

**Angelina College**  
**School of Arts and Education – Dept. of Language Arts and Education**  
**SPCH 1315.003 – Public Speaking**  
**Instructional Syllabus**

**I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION:**

**A. Course Description:** Application of communication theory and practice to the public speaking context, with emphasis on audience analysis, speaker delivery, ethics of communication, cultural diversity, and speech organizational techniques to develop students' speaking abilities, as well as ability to effectively evaluate oral presentations. Three credit hours awarded for successful completion of the course.

**B. Intended Audience:** The intended audience of this course is any college student who desires to improve his/her public speaking skills.

**C. Instructor:**

Name: Mrs. Sabrina Collins

Office Location: ACA 100F

Office Hours: M-R 1:30pm – 3:00pm, Friday by appointment

Phone: Office - 936-633-5235 or text through Remind (see section V.A.)

E-mail Address: scollins@angelina.edu

**II. INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

**A. Core Objectives Required for this Course**

- 1. Critical Thinking:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- 2. Communication:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- 3. Personal Responsibility:** to include ethical recognition, personal accountability and commitment toward task completion.

**B. Course Learning Outcomes for all Sections - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:**

1. Recognize and understand the foundational models of communication.
2. Apply elements of audience analysis.
3. Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills.
4. Research, develop, and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
5. Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and presenting speeches.
6. Understand how culture, ethnicity, and gender influence communication.
7. Develop proficiency in presenting a variety of speeches as an individual or group (e.g. narrative, informative, or persuasive).

**III. ASSESSMENT MEASURES**

**A. Assessments for the Core Objectives:**

- 1. Critical Thinking:** Students are assessed through questions embedded in exams, which reflects evaluation of persuasive speeches. The questions embedded in exams will measure selection and understanding of information, application of material, analyzing points of view and arguments, and formulating solutions. Students will be assessed by means of the standardized AC rubric for Communication.
- 2. Communication:** Students are assessed by means of a rubric which reflects evaluation of written, oral, and visual communication skills in a speech that utilizes a visual aid. Students will be assessed by means of the standardized AC rubric for Communication.
- 3. Personal Responsibility:** Students are assessed by means of a rubric which reflects evaluation of ethical decision making through a persuasive speech on a contemporary issue. Students will be assessed by means of the standardized AC rubric for Personal Responsibility.

**B. Assessments for Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate recognition and understanding of the foundational models of communication through questions embedded in exams.
2. Application of the elements of audience analysis will be reflected through questions embedded in exams.
3. Students will demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills through the presentation of persuasive speeches.
4. Students will present four extemporaneous speeches evaluated by a grading rubric gauging verbal and nonverbal techniques. Works cited pages will be submitted as well as an outline to evaluate research and development.
5. Students will demonstrate the effective use of technology by using presentation software in at least one presentation.
6. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how culture, ethnicity, and gender influence communication through questions embedded in exams.
7. Students will demonstrate comprehension of presentation skills for a variety of speeches throughout the semester.

**IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:**

**A. Methodologies common to all sections** – Methodologies which are utilized in presenting course content include, but are not limited to lectures, class discussions, student presentations, audiovisual presentations, role-play activities, and small group scenarios. At least one speech will be recorded, and students are urged to watch their own performances with a view toward using them as a tool for improvement.

**B. Methodologies determined by the instructor** – Be prepared to be flexible! I may decide to scratch an activity listed on your schedule and replace it with something totally different.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:****A. Required Textbooks and Recommended Readings, Materials and Equipment**

Text - *The Speaker's Primer* 2nd edition by Valenzano, Braden, & Broeckelman-Post

Materials & Equipment –

Students will be required to use a smartphone to record at least one of their speeches. If you do not own a smartphone, please see me to make other arrangements.

Resources –

I will use Blackboard throughout the semester to post instructions, chapter outlines, and other materials used in class. Blackboard can be accessed through AC's website ([www.angelina.edu](http://www.angelina.edu)).

Join Remind to receive class alerts and to connect with me through a protected texting system. Instructions for doing this can be found in the Syllabus Highlights assignment. You may also connect by downloading the Remind app on your smartphone and/or by visiting the Remind website at [www.remind.com](http://www.remind.com), but it is not required.

STAC Tutoring Center – We have a tutoring center on the 2nd floor of the Library that will offer tutoring for Public Speaking. You may also get help through NetTutor, an online tutoring service that can be accessed through Blackboard.

**B. Course Policies – This course conforms to the policies of Angelina College as stated in the Angelina College Handbook.**

**1. Educational Accommodations** – If you have a disability (as cited in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) that may affect your participation in this class, you may fill out the Educational Accommodations application within your AC Portal, under the “Student Services” tab. A Student Success team member will contact you once the application is received. At a post-secondary institution, you must self-identify as a person with a disability in order to receive services; for questions regarding the application process you can visit the Office of Student Success and Inclusion in the Student Center (205A); text 936.463.8078; or email [access@angelina.edu](mailto:access@angelina.edu). To report any

complaints of discrimination related to a disability, you should contact Mr. Steve Hudman, Dean of Student Affairs, in Room 101 of the Student Center. You may also contact Dean Hudman by calling (936) 633-5292 or by emailing [shudman@angelina.edu](mailto:shudman@angelina.edu).

**2. Attendance** – Excessive absences are defined as three or more consecutive absences or four or more cumulative absences from regularly scheduled class periods. Virtual classes must document equivalent participation. The summer terms call for two or more consecutive, or three or more cumulative absences. A three-hour night class counts as two class periods. Students will not be dropped and will be allowed to make up work for absences because of (1) College District (including early college high school) authorized and sponsored activities, and (2) religious holy days. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for make-up work with the instructor and to complete it within a reasonable time. In accordance with the Texas Education Code, each student is allowed to be absent from a class for the observance of a religious holy day. A "religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code. The student must notify the instructor of each class of the anticipated absence not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester. A student who is excused under this section must complete all assignments or missed examinations at the direction of the instructor.

**3. Class Cancellations** – Notification of class closures due to inclement weather will be sent to KTRE Channel 9 television and to the local radio stations by 6:00am on the day in question or by 3:00pm for evening classes. You will be expected to attend if classes have not been cancelled, or you will be counted as absent. **You can also sign up to receive emergency alert notices on your phone by going to [getrave.com](http://getrave.com).** Your student e-mail is automatically signed up for these alerts. To sign up for RAVE or to obtain more information about this emergency alert system, visit this link: <https://www.getrave.com/login/angelina>

**4. Plagiarism** – Cheating or plagiarism in any degree will not be tolerated by the college and will result in no less than a zero on the assignment in question or expulsion from my class.

**5. Respectful behavior** is expected in this class! Not following these basic rules could result in a deduction on your participation grade or other grades as specified:

- a. Cell phones and other electronic devices should not be used or in sight during class time UNLESS otherwise stated by the instructor. Usage of your phone or the presence of earbuds in class may result in being counted "absent" since you are not fully *with us* in class.
- b. No one should enter or leave the classroom during an oral presentation! This behavior will result in a 10-point deduction on your own coinciding speech grade. This may result in a deduction on your participation grade as well.
- c. As an audience member during speeches, you are expected to give your peers your undivided attention. Working on your speech or other class work during another student's speech will result in a deduction on your speech and/or participation grade.

**6. Learner Surveys** will be available through Campus Connect 23 days prior to the last final exam date. You are encouraged to complete these surveys honestly since your comments and ratings remain anonymous.

## **VI. COURSE OUTLINE: Description of the Course Activities including due dates, schedules, and deadlines.**

*See proposed Class Schedule provided. Please note that dates may change for various reasons, but you will be notified in class and through Remind alerts. A copy of the Class Schedule will also be available on Blackboard.*

The college's academic calendar: <http://www.angelina.edu/generalbulletin/academic-calendar/>

The college's final exam schedule: <http://www.angelina.edu/final-exam-schedule/>

## VII. EVALUATION AND GRADING:

### A. Grading Criteria

Assignments will be evaluated according to the following scale:

**A=90-100**---Work that obviously exhibits the highest degree of excellence and overall mastery of concepts

**B=80-89**---Work that is above average in presentation and indication of understanding but which lacks somewhat in attaining the highest degree of excellence

**C=70-79**---Work that is average in presentation and indication of understanding

**D=60-69**---Work that is below average in presentation and indication of mastery but which indicates enough understanding to be considered acceptable

**F=59 and below**---Work that does not meet acceptable standards due to either incompleteness or failure to properly address the specific criteria for the assignment

### B. Determination of Grade

25%	Written Assignments
10%	Speech #1: Demonstration
10%	Speech #2: Informative
15%	Speech #3: Persuasive (Controversial)
15%	Speech #4: Persuasive (Motivational)
15%	Celebrations of Knowledge (three at 5% each)
10%	Participation (mainly determined by <u>attendance &amp; tardiness</u> , respectfulness, attitude, & participation in class discussions/exercises)

### C. Assignments

Due dates for the following assignments are included on the proposed *Class Schedule* provided and posted on Blackboard.

1. There will be four (4) graded speaking assignments. Specific instructions for each speech will be provided in class and on Blackboard prior to the speech. Speeches are to be presented extemporaneously and must be prepared beforehand unless indicated otherwise. A complete outline of the speech must be submitted PRIOR TO SPEAKING when assigned. All outlines must be typed. At least one of the speeches will include a slideshow component using approved presentation software (PowerPoint or Google Slides). You will be allowed ONE make-up speech. Speeches not presented on your assigned due date will have an automatic 10-point deduction.
2. Several written assignments will be required and must be turned in on their assigned due dates. Written assignments include chapter outlines, speech critiques, and a listening log.
3. There will be three "Celebrations of Knowledge" (a.k.a. exams) during the semester. Exams will cover material and terminology from the text as well as concepts discussed in class. These will be completed in class and/or on Blackboard. Utilizing outlines provided in class and Blackboard will be beneficial.
4. Extra credit (up to 15 points) may be earned and applied to your Written Assignment grade by attending student-focused events such as:
  - a. Fine Arts division performances (plays/concerts/art receptions other than the ones you're in),
  - b. Student Affairs sponsored events (such as Grocery Bingo, Bubble Soccer, game nights, etc.),
  - c. Athletic events (other than the sport you may play for AC).

After attending the event, submit a written summary expressing your overall personal opinion of the event. Describe the atmosphere, the performance, and/or just a summary of your overall experience. Each event is worth 5 points, but no more than 15 points – or 3 events – may be claimed.

*The instructor may modify the provisions of the syllabus to meet individual class needs by informing the class in advance as to the changes being made.*