

CMST 2060 Public Speaking

Instructor: Raquel M. Robvais

Office: Coates Hall 319

Email: rrobva1@lsu.edu

Course Materials: Lucas, Stephen. *The Art of Public Speaking*. McGraw Hill (11th Edition). One two-pocket folder for handing in speech materials.

Course Description: CMST 2060 is a *General Education Humanities Course* designed to familiarize students with the study of public speaking. The act of public speaking is the culmination (and often the beginning) of a long process of critical dialogue between oneself, language, and the imagined responses of the audience. In other words, it takes being confident in who you are, what you want to say, how you are going to say it, who you want to say it to, and why you should say anything at all. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of rhetorical public speaking.

As a General Education Humanities Course, CMST 2060 will enable students to demonstrate an understanding of historical, cultural, and philosophical complexity that supports sophisticated discourse.

As a result of this course, students should:

1. Understand the principles of rhetoric and effectively utilize them in crafting well researched, reasoned, and appealing speeches.
2. Choose topics for public speaking that are timely, relevant, and adaptable given varying situations in which the message may be delivered, and for different audiences.
3. Effectively and critically evaluate message/speech content and delivery, both when examining one's own work as well as that of others.
4. Understand and utilize the verbal and nonverbal elements essential for exemplary speech delivery.
5. Analyze and discuss speeches of historical, political and social significance.

Office Hours: 10:30 am-12:30 pm Tuesday and Thursday; or by appointment. To make an appointment please email me. Note: I generally respond to emails during normal business hours 8:00am- 5:00pm. If you need a response the same day, it is best to get the message to me before noon. While I always attempt to meet with students whenever possible, it is most helpful to have **twenty-four hours advance notice** before your desired meeting time.

Absences/Late Work: Please inform me ahead of time if you will miss a speech day. Excusable reasons for missing are listed in the LSU Excused Absence Statement. Under these circumstances, I will work with you to determine the appropriate way to make up missed assignments; for speeches either on another day during the same round, or during my office hours in front of myself and other Public Speaking instructors. If you must miss, you must provide me with either an outline or a script of your speech within

twenty-four hours of missing the presentation and schedule a make up within one week of the absence.

Missed speeches that are not accompanied by proof of excused absence may be made up within one week of the original speech day for the **maximum grade of a C (70)**. Those who miss a speech due to an unexcused absence must schedule their make-up within twenty-four hours to be allowed to make up the speech.

Other course assignments are due at the beginning of class. Any assignment turned in after I begin calling the roll is considered late and will not be accepted. All assignments are due on the dates specified. After that point, work will **no longer be accepted** without proof of extenuating circumstances (see above). In this case, the assignment must be turned on the day the student returns to class.

Two of your speeches will be video recorded. You will be required to view them and provide a self-evaluation during the speaking round.

Remember: “Class attendance is the responsibility of the student. The student is expected to attend all classes. A student who finds it necessary to miss class assumes responsibility for making up examinations, obtaining lecture notes, and otherwise compensating for what may have been missed. The student is responsible for providing reasonable advance notification and appropriate documentation of the reason for the absence.”

Other Course Policies:

1. I understand that certain things may necessitate leaving class early. If such an event occurs, please let me know before class that day and try to sit near a door so that your departure does not disturb other students.
2. Do not use your phone during the class. Please turn your ringtone off to avoid distracting other students.
3. On speech days, personal computers, tablets, and similar devices are not allowed. 10pts will be deducted from your speech if you are using one of the aforementioned devices during speeches.
4. Be on time. Public speaking is an art. Do not disrupt your classmate's speech delivery with your late arrival.
5. Questions about grades should be made within one week of the assignment being returned. Students should wait 24 hours after receiving a grade before asking questions or appealing grades. You should make an appointment to meet with me in my office to discuss a grade or submit typed written questions.

Grades: Final grades will be determined based on scores earned in the following assignments. All work must be done during the semester. **I do not round grades.**

Point Breakdown: The overall course is worth 1000 points. Different categories of assignments are worth different amounts of your overall grade, as follows:

Course Assignment	Percentage of the Grade	Maximum Points
Introduction Speech	5%	50
Informative Speech	15%	150
Persuasive Speech	20%	200
Commemorative Speech	10%	100

A portion of each of the four major speech assignments will be based upon written components (speech outlines, speech evaluations, etc.) in addition to an in-class presentation component.)

