Linn-Benton Community College

Department of Communication

**Public Speaking**

**Course Syllabus: Spring 2023**

“It's much easier to be convincing if you care about your topic. Figure out what's important to you about your message and speak from the heart.” ― [Nicholas Boothman](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/105972.Nicholas_Boothman)

**Course Information**    
  
**Course Number and CRN:** COMM 111: CRN 42168

**Credits:** 3.00  
  
**Course Date:** April 3-June 18  
  
**Course Meeting Times:** MW 1:30-2:50   
  
**Course Location:** Corvallis Campus Chinook Hall Room 203  
  
**Instructor:** Steven Merge, M.S., M.B.A. (merges@linnbenton.edu)

**Office Hours:** 1:00-1:30 MW

*A human can make over 10,000 facial expressions to express a wide variety of subtle emotions.*

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

Emphasizes enhancing the relationship between speaker and audience through the content, organization and delivery of short oral presentations. Helps relieve student speech anxiety. This course offers preliminary instruction in public speaking, a skill that will greatly benefit your academic, professional and social pursuits. Students will practice speaking before groups. The emphasis is on organization, structure, and types of speech.

**STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

As a result of taking COMM 111, a student should be able to:

* Synthesize and organize information for varied audiences
* Interact with confidence while adapting messages to audience needs
* Listen critically
* Engage in ethical communication processes that accomplish goals
* Respond to the needs of diverse audiences and contexts
* Build and manage relationships

**COURSE MATERIALS: Textbook is optional**

Valenzano III, J.M., Braden, S.W., & Broeckelman-Post, M.A. (2013) The Speaker’s Primer (1sted.). Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press. ISBN: 9781598716207

**TECHNOLOGY**: You will need a laptop/computer and Moodle.

**All assignments are explained, in detail, in Moodle. Any updates will also show up in Moodle, so please check Moodle every couple of days**

**The syllabus may not always be accurate. Use Moodle!**

| Week | Date | Activity or Lecture | Readings/ Assignments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | M | Course Introduction; Self-Introductions; Syllabus discussion; Artifacts Assignment explained |  |
| W | Anxiety vs Relaxation; Noise; Listening; Euphemisms; Audience Analysis | Ch. 2 & 3 |
|  |  |  |
| 2 | M | No Class- Martin Luther King Day | Ch. 8 |
| W | How to start your speech; make transitions. And how to conclude; Delivery; Presentation Aids;**Present Artifacts Assignment** | Ch. 11Ch. 12Ch. 14, 17,19 |
|  |  |  |
| 3 | M | Informative Speech explanation | Chapter 15 |
| W | **Informative Speech Outline Due** Delivery; Presentation Aids; Critiques explained | Outline Due 6pm WednesdayPresentation/Critiques Given |
|  |  |  |
| 4 | M | **Informative Speech Presentations/Critiques Given** | Presentation/Critiques Given |
| W | Informative **Speech Presentations/Critiques Given**Reasoning; Irony explained | Ch. 2,3,8,11,12,14,17. &19Ch. 13 |
|  |  |  |
| 5 | M | Persuasive Speech explained | Ch. 15 |
| W | Counter arguments**Persuasive Speech Outline Due** | Outline Due 6pm Friday |
|  |  |  |
| 6 | M | **Persuasive Speech Presentation/Critiques** | Persuasive Presentation/Critique |
| W | **Persuasive Speech Presentation/Critiques**Special Occasions Speech explained | Persuasive Presentation/CritiqueCh. 16 |
|  |  |  |
| 7 | M | **No Class- Presidents Day** | Special Occasions Outline Due Monday 6pm |
| W | **Special Occasions Presentation/CritiqueSpecial Occasions Presentation/CritiqueSpecial Occasions Presentation Outline Due** | Special Occasion Presentations/Critiques |
|  |  |  |
| 8 | M | Extemporaneous Speech explained | Chapter 20 |
| W | Introductions/Extemporaneous Speech explained**Introduction/Extemporaneous Speech Outline Due** | Ch. 19 Extemporaneous Outline Due Friday 6pm |
|  |  |  |
| 9 | M | **Extemporaneous explained** | Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique |
| W | **Interpretation SpeechExercises** |  |
|  |  |  |
| 10 | M | **Impromptu explanation and Class Review** | Ch 19 |
| W | **Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique** |  |
|  |  |  |

**FINAL: Wednesday June 14- 1:00 Impromptu Speeches**

**GradedAssignments:**

Artifacts Presentation 10 Points

Informative Speech Outline 30 points

Informative Speech. 30 points

Persuasive Speech Outline 30 Points

Persuasive Speech. 30 Points

Special Occasion Outline 20 Points

Special Occasion Speech 20 Points

Speaker Introduction Outline 15 Points

Speaker Introduction Speech 15 Points

Interpretation Speech 15 points

Extemporaneous Speech 30 points

Impromptu 20 points

Critiques 10 Points each (6 critiques required)

*Total Points Possible 325 Points*

**GRADING:**

A 90% +

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F 59% or lower

**ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS:**

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the [CFAR Website](https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/accessibility/index.php) for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** All participants will be held accountable for their actions in class.

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

**BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:** A course catalog contains a very clear summary of the rules of conduct for any class, including academic performance and classroom behavior. If you violate these rules, you may be in violation of the LBCC Judicial Code. Penalties range from grade reductions and failure of the course, to expulsion from the College. In addition to these requirements, I have the following expectations of students:

**PLAGIARISM, ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT, & CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Penalties for these actions may result in zero points for the assignment or exam, failure of the course, or possible expulsion from the College. See your undergraduate catalog for the College’s definition of plagiarism and academic misconduct.

