

Communication 111Z

Public Speaking

Course Syllabus

Fall 2023

"In an orator ... we demand the acuteness of a logician, the profundity of a philosopher, the diction of a poet, the memory of a lawyer, the voice of a performer in tragic drama, the gestures, you might almost say, of an actor at the very top of his profession. Here, then, are some of the reasons why a first-class orator is one of the rarest things in the world."

Marcus Tullius Cicero
De Oratore

September 25th to December 8th
TR 12:30-2:20pm
Room: Benton Center 246
CRN: 28354

Instructor Information

Mark Urista, M.A.
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Office: Benton Center 246
Office Hours: TR 12-12:30pm
Also available by appointment

Course Description

COMM 111Z emphasizes developing communication skills by examining and demonstrating how self-awareness, audience, content, and occasion influence the creation and delivery of speeches and presentations. COMM 111Z is a 4-credit course.

Special note about this Comm 111Z section

This class is part of [LBCC's Cornerstone Project](#). It provides an opportunity to broaden your understanding of the world and yourself while strengthening your skills to read closely, write clearly, speak with confidence, and contend with differing viewpoints and perspectives. These skills will prepare you for university coursework and future careers.

An important part of this class involves reading and discussing "transformative texts." Together, we will be reading selected passages from Aristotle's *Rhetoric* and Cicero's *De Inventione* and *De Oratore*. Be ready to experience uncertainty and ambiguity—and to grapple with questions that don't always have obvious or unanimous answers—as we relate these texts to class assignments, contemporary issues, and our individual lives.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop messages for diverse audiences, purposes, and contexts.
2. Identify and utilize skills to manage communication apprehension
3. Deliver and adapt speeches and/or presentations to live audiences.
4. Evaluate public speeches, including their own, by identifying aspects of preparation, credibility, logic, and delivery.

Course Text

Valenzano III, J. M., Braden, S. W., Broeckelman-Post, M. A. (2020). *The Speaker's Primer (3rd ed)*. Southlake, TX: Fountainhead Press.

Online Resources: www.fountainheadpress.com/theprimer/

Assignments & Quizzes

Speaking Assignments

	Length	Points
Classmate Speech	2-3 minutes	2.5 points
Object Speech	3-4 minutes	5 points
Speech of Introduction	4-5 minutes	10 points
Informative Speech	6-7 minutes	20 points
Persuasive Speech	7-8 minutes	20 points

Quizzes

Quiz #1	10 points
Quiz #2	10 points
Quiz #3	10 points

Speech Critiques

Six In-Class Speech Critiques	7.5 points
Self-Critique	5 points

General Information Pertaining to Speech Assignments

Speaking assignments will require four important steps:

- 1) Selecting an appropriate topic
- 2) Conducting research
- 3) Preparing an outline
- 4) Rehearsing the speech

In general, speech grades are based on the following criteria:

- 1) The appropriateness of the topic for the assignment
- 2) Clear organization of the speech
- 3) Adaptation of the speech for the audience
- 4) The judicious use of source citations
- 5) The incorporation of required supporting materials
- 6) Effective delivery
- 7) The quality of the outline
- 8) The length of the speech

*All speeches must be presented extemporaneously with an outline. You must bring two typed outlines to class on the day you speak. You will give one to me prior to presenting your speech and will use the second copy to deliver your speech.

The use of complete source citations is a critical element of a well-developed speech. Each speech will require a minimum number of source citations. Full credit will only be given for stating complete source citations orally while delivering a speech. Because you are speaking to a college audience, it is also expected that you will use credible sources. Information from tabloids and websites produced by extremists, bigots, or ignoramuses must be avoided.

All speeches must be timed in advance of being presented in class. The grades earned on the speeches will be lowered if they are over time or under time. *As a general rule, one point will be deducted for every thirty seconds that the speech is under or over time.*

You must present speeches on the day you are assigned to speak. If you miss class on a day you have been assigned to speak without a valid, documented excuse, you will receive 0 points for the speech. If you show up on the day you are assigned to speak without a typed outline, you will receive 0 points for the speech. If you cannot attend class on an assigned speech date due to an illness or emergency, you must email me an outline of your speech and a video of you delivering the speech before our class begins to verify that you were prepared to speak in front of our classroom audience. Upon reviewing your outline, video, and documentation, I will determine if you can deliver the speech again in front of our class to receive points for the assignment. If you foresee a time conflict with a speech date, please provide me with advance notice.

