

Course Description

SPC2601 | Advanced Public Speaking | 3.00 credits

For students who have had a basic course in speech or previous experience in public speaking. The course provides participation in such areas as contest, community and on-campus speaking, and speech criticism. Students receive instruction in audience analysis and rhetorical principles and strategies. Prerequisite: SPC2608.

Competency 1: The student will apply advanced rhetorical principles and strategies in public speaking by:

- 1. Utilizing rhetorical devices, such as ethos, pathos, and logos, to persuade and engage audiences during speeches and presentations effectively.
- Employing advanced techniques of organization and structure, such as incorporating attention-grabbing introductions, clear transitions, and impactful conclusions, to enhance the coherence and impact of speeches.
- 3. Applying advanced rhetorical strategies, such as repetition, analogy, and storytelling, to effectively convey messages and captivate audiences during public speaking engagements.

Competency 2: The student will analyze and adapt to diverse audience characteristics and preferences by:

- 1. Conducting thorough audience analysis, including demographic research, cultural considerations, and psychographic factors, to understand the characteristics and preferences of different audience groups.
- 2. Adapting speech content, language, and delivery style to effectively connect with diverse audiences, ensuring that speeches are relatable, engaging, and culturally sensitive.
- 3. Utilizing effective communication strategies, such as active listening and nonverbal cues, to gauge audience reactions and adjust speech delivery in real time to maintain audience engagement and interest.

Competency 3: The student will evaluate and provide constructive criticism for speeches and presentations by:

- 1. Developing criteria for evaluating speeches and presentations, considering content, organization, delivery, and overall impact on the audience.
- 2. Providing constructive feedback that is specific, actionable, and supportive, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement in speech content, delivery techniques, and overall effectiveness.
- Demonstrating effective communication skills in delivering feedback, using appropriate language, tone, and nonverbal cues to ensure that constructive criticism is well-received and promotes growth and improvement in public speaking skills.

Competency 4: The student will engage in advanced public speaking activities by:

- 1. Participating in advanced speech contests, such as impromptu speaking competitions or persuasive speech competitions, to challenge and enhance public speaking skills.
- 2. Taking part in community speaking engagements, such as delivering speeches at local events or organizations, to gain practical experience adapting speeches to diverse audiences and speaking contexts.
- Engaging in on-campus speaking opportunities, such as presenting to student organizations or speaking in academic settings, to showcase advanced public speaking skills and gain confidence in professional speaking environments.

Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities
- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information

Updated: Fall 2025