Linn-Benton Community College

Department of Communication

**Public Speaking**

**Course Syllabus: Fall 2020**

“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:** COMM111; CRN 20528  
  
**Credits:** 3.00  
  
**Course Date:** September 28- December 4  
  
**Course Meeting Times:** MWF 10:00- 10:50  
  
**Course Location:** Online- Zoom   
  
**Instructor:** Steven Merge, M.S., M.B.A. (merges@linnbenton.edu), Phone: 541.490.2456

**Office Hours:** By Appointment for Zoom or Phone meetings; or you can Email me anytime (I usually

Email back within a few hours)

*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:**

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, Zoom, 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**

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| 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; | Ch. 2 & 3 |
| F | **Present Artifacts Assignment** | Artifacts Presentations |
| 2 | M | Audience Analysis | Ch. 8 |
| W | Organizing a Speech; Outlining explained; Informative Speech explained | Ch. 11 |
| F | How to start your speech; make transitions. And how to conclude; Delivery; Presentation Aids; | Ch. 12 |
| 3 | M | Delivery; Presentation Aids; Critiques explained | Ch. 14, 17,19 |
| W | **Informative Speech Outline Due** | Outline Due 6pm Wednesday |
| F | **Informative Speech Presentations/Critiques Given** | Presentation/Critiques Given |
| 4 | M | **Informative Speech Presentations/Critiques Given** | Presentation/Critiques Given |
| W | Review; How to get rid of Ah’s | Ch. 2,3,8,11,12,14,17. &19 |
| F | Reasoning; Irony explained | Ch. 13 |
| 5 | M | Persuasive Speech explained | Ch. 15 |
| W | Counter arguments |  |
| F | **Persuasive Speech Outline Due** | Outline Due 6pm Friday |
| 6 | M | **Persuasive Speech Presentation/Critiques** | Persuasive Presentation/Critique |
| W | **Persuasive Speech Presentation/Critiques** | Persuasive Presentation/Critique |
| F | Special Occasions Speech explained | Ch. 16 |
| 7 | M | **Special Occasions Presentation Outline Due** | Special Occasions Outline Due Monday 6pm |
| W | **Veterans Day (No Class)** | No Class |
| F | **Special Occasions Presentation/Critique** | Special Occasion Presentations/Critiques |
| 8 | M | **Special Occasions Presentation/Critique** | Special Occasion Presentations/Critiques |
| W | Introductions/Extemporaneous Speech explained | Ch. 19 |
| F | **Introduction/Extemporaneous Speech Outline Due** | Extemporaneous Outline Due Friday 6pm |
| 9 | M | **Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique** | Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique |
| W | **Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique** | Extemporaneous Presentation/Critique |
| F | **Thanksgiving Weekend- No Class** | No Class |
| 10 | M | **Impromptu explanation and Class Review** | Ch 19 |
| W | **Impromptu/Critiques** | Impromptu/Critiques |
| F | **Impromptu/Critiques** | Impromptu/ Critiques |

**GradedAssignments:**

Self-Introduction 10 Points

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 30 Points

Extemporaneous Outline 20 points

Extemporaneous Speech 30 points

Impromptu 10 points

Critiques 10 Points each (5 critiques required)

*Total Points Possible 300 Points*

**GRADING:**

A (270-300 pts)

B (240-269 pts)

C (210-239 pts)

D (180-209 pts)

F (179 pts or fewer)

**ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMODATIONS:**

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 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.

