North Central State College

MASTER SYLLABUS	2026-2027

A. Academic Division: Liberal Arts

B. Discipline: Communication

C. Course Number and Title: COMM1010 Speech

D. Assistant Dean: Laura Irmer, MFA, MA

E. Credit Hours: 3

F. Prerequisites: None

G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Fall 2023 Origin date: 01/24/2011

H. Textbook(s) Title:

Open Education Resources (available for download or view)
Stand up, Speak out: The Practice and Ethics of Public Speaking

- Authors: (editors University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing)
- Copyright Year: 2016
- Edition:
- ISBN: 13:9781946135254
- OER Link: https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/77

Open Education Resources (available for download or view)
Exploring Public Speaking

- Authors: · Copyright Year:
- Edition: 3rd
- ISBN:
- OER Link:
  - https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/77
  - https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/exploring-public-speaking-2nd-revision

I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None

J. Course Description: This course involves instruction and experience in giving a presentation. Students are taught the principles of speech content and delivery so that they can effectively participate in a variety of practical speaking situations. Presentations will include the informative speech, persuasive speech, visual aid/demonstration speech, impromptu speech, and group presentation. (OTM for Oral Communication TMCOM and TAG # OCM013)

Honors Credit
This course is available for honors credit. If you are an Honors Student with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher and you want to earn honors credit for this course, you must contact me at the beginning of class to arrange a special honors project. If you have a grade point average below 3.5 but would like to be considered for admission to the Honors College and earn honors credit for this course, you

must also contact me at the beginning of class to discuss the admission process.

K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes:

College-Wide Learning Outcomes	Assessments - - How it is met & When it is met
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	Communication – Speech VALUE Rubric
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	
Quantitative Literacy	

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
1. The student will understand and demonstrate the structure of an extemporaneous presentation.	Oral presentations, collection of presentation outlines, quizzes, final examination—Throughout the term.
2. The student will understand and utilize a variety of verbal and nonverbal delivery techniques.	Oral presentations, quizzes, final examination—Throughout the term.
3. The student will understand and demonstrate the use of credible sources/documentation to support their presentations.	Oral presentations—Last half of the term.
4. The student will understand and implement the basic guidelines of audience analysis using speeches to embrace difference, demonstrate diversity and inclusion, and understand relationships between cultures.	Oral presentations, quizzes, final examination—Throughout the term.
5. The student will understand and create visual aids that enhance his/her presentation.	Oral presentations—Throughout the term.
6. The student will understand the model of communication.	Quizzes, final examination—Throughout the term.
7. The student will understand and employ listening styles appropriate to the message.	Oral presentations, quizzes, final examination—Throughout the term.
8. The student will understand and demonstrate how to formulate an argument.	Oral presentations, quizzes, final examination—at the end of the term.
9. The student will demonstrate the ability to critically and constructively evaluate his or her own speeches as well as the speeches of classmates and professionals.	Peer reviews of oral presentation drafts.

M. Recommended Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70-72	C-	1.67	Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63-66	D	1.00	Below Average
60-62	D-	0.67	Below Average
00--59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences. Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

* *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at:
https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDF/14-081b.pdf

North Central State College
SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division:	Arts & Sciences	**Discipline:**	Communications
Course Coordinator:	Michelle D'Ambrosio		
Course Number:	COMM 1010 921B	**Course Title:**	Public Speaking
Semester / Session:	Fall 2026 / Session B	**Start / End Date:**	10/19/2026 thru 12/11/2026

Instructor Information

Name:	Michelle D'Ambrosio	**Credentials:**	MA Public Relations/Mass Communications, BA Journalism
Phone Number:	419-989-0659	**E-Mail Address:**	mdambrosio@ncstatecollege.edu
Office Location:	Online	**Office Hours:**	By appointment

I. **Topical Timeline / Course Calendar (Subject to Change): See attached Schedule**

II. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

Final Grade Calculation

Activity	Qty	Points	Percentage
Pre-Quizzes	6	60	10.81%
Post-Quizzes	6	60	10.81%
Speeches	3	245	44.14%
Discussions & Peer Reviews	4	50	9.01%
Assignments	7	85	15.32%
Speech Labs	3	30	5.41%
Final Exam	1	25	4.50%
Total	**30**	**555**	**100%**

1. **Foundations**
   a. Understanding what public speaking is and how it differs from other communication
   b. Managing public speaking anxiety effectively
   c. Mastering the communication process elements
   d. Adapting public speaking techniques for online contexts
   e. Practicing effectively and respecting time limits
2. **Ethics**
   a. Understanding and applying ethical principles in public speaking
   b. Avoiding plagiarism through proper source citation
   c. Conducting thorough audience analysis using demographic and psychographic characteristics
   d. Becoming an effective listener in public speaking situations
   e. Succeeding as a college student and lifelong learner
3. **Development and Organization**
   a. Mastering the organizational structure of speeches
   b. Creating effective connective statements
   c. Developing clear specific purpose and central idea statements
   d. Constructing effective introductions with five essential elements
   e. Crafting memorable conclusions with three key elements
   f. Creating proper outlines for extemporaneous speaking
   g. Distinguishing informative speech topics from persuasive ones
   h. Applying audience-centered principles throughout speech development

