

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Department of Communication

Comm. 331

ADVANCED PUBLIC SPEAKING

Spring Quarter 2007

Instructor:	Rosemary Scott Vohs	Phone:	650-6446
Class Location:	MH 158	Office:	MH 264E
Class Time:	Wednesdays 6:00-8:20pm	Office Hours:	10:30-11:30 MWF in MH 264E
Website:	http://www.wwu.edu/~rvohs		8:30-8:50 MWF in CF 203
Email:	Rosemary.Vohs@wwu.edu		& by chance or appointment

Textbook: Dan O'Hair, Hannah Rubenstein and Rob Stewart. *A Speaker's Guidebook*.
(Text provided free to students provided they return them at the end of the quarter)
Students will also read at least 100 pages from other resources.
Bibliographies of additional reading options will be provided.

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Improve verbal and non-verbal public communication skills.
- Cultivate better listening skills.
- Manage presentation anxiety.
- Develop critical/analytical skills as applied to public presentations.
- Comprehend and apply advanced rhetorical and communication theory to oral presentations.
- Adapt presentations to specific audiences, occasions, and logistics.
- Use various types of supporting materials.
- Identify and organize key points.
- Develop introductions and conclusions.
- Understand the components of speaker credibility.
- Make ethical decisions when preparing a presentation.
- Use various strategies for generating audience interest.
- Employ effective vocal and physical delivery skills.
- Create and use a variety of types of presentation aids including Power Point.
- Participate effectively in a program of collaborative learning in achieving goals of the course.
- Prepare and present several speeches of different types typical of American governmental, business, educational, and civic settings and situations.

Methods of Evaluation:

Speaker Critique (10 %) One 2-3 page typed critique of at least 3 different types of out-of-class presentations. These may be live, video-taped, or recorded speeches. Presentation types may include lectures, sermons, sales presentations, political debates, informational, inspirational, or persuasive speeches, storytelling performances, poetry/literature readings, toasts/roasts, eulogies, etc. Students must attend live presentations that total at least one hour.

Total listening must be at least 2 hours.

Exam (10%) One comprehensive exam will be given at the completion of the course. This will mostly consist of essay questions that will focus on the practical applications of the material read in the text and other readings.

Speeches (60%) Five graded presentations are required.
(Other non-graded speech activities will also be included throughout the quarter):

1. **Speech of Introduction (5%)**
2-3 minutes. No notes permitted. No outline or visual aids required.
2. **Storytelling presentation (5%)**
3-4 minutes. No notes permitted. No outline or visual aids required.
3. **Demonstration speech (15%)**
5-6 minutes. Visual aids/objects required. No notes permitted. Planning outline required.
4. **Inspirational Presentation (20%)**
6-7 minutes. Power Point presentation required. Notes permitted. Speaking outline required.
5. **Special Occasion Speech (15%)** 4-5 minutes. Presented from full manuscript.

Self Evaluations (10%) You will be required to turn in a self-critique for every graded presentation. Evaluations should cover what you did well in your speech and how you will improve. Your critique will be based on your own preparation, your presentation, peer and instructor critiques and, because each graded speech is videotaped, a review of a recording of your speech. Turn in your self-critique the next class day after you have given your speech.

Participation (10%) Public speaking is a two-way street. The only way a speaker can improve presentational skills is through the presence of courteous, attentive listeners willing to offer constructive feedback. Since listening is one of the vital communication skills that will be learned in this class, it is logical that students must be present to listen. Beyond your presence I am looking for the following qualities: demonstrating curiosity about intellectual issues and communication techniques by raising thoughtful, relevant questions; exhibiting careful, mature and thorough preparation (e.g., attention to detail, planning and editing, rigorous practice); voluntarily making tasks more challenging by focusing on improving performance rather than meeting minimal requirements; seeking feedback on ideas from colleagues/peers and offering your insights and abilities to them; active class participation by guiding discussion toward issues you find problematic; focusing on how future performance can be improved rather than on how past performance can be excused; and approaching tasks and discussions from original or inventive perspectives. You will give in-class written and verbal evaluations of your peers. Absences will result in a loss of 2% per day unless excused ahead of time.

Dates to Remember:

April 11	* Speech of Introduction	May 25 (office)	* Speaker critique due
April 18	* Storytelling Presentation	May 30, June 6	* Special Occasion Speech
April 25, May 2	* Demonstration Speech	TBA	* Final
May 16, 23	* Inspirational Speech		

Grade Distribution:

100-95 = A	86-84 = B	76-74 = C	66-64 = D
94-90 = A-	83-80 = B-	73-70 = C-	63-60 = D-
89-87 = B+	79-77 = C+	69-67 = D+	Below 60 = F