Research participation	3%	30
Activity Speeches	12%	120
Reading Assessments (Quizzes, HW, Presentations)	15%	150

EXAMS (20% of overall course grade):

Midterm Exam	10%	100
Final Exam	10%	100

Your final grade assignment will be based on your total score at the end of the semester. Final grades will be assigned as follows:

A+	970-1000 points	100-98 points
A	930-969 points	97-93 points
A-	900-929 points	92-90 points
B+	870-899 points	89-87 points
B	830-869 points	86-83 points
B-	800-829 points	82-80 points
C+	770-799 points	79-77 points

C	730-769 points	76-73 points
C-	700-729 points	72-70 points
D+	670-699 points	69-67 points
D	630-669 points	66-63 points
D-	600-629 points	62-60 points
F	0-599 points	59-0 points

Assignment Notes

Class Participation: Attending class, doing the assigned readings prior to class, and participating in classroom discussions and activities are expected of you. Doing that will earn you an average grade (70%) in Participation. To excel in participation, you should consider posing questions that you have after the readings, bring examples of the concepts discussed in the readings that you find in popular culture or in political discourses. As well, you can also submit comments/questions before or after class as a contribution to the class discussion. The two greatest ways to lose participation points are not showing up on speech days and being on your cell phone/laptop while your classmates are speaking.

Research Participation Requirement:

The material you will learn in this course is the product of research. The goal of the research learning requirement is to help you to gain knowledge about the process by which scholars attempt to understand human behavior. All students taking CMST 1061, 2010, 1150, and 2060 must complete a research learning requirement. For each course in which a student is enrolled, he or she must complete 2 research credits. You can fulfill your requirement by

1. Participating in research studies conducted in the Department of Communication Studies. All studies that last between 0 and 30 minutes will count as one credit. Any study that lasts between 31 and 60 minutes will count as two credits. Each study will specify the number of credits a student can earn for completion. There will be several survey and experimental studies conducted throughout the semester. These studies are held on campus at various times and in various locations or are administered through online survey software. All available studies are approved by the Institutional Review Board at LSU.
2. Participating in an organized departmental function such as debate or public speaking competition. Only departmental sanctioned events will count toward a student's research learning requirement; thus, no credit will be given for a student attending an outside speaker or performance.
3. Serving as a research assistant for a faculty member in the Department of Communication Studies. The number of units and requirements for those units will be set by the researcher and either accepted or rejected by the student.

The research learning requirement is worth 3% of your total grade; you will receive your 3% if you accumulate 2 research credits during the given semester. Please note that all research learning credits must be completed and allocated by Tuesday April 26 at 11:59 pm.

ALL available options to earn credit are posted on an electronic bulletin board located at <http://lsuhumanresearch.sona-systems.com/> . When you go to this website, you will first have to request an account. Once you have secured an account, you will be able to log in and see the options available to you for your various CMST courses.

Please note that various ways to fulfill your research learning requirement will appear on this bulletin board throughout the semester. You are encouraged to check the system on a regular basis for current credit options that fit your interests as well as your schedule.

It is very important that when you sign-up for a credit option that you attend that option or cancel your sign up. Failure to show up twice during one semester will result in your access to the system being restricted and you being unable to complete your research learning requirement. Valid excuses for failing to cancel a sign up and missing a credit option are the same as those found in LSU Policy Statement 31.

Detailed instructions on how to request an account and to navigate the system once logged in can be found on the homepage of the Department of Communication Studies. Go to <http://www.lsu.edu/cmst> Then click on RESOURCES and RESEARCH PARTICIPATION SYSTEM. Scroll down to find the document titled “RPS – Instructions for Students.”

You are encouraged to create an account during the first week of classes so that any problems that arise can be remedied before it is too late. **If you have questions about this requirement or the online system that keeps track of credits, please email researchadmin@lsu.edu**

TITLE IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a comprehensive federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the gender of students and employees of educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance.

In accordance with Title IX and other applicable law, Louisiana State University (“LSU”) is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free of discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual misconduct which includes sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and retaliation. LSU prohibits sex discrimination and sexual misconduct. This policy applies to all persons without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.

Sex discrimination and sexual misconduct violate an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. LSU considers sex discrimination and sexual misconduct in all of its forms to be serious offenses. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy establishes a mechanism for determining when rights have been violated in employment, student life, campus support services, LSU programs and/or an academic environment.

[LSU Commitment to Community](#) - LSU is an interactive community in which students, faculty, and staff together strive to pursue truth, advance learning, and uphold the highest standards of performance in an academic and social environment.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism: You are to assume that all assignments in this course are individual assignments unless explicit instructions are provided for a group project. Any student found to have turned in material not their own (either downloaded from the internet or written by another student) in part or in whole will immediately be reported to the Dean of Students. The Internet has made plagiarism very easy and very tempting. Hundreds of sites offer papers, research, writing, and editing. The ease with which such material is available over the Internet does not lessen the seriousness of claiming material from the Internet as your own. See the LSU policies on plagiarism here: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/instruction/plagiarism2.html> Your paper would be considered as plagiarized in part or entirely if you do any of the following:

- Submit a paper that was written by someone other than you.
- Submit a paper in which you use the ideas, metaphors or reasoning style of another, but do not cite that source and/or place that source in your list of references. Simply rewording a sentence does not make work your own.
- Submit a paper in which you “cut and paste” or use the exact words of a source and you do not put the words within quotation marks, use footnotes or in-text citations, and place the source in your list of references.

Extra Credit: No extra credit assignments will be allowed.

Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states: “If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a coordinator in the Office of Disability Affairs (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations can be arranged. After you receive the accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

Do you have a major?

