

## Public Speaking (SPCH 1315)



**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None.

### Course Description

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.

### Required Textbook and Materials

1. *A Concise Public Speaking Handbook* by S. Beebe & S. Beebe, 5th edition. Pearson Publishers.
  - a. Softcover ISBN is 978-0-13-440176-8
  - OR**
  - b. eBook subscription ISBN number is 978-0-13-438090-2
2. 1 package of 3x5 or 5x8 index cards
3. 2 #882-E Scantrons and a #2 pencil
4. Material for creating visual aids
5. Must have the ability to upload/print documents for class
6. We will be using Blackboard for this course

### Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.
2. Apply elements of audience analysis.
3. Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic.
4. Research, develop and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
5. Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.
6. Identify how culture, ethnicity and gender influence communication.
7. Develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or group (e.g. narrative, informative or persuasive).

### Core Objectives

1. **Critical Thinking Skills:** To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. **Communication Skills:** To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

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3. Teamwork: To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others.
4. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

### **Course Outline**

- A. Introduction to Public Speaking
  - a. Speaking in Public
  - b. The Audience-Centered Speechmaking Process
  - c. Ethics and Free Speech
  - d. Improving Your Confidence
- B. Analyzing an Audience
  - a. Listening
  - b. Analyzing Your Audience
  - c. Adapting to Your Audience as You Speak
- C. Preparing a Speech
  - a. Developing Your Speech
  - b. Gathering Supporting Material
  - c. Supporting Your Material
- D. Crafting a Speech
  - a. Organizing Your Speech
  - b. Developing an Introduction
- c. Developing a Conclusion
- d. Outlining and Editing Your Speech
- e. Using Words Well
- E. Delivering a Speech
  - a. Methods of Delivery
  - b. Nonverbal Communication
  - c. Verbal Communication
  - d. Delivering Your Speech
  - e. Selecting Presentation Aids
  - f. Designing and Using Presentation Aids
- F. Types of Speeches
  - a. Informative Speaking
  - b. Understanding Principles of Persuasive Speaking
  - c. Using Persuasive Strategies
  - d. Speaking in Small Groups

### **Grade Scale**

900 – 1000	A
800 – 899	B
700 – 799	C
600 – 699	D
0 – 599	F

### **Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. 5 Speeches	50%
2. Homework / Participation	30%
3. Tests	20%

### **Course Policies**

1. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Computers, telephones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class or used only with permission of the instructor.
3. Do not bring children to class.

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4. No late assignments, tests or speeches. In the case of a documentable emergency beyond the student's control, make-up work may be accepted solely at the instructor's discretion.
5. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
6. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

### **Technical Requirements (for courses using Blackboard)**

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at:

[https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support/Browser\\_Checker](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support/Browser_Checker) A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

### **Disabilities Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building. You may also visit the online resource at <http://www.lit.edu/depts/stuserv/special/defaults.aspx>

### **Student Code of Conduct Statement**

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at [www.lit.edu](http://www.lit.edu) or obtained in print upon request at the Student Services Office. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document

### **Starfish**

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