4. **Cultural Diversity**
   a. Understanding key cultural dimensions and their communication implications
   b. Recognizing diverse communication modes across cultures
   c. Being aware of nonverbal communication differences and their cultural meanings
   d. Adapting language and content for diverse audiences
   e. Applying practical strategies for culturally sensitive public speaking
5. **Research and Support**
   a. Understanding and distinguishing between primary and secondary sources
   b. Effectively using library resources for research
   c. Evaluating online sources for credibility and reliability
   d. Following guidelines for ethical and effective use of statistics
   e. Incorporating attention factors to maintain audience engagement
6. **Delivery**
   a. Design and Use Effective Presentation Aids
   b. Apply Principles of Clear and Appropriate Language
   c. Master Extemporaneous Delivery Techniques
   d. Demonstrate Effective Nonverbal Communication
   e. Develop Vocal Variety and Control
   f. Practice Systematically for Performance Success
7. **Persuasion**
   a. Understand and Apply Aristotle's Three Modes of Persuasion
   b. Construct Well-Reasoned Propositions and Persuasive Arguments
   c. Recognize and Apply Inductive and Deductive Reasoning
   d. Identify and Avoid Common Logical Fallacies
   e. Overcome Barriers to Persuasion Through Strategic Audience Analysis

III. Examination Policy:

1. The reasons for which a student will be excused from taking an examination/performing a speech:
   a. Hospitalization (with documented verification)
   b. Death in the immediate family (with documented verification)
   c. Personal illness or illness in immediate family - (doctor's excuse required).
   d. Military duty.
2. A student who misses an examination/speech for any reason is responsible for _____
   a. Providing documentation for the absence.
   b. Arranging a supervised make-up exam through the Student Success Center or with instructor.
3. No makeup opportunity will be given for absences of unscheduled quizzes for synchronous classes and discussion board posts for asynchronous classes.
4. **Plagiarism**
   a. The first instance of plagiarism, whether deemed unintentional or intentional, will receive a 0 on the assignment if it is not a speech.
   b. Plagiarism in a speech can come in two forms: intentional or unintentional.
      - Intentional plagiarism will result in a 0 on the first instance for the assignment. The second instance will result in a 0 for the course and possible disciplinary action from the college. This includes submitting work previously done for other classes.
      - Unintentional plagiarism will result in a 0 in the grading rubric for sources on the first instance (or development if sources were not required for the speech). The second instance will result in a 0 for the assignment and possible disciplinary action from the college and/or failure of course.
      - AI usage statements are included with several assignments and chat logs are required.

IV. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

1. Asynchronous courses will have an attendance/participation grade based on attended Zoom sessions (when applicable), discussion board posts, and various homework assignments. A student must COMPLETE WORK each week by Friday 11:59 pm to be present. The college requires us to take attendance.

2. Students are responsible for informing the instructor when they cannot meet deadlines or make Zoom sessions (when applicable).
   a. Students are assigned to peer groups and should rely on them for help when instructor is not available.
   b. Students are responsible for participating in their peer groups not only for a group grade, but for an individual grade as well.
3. Synchronous courses are awarded daily points for participation and attendance. You are granted three excused absences. Coursework should still be turned in on time and is subject to course policy on late assignments (20% flat deduction if assignment is still open).

V. Classroom Expectations:

1. Mutual respect of all.
   a. No hate talk, bullying, or cyberbullying will be tolerated. Be kind! If you have issues with someone, please let me know as soon as possible.
   b. Respect others' views. You don't have to agree with them, but you do need to recognize that not everyone will hold the same views as yours, and we must still work together as a class to accomplish our goals.
   c. Respect instructor's time and availability. I respond very quickly when messaged through CANVAS messenger. I will let you know if I will be unavailable. Please be cognizant of my time as well as yours.
      - Always work a little ahead so you can anticipate issues and get them resolved quickly.
   d. Respect classmates' time and availability as well. Set boundaries in your groups as to when is an appropriate time to text or reach out via social media when working on projects or asking questions about class.
2. No photographing/ recording sessions without consent.
   a. No photographs or recordings will be taken of Zoom sessions, videos posted, or live sessions without consent from all. Instructor has the right to film Zoom sessions.
   b. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated.
3. Camera and microphone on when in sessions.
   a. You must have your camera and microphone on in a live session.
   b. Do not be distracted in a live session. Do not hold side conversations via text or chat when in a live session. Respect everyone's time and attention.
4. No phones allowed in synchronous courses. Laptops remain closed unless asked to open to do work.