Business leaders and other professionals recognize the importance of developing communication skills and analysis. Alan Greenspan, for example, stated, “To succeed, you will soon learn, as I did, the importance of a solid foundation in the basics of education – literacy, both verbal and numerical, and communication skills.” We hope this course contributes to your success.

To learn more about communication, you may want to major or minor in the Department of Communication Studies. The program explores how people sustain and change, experience, and make sense of the world through symbolic action. Students develop conceptual skills to analyze written, oral, and visual messages. Students gain practical experience in such areas such as public speaking, group decision-making, performance, and film. Such skills are elemental to careers in business, government, law, social services, and the arts.

A major in Communication Studies requires 36 hours including 12 hours of core classes and 12 hours at the 3000 or 4000 level. A minor requires 15 hours with one core class and 6 hours at the 3000 level or above.

The Department of Communication Studies offers 6 Pathways of Study as guidance for students interested in taking CMST courses. These pathways include lists of courses that can be taken for students interested in the following areas within Communication Studies:

- Public Discourse
- Art and Culture
- Professional Communication
- Communication in Human Relationships
- Visual and Mediated Communication
- Create your Own Pathway

More information is available at www.lsu.edu/cmst or by contacting our undergraduate advisor Mr. Kent Filbel (kfilli@lsu.edu), whose hours are posted at his office, 135 Coates Hall.

Anticipated Course Schedule

Day	Material	Of Interest	Homework
Th 1/14	Course Introduction		Read Ch.1,4,10
T 1/19	Speaking, Giving Your First Speech Intro/Conclusion		Read Ch. 2, Ch. 12
Th 1/21	Ethics/Language/Library Visit		Read Ch.13. Library Assign./Language Assign.
T 1/26	Library Assign./Delivery		Delivery Analysis Assign./Read Ch.11
Th 1/28	Delivery Analysis/Outline		Introductory Outline
T 2/2	Quiz 1/Intro Outline/Prep for Speech, Sign Up	Quiz 1	
Th 2/4	Intro Speech	Speech Day	
T 2/9	Mardi Gras		Group Presentation Ch.15
Th 2/11	Speaking to Inform Ch. 15		Read Ch.5, 9
T 2/16	Selecting Topic & Purpose		Read Ch.7,8
Th 2/18	Gathering Materials, Supporting Your Ideas		Informative Speech Outline
T 2/23	Outline, Informative Speech Preparation, Sign up for speech	Quiz 2	
Th 2/25	Informative Speech	Speech Day	
T 3/1	Informative Speech	Speech Day	
Th 3/3	Informative Speech	Speech Day	
T 3/8	Midterm Exam		Group Presentation Ch.16
Th 3/10	Speaking to Persuade		Group Presentation Ch. 17

T 3/15	Methods of Persuasion		Letter Assign./Speech Outline
Th 3/17	Letter Assign./Speech Outline, Sign Up- Prep		
	Spring Break March 3/20-3/27		
T 3/29	Persuasive Speech	Speech Day	
Th 3/31	Persuasive Speech	Speech Day	
T 4/5	Persuasive Speech	Speech Day	
Th 4/7	No Class (Conference)		Ch 18 Group Presentation
T 4/12	Speaking on Special Occasions		Commemorative Speech Outline
Th 4/14	Quiz 3/Go Over Comm. Speech Outline	Quiz 3	Language Assignment
T 4/19	Language Assign. Commemorative Speech Preparation/Sign Up		
Th 4/21	Commemorative Speech	Speech Day	
Th 4/26	Commemorative Speech	Speech Day	
T 4/28	Review		
5/3	10am-12pm sec 37		
5/5	3:00pm-5:00pm sec 62		

Criteria Used for Evaluating Speeches

The *average speech* (grade C) should meet the following criteria:

1. Conform to the kind of speech assigned—informative, persuasive, etc.
2. Be ready for presentation on the assigned date
3. Conform to the time limit
4. Fulfill any special requirements of the assignment—preparing an outline, using visual aids, conducting an interview, etc.
5. Have a clear specific purpose and central idea
6. Have an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion
7. Show reasonable directness and competence in delivery
8. Be free of serious errors in grammar, pronunciation, and word usage

The *above average speech* (grade B) should meet the preceding criteria and also:

1. Deal with a challenging topic
2. Fulfill all major functions of a speech introduction and conclusion
3. Display clear organization of main points and supporting materials
4. Support main points with evidence that meets the tests of accuracy, relevance, objectivity, and sufficiency
5. Exhibit proficient use of connectives—transitions, internal previews, internal summaries, and signposts
6. Be delivered skillfully enough so as not to distract attention from the speaker's message

The *superior speech* (grade A) should meet all the preceding criteria and also:

1. Constitute a genuine contribution by the speaker to the knowledge or beliefs of the audience
2. Sustain positive interest, feeling, and/or commitment among the audience
3. Contain elements of vividness and special interest in the use of language
4. Be delivered in a fluent, polished manner that strengthens the impact of the speaker's message

