



SPCH 1315 – Public Speaking First 8WK

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

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TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30	OFFICE	OFFICE (9:00 – 9:30)	OFFICE	OFFICE (9:00 – 9:30)	
9:30					
9:30	SPCH1315.032 (UHA 152)	SPCH1315.321 (UHS 152)	SPCH1315.032 (UHS 152)	SPCH1315.321 (UHS 152)	
10:50					
11:00	OFFICE	SPCH1315.322 (UHS 152)	OFFICE	SPCH1315.322 (UHS 152)	
12:20					
12:25	Activity Period	Activity Period	Activity Period	Activity Period	
1:25					
1:30	OFFICE	OFFICE	OFFICE (1:30 – 2:30)		
3:00					

This syllabus is an agreement between the instructor and the student.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified by the instructor.

Course Description: 3 credit hours.

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, to effectively evaluate oral presentations.

Prerequisite(s): Eligibility to enroll in [INRW 0302](#)

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundational models of communication.
2. Apply elements of audience analysis.
3. Demonstrate ethical speaking and listening skills by analyzing presentations for evidence and logic

4. Research, develop and deliver extemporaneous speeches with effective verbal and nonverbal techniques.
5. Demonstrate effective usage of technology when researching and/or presenting speeches.
6. Identify 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).

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Speech Average = 40%

Exam Average = 30%

Outline Average = 15%

Online chapter activities = 15%

FINAL GRADE = 100%

Grades will be returned to the student as follows:

- Chapter activity grades: *immediately*
- 3 major exam grades: *after the due date has passed*
- Speech and outline grades with feedback: *within 1 week*

The CURRENT AVERAGE posted in the Blackboard course site is a calculated grade that represents your current course grade average based on the work you have turned in. It will not calculate correctly if you have missed assignments that have not been filled in with a zero.

Required Instructional Materials:

Public Speaking for College & Career 12th ed. by Hamilton Gregory Connect Plus Access Card.

You have exclusive access to the e-book and assignments which was included in your tuition and fees. You will register inside the course once it begins. There is no need to purchase anything else for this course. If you decide to drop this course before the 12th class day, you can click the e-book code link in the course and select opt out to get a refund for the e-book. THIS DOES NOT DROP YOU FROM THE COURSE OR REFUND YOU FOR THE COURSE.

Index cards and a flash drive are also required!

Publisher: McGraw Hill

ISBN Number: 978-1-259-89988-1 GREGORY / PUBLIC SPEAKING DIGITAL TEXT
W/CONNECT

Optional Instructional Materials: None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

- Daily high speed internet access
- Microsoft Word
- Power point
- Portable storage device such as a Jump drive/Thumb drive

Required Computer Literacy Skills

- Rename, delete, organize, and save files.
- Create, edit, and format word processing and presentation documents.
- Copy, paste, and use a URL or web address.
- Download and install programs and plug-ins.
- Send and receive an email with attachments.
- Locate and access information using a web search engine.
- Use a learning management system.

Course Structure and Overview:

This class meets twice a week for 8 weeks with part of instruction done online via the learning management system BLACKBOARD. In class meetings will be reserved for lecture, speaking activities/drills and speech presentations. Students are expected to complete all the readings of the required e-book chapters, watch the instructional videos and complete the online chapter activities. You will see that the course is divided into three Modules in the Blackboard portion. Each week you will be expected to complete certain online assignments for the chapters found in that Module folder. This course requires daily computer and internet access. You should expect to spend no less than 3-6 hours a week in this course. Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. Assignments will not be accepted late! Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. A due date assignment schedule is found at the end of this syllabus! Please check it weekly so that you know what is due and do not miss anything.

YOU CANNOT PASS THIS COURSE WITH OUT COMPLETING THE ONLINE PORTION!

In class participation is an essential element in this course. Each student will be expected to participate in speaking drills/activities which will occur during class time. These activities will allow students to sharpen their presentations and enhance delivery skills as well as provide some opportunities for extra credit on exams. Participation in these activities directly affects the student's grade at the end of the semester.

