

SPC2608 – Introduction to Public Speaking
University of Florida
Dial Center for Written & Oral Communication
Fall 2021

The purpose of this multi-sectioned course is to understand and apply (1) the basic principles of effective public speaking, (2) the principles of audience analysis and message preparation, and (3) critical listening skills as they apply to public speaking.

Course Objectives

- A. To increase understanding and integration of the basic principles, practices and techniques of effective public speaking.
- B. To explore principles of listening and perception in order to enhance speaking abilities.
- C. To increase confidence and poise when speaking to audiences or groups.
- D. To examine how public speaking contributes to our role as citizens in our communities.

Required Text

THE ART of PUBLIC SPEAKING, 2020 by Steven Lucas. Publisher: McGraw-Hill, 13th edition.

This text is available at most bookstores supplying the university, and at <http://shopmcgraw-hill.com>. You might also compare rental prices through textbookrentals.com; however, this is a newer edition.

This course is participating in the UF ALL ACCESS program for the Fall 2021 semester. **The ALL ACCESS program will allow you to gain access to the required materials for the course at a significantly discounted price.**

**Please see UF All Access PDF posted in Canvas for directions on how to opt-in and access your course materials.

Go to <https://bsd.ufl.edu/allaccess> to log into your GatorLink account. You will see a list of classes in which you are enrolled that are participating in UF All Access, with the prices. Click the **Opt-in check box** next to the appropriate class. You may have more than one class that you are taking participating in the program. Students then need to click the button below to authorize the charges.

For digital eBooks: After opting-in, you'll receive an email at your @ufl.edu within 24 hours of opting-in, which will provide you with access to your bookshelf

The charge for the materials will be posted directly to your student Bursar account and is eligible to be paid automatically by qualifying financial awards. If you drop the course during add/drop period, no charges will appear.

The classes that you opted into will continue to be displayed at <https://www.bsd.ufl.edu/AllAccess/OptIn> up to three weeks into the semester. Be sure to register the access code before this deadline.

Contact your Bookstore on campus with any questions. allaccess@bsd.ufl.edu

Readings

Students are responsible for the entire text as well as other assigned readings from individual instructors.

Online access is necessary for access to your course. Course information will be conveyed via e-learning. You can find the login button for Canvas at: lss.at.ufl.edu.

Semester Schedule

Weekly or daily schedule can be found in your instructor's addendum to this syllabus. A schedule listing university holidays, drop deadline and final exam is given below:

August 23	Classes Begin
August 27 (11:59pm)	Drop/Add ends
September 10	S-U Application Deadline
September 6	Labor Day (no UF classes)
October 8-9	Homecoming (no UF classes)
November 11	Veterans Day (no UF classes)
November 22 11:59pm	Deadline to drop a course by college petition without receiving a WF grade
November 24-27	Thanksgiving (no UF classes)
December 9-10, Thursday-Friday	Examination Reading Days (no UF classes)

December 11, Saturday, 7:30am – 9:30am Exam #2

There will be NO early exams--plan your schedule accordingly!!

For additional critical dates, consult the University of Florida Registrar's office at:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/>

Course Assignments

Students will be required to present a minimum of four extemporaneous style speeches and one impromptu speech during the semester. Written critiques for each speech will consider, among other things, the effectiveness of the message, delivery and organization. A speech outline and bibliography are to be submitted to the instructor at the time each speech is presented. It is expected that students will prepare and research their speeches using and citing a variety of sources (including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, journals, books, websites, etc.). Additionally, speeches will be evaluated, in part, on the student's ability to present within the designated time limits given by your instructor. No material presented after the time limit will count. Instructors will provide a more complete explanation of each speech assignment in advance of its preparation and presentation (the order of speeches may vary in each section). Speaking schedules for the designated days of the individual speech assignments will also be announced in advance; a rotating system of scheduling will be used. Evaluations assigned to the speeches will comprise a major percentage of the final course grade. The remainder of points for the final grade is accumulated from participation and two exams.

Clarifying a Single Point

The speaker will concentrate on a single idea (specific assignment will vary among sections). See individual instructor's addendum re: failure to complete this assignment.

Demonstration Speech (150 points)

The object of this speech is to give the audience a fuller, more functional understanding of a specific purpose statement. Your instructor will require use of visual aids and/or sources of support.

