



The Foundation for Lifelong Learning

**COMM 105: Public Speaking
Fall 2019**

Instructor: Simone Sellstrom
Office Hours: By appointment (via email)
Email: simone.sellstrom@fredonia.edu

Course Time: 5:00-6:20
Course Location: McEwan 202

Course Description:

Students will learn effective strategies for researching, preparing, and delivering informative and persuasive speeches to small groups. Students will be able to demonstrate methods for building confidence in speech delivery, supporting points with evidence, analyzing the audience, using media aids effectively, and refining delivery style.

Course Student Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of this course:

1. Student will develop and confidently present an effective presentation in a variety of settings.
2. Critique speech quality using critical thinking and active listening skills.
3. Students will demonstrate integrity and ethical decision making in the process of researching, preparing, and delivering informative and persuasive speeches.
4. Students will demonstrate that they have considered diverse perspectives in the process of defining and engaging their audiences as well as in the delivery of their speeches.

Required Text/Required Materials:

- Access to OnCourse for readings, handouts, and assignment details
- Accessibility and knowledge of Microsoft Office, PowerPoint and/or Prezi

Assignments/Grading Policy:

Final Project	5%
Participation/Work Days	15%
Assignments/Speech Outlines	30%
Speeches	50%

A = 89.5-100%

B = 79.5-89.4%

C = 69.5-79.4%

D = 59.5-69.4%

F = 0-59.4%

Attendance Policy:

Attendance will be recorded during each class period. You must be present during the entirety of the class to receive credit. You will not receive credit if you do not participate in the activities and discussions. Attendance will be included in your participation grade. Some quick notes about your attendance:

- General absences from sickness or schedule conflicts do not require an email; prolonged absences do.
- If you plan to miss class on a speech day, you must notify me at least 24 hours before your absence in order to be excused from the speaking day. You will be required to speak on the first day of your return to class.
- When you miss class, DO NOT email me asking what was missed, get this information from a classmate.
- When you miss class, it is your responsibility to catch up and master the missed information.

Homework Policy:

Homework will include small assignments, speech critiques, self-assessments, and speech outlines. Assignments are 30% of your overall grade, it is imperative that you keep up with your homework assignments. The details for speech outlines will be provided on the course schedule.

Late Assignment Policy:

In general, no late work will be accepted. However, each student will be allowed one 24-hour extension for papers if needed. The exception to this is if you have an emergency circumstance; contact me as soon as possible to discuss new due dates for your assignments.

OnCourse Use Policy:

I am an active OnCourse user and will keep your assignments and grades updated on throughout the semester.

Email Expectations:

I will communicate with you via email and expect that you will check your email frequently. When you email me, please include your name and the course you're registered in.

Course Policies:

1. Completing the reading assignments for this course is essential to success.
2. All created content in this course must be appropriate and professional.
3. You may not work on assignments for other courses during class.
4. When you are present in the classroom you are expected to be present in the discussions and engaged in the learning process. If you are not, you will be asked to leave class and will be responsible for obtaining the missed information.
5. You are responsible for communicating with me. I cannot help you if you don't tell me about any problems you may be having.

Classroom Expectations:

This course will challenge you to think outside of the box. You will be asked to expand your thinking and accept the opinions of others. You do not have to agree with everything said in the classroom but you are strongly encouraged to listen to your classmates with an open mind. Ultimately, this class is a judgment-free zone where students can feel free to share their opinions and experiences as they gain new knowledge and insight. As students, you are expected to positively contribute to this kind of open and caring environment.

Academic Integrity:

Dishonesty on any assignment, test, or quiz will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and misinformation (we will revisit these throughout the semester). If you are unsure, ask me. It is better to turn work in that is half-done than to turn work in that is half-copied. Here is my plagiarism policy:

Minor offense: minor offenses include work that is cited correctly but closely reflects another's work or uses very little of your own work, etc.	You will be given the option to redo the assignment for half credit
Medium offense: medium offenses include falsy citing sources, citing some sources but not citing others, stitching together other sources to make it appear like your own work, etc.	You will be given a 0 with no opportunity to redo the assignment.
Severe offense: severe offenses include copying another's work directly and claiming it as your own, purchasing another's work to turn in, copying large portions of another's text without citing their work, etc.	You will receive a letter grade of F in the class.

Department of Communication Philosophy:

The faculty of the SUNY Fredonia Department of Communication encourages projects and behaviors that are undertaken with thoughtful respect and consideration for others. We support and encourage work that is both ethical and enriching to the students' community and to personal and professional relationships. All students should review the Department of Communication Ethical and Professional Standards at:

<http://www.fredonia.edu/department/communication/standards.asp>

Student Code of Conduct:

Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the policies set forth in the Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at: <http://www.fredonia.edu/JudicialAffairs/rights.asp>