Public Speaking (COMMS-051-302-001)

Public Speaking

Syllabus

Course Description

This course is an introduction to public speaking that involves analyzing a variety of speeches using classical and contemporary theories. Students also learn to speak in an organized and effective manner and prepare a complete speech outline with supporting material.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Resources and Technology

All of the necessary information is included in the course.

Students must have these resources and technology:

- A video recording device (a smartphone, a computer, or a video camera).
- An audio recording device (a smartphone or an mp3 voice recorder).
- Audience members (family or friends) who can evaluate your performance.

Course Outcomes

As students complete the course assignments, they will increase their knowledge, improve a 21st-century skill, and develop an attribute.

Knowledge: Public Speaking

In this course, *knowledge* refers to the subject matter and content students will learn while completing the readings, practices, quizzes, and assignments.

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to meet these goals:

- Describe both classical and contemporary theories about persuasion and public speaking.
- Speak in an organized and effective manner.
- Prepare a complete speech outline with supporting material.
- Speak in a smooth and effective manner while emphasizing the important ideas you are trying to communicate.
- Analyze other public speeches and identify rhetorical and speaking devices used in the speeches.

21st-Century Skill: Communications – Delivering Presentations

As students complete this course's assignments, they will gain skills in *Delivering Presentations*. This skill is part of *Communications*.

Attribute: Kindness

This course focuses on developing the attribute of *Kindness* in the context of Public Speaking.

Grading and Assignments

The letter grade in this course will be based on these assignments and exams.

Assignment or Exam	Grading	Percent of Total Grade
Study Guides	Computer-Graded	5%
Written Assignments	Teacher-Graded	35%
Speeches	Teacher-Graded	30%
Module Quizzes and Midcourse Quiz	Computer-Graded	20%
Final Exam*	Computer-Graded	10%

*Students must pass the final exam with a 60% or higher to earn credit for the course. They may retake the final exam once for a fee.

Due Dates

The due dates in the course are only suggestions to help the students pace themselves. You do *not* need to complete assignments, quizzes, and exams by the due date set in the course.

Study Guides

Study guides help students focus on the important concepts and are due at the end of each module. Students cannot resubmit the Study Guides because points are awarded upon submission.

Written Assignments

Written assignments ask students to explore and apply the concepts they are learning, and to build the components of the two graded speeches.

Speeches

This course includes two assignments that require students to submit an audio or visual file of themselves delivering a speech.

Module Quizzes

Each module ends with an open-book, untimed Module Quiz. They consist entirely of multiple-choice questions that come directly from the lesson material and the videos.

Midcourse Quiz

This computer-graded quiz covers the material in Modules 1-8. The questions on the midcourse quiz are similar in format to the questions on the final exam.

Final Exam

The final exam covers material from all modules in the course. Students must pass the final exam to earn credit for the course; they may retake it once, for a fee, upon request.

Resubmissions and Retakes

Unless otherwise stated, students may resubmit assignments, quizzes, and the final exam (instructor-graded or computer-graded) once for a fee. Please see Resubmissions and Retakes in the BYU Independent Study course policies for more information.

If students would like an additional attempt, they may request a resubmission for a fee through the link provided on the assignment page. Files that are resubmitted in any other way, including attaching files to the comments portion of the assignment, will not be considered for grading.

Course Grade

The letter grade will be calculated according to these percentages.

A	100%−93%
A−	<93%−90%
B+	<90%−87%

B	<87%–83%
B–	<83%–80%
C+	<80%–77%
C	<77%–73%
C–	<73%–70%
D+	<70%–67%
D	<67%–63%
D–	<63%–60%
F (fail)	<60%–0%