Informative Speech (200 points)

A speech designed to convey knowledge and understanding about an object, event, or concept.

Online Impromptu Speech or Interview (max 50 points)

A limited preparation assignment designed to assist students in improving their ability to devise a coherent organizational structure and thesis and integrate knowledge into an effective presentation. Your instructor will choose to either utilize the traditional Impromptu Speech model or a Mock Interview at their discretion. Topics will vary from section to section, but all sections will conduct this assignment online using Hy-Flex Technology in the classroom.

Persuasive Speech (200 points)

A speech of advocacy where the speaker confronts neutral and/or opposing listeners, inviting them to change their opinions to match that of their own using a variety of motivational strategies.

Course Evaluations

Evaluations for individual assignments and components of the course will be determined on the basis of the following point system:

Single Point Speech	0 points
Demonstration Speech	150
Informative Speech	200
Persuasive Speech	200
Online Impromptu Speech or Interview	50
Participation* & Attendance	100
Exam #1	150
Exam #2	150
Total Points	1000
*(quizzes, exercises, discussions, homework...)	

Scale for Final Grades:

A	93-100%	930-1000 points
A-	90-92%	900-929
B+	87-89%	870-899
B	83-86%	830-869
B-	80-82%	800-829
C+	77-79%	770-799
C	73-76%	730-769
C-	70-72%	700-729
D+	67-69%	670-699
D	63-66%	630-669
D-	60-62%	600-629
E	0-59%	0-599

Grade Disputes

If you dispute the grade you receive for an assignment, you may request to have it reassessed by Dr. Martinelli, Director of Public Speaking. First though, you should meet with your section instructor to discuss the grade you received and watch your video to be sure you understand the rationale for your grade. Following that meeting, if you still wish to dispute the grade, you may email Dr. Martinelli (acmart@ufl.edu) to request that your assignment be re-graded. If you request this re-grade, the second grade will stand, regardless of whether it is higher or lower than the original score. You may request re-grading up to one week after an assignment has been returned. We will not consider requests after this time.

Attendance & Participation

Instructors are responsible for taking attendance for each class meeting. Students are responsible for signing roll sheets to receive credit for attending class meetings. Instructors will not give credit for attendance the next class period just because you say you 'missed the roll'.

Public speaking is a performance course and differs from "pure" lecture courses. A student learns from watching/ perceiving/critically listening to others present their speeches and by presenting their own speeches. Much of the course is lost if the student does not attend class. Therefore, a student is allowed to miss **three hours** of class material without incurring a penalty. You can use your 3 'unexcused' hours for any reason, but after that, penalties start to accrue. If all of your absences are due to documented emergencies and exceed three, you should communicate with your instructor in a timely manner.

For **each** 'unexcused' hour missed beyond the three allowed hours, a total of **20 points** will be deducted (i.e. 4 hours absent= -20pts; 5 hours absent= -40pts). If the penalty exceeds the 100 participation points, the 20 points per absence will then come off the total grade out of 1000 in the class.

For 3-hour block courses, being absent from one 3-hour block would constitute all allowed absences for the semester; and then each hour missed after that day would be -20 per hour (and -60 for a 3 hour block)

Please note: There are additional penalties for missing assignment due dates (see below).

If a student has more than **6 'unexcused' hours** during a semester, they will fail the entire course. The Dial Center exempts from this policy **only** those absences involving university-sponsored events, such as athletics and band, and religious holidays. Absences related to university-sponsored events must be discussed with the instructor **prior** to the date that will be missed.

Work is not an acceptable excuse for missing class, so be mindful of the days and times that your class is scheduled and adjust your schedule during drop/add as necessary.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this class are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Tardiness

If students are not in their seat at the start of class, this disrupts the entire class, and students will be considered late. Three instances of tardiness count as one absence. If you have a known issue that will require you to be late to class or to leave early, you must discuss this with your instructor **prior** to the date.

Makeup Speeches and Exams

No student will have the opportunity to make-up more than one required assignment. However, once the assignment has been completed and graded the following deductions will be assessed: for a 50 point assignment -12 points will be deducted; for a 100 point assignment -24 points will be deducted; for a 150 point assignment -36 points will be deducted; and for a 200 point assignment-48 points will be deducted. There is NO makeup for Exam #2.