ONLINE READINGS & ACTIVITIES: Read the assigned e-book chapters in Public Speaking for College & Career, 12TH edition by Hamilton Gregory in each week's folder. You are required to watch video clips, read supplementary articles and complete assignments found in the chapter folder. These resources are a main form of instruction in this course. As you click on the folder for any certain chapter, you will be taken to the McGraw Hill CONNECT website to view supplemental resources or complete assignments. After you have completed them, you will automatically be taken back to NTCC Blackboard. You are provided with printable transcripts for all CONNECT video clips. Always click "submit" and then "save and exit"! Do not use your browser's back arrow button as this could unsubmit your assignment attempt. You are welcome to work ahead on the online assignments in this course.

SPEECHES: You will give one introduction speech, 2 informative speeches, 1 persuasive team speech and 1 commemorative speech in this course. The details of these speeches can be found in the start here folder in Blackboard. You are required to present the speech on your assigned speech day! If you do not show up to give your presentation on your required day, you will receive a zero on your speech and the corresponding outline. You must contact me BEFORE your class time on your speech day if you must be absent and we will make arrangements for a make-up. You are only allowed one make-up speech for the semester.

OUTLINES: Each speech will require a typed COMPLETE SENTENCE OUTLINE which you will print and turn into me before you get up to speak the day the speech is due. This outline is what you create to build your speech and organize your ideas. You will use the Outlining Tools found in the Chapter 12 folder on the homepage to create your outlines. You will never type out your speeches in an essay format in this course. We use a Complete Sentence Outline only. You will learn how to do this in class lecture and by reading the E-book Chapter 12 on OUTLINING THE SPEECH and competing the learning activities for this chapter. Chapters 10, 11 and 5 will also reinforce your understanding of the outlines. These must be typed and turned in before you give you come to class to give your presentation.

EXAMS: There will be three major exams for this course. These are timed exams. You will have 4 hours to complete the exam once you begin. Each exam is approximately 50 questions and covers roughly 5 to 7 chapters depending on the exam. If you miss the deadline, you will not be able to retake the exam. You are allowed to use the e-book during the exams.

Communications:

- **MICROSOFT TEAMS NOTIFICATIONS:** You are required in this course to download and use Microsoft TEAMS. Please follow the instructions exactly as printed on the instructions in the START HERE folder in Blackboard. This is a way to get information out to students quickly. This will enable you to receive important class notifications and reminders from me other than through email so that you will not miss out on any assignment changes or important updates. Please continue to check your NTCC email daily. Please download TEAMS to your smartphone and to your laptop.
- **EMAIL:** Please check your NTCC email EVERYDAY. Email is the official form of communication used here at NTCC. All emailed questions to the instructor will be responded to within 24 hours, but usually within a few hours when possible. I will normally respond to you at least acknowledging that I received your inquiry and will answer as soon as possible.
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** These can be found in Blackboard under the course link on your Bb homepage. Please make sure you are reading any announcements thoroughly when they are posted there.
- **I DO NOT USE THE COURSE MESSAGES IN BLACKBOARD!**

Institutional/Course Policy:

ATTENDANCE: You will only meet 16 times in an 8 week semester. You are only allowed 3 unexcused absences and 5 absences total (excused plus unexcused)... more than 3 unexcused and you automatically fail the course. Attendance is necessary in this class. You must make every effort to be present and on time to every class. An absence will be excused if you can document illness, major catastrophe, and a death in your family, or if you were participating in a NTCC activity. You must inform the instructor BEFORE the scheduled class period if you believe an absence should be excused. The student is responsible for obtaining any classroom assignments or notes given during his/her absence.

If you do not show up to give your presentation on your required day, you will receive a zero on your speech and the corresponding outline. You must contact me BEFORE your class time on your speech day if you must be absent and we will plan for a make-up. You are only allowed one make-up speech for the semester.

