Comm10303/Public Speaking  
3 Credits; Summer, 2017

Woods College of Advancing Studies  
Summer 2017 Semester, June 26-August 2, 2017  
Class Meeting Day and Time: MW 6:00-9:15 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Joyce Lindmark  
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Office Hours: M/W 5:30-6:00 p.m. and by appointment

Boston College Mission Statement

Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation’s finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual idea of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a worldview that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the theory, composition, delivery, and evaluation of speeches. Attention is devoted to the four key elements of the speech situation--message, speaker, audience, and occasion. Emphasis is also placed on different modes of speaking and a variety of speech types, such as persuasive, ceremonial, and expository addresses. This is a performance course, with speeches accompanied by related writing assignments.
TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED READING

Each student should have a copy of the following course pack: Joyce Lindmark, *Public Speaking Coursepack* (Chestnut Hill, MA, BC Press, 2017). Readings should be completed for the class date after they are assigned, and students should be prepared to discuss intelligently the materials they have read.

CANVAS

Canvas is the Learning Management System (LMS) at Boston College, designed to help faculty and students share ideas, collaborate on assignments, discuss course readings and materials, submit assignments, and much more—all online. As a Boston College student, you should familiarize yourself with this important tool.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Students will develop an understanding of the role of oral communication in influencing public policy

2. Students should acquire skills in using a variety of public address formats effectively

3. Students will be able to communicate effectively orally and in writing

4. Students should be able to understand the ethical dimensions of public speaking and what it means to distort, fabricate or use evidence out-of-context.

COMPUTATION OF THE COURSE GRADE

The approximate breakdown of grades awarded during the course is as follows:

Grading

A. Speeches: 60%
   1. Introductory speech
   2. Persuasive speech
   3. Impromptu speech
4. Narrative speech
5. Speech with Aids
6. Ceremonial speech

B. Written work: 20 %

The tentative list of assignments and points is listed below. At the end of the semester, the total points earned are converted to letter grades.

1. Evaluations of speeches: maximum of 5 points per evaluation. Points for oral evaluations also are included in this "written" category. Approximately five evaluations will receive points.
2. Ethics and/or Audience Analysis assignments: 10 points each. One or both assignments may be completed orally, but points earned will be included in this "written" category.
3. Persuasive speech bibliography: 10 points
4. Persuasive speech homework assignments: Propositions--8 points; Reasoning and Evidence--18 points
5. Ceremonial speech manuscript: 10 points
6. In-class assignments: points vary, depending upon which assignments we complete.

C. Exam: 20 %

There will be one exam. It will precede the ceremonial speech and cover all material assigned before the speech, with the exact date TBD.

D. Other factors

Informed class participation, improvements in presenting your speeches, and regular attendance can positively affect a student's grade for the semester.

Deadlines and late work

1. Please do not leave assignments in my mailbox and do not e-mail assignments to me. Please reserve e-mail for non-speech related issues (e.g., requesting a letter).

2. For credit, you must be present when an evaluation is collected or when there is an in-class writing assignment.

3. If you are absent, you are responsible for getting from a classmate any notes, changes in assignment sheets, etc. that were presented in class.
4. Speeches may be made up, at the instructor's discretion, but outside of class.

5. Any written assignments submitted and accepted late receive reduced points.

6. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on a specified date.

7. Bring your course pack with you to every class.

**WCAS Grading System**

The undergraduate grading system for the Woods College is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33), B (3.00) B- (2.67)
C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67)
D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67)
F (.00)

The graduate grading system for the Woods College is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33), B (3.00)
B- (2,67), passing but does not count toward the degree
C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit

All students can access final grades through Agora after the grading deadline each semester. Student who complete course evaluations can access grades earlier, as they are posted.

**Deadlines and Late Work**

All work must be done on time to receive full credit. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments will be graded accordingly.
Course Assignments

It is expected that you will spend 6 hours per week on out-of-class assignments and exercises. Please note that some weeks require more time and some weeks require less time, but the average is approximately 6 hours per week over the semester.

Academic Honesty

Any assignment submitted for this course should be the original work of the student. Any information or evidence that is fabricated, distorted, or misrepresented will be severely penalized. Information that is copied from a source without attribution or that is not the original work of the student will be treated as plagiarism and subject to disciplinary action by the instructor, the Department Chair, and/or by the College. Other examples of academic dishonesty include facilitating such dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams or assignments). Also, academic misconduct may include submitting the same or substantially similar material to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. For more information, please see the Boston College policy on academic integrity.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance

It is imperative that you attend class regularly, whether or not you are scheduled to speak, so that each speaker is assured of a large (i.e., public) audience. In addition, speeches by other students serve as a learning device. There will be no opportunities to make up speeches in class. In order to make up a speech outside of class, you must provide an explanation of your absence which is acceptable to the instructor.

Department of Communication Attendance Policy

Attendance is required as a condition of successful completion of all courses in the Department of Communication. After missing any class session, a student is responsible for finding out about assignments, due dates, announcements, handouts, and so forth that were covered during the missed session, and for making up any missed work. The student is also responsible for obtaining class notes from a classmate for the session, and for learning the material from that session for any relevant exams or quizzes.

The equivalent of two weeks of absence from any course (6, in this course) will reduce a student’s course grade by one full letter grade. Absence from a combined total of three weeks of class meetings (9 days, in this class) will result in automatic failure of the course. Thus, if the class meets once a week, three missed
sessions equals automatic failure. If a course meets twice a week, six missed sessions will result in failure of the course, and a combined nine missed class sessions will result in automatic failure of a course that meets three times per week. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Absences for any reason, including illness, personal crises, athletics, or other extra-curricular activities are included in this total. If a student is involved in any activity that might require that student to miss three or more weeks of a particular course, then that student should not enroll in the course. Individual faculty members may add requirements or stipulations to this policy.

ACCOMMODATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Boston College is committed to providing accommodations to students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. Specific documentation from the appropriate office is required for students seeking accommodation in Woods College courses. Advanced notice and formal registration with the appropriate office is required to facilitate this process. There are two separate offices at BC that coordinate services for students with disabilities.

• The Connors Family Learning Center (CFLC) coordinates services for students with LD and ADHD.

• The Disabilities Service Office (DSO) coordinates services with other disabilities.

Find out more about BC's commitment to accessibility at www.bc.edu/sites/accessibility.

SCHOLARSHIP AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students in Woods College courses must produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to cite references is plagiarism. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on exams or assignments, or submitting the same material or substantially similar materials to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student's work. Please see the Boston College policy on academic integrity for more information.