

COMM 204: Public Speaking  
USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
Spring 2017

Essential Details

**Instructor:** David Jeong, Ed.M., M.A.  
[DavidJeo@usc.edu](mailto:DavidJeo@usc.edu)  
ASC G4 (Old Building); Kerkhoff Hall (Off-Campus) 312

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Lectures:** Tues & Thurs 9:30 – 10:50  
ANN 406

Course Overview

The title of the course is straight forward and you may already have a pre-conceived idea of what the course is about and how it will proceed. While the course does focus on public *speaking*, this course will emphasize a holistic approach to learning about public speaking that heavily engages the *audience* and *listener*. As such, the active participation of the audience, as well as the capacity of the speaker to engage the audience represent essential goals of this course.

This is a course that many are taking out of requirement, and all of you come from different backgrounds and different levels of comfort and expertise when it comes to speaking in public. No two students can be judged on an equal plane in any course—but particularly in a course such as this one. As such, I will concentrate a lot of attention on making sure the course is calibrated to your individual learning needs. I do ask you to answer the short questionnaire to gauge your comfort level with public speaking as well as your preferred learning style(s).

Readings:

- The Public Speaking Project (n.d.). *Public speaking: The virtual text*. Retrieved from <http://publicspeakingproject.org/psvirtualtext.html>

Assignments and Grading

**Speeches (55%):** Speech prompts and assignments will be discussed further in class.

- *Speech 1 (5 %)*
- *Speech 2 (7.5 %)*
- *Speech 3 (12.5 %)*
- *Group Discussion Leading (15%)*
- *Personal Discussion Leading (15%)*

**Attendance and Participation (25%):** Given the nature of the course, I feel that engagement with the materials is necessary for your learning. I find that students who are deeply engaged tend to produce final projects that are both thoughtful and thought-provoking. In order to fully participate, I ask you to do the following:

- **Attend class (5%):** Given the nature of the course, it is essential and necessary to attend every class. That said, life doesn't always follow the academic calendar. Please e-mail in advance and I will make sure you are caught up. You are allowed 1 unexcused absence in the semester. Every subsequent absence will result in a 1/3 letter grade penalty to your participation grade. Excused absences will