



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: Communication

Course Title: Public Speaking

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 1020-001

Credits: 3

Course Description

COMM 1020 provides an introduction to basic concepts, theories, principles of oral communication as applied to a variety of speaking situations. The course is designed to help you develop competence in oral communication through performance, the development of critical thinking skills, arrangement of ideas, and use of evidence and reasoning to support claims. Explains how culture influences what is considered effective public speaking.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Jingdong Liang

Student Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, you will have accomplished the following:

1. Apply course material to social, civic, and ethical problems in order to develop responsible ways of thinking and acting.
2. Construct (research, outline, and organize) public speeches.
3. Deliver impromptu, informative, persuasive, and celebratory speeches.
4. Use primary sources to support ideas.
5. Incorporate presentations slides and/or visual aids into speeches.
6. Improve listening, note taking, and observational skills and use those skills to engage in the dialogue.

7. Apply the components of the public speaking process in diverse speaking situations.
8. Manage apprehension about communicating in public contexts.
9. Explain how culture influences effective speaking.

Course Materials and Texts

This course has two required texts an: e-textbook and a student guidebook. Both are necessary for the successful completion of this course. Both textbooks are included in the course fee associated with this course.

E-Textbook: Valenzano III, J., Broeckelman-Post, M., and Braden, S. (2020). *The Speaker's Primer* (3rd Edition), Top Hat. ISBN #978-1-68036-877-2

Student Guidebook: Munz, S. M., Murphy, J., and Wassink, B. (2020). *A Student Guidebook: A Student Guidebook for COMM 1020 Public Speaking*, bluedoor, LLC. ISBN #978-1-68135-818-5.

The textbook and student guidebook are on Canvas. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE A HARD COPY.**

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

The following assignments will be completed by each student enrolled in COMM 1020. All speaking assignments must be completed in front of an audience to receive a passing grade in the course.

Course Requirements	Points	Learning Outcomes Achieved
Oral Presentations		
Impromptu Speech (minimum of 1 or more @ instructor discretion)	25	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9
Introductory Speech	25	
· Outline	10	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9
· Practice Form	10	
The Great Speech Performance	75	
· Outline	10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

· Practice Form	10	
Ted Talk/Informative Speech	100	
· Outline	10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
· Practice Form	10	
Persuasive Speech	125	
· Outline	10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
· Practice Form	10	
Analysis Activities		
Introductory Speech Peer Feedback	10	6, 7
The Great Speech Performance Peer Feedback	10	6, 7
Ted Talk Informative Speech Peer Feedback	10	6, 7
Persuasive Speech Peer Feedback	10	6, 7
Culture Paper	50	2, 4, 5, 8, 9
Exams and Content Mastery		
Chapter Quizzes (1 @ 20 points each)	220	1, 2, 8, 9
In Class Engagement Exercises and Workshops		
COMMSurveys (3 @ 5 points each)	15	
Participation	100	
Additional Assignments	20	

The following grading scale will be used in the course:

A = 94%-100%

A- = 90%-93.9%

B+ = 86%-89.9%

B = 83%-85.9%

B- = 80%-82.9%

C+ = 76%-79.9%

C = 74%-75.9%

C- = 70%-73.9%

D+ = 66%-69.9%

D = 63%-65.9%

D- = 60%-62.9%

F = \geq 60%

You can determine your percentage (and grade) by totaling the points you have accumulated and dividing those points by the number of points possible then multiple that number by 100 for your final grade percentage.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

The course requires students to read one chapter of the textbook each week and take a chapter quiz based on the reading text. Students should complete other assignments on Canvas, including speeches, responses to students, speech lab assignments.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Week 1

Understanding communication is and linear model

Week 2

Speech Anxiety

Week 3

Speaking Ethics

Week 4

Practice

Week 5
Audience analysis
Week 6
Topic selection
Week 7
Introduction, Conclusion, Statement
Week 8
Research and Preparation, supporting materials
Week 9
Informative Speech, Language
Week 10
Speaking with Presentational Aids
Week 11
Informative Speech
Week 12
Context and Speech Situation
Week 13
Persuasive Speech
Week 14
Impromptu Speech

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

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Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.