

90132 SPCH 1315 (2A4)

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 Lab hours lab)

Online

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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

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

CORE OBJECTIVES MEASURED

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

Approved: **C.L.R. 09/17/2026**



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

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

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Casi Rekieta

Email: clrekieta@lit.edu

Office Phone: 409-951-5726

Office Location: GEDS Department

Office Hours: By Appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Exploring Public Speaking, 4th Edition. This is a free e-book available online at <https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/communication-textbooks/1/> in Word, PDF and EPUB (earlier editions) formats.

Students can also view and download the PDF attachment on Blackboard.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified date as listed in the College Calendar on the [Student Success](#) web page. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
Week #1 09/21 to 09/27	Basics Of Public Speaking	• Read & Review Syllabus & Course Calendar • Basics of Public Speaking (Sections 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 3.3, & Appendix B:Part 5) • Chapter 4: Developing Speech Topics	Plagiarism Quiz (100 pts) (HOMEWORK: 10%) Self-Introduction Discussion Post
Week #2 09/28 to 10/04	Organizing & Supporting Your Speech	• Chapter 6: Organizing & Outlining Your Speech • Chapter 7: Supporting Your Speech Ideas	Speech #1: Introduction Speech (100 pts) (SPCH: 10%)

Week #3 10/05 to 10/11	Researching Your Speech	- Chapter 5: Researching Your Speech - Purdue Owl (MLA Packet) - Library Tour	Tribute Speech (100 pts) (SPCH: 10%)
Week #4 10/12 to 10/18	Delivering Your Speech	Chapter 11: Delivery	Work on upcoming assignment
Week #5 10/19 to 10/25	Creating Presentation Aids	- Chapter 9: Presentation Aids - Creating & Designing PowerPoints (Lecture)	Library Research (100 pts) (HOMEWORK: 10%)
Week #6 10/26 to 11/01	Informative Speeches	Chapter 12: Informative Speeches	Speech 3: Informative Speech (100 pts) (SPCH: 10%)
Week #7 11/02 to 11/08	Midterm Review	Review Chapters 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 & 12	Midterm Exam (100 pts) (TEST: 10%)
Week #8 11/09 to 11/15	Persuasive Speaking	Chapter 13: Persuasive Speaking	Work on Upcoming Speech
Week #9 11/16 to 11/22	Monroe's Motivated Sequence	Monroe's Motivated Sequence	Speech 4: Persuasive (100 pts) (SPCH: 10%)
Week #10 11/23 to 11/29	Monroe's Motivated Sequence	Final Presentation Work Week	Work on final speech
Week #11 11/30 to 11/06	Monroe's Motivated Sequence	Final Presentation Work Week	MMS/Persuasive Speech (200 pts) (COM. ASSNMNT: 20%) ** Speeches due on Tuesday, December 1st by 11:59 p.m.
Week #12 12/07 to 12/09	Semester Wrap-Up	Final Exam Review & Semester Wrap-Up	Final Exam (100 pts) (TEST: 10%) **Final exams will be due on Monday, December 7th by 11:59 p.m.!

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Speeches: 40%

MMS Speech (Common Assignment)20%

Exams: 20%

Homework/Participation: 20%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

For the latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc., review the Minimum Computer and Equipment Requirements on the [LIT Online Experience](#) page. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

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. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own

original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

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.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Assignments will be graded within one week of the due date. If this deadline cannot be met, you will be notified through Blackboard. Assignments submitted early will not be graded until after the due date has passed.

Communicate is a critical part of your success. Students are required to use their LIT Office 365 email. Do not use the message feature in Blackboard. Students are required to check their email every 24 hours and 48 hours on the weekends.

Student assignments are accepted solely on Blackboard. Work will not be accepted via email or in person. It is the student's responsibility to learn to use Blackboard appropriately. Blackboard training is offered to students at no cost.

Late work is NOT accepted unless extenuating exists and prior approval is granted by the instructor.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

This course acknowledges the growing role of artificial intelligence tools in academic and professional settings; however, the use of AI is not permitted in this course. If an instructor suspects that AI was used in a submitted assignment, tools such as ZeroGPT or QuillBot may be employed to verify this. Any assignment found to have involved the use of AI will receive a grade of zero.

- Academic Dishonesty (Cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated. On the first offense, you will fail the assignment. On the second offense, you will fail the class.

Speech Requirements

Failure to comply with the following requirements on a speech assignment will result in a zero grade for that speech.

Students must submit:

- ❑ Full-sentence/preparation outline (not required for logo speech)
- ❑ Works Cited page (not required for logo speech)
- ❑ Visual aid
- ❑ Speech video

Student speech videos must clearly show the front of the student throughout the entire speech. Failure to do so will result in a zero.

Students must have a minimum of 3 adult members. Failure to have all three members will result in a zero.

Videos must be unedited. Edited videos will result in a zero.

Videos must be correctly uploaded to YouTube with an “unlisted” or “public” privacy setting. If you set it to “private,” I will not be able to view it and therefore it is as if you didn’t turn it in.

Videos must be focused (not blurry, fuzzy, etc.) and must not have background noise such as babies, children, pets, TVs, cell phones, etc.

Students are expected to dress appropriately for speeches. Please dress BUSINESS CASUAL if not, will result in a letter grade penalty. EX. (Polo Shirt and Khakis and Not JEANS, joggers etc..). Sometimes in the online course people get “too comfortable” when speaking in their own homes. Wearing ball caps, inappropriate clothing or chewing gum, not wearing shoes, etc. during a speech will result in a letter grade penalty. Remember this course is a college course and you are giving professional/formal presentations. Think about the impression your dress might make on your audience.

You are expected to WATCH your videos. Watch them before you post to YouTube. Ask yourself “Is this my best work?” If not, you may have to record again. Do not let the first ‘take’ be the only time you do your speech. You should practice many times before you ever bring in the audience and the camera.

Speeches that are read will be penalized. The goal of this class is to speak extemporaneously; well-researched, well-rehearsed, effective use of notecards, and overall well-prepared speeches are the expectation. Reading is not effective or acceptable.

Speeches will receive a penalty if they are not in the assigned time limit.

Discussion Posts

Expectations for each discussion post will vary. These expectations will be available in Blackboard.

Syllabus agreement

Upon completion of reading the Syllabus, you're required to email Dr. Casi Rekieta from your LIT email address to confirm you have read and understand the course policies. Grades will not be posted until you have done so, and if you do this by 11:59 p.m. on September 27th, you'll earn 5 points extra credit.