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Required Course Materials  
(1) new VHS videotape  
All 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, essays, and quizzes), and (2) prepare and deliver presentations in accordance with the principles of communication as presented in lectures and reading assignments.  

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. 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.  

Course Assignments  
Informative Speech (3-5 minutes)  15%  
Persuasive Speech (4-6 minutes)  25%  
Final Essay  20%  
2 Self Evaluation Papers (1-2 pages each)  10%  
Quizzes  20%  
**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.

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. Similarly, hen using a source in your speech, you need to properly cite your source. 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**

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
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<td>90-100</td>
<td>88-89</td>
<td>80-87</td>
<td>68-69</td>
<td>60-67</td>
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**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.
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<td>Revisiting the Public in Public Speaking</td>
<td>Hauser, “Introduction: Forgotten Publics”</td>
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<td>Herrick, “The Origins and Early History of Rhetoric”</td>
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<td>The Origins of Rhetoric</td>
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<td>Outlines: speech topics, purposes, theses</td>
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<td>Reasoning in Communication</td>
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Critical Listening

PERSUASIVE SPEECHES

Paper #2 Due

PERSUASIVE SPEECHES

Paper #2 Due

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No Class National Communication Convention

No Class Thanksgiving Break

Stand-Up Comedy

Stand-up video screening in class

Stephanie Koziski, “The Standup Comedian as Anthropologist”

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

Andrea Greenbaum, “Women’s Comic Voices”

Final Essay Due by Noon

Speeches

Informative Speech 15% ___(pts.) X .15 = _____

Persuasive Speech 25% ___(pts.) X .25 = _____

Exams

Quizzes 20% ___(pts.) X .20 = _____

Written Work

Self Evaluation Papers 10% ___(pts.) X .10 = _____

Ungraded Assignments 10% ___(pts.) X .10 = _____

Final Essay 20% ___(pts.) X .20 = _____

Final Grade= ___________