VII. Required Technology:

- Laptop or computer with microphone and camera – available through college on loan if needed
- YouTube channel – free to set up
- Microsoft Word – provided by college in MYNC

*Phones and tablets are not adequate technology for this course. Please contact me or see the college regarding a loaner laptop if needed.

*You must create a YouTube channel to upload your videos. Media files will not be accepted.

*You must use Microsoft Word for your assignments. The college offers this for free in your MYNC account.

***Addition to addendum added SU 2026**

This course is listed as asynchronous, meaning there are no live meetings required when developing the course. However, this class does have a "lab" element to it where you have to deliver two (2) speeches to a live audience. Due to that requirement, the course requirements can be completed several different ways:

1) Completely asynchronously and self-paced by the student.
   - If you have access to at least 5 audience members for two speeches, you will not need to attend any live meetings with your class and can complete the assignments at your pace (within the due dates).
2) Asynchronous with synchronous meetings.
   - If you do not have access to your own crowd, you can join the class Zoom session. This date is inflexible and you must attend if you need my assistance gathering an audience. These dates are provided in the syllabus calendar and in CANVAS prior to the first day of class.

Week 1: October 19–25, Foundations of Communication

- Oct. 20 – Communication Fundamentals Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Oct. 23 – Assignment 1A: Getting to Know You (5 pts)
- Oct. 23 – Discussion 1: Introduction Speech – Initial Post (15 pts total)
- Oct. 25 – Assignment 1B: Plagiarism Test (10 pts)
- Oct. 25 – Quiz 1: Communication Fundamentals (10 pts)
- Oct. 27 – Discussion 1: Reply to 5 Classmates

Week 2: October 26–November 1, Establishing Community and Ethics

- Oct. 27 – Audience, Ethics & Purpose Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Oct. 30 – Discussion 2: Brainstorming Your Speech Topic – Initial Post (10 pts total)
- Nov. 1 – Quiz 2: Audience, Ethics & Purpose (10 pts)
- Nov. 1 – Discussion 2: Reply to 2 Classmates

Week 3: November 2–8, Speech Development and Organization

- Nov. 3 – Organizing, Outlining & Framing Your Speech Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Nov. 3 – Discussion 3: Small Group Formation and Community Standards – Initial Post (15 pts total)
- Nov. 6 – Assignment 3A: Informative Speech Research Report (15 pts)
- Nov. 8 – Quiz 3: Organizing, Outlining & Framing Your Speech (10 pts)
- Nov. 8 – Assignment 3B: Informative Speech Outline and Verbal Citations (15 pts)
- Nov. 8 – Discussion 3: Reply to 5 Classmates

Week 4: November 9–15, Informative Speaking and Research

- Nov. 10 – Research, Support & Adapting to Your Audience Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Nov. 10 – Optional: Submit Revised Informative Speech Outline (potential additional points)
- Nov. 13 – Speech Lab A: Practice Informative Speech (10 pts)
- Nov. 13 – Assignment 4: Informative Speech Submission (85 pts)
- Nov. 15 – Quiz 4: Research, Support & Adapting to Your Audience (10 pts)

Week 5: November 16–22, Speech Delivery and Visual Aids

- Nov. 17 – Aids, Language & Delivery Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Nov. 20 – Assignment 5: Demonstrative Speech Outline (10 pts)
- Nov. 22 – Quiz 5: Aids, Language & Delivery (10 pts)

Week 6: November 23–29, Persuasion and Logical Reasoning

- Nov. 24 – Persuasion & Logical Reasoning Pre-Assessment (10 pts)
- Nov. 27 – Speech Lab B: Practice Demonstrative Speech (10 pts)
- Nov. 27 – Assignment 6: Demonstrative Speech and Self-Assessment (60 pts)
- Nov. 29 – Quiz 6: Persuasion & Logical Reasoning (10 pts)

Week 7: November 30–December 6, Persuasive Speech Preparation and Peer Review

- Dec. 1 – Assignment 7A: Persuasive Speech Source Report (15 pts)
- Dec. 4 – Assignment 7B: Persuasive Speech Outline with Verbal Citations (15 pts)
- Dec. 6 – Assignment 7C: Demonstrative Speech Peer Reviews (10 pts)

Week 8: December 7–11, Final Speech and Course Assessment

- Dec. 8 – Speech Lab C: Practice Persuasive Speech (10 pts)
- Dec. 8 – Assignment 8A: Persuasive Speech Submission (100 pts)
- Dec. 11 – Assignment 8B: Final Exam (25 pts)