Dr. Daniel Makagon  
Office: Walker 336  
Office Hours: TH 3:30-4:30 and by appointment  
Phone: 487-3093  
e-mail: dmakagon@mtu.edu  
home page: http://www.hu.mtu.edu/~dmakagon/  

**Required Course Materials**

Plato, *Gorgias*  

(1) new VHS videotape  

The remainder of the course readings are available on-line:

**Course Objectives**

This class examines the dimensions and varieties of human communication. We will pay special attention to public speaking. The course has a dual focus: a theoretical focus on understanding various communication processes and a practical focus on enacting these procedures in speaking assignments. Students will be expected to (1) demonstrate a clear understanding of the concepts and practices associated with communication (through class discussion, the preparation of presentation evaluations, and quizzes), and (2) prepare and deliver presentations in accordance with the principles of communication as presented in lectures and reading assignments.

Through a careful examination of relationships among communication theories and our own assumptions and practices, we will increase our understanding of human communication so that we can both appreciate the complexities and feel competent as communicators across settings. More specifically, we will consider speaking in public by exploring the relationships among public speaking, rhetoric, and public life; specific skills that help facilitate artful, effective, and inclusive modes of public speaking; and stand-up comedy.

**Course Assignments**

Research Materials for Informative Speech 5%  
Informative Speech (3-5 minutes) 10%  
Persuasive Speech (4-6 minutes) 15%  
Narrative Speech (5-7 minutes) 20%  
3 Self Evaluation Papers (1-2 pages each) 15%  
Quizzes 25%  
**Ungraded Assignments (speech critiques, in class exercises, etc.) 10%**

**All required but ungraded speaking and written assignments and class exercises will be counted toward a total participation grade in the course. Students will earn a percentage grade equal to the percentage of ungraded assignments they complete in a satisfactory manner.**
Course Policies

Attendance and Active Participation are essential in a course of this nature since a central part of this course is presenting and responding to presentations. Because we are on a very tight schedule, all assignments are due on assigned days. There will be NO MAKE-UPS. Documented illness or documented emergencies are the only exception to this policy. Absence on your assigned speech day will result in a zero for that assignment. Just in case you are unclear as to definitions of an excused and unexcused absence: Illness with a note from your doctor is excused, while illness without a note from your doctor is unexcused. Similarly, "I will be out of town" is unexcused.

If you are going to be absent on your speaking day or the day of a quiz, and your absence is excused, please contact me so we can make arrangements for a make-up. In most cases your make-up will take place during the next class session that you attend. Therefore, you need to come to class prepared to fulfill the assignment.

Promptness is expected as a general rule, but especially on speech days. If you should happen to be late, wait in the hall until you hear applause and then enter.

We will usually select speaking days a week before we begin the speeches. If you are absent on the day we select speaking days, assume that you will be speaking on the first day of speeches.

If you have a cellular phone, turn it off. If you have a pager, set it to vibrate or turn it off.

Written Assignment Requirements:
*All assignments, unless otherwise noted, are to be typed, double spaced throughout the entire essay, and stapled.
*Correct spelling is required. There is a grade reduction for mechanical errors.
*Speech outlines are due the day of your speech. If you do not turn in a speech outline, you will receive a zero for that assignment.
*Make a photocopy of your outline/paper before you turn it in.
*Do not put your outlines/papers in report cover.

Plagiarism
I have often found that plagiarism becomes tempting if students are feeling pressured. Remember, when in doubt quote. If you are quoting somebody directly then you need to list the information within quotation marks and cite a page number. If you are paraphrasing then you need to cite the person and a page number. Never copy and paste entire documents into your paper and do not quote others to the point where your ideas become indistinguishable from your source’s ideas. There is no reason to plagiarize. If you do plagiarize, the Dean of Student Affairs will be contacted.

Grade Scale
90-100 A 78-79 BC 60-67 D
88-89 AB 70-77 C 0-59 F
80-87 B 68-69 CD

Constructive feedback to other speakers is a responsibility of all class members. This entails being honest and helpful in evaluations, using descriptive rather than prescriptive language, and accompanying negative comments with ways to improve.
# Tentative Course Schedule

**HU 2830 Fall 2003**

(To be read **BEFORE** class meeting)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/26</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introduction Speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/2</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td>Hauser, “Introduction: Forgotten Publics”</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>The Origins of Rhetoric</td>
<td>Matsen, Rollinson, Sousa, “Greek Rhetoric”</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/9</td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em></td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em> (pp. 19-65)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em></td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em> (pp. 66-90)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/16</td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em></td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Gorgias</em> (pp. 91-149)</td>
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<td>9/18</td>
<td>Aristotle</td>
<td>Herrick, “Aristotle”</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>Rhetoric in Rome</td>
<td>Herrick, “Rhetoric in Rome”</td>
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**RESEARCH MATERIALS FOR INFORMATIVE SPEECH DUE**

### Public Speaking Skills

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>Outlines: speech topics, purposes, theses</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>Speech Delivery</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Organizing Your Ideas/Introductions and Conclusions</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/7</td>
<td>Communication Competence</td>
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<td>10/9</td>
<td>No Class—Conjunctures Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/14</td>
<td><strong>INFORMATIVE SPEECHES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/16</td>
<td><strong>INFORMATIVE SPEECHES</strong> Paper #1 Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/21</td>
<td>Audience Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support Materials</td>
<td>Paper #1 Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/23</td>
<td>Connectives</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Visual Aids</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>Reasoning in Communication</td>
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Persuasive Speaking

10/30   Critical Listening

11/4   PERSUASIVE SPEECHES

11/6   PERSUASIVE SPEECHES
       Paper #2 Due

11/11  PERSUASIVE SPEECHES
       Paper #2 Due

Stand-Up Comedy

11/13  Stephanie Koziski, “The Standup Comedian as Anthropologist”
       Paper #2 Due

11/18  Mark Edmundson, “From Sweet Anarchy to Stupid Pet Tricks”

11/20  No Class—National Communication Association Conference

11/25-11/27 No Class—Thanksgiving Break

12/2   Andrea Greenbaum, “Women’s Comic Voices”

12/4   NARRATIVE SPEECHES

12/9   NARRATIVE SPEECHES

12/11  NARRATIVE SPEECHES

12/16  Paper 3 Due by 12:30 p.m.