

Public Speaking Project Group Syllabus

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Meeting Time: Wednesdays at 1pm

Goal: Develop and demonstrate public speaking skills that will help you become a better speaker in college, jobs and more. Learn about the different types of speeches, when it is appropriate to use each one, and how to begin writing and formatting a basic speech.

Expectations: Arrive to class on time prepared to participate, and have your homework either submitted prior to the start, or ready to present in class. Everyone will be at different levels, and have varying levels of experience in public speaking. It is important to be respectful of your peers and stick to encouragement and constructive feedback.

Constructive Feedback: “providing useful comments and suggestions that contribute to a positive outcome, a better process or improved behaviors. It provides encouragement, support, corrective measures and direction to the person receiving it.”

Constructive feedback is not judging others or ripping apart their presentation, the goal is to give them some suggestions while still complimenting the things they did well.

Ask questions and put effort into your work and projects!

Homework and Assignments: For this project group, there will be a mix of homework assignments that you will need to complete and submit on Carmen prior to class as well as some weeks where your homework will be presenting something in class. The schedule breakdown below will give more information.

Weekly Agenda:

Week 1: Introduction to One Another & Public Speaking

- Begin by doing introductions and an ice breaker
- Take some time to review syllabus
- Powerpoint: why public speaking is important, organizing a speech, and an overview of informational speeches and when to use them.

Homework due in Class: Prepare a 1-2 minute informational speech about yourself. You may use a simple tangible visual or something to project on the screen, but avoid using notecards.

Week 2: Persuasive Speeches

- present informational speeches
- Powerpoint: persuasive speeches- what are they, when to use them and why
- Powerpoint: methods of persuasion
- Activity: quick debates on controversial opinions
- Go over homework for next week

Homework due by submission: Create a 30-60 second video speaking about a fun persuasive topic. Examples- why cookies are the best dessert, why dogs are better than cats, why Morrill is the best dorm etc. Have fun with it! Try to avoid using any notes while recording, but be sure to plan out an outline before. Submit in the carmen page before class, and we'll watch them in class.

Week 3: Delivery Details / Visual Aids / Speech Format Tips

- Opener: highs and lows-- explain “compliment sandwiches”
- Watch everyone’s persuasion speech videos and give “compliment sandwiches”.
- Powerpoint: delivery components- the do’s and don’ts
- Powerpoint: value of visual aids
- Activity: watch clips of speeches on youtube and talk about what parts of the delivery was good and what we should not do
- Powerpoint: brainstorm and outline format

Homework: Find an example of either a really good or really bad delivery, and add the link and a description of what they did good or bad, to the delivery discussion post. Due on Carmen before class.

Week 4: Marketing Speeches

- Watch a couple of the videos from the discussion post and discuss how they could improve their deliveries
- Opener: ask if students have ever bought something from a TV ad, what it was and why it convinced them to make a purchase or take action
- Powerpoint: marketing speech overview, tips and format
- Watch: Shark Tank Pitch Videos- evaluate what went well and what didn't
- Powerpoint: general speech presentation tips

Homework: prepare a 1-2 minute sales pitch about the topic of your choice. Be ready to present not next week, but in two weeks at the 6th class.

Week 5: Speeches, Presentations and Interviews in the Virtual Setting

this class will take place over zoom!

- Opener: highs and lows / ask students to go around and share a good or bad experience with online lectures, interviews, etc., or a difference they noticed compared to in-person
- Powerpoint: compare and contrast virtual vs. in-person presentations and interviews / how to utilize appropriate tech
- Go into Sway and explain how it works and talk about when it might be useful
- Activity: go into breakout rooms and practice unscripted interview questions
- Explain final project speech

Homework: polish your marketing speech to present in class next week. Begin planning your final project: Pick any appropriate topic for an informational speech. You will present them in the 7th and final week of class and they should be approximately 3-4 minutes long. You may use a visual aid, but not note cards. There will be a couple minutes allotted at the end of your speech

