HU2830 (R01) Intro to Speech Communication

Summer 2011 Track A (May 9–June 23)
M/T/W/R 2:05–3:20
Walker 144

Instructor: Lisa Watrous
Office: Walker 314
Office Hours: M/T/W/R 1:00–2:00 and by appointment
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Language has then to be seen as a persistent kind of creation and re-creation; a dynamic presence and a constant regenerative process
-- Raymond Williams

Course Description

HU2830 introduces the diversity of perspectives in speech communication with emphasis on public speaking. Topics will include the nature of the public sphere, co-cultural contexts, speaking anxiety, conventional and non-Western models of structure and evidence, and speaking/listening competencies.

We will...:

• Provide strategies for writing, organizing, and delivering speeches
• Allow four unique speaking situations to practice developing your skills
• Help you adapt your speaking to different audiences within different cultural contexts
• Help you analyze and assess your own speaking abilities
• Assist you in understanding and utilizing a variety of argumentation styles and structures
• Give you practice integrating presentation technologies into speaking situations

Required Texts


Other Required Readings: Posted to Blackboard Course site, In “Readings” Folder

Absences

This class is designed to give you as much practice in speaking and listening as possible, so, it’s in your best interest to be here everyday. You are permitted two “free” absences during the semester.

Realizing that participation is essential to everyone’s learning and crucial to your success in the course, absences will negatively impact your grade. I reserve the right to count tardiness as absence.

If you do miss more than two classes 10 points per day will be deducted from your total score.

Due Dates, Deadlines & Late Work

I consider your work in this course to be your professional contribution as a student at Michigan Tech. You will not be permitted to make up any missed assignments or peer evaluations. Speeches
and presentations may only be rescheduled in advance when there is a known conflict. Missed speeches will automatically receive a failing grade.

You must complete all four speeches in order to pass the course. Even if you miss a speech date, you must still present your speech to your instructor in order to receive credit towards passing (you will still receive a “zero” grade for the missed speech).

All speeches will be videotaped. Recording your speeches gives your instructor a record of your performance to help you assess your development as a speaker. These video files will be kept on our course Blackboard site and will be destroyed at the end of the semester.

Assignments

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Dean of Students. Write your own speeches. Cite your sources.

Introduction Speech
1-2 minutes: Introduce yourself to the class by explaining how a person, event, or other cultural phenomena have made a difference in your life.

Narrative Speech
5-7 minutes: Tell your classmates a story that explains how something came to be, or persuades them to do or not to do something. Use variations in pace, pitch, volume, and character voices to make the story entertaining.

Informative Speech
7-10 minutes: Teach your classmates about an important aspect of your culture, heritage, or an area of technical expertise. Conduct audience research and analysis to help prepare the appropriate information, including visual support.

Persuasive Speech
10-12 minutes: Research, prepare, and present a major argument. Pay particular attention to how you use organizational strategies. Incorporate a wide variety of support, including visual argumentation and evidence.

Peer Evaluations
On “speech days” the instructor will randomly select students to provide feedback and assessment of your peers. You will not be required to assess every other student presentation but over the course of the semester you will be responsible for providing 20 peer evaluations.

Self-Assessments
After each speech you will analyze and reflect on your own speaking. In order to complete the 4 required self-assessments you must go to the Blackboard site, watch the video of your speech, and respond to the prompt given to you by your instructor for each speaking assignment.

Reading Responses
Respond to bi-weekly questions based on the readings and in-class discussions. There will be a total of 5 reading responses.

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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction Speech</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Narrative Speech</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Informative Speech</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Persuasive Speech</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Evaluations</td>
<td>150</td>
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Self-Assessments  150 points  
Reading Responses  100 points  
Total Points: 1000  

Grading Scale  

Office Hours & Email Policies  
If my listed office hours do not fit with your schedule and you would like to meet please email me at lmwatrou@mtu.edu.  
If you send me an email please allow 24 hours for a response. Include in the subject of your email our course number, your last name and a short subject (i.e. UN2001_Watrous_Assignment Questions).  

Participation  
Cell phones must be turned off or on silent during class and texting is strictly prohibited. If you are caught using your phone during class you will be marked “absent” for the day. You are welcome to bring your laptop computer to class, however if you are discovered doing things unrelated to the class during the period, you will be marked “absent” for the day. Come to class, contribute constructively, and engage productively in peer reviews. Please be kind, respectful, considerate, and charitable to your classmates as we practice public speaking and listening together.  

MTU Policy on Discrimination and Harassment  
MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation for equal access to education and services at MTU, please call the Dean of Students Office at 487-2212. For concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, departmental head or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310.  

MTU Policy on Academic Integrity  
Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses. They are defined by this policy as “knowingly copying another’s work or ideas and calling them one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation,” and this policy covers copying sections or entire papers from printed or electronic sources as well as handing in papers written by students for other classes or purchasing academic papers. Plagiarism and cheating are dishonest and cheat you out of learning, the prime reason you are here. If you ever have questions about this issue, please talk with your instructor or consult a coach in the Writing Center.