In-Class Speech Critiques

You are required to complete six (one-page) critiques of speeches presented by other students in class. Two critiques are required for each of the three major speeches. I will review each critique and give them to the speaker the following day of class. Please complete the critique while the speaker is delivering their speech. You will not receive credit for critiques that are poorly written or not turned in. It is your responsibility to make sure you complete all required critiques.

You will only earn 7.5 points if every required critique is completed and turned in. You will not be allocated points for each individual critique.

Self-Critique

Your informative speech will be recorded. You will need to bring a device capable of video recording your speech on the day you present. At the end of the class session, you will be emailed a form to critique yourself.

Quizzes

Each quiz will be multiple choice and have true or false questions. You will need an 882 scantron for each quiz. Questions will be based on material from assigned readings, class discussions, and lectures. You can use any handwritten notes you make for each quiz. Make-up quizzes are not permitted without a valid, documented excuse.

Classroom Policies

Success is your choice! If you choose to be successful, I will be happy to help you. If you do not choose to be successful, I will honor your choice. *Every student has the potential to succeed in this class.*

*Please note that college-level writing skills (WR 121) are strongly recommended for success in this course.

Attendance & Participation: Your attendance impacts the quality of each student's learning experience. Thus, students are allowed to miss only two days of class. Your final grade will be lowered by five points for each day you miss class without a valid, documented excuse. If you are going to drop the course, you need to do it yourself. If you stop showing up without dropping, you will receive an F for the course.

Tardiness: Two tardies equal one absence. If you are tardy by over 15 minutes, you will be marked as absent. If you leave class early, you will be marked as absent for the day. If you arrive late, let me know after class so I can sign you in on the roll sheet. *Please do not enter the room when another student is speaking. If you arrive late, wait to be let in.*

Cell Phones: Turn them off before entering the classroom. Text messaging is annoying and disrespectful. Don't do it.

Tolerance: In this class, there may be times when you disagree with opinions being expressed. It is important that you respond to these opinions in an appropriate, respectful, and professional manner. Healthy disagreement and discussion are central components of this class and are encouraged, but must be done so on a professional and constructive basis.

Special Needs: Individuals requiring accommodations due to a documented disability or other barriers that interfere with being successful in this class, should meet with me. I will do my best to assist you provided that it does not compromise the academic integrity of LBCC or poses an undue hardship. Students with disabilities should contact [Accessibility Resources](#) at 541-917-4789.

Honor Code

LBCC is dedicated to maintaining an optimal learning environment and insists upon academic honesty. To uphold the academic integrity of the institution, all members of the academic community, faculty, staff, and students alike, must assume responsibility for providing an educational environment of the highest standards characterized by a spirit of academic honesty. Accordingly, if you exchange information with another student during a quiz, use unauthorized sources, and/or submit someone else's work or ideas as your own in any of your assignments, you will receive an F for the assignment and may be subject to further discipline.

Nondiscrimination Policy

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

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Activity/Lecture	Readings
Sep. 26 th	Introduction to Course Discuss Classmate Speech	
Sep. 28 th	Classmate Speeches	Ch's 1, 2 & 20
Oct. 3 rd	The Canons of Rhetoric	Ch's 4, 11 & Appendix
Oct. 5 th	Audience Analysis Quiz #1 (Ch's 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 20 & Appendix)	Ch's 5, 6 & 9
Oct. 10 th	Object Speeches	Ch's 7, 19 & 21
Oct. 12 th	Object Speeches Assign Speech of Introduction	
Oct. 17 th	Organizing Your Speech	Ch's 12 & 13
Oct. 19 th	Outlining Citing Sources Orally	Ch's 3 & 8
Oct. 24 th	Speeches of Introduction	

Oct. 26 th	Speeches of Introduction Assign Informative Speech	
Oct. 31 st	Informative Speaking Visual Aids	Ch's 15 & 18
Nov. 2 nd	Supporting Materials Quiz #2 (Ch's 3, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, & 21)	Ch. 10
Nov. 7 th	Informative Speeches	
Nov. 9 th	Informative Speeches	
Nov. 14 th	Informative Speeches Assign Persuasive Speech	
Nov. 16 th	Persuasive Speaking	Ch. 16
Nov. 21 st	Persuasive Speaking Quiz #3 (Ch's 14 & 16)	Ch. 14
Nov. 23 rd	Thanksgiving (college closed)	
Nov. 28 th	Persuasive Speeches	
Nov. 30 th	Persuasive Speeches	
Dec. 5 th (2:30-4:20pm)	Persuasive Speeches	

*Please note that assignments, policies, and schedules are subject to change upon instructor's discretion.