Exams will be held in person; you must be present for the exam to take it. There will be no Honorlock or Canvas option for exams.

Zoom Practices and Policies

This class is live and in person. However, during Fall 2021, SPC 2608 instructors have been advised that they are to provide remote access to students who wish to participate from outside of the classroom. Students should be advised that there will be days in the semester when in person attendance is required for exams, speeches, and participation activities. Exams must be taken in person. These required days are at your instructor's discretion. Beyond those specified days, students may choose to attend class remotely with a Zoom link provided by your instructor on their syllabus addendum and on their Canvas page. Zoom sessions will be held live and will not be provided as recordings. Even if a student chooses to attend remotely, they must do so during the day(s) and time(s) listed on UF's Schedule of Courses. It is your choice as to whether you would like to attend in person or remotely, and unless advised otherwise, your instructor will be in class teaching.

One assignment requires you to access the class using Zoom from another location. If you anticipate connection issues due to your location this Fall semester, you should discuss this with your instructor in advance so you can determine how to address your particular issue.

Participation

Participation grades are determined by the instructor. They can include activities such as quizzes, attending and evaluating outside speeches, class exercises and discussion, speech outlines, and homework. Participation can be negatively impacted by texting in class, reading the paper, sleeping, or arriving late/leaving early.

Students are expected to behave according to the UF student code of conduct in their classes. This means treating their instructors and fellow classmates with respect. Public Speaking can be a stressful course and it can be a positive experience. To ensure a positive learning environment, students should not: make complaints publicly (in front of other students); attack the instructor verbally, physically, or in written form; or express reactions in the classroom that would bring harm to other students. Failure to meet the UF code of conduct can impact a student's class participation grade or result in referral to the UF judicial office. Signing another student in to class also violates the UF code of conduct. Class atmosphere can be made or broken by the approach that students take to the challenges of the course. Students that support others, show good humor in the face of obstacles, show dedication in the face of setbacks, and show grace when others are not doing as well will help to create a positive communication climate.

Recordings

Speech days will be recorded for speech records. These recordings will be available to students in the class for self-critiques. They might also be made available to the Director of Public Speaking for grade calibrations or grade disputes. Recordings will not be used in future classes unless you donate your speech/approve its use. Your instructor will post speech recordings on canvas. Please do not share links to recordings with anyone who is not registered in your section, including family.

UF and State Recording Policy

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Considerations for COVID 19—Adapted from The Campus Brief

All people inside of UF facilities are expected to wear masks in community spaces in buildings, including common areas. If a student is withheld from campus by UF Health Screen, Test, and Protect due to COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, or a positive test result, the student should follow instructions regarding returning to class. Students who miss class due to quarantine will be treated as though they are absent from class because of any other illness. Your instructor will arrange for you to make up classwork, and you will have remote access to class as described above in “Zoom Practices and Policies.”

UF will continue to promote vaccines and make them easily accessible for all members of the community. If you have not been vaccinated, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. A list of vaccination sites and their schedules is available at <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>.

COVID-19 testing will also continue to be available, and a list of testing sites and schedules is available at <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/how/screen/#locations> and is strongly encouraged for anyone who is experiencing symptoms or is concerned about possible exposure.

We encourage you to stay vigilant and to take care of yourselves and each other.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester in order to allow us to provide the most effective support. Accommodations cannot be applied retroactively, so please be sure to connect with your instructor early.

Students with any accommodations should arrange a meeting with the instructor during the first week of class (and ideally before the end of drop/add) to discuss how we can work together to meet your needs and still adhere to the essential elements/functions of the course regarding attendance and class participation.

Other policies regarding assignments, penalties, classroom rules and regulations, will be dealt with by the individual instructors of this course. Please refer to your instructor’s individual addendum to this syllabus for those policies.

Any questions regarding the planning, administering and teaching of SPC2608 should be discussed with individual instructors. As needed, questions can be discussed further with Dr. Amy Martinelli (acmart@ufl.edu), Director of the SPC 2608 program, 402 Rolfs Hall, Dial Center for Written & Oral Communication.

Plagiarism

All submitted work during the course, written or oral, will be the student's personal, original work, with credit given to sources used. [Further, all documentation of absences will be honest representations.] If a student violates this understanding, the penalty will be a failing grade in the course, and adjudication will be processed by procedures approved by the University of Florida Honor Court. Please note the full UF Honor Code and conduct policies here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/1617/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>. More detail is attached at the end of this document.

Further Detail on Plagiarism.

A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

Unauthorized Use of Materials or Resources (“Cheating”). A student shall not use unauthorized materials or resources in an academic activity. Unauthorized materials or resources shall include:

1. Any paper or project authored by the student and presented by the student for the satisfaction of any academic requirement if the student previously submitted or simultaneously submits substantially the same paper or project to satisfy another academic requirement and did not receive express authorization to resubmit or simultaneously submit the paper or project.
2. Any materials or resources prepared by another student and used without the other student's express consent or without proper attribution to the other student.
3. Any materials or resources which the faculty member has notified the student or the class are prohibited.
4. Use of a cheat sheet when not authorized to do so or use of any other resources or materials during an examination, quiz, or other academic activity without the express permission of the faculty member, whether access to such resource or materials is through a cell phone, PDA, other electronic device, or any other means.

Prohibited Collaboration or Consultation. A student shall not collaborate or consult with another person on any academic activity unless the student has the express authorization from the faculty member.

1. Prohibited collaboration or consultation shall include but is not limited to:
 - A. Collaborating when not authorized to do so on an examination, take-home test, writing project, assignment, or course work.
 - B. Collaborating or consulting in any other academic or co-curricular activity after receiving notice that such conduct is prohibited.

- C. Looking at another student's examination or quiz during the time an examination or quiz is given. Communication by any means during that time, including but not limited to communication through text messaging, telephone, e-mail, other writing or verbally, is prohibited unless expressly authorized.

2. It is the responsibility of the student to seek clarification on whether or not use of materials or collaboration or consultation with another person is authorized prior to engaging in any act of such use, collaboration or consultation. If a faculty member has authorized a student to use materials or to collaborate or consult with another person in limited circumstances, the student shall not exceed that authority. If the student wishes to use any materials or collaborate or consult with another person in circumstances to which the authority does not plainly extend, the student shall first ascertain with the faculty member whether the use of materials, collaboration or consultation is authorized.

More Public Speaking/Communication Resources

Public Speaking Students Forum: A speaking competition sponsored by the Dial Center for Written & Oral Communication will be held in March. Students who have completed SPC2608 in past semesters will be selected to compete for cash prizes. See your instructor about the possibility of receiving extra credit for attending this event. Please let your instructor know if you would be interested in auditioning for next Fall. This is a terrific line for your resume or grad school application.

Public Speaking Lab: Usually located in 201 Rolfs Hall, the Public Speaking Lab offers free assistance to those seeking to develop their speaking skills. During the Fall session, some lab hours will take place in person and some on Zoom. Your instructors will post lab Zoom links on their canvas sites.

Staffed by Public Speaking instructors and trained undergraduate peer consultants, the lab welcomes walk-ins during the hours posted at: <http://cwoc.ufl.edu/programs/public-speaking-lab/hours/>. For optimal success, and to ensure available assistance, please plan speeches well in advance.

Students can choose to have their speeches recorded, get feedback on outlines, ask questions about supporting their points, and get ideas about handling speech anxiety. We also offer assistance in preparing for interviews, preparing speeches for other courses, or preparing to speak in special occasions. Please note that students currently enrolled in SPC2608 are responsible for taking the guidance offered by consultants in the lab and making sure they still meet all requirements of their own instructor. Copies of intake forms will be shared with Public Speaking instructors to ensure open communication.

If you have questions about a visit with the lab, please feel free to contact Dr. Amy Martinelli at acmart@ufl.edu.

Communication Studies Minor: The Dial Center offers a minor in Communication Studies (CMS). Our CMS minor is consistently one of the largest minors within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Employers increasingly want to see oral communication skills, and students find the minor pairs well with any major or even fulfills their requirement for an outside concentration. The total minor is just 18 credit hours. Your Public Speaking course counts as one of the core courses for the minor. You can find more information at https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/CMS_UMN/.