

Course: Public Speaking

Instructors: Ms. Bott and Mrs. Ganson

Course Length: Semester

Textbook and Materials:

- *Speech: Exploring Communication* by: J. Regis O'Connor
 - National Textbook Company, 1996
 - ISBN: 0-8442-5851-2

3-ring binder and tabs

Book cover to protect speech text

Course Description:

English 10 Speech is designed to give students a general background on the foundations of communication and the fundamentals of public speaking. Students will gain experience speaking in front of a group of people. There will be written assignments and tests along with several speeches that will be spread throughout the semester. We will be working with a variety of purposes and topics, including the use of computer technology and visual aids. Most importantly, students need to relax, organize themselves, and enjoy the speeches given by themselves and their classmates.

NOTE: All units will be approximately 8-10 class periods, and some lessons will be interwoven throughout the semester.

Course Content and Learning Objectives:

1. Communication Theory

Students will learn the basic language of the communication process and how it influences all types human interaction.

A. Audience and Purpose in respect to creating a speech

Specific attention will be given to the role of audience and purpose in determining the content, organization, tone, and word choice of all speeches.

B. Outlining and Organization

Traditional outlining skills will be taught, as well as the most popular forms of organizing informational and persuasive speeches.

C. Gaining Confidence in front of an audience

Exercises and activities will be utilized throughout the semester to promote confidence in public speaking skills. Relaxation techniques will also be addressed.

2. Informational speaking

Students will practice speaking for the purpose of informing an audience on a self-selected topic. (Assignment in conjunction with the use of technology.)

3. Use of Technology in public speaking

PowerPoint will be examined as the most popular choice of technology available to public speakers.

4. Communicating at Work: The Job Interview

Students will practice job-interviewing skills by preparing resumes and participating in mock job interviews.

5. Persuasive speaking

Students will practice speaking for the purpose of persuading an audience to a proposed conclusion.

Daily/Weekly Assignments:

A formal speech will be evaluated for each major mode of speaking. Written assignments are part of the formal speaking evaluation.

Grading Procedures:

Grades are based on cumulative points, not weighting, and points will vary based on assignment.