



Undergraduate Course Syllabus

COM 212: Public Speaking

Center: Online

Course Prerequisites

None

Course Description

This course is designed to help students develop abilities, including organization and delivery skills, for all speaking situations. The evaluation and improvement of voice, diction, articulation and posture also are studied. May not be used as literature elective.

Course Outcomes

- Apply organizational logic to arrange researched evidence, examples, and stylistic devices into effective presentations for a variety of audiences
- Demonstrate effective presentation and verbal delivery skills for enhancing oral presentations of persuasive arguments
- Utilize various applicable technologies for enhancing delivery of oral presentations to a variety of audiences
- Evaluate social, cultural, and ethical considerations related to persuasive arguments for delivering culturally and socially sensitive presentations appropriate for a variety of audiences
- Incorporate effective design and development principles into presentations for delivering logical and persuasive arguments

Required Materials

Using your learning resources is critical to your success in this course. Please purchase directly through SNHU's online bookstore, [MBS Direct](#), rather than any other vendor. Purchasing directly from the bookstore ensures that you will obtain the correct materials and that the Help Desk, your advisor, and the instructor can provide you with support if you have problems.

Connect

Throughout the course, there are assignments and resources in Connect, in addition to your textbook. You will be prompted to enter Connect when you click on your first assignment in Module One.

Instructor Availability and Response Time

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor's answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours.

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Getting Started	1	5	5
Discussions	4	35	140
Quizzes	2	30	60
Journals	3	35	105
Blog	1	5	5
Homework	1	35	35
Elevator Speech	1	50	50
Peer Review	1	80	80
Final Project One Milestone One	1	55	55
Final Project One Milestone Two	1	65	65
Final Project One Submission	1	125	125
Final Project Two Milestone One	1	100	100
Final Project Two Submission	1	175	175
		Total Course Points:	1,000

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

University Grading System: Undergraduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
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Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2
C-	70–72	1.67
D+	67–69	1.33
D	60–66	1
F	0–59	0
I	Incomplete	
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
IP	In Progress (past end of term)	
W	Withdrawn	

* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignment Guidelines and Rubrics section of the course.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	Introduction to Public Speaking <i>The Art of Public Speaking</i> , Chapters 1 and 6 1-1 Discussion: Getting Started 1-2 Blog: Audience Analysis Survey 1-3 Journal: Audience Analysis
2	Selecting Your Topic <i>The Art of Public Speaking</i> , Chapter 4 and 5 2-1 Journal: What's the Point? 2-2 Final Project One Milestone One: Brainstorm and Select a Topic

3	<p>Outlining and Organizing Your Speech</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapters 9, 10, and 11</p> <p>3-1 Quiz: Organizational Patterns</p> <p>3-2 Discussion: Creating Strong Introductions and Conclusions</p> <p>3-3 Final Project One Milestone Two: Outline</p>
4	<p>Supporting Your Speech</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapters 7 and 8</p> <p>4-1 Journal: Supporting Resources</p> <p>4-2 Homework: Speech Analysis</p>
5	<p>Using Visual Aids</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapter 14</p> <p>5-1 Quiz: Multimedia Aids</p> <p>5-2 Discussion: Tools and Technologies</p> <p>5-3 Final Project One Submission: Overview, Outline, and Audience Identification</p>
6	<p>Delivery, Language, and Speaking to Persuade</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapters 12, 13, and 16</p> <p>6-1 Discussion: A Video Is Worth a Thousand Words</p> <p>6-2 Final Project Two Milestone One: Dry Run</p>
7	<p>Methods of Persuasion and Sensitivity</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapter 17</p> <p>7-1 Discussion: Audience Sensitivity</p> <p>7-2 Final Project Two Submission: Oral Presentation</p>
8	<p>Reflection and Peer Review</p> <p><i>The Art of Public Speaking</i>, Chapter 3</p> <p>8-1 Elevator Speech</p> <p>8-2 Peer Review</p>

Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a posting to the graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is automatically withdrawn from the course for non-participation. Review the [full attendance policy](#).

Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the [full late assignment policy](#).

SNHU College of Online and Continuing Education Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities, in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title III of the Americans

with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. The university prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities.

As soon as you become aware of a disability, we encourage you to contact the Online Accessibility Center (OAC) to discuss accommodations for which you may be qualified. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student and the OAC. Note that accommodations are not retroactive and that disability accommodations are not provided until an accommodation letter has been processed.

Contact Information:

Online Accessibility Center

Phone: 866-305-9430

Email: oad@snhu.edu

For questions concerning support services, documentation guidelines, or general disability issues, visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) website.

If you feel you have been denied appropriate disability-related accommodations, including appropriate auxiliary aids and services, you may file a grievance as described in the ADA/504 Grievance Policy found on the [Disability Services](#) webpage.

Academic Honesty Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the [full academic honesty policy](#).

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the [full copyright policy](#).

SNHU College of Online and Continuing Education Withdrawal Policy

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

Southern New Hampshire University Policies

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).

Student Work Samples

For the purpose of continuous improvement of our educational training, Southern New Hampshire University's College of Online and Continuing Education may, on occasion, utilize anonymous student work samples for internal professional development and staff training. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your advisor. If you would like to withdraw permission for use of your work, please email assessmentcalibration@snhu.edu.