You will find an NTCC Student Resources tab at the top of the Blackboard Homepage. Please take time to look through what support and help is offered for Academic and Student services.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws,

regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the [NTCC website - Special Populations](#).

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to: online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Tentative Course Timeline (*note* instructor reserves the right to adjust this timeline at any point in the term):

SPEECH 1315- Spring 2026 1st 8 week term - Assignment Schedule

ATTENTION: ONLY FOLLOW THIS PAGE FOR DUE DATES!

Do not look anywhere else. Blackboard gradebook will NOT show these dates or alert you if they pass.

All online assignments due below must be turned in no later than 11:30PM on the corresponding due date.

You are welcome to work ahead in this course and complete online assignments and exams earlier than their due dates below.

MODULE 1 FOLDER

WEEK 1 – 1/20-1/25

T - IN CLASS: Syllabus Overview; Blackboard course navigation and course expectations

TH - IN CLASS: Introduction speech – NO prep needed

ONLINE: Due 1/25 Read chapters and complete all online assignments for:

- Ch. 1 Introduction to Public Speaking*
- Ch. 12 Outlining the Speech*
- Ch. 5 Selecting Topic, Purpose and Central Idea*
- Ch. 10 The Body of the Speech*
- Ch. 11 Introductions and Conclusions*

WEEK 2 -1/26 – 2/1

T- IN CLASS: Building a speech using a Complete Sentence Outline

TH- IN CLASS: Outlining continued; Speech evaluation; Topics

ONLINE: Due 2/1 Read chapters and complete all online assignments for:

- Ch. 2 Managing Nervousness*
- Ch. 3 Listening*

WEEK 3 – 2/2 – 2/8

T - IN CLASS: HOW TO Informative speech – Group A

TH - IN CLASS: HOW TO Informative speech – Group B

ONLINE: Due 2/6 Take EXAM #1 over Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 12

MODULE 2 FOLDER

ONLINE Due 2/8

Read and complete all online assignments for:

- Ch. 6 Locating Information*
- Ch. 7 Evaluating Information and Avoiding Plagiarism*
- Ch. 15 Speaking to Inform*

WEEK 4 - 2/9 – 2/15

T - IN CLASS: Delivery Gone Wrong activity; Past event speech explanation/video

TH - IN CLASS: Eye Contact Activity

ONLINE: Due 2/15

Read and complete all online assignments for:

- Ch. 4 Reaching the audience*
- Ch. 8 Supporting your ideas*
- Ch. 9 Presentation Aids*
- Ch. 14 Delivering the speech*

ONLINE Due 2/20 Take EXAM #2 over Chapters 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15

MODULE 3 FOLDER

WEEK 5 – 2/16 – 2/22

T - IN CLASS: Past Event Informative Speech – Group B
TH - IN CLASS: Past Event Informative Speech – Group A

ONLINE: **Due 2/22** Read and complete all online assignments for:

*Ch. 13 Wording the speech
Ch. 16 Speaking to persuade
Ch. 17 Persuasive Strategies*

WEEK 6 - 2/23 – 3/1

T - IN CLASS: Mary/Lamb Persuasion or Group problem solving Activity; Team persuasive speech explanation/Example
TH- IN CLASS: Motivated sequence; Favorite Thing activity

ONLINE: **Due 3/1** Read and complete all online assignments for:

*Ch. 18 Speaking for Special Occasions
Ch. 19 Speaking in Groups*

WEEK 7 – 3/2 – 3/8

T - IN CLASS: TEAM Persuasive speeches
TH - IN CLASS: Special Occasion/Commemorative speech explanation
ONLINE: **Due 3/8** Take EXAM #3 over Chapters 13, 16, 17, 18, 19

WEEK 8 – 3/9 – 3/13

T - IN CLASS: Commemorative Speech – Group A
TH - IN CLASS: Commemorative Speech – Group B
ONLINE: No Online assignments due