

Public Speaking

Comm 201-03: 9:05 a.m. – 9:55 a.m., (EAS) room: 3320
MW – in person; Friday – asynchronous

Comm 201-05: 12:20 p.m. – 1:10 p.m., (LBR) room: 3214
MW in-person; Friday- asynchronous

Instructor Contact

Carla Marsocci Mancuso, School of Communication, Visiting Lecturer

Email: cmgpt@rit.edu

Cell: 585-317-9268

Office: 01-3155, office hours by appointment.

Textbook (required): Public Speaking: Strategies for Success (7th, 8th or 9th ed.), by David Zarefsky

Internet Connection (required)

Access to a reliable Internet connection is required for this course, and students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the [RIT Computer Policy](#). A problem with your Internet access may not be used as an excuse for late, missing, or incomplete coursework.

Course Description

The public speaking course is designed to equip the student with knowledge of the theories and principles necessary for formal public speaking. Informative and persuasive speeches are the focus with emphasis on organization, evidence, language use, strategy, delivery, and effective use of media aids.

Course Goals

- To enable students to apply the basic elements of the speech communication process.
- To assist students in applying methods of controlling communication anxiety and have it work for, rather than against, a speaker.
- To encourage students to practice ethical responsibilities of public speakers.
- To equip students to choose and narrow topics according to the purposes, audiences, and occasions.
- To aid students in competently researching topics to obtain concrete supporting materials.
- To enable students to arrange and outline materials for appropriate presentations.
- To provide students opportunities to effectively prepare and deliver speeches to inform, persuade, and/or entertain.
- To provide students opportunities to demonstrate meaningful nonverbal communication that supports the verbal message.
- To equip students to identify main and supporting ideas in speeches.

- To provide opportunities for students to demonstrate effective use of visual aids during a speech presentation.

Assignments and Grading

- Introductory Speech (20 points)
- Informative Speech (20 points)
- Persuasive Speech (20 points)
- Special Occasion Speech (15 points)
- Attendance and Participation (10 points)
- Final Exam (15 points)

The table below shows the conversion of percentage grades to plus/minus equivalents.

Percentage	+/- Equivalent	GPA Equivalent
93.00-100.00	A	4.00
90.00-92.99	A-	3.67
87.00-89.99	B+	3.33
83.00-86.99	B	3.00
80.00-82.99	B-	2.67
77.00-79.99	C+	2.33
73.00-76.99	C	2.00
70.00-72.99	C-	1.67
60.00-69.99	D	1.00
<60.00	F	0.00

Final Exam

Final exam questions will come directly from class lecture and discussion and will include multiple choice and short answer/essay questions. The exam is administered online in the myCourses Quizzes area.

Speech Make Up-Policy

Students are responsible for being in class on the days they are scheduled to deliver a speech. If a student is not prepared to present on their designated speaking day, they may make-up the speech during finals week (a make-up speech virtual Zoom class will be scheduled). These conditions apply:

- Each student is allowed only one make up.
- A 15-point (out of 100) grade reduction is applied to any speech that is delivered late.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to engage with the modality of the course as outlined, barring any unforeseen issues such as illness, quarantine, etc. Attending and participating in class with your instructor and peers is important for your learning the materials. In this class, attendance expectations can be met by attending all in-person sessions. In the event that you are unable to attend one or more in-person sessions for any reason, ***please contact your instructor before the missed class*** so that you may join (for that session only)

remotely (or that arrangements can be made for an alternate assignment if you are unable to attend remotely). Failure to make arrangements with your instructor prior to a missed class will reduce your overall average at the end of the semester by two points for each missed class.

Zoom Classroom Space Security, Etiquette, & Recording Policy

Security. We will occasionally meet in Zoom rooms for class assignments and office hours. The join links for these sessions are password protected. This information should not be shared beyond our class. Doing so compromises the privacy, safety, and security of students and staff in the course, and will be treated as a violation of [RIT Computer Use Policy](#) and the [RIT Copyright Policy](#).

Etiquette. Try to log into Zoom meetings from a quiet, distraction-free environment. Keep your audio on mute until you want to speak. We must work together to limit background noise. Enable video so that we can see you, but you might need to disable video to minimize the activity on your internet connection. When you want to speak, use the “Raise Hand” feature (on the bottom left of the Participants window). Be sure to unmute yourself when called on. Also consider using the Chat box to make a point or ask a question. Remember that Chat is public, and may be recorded and archived. All private chats can be seen by the host of the meeting (private is private from the group session, but is saved in the chat log accessible by the host). Have a plan for taking notes (paper and pencil, digital notepad, Word/Pages doc).

Recording. Some class meetings may be recorded and these recordings stored in the secure Zoom Cloud (and made available to you on myCourses) and may be accessible to RIT-affiliated users outside of your class. As a student, you are not permitted to store or distribute recordings or images of these sessions in any way without the explicit permission of your instructor. Office hours Zoom meetings will not be recorded.

RIT COVID-19 Safety Plan

RIT is committed to the safety of the RIT community and beyond. Because the situation is still in a rapid state of change, checking the RIT Ready website, and specifically the RIT Safety Plan, for the most up to date information is recommended:
<https://www.rit.edu/ready/rit-safety-plan>.

When we meet in person everyone will wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose at all times and have freshly washed or sanitized hands. In class, students will sit in assigned seats in the locations designated by faculty. We will not congregate in hallways, bathrooms or classrooms prior to or after class. Any presence of fever or other COVID-19 symptoms will be reported on the RIT Daily Health Screen Monitoring <https://www.rit.edu/news/rit-launches-daily-health-screen-monitoring-covid-19-symptoms>; please notify your instructor so that the best way to accommodate your learning can be planned.

We will talk in class about these expectations to ensure that we all are comfortable with what is happening during class. I encourage your communication about any special needs or concerns.

- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in Academic Spaces.** RIT Policy for the Fall 2021 semester includes the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The RIT Safety Plan reads, in part: “Appropriate face masks must be worn by students at all times when in classrooms, labs, and lecture halls, regardless of whether physical distancing can be maintained. Situations in which respiratory output is greater than normal (e.g., performing arts, athletic activities) but where a face mask impedes the activity, a minimum physical distance of ten (10) feet shall be implemented. Food and drink are not permitted in classrooms, labs, and lecture halls.”
- **RIT’s Policy on Contact Tracing in Classrooms.** The Location Check-in (scanning the classroom QR code) ensures RIT is able to provide contact tracing data requested by the Monroe County Department of Health, and the State of New York. You are required to scan the QR code with your phone, or to register via the website, prior to the start of class. You will be asked to leave the classroom if you do not complete the location check-in. Repeated failure to complete the check-in may result in a referral to the Covid Violation Reporting process including possible Student Conduct or Human Resources action.

Starfish

This course participates in the RIT Starfish academic alert system, which is designed to promote student success through communication between students, instructors, and advisors. When I am concerned about a student’s academic performance, I may raise an academic alert to notify the student as well as their advisor(s). If you receive an academic alert email, contact me as soon as possible to discuss the issue, its potential impact on your success in the course, and identify people and resources to help you move forward. For more information about the Starfish system, visit <http://www.rit.edu/starfish>.

Academic Integrity Statement

As an institution of higher learning, RIT expects students to behave honestly and ethically at all times, especially when submitting work for evaluation in conjunction with any course or degree requirement. The School of Communication encourages all students to become familiar with the [RIT Honor Code](#) and with [RIT's Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Statement on Academic Adjustments

RIT is committed to providing academic adjustments to students with disabilities. If you would like to request academic adjustments such as testing modifications due to a disability, please contact the Disability Services Office. Contact information for the DSO and information about how to request adjustments can be found at www.rit.edu/disabilityservices. After you receive academic adjustment approval, it is imperative that you see me during office hours so that we can work out whatever arrangement is necessary.

Statement on Title IX

Title IX violations are taken very seriously at RIT. RIT is committed to investigate complaints of sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual assault and other sexual misconduct to ensure that appropriate action is taken to stop the behavior, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. Please view the [Title IX Rights and Resources at RIT](#).

Counseling & Psychological Services

Many students at RIT face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation. Currently, all appointments are conducted via phone or Zoom.

Website: [Counseling & Psychological Services](#) Phone: 585-475-2261 during business hours / 855-436-1245 after business hours, weekends/holidays. Email: caps@rit.edu / DO NOT USE E-MAIL IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, since you cannot be assured that a counselor will open it at your time of need. For urgent matters that cannot wait for business hours, call 1-855-436-1245 to speak with a mental health provider or call Public Safety at 585-475-3333.

Public Speaking Fall 2021 Schedule

Any changes to this schedule will be announced on myCourses and in class

Course Syllabus: [Public Speaking Fall 2021](#)

Tentative Course Schedule:

*Any changes to this schedule will be posted here and announced in class.

Week 1

Class 1 (8/23): Lecture/discussion

Class 2 (8/25): Lecture/discussion

Class 3 (8/27): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 2

Class 4 (8/30): Lecture/discussion

Class 5 (9/1): Lecture/Discussion

Class 6 (9/3): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 3

NO CLASS ON 9/6 (LABOR DAY HOLIDAY)

Class 7 (9/8): Introductory speech

Class 8 (9/10): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 4

Class 9 (9/13): Lecture/discussion

Class 10 (9/15): Lecture/discussion

Class 11 (9/17): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 5

Class 12 (9/20): Lecture/discussion

Class 13 (9/22): Lecture/discussion

Class 14 (9/24): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 6

Class 15 (9/27): Lecture/discussion

Class 16 (9/29): Lecture/discussion

Class 17 (10/1): Asynchronous

Week 7

Class 18 (10/4): Informative speech

Class 19 (10/6): Informative speech

Class 20 (10/8): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 8

No class October 11 (October break)

Class 21 (10/13): Informative speech

Class 22 (10/15): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 9

Class 23 (10/18): Lecture/discussion

Class 24 (10/20): Lecture/discussion

Class 25 (10/22): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 10

Class 26 (10/25): Lecture/discussion

Class 27 (10/27): Lecture/discussion

Class 28 (10/29): Asynchronous

Week 11

Class 29 (11/1): Persuasive speech

Class 30 (11/3): Persuasive speech

Class 31 (11/5): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 12

Class 32 (11/8): Persuasive speech

Class 33 (11/10): Persuasive speech

Class 34 (11/12): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 13

Class 35 (11/15): Persuasive speech; Lecture/discussion

Class 36 (11/17): Lecture/discussion

Class 37 (11/19): Asynchronous - TBD

Week 14

Class 38 (11/22): Lecture/discussion

No class 11/24 & 11/26 (Thanksgiving Break)

Week 15

Class 39 (11/29): Special occasion speech

Class 40 (12/1): Special occasion speech

Class 41 (12/3): Asynchronous – TBD

Finals week

December 6, 2021 – last day of classes, final exams week

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