each week on the Content page of the course. All assignments will be on the content page and turned into the assignment page on D2L

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula: (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance)

Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Course Policies

- Cell phones are not allowed in this classroom. Phones will be taken up if they come out in class. Please know this is your warning.
- Students must wear school ID's in class and be in dress code.
- All work must be completed on or before the due date and turned in to D2L Bright Space
- Daily work will not be accepted late
- If an unanticipated emergency does occur and is deemed excusable by the instructor, then the work may be turned in late. **Students missing an assignment will be assigned to Tuesday or Thursday Tutorials. This is where late work must be completed.**
- The instructor has the final decision as to accept any work late-regardless of the reason for the lateness of the assignment.

- The opportunity to make up a speech ends when presentations begin for the next speech. No exceptions to this rule.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is crucial to success in class. **Students must meet the 90% rule to earn credit.** This means you can not miss more than 10 class periods and still earn credit. School related absences do not count against the ten class periods.

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.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.	Meets required core objective(s): Critical Thinking	Introduction Speech
2. Students will apply elements of audience analysis.	Meets required core objective(s): Critical Thinking	Persuasive Speech
3. Students will demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic.	Meets required core objective(s): Personal Responsibility	Informative Speech
4. Students will research, develop, and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.	Meets required core objective(s): Communication Skills	Impromptu class activity
5. Students will demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.	Meets required core objective(s): Communication Skills	Persuasive Outline and Speech
6. Students will identify how culture, ethnicity and gender influence communication.	Meets required core objective(s): Critical Thinking	Special Occasion Speech

7. Students will develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or group (e.g., narrative, informative or persuasive).	Meets required core objective(s): Teamwork	Informative Speech
--	---	--------------------

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism: The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

- Two forms of plagiarism are common.
- In the first form, the writer incorporates published or otherwise recorded material without properly acknowledging its sources.
- In the second form, the writer submits work done by someone else; this also applies to a student who allows his or her work to be used by others.
- Any student who plagiarizes will receive a grade of “0” on his or her plagiarized work and may, as a result, receive a failing grade in the course.
- Ignorance will not be an acceptable defense: all students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules of documentation.
- Violation of the Plagiarism Policy may result in a referral to the College of the Mainland Judicial Coordinator or further disciplinary actions as stated in the current Student Handbook.
- All work submitted in College of the Mainland English, humanities, philosophy, or speech classes must conform to the documentation system established by the instructor, this course uses the American Psychological Association (APA) format.
- APA documentation guidelines are distributed by your instructor, found in your textbook or on reserve in the library <http://library.com.edu/>.
- You must document when you quote directly from another source.
- You must document when you paraphrase words from another source.
- You must document when you summarize ideas from another source.
- You must document when you use facts (statistics in a chart or graph, for example) or visual material from another source.
- Only published sources are allowed for credit, personal interviews, television shows/movies, etc. are not allowed.
- All sources must include a person as an author; organizations, entities, etc. do not count for credit as a source for credit.

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 Humanities Chair Dr. Brian Anderson at 409-933-8186 or banderson@com.edu

Course outline: This is a tentative outline

Date	Class Content	Assignments
Week of 1/13	Welcome and syllabus Review Syllabus Activity: What makes a speaker effective: Speaking competencies Introduce speech speech preview	Introduction Discussion Effective Speaker Discussion
1/20	Prep work for pet peeve speech Accessing D2L Bright Space	Pet peeve Journals Organization and Outline quiz
1/27	Introduce the Pet Peeve Speech Speech patterns Speech organization Outline requirements	Pet peeve Outline
2/3	Pet peeve Speeches and	Pet Peeve Speeches due
2/10	Informative Speeches Introduce Current Event Speech Citing sources Using databases for research Wk on Current Event Outline	Current Event Outline
2/17	Content notes	Current Event SpeechOutline Content notes Quiz
2/24	Informative Current Event Speeches	Informative Current Event Speeches
3/3	Using visual aids Outline peer review Listening	Midter

3/10	Audience Analysis Content	Informative Speech
3/24	Introduce Persuasive speech	
3/31	Persuasive speech content/sample speeches	
4/7	Work on Persuasive Speech	Persuasive Speech outline Persuasive/Audience analysis quiz
4/14	Graded Persuasive Speeches	
4/21	Introduce special occasion speech Special Occasion Content	
	Work and rehearse Special Occasion Speech	Special Occasion outline
4/28	Graded Special Occasion Speeches	
5/5		
5/8 Last day of class	Final Exam	Special Occasion, Critical thinking Listening quiz on exam day

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://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.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.*

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:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

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 February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or

communityresources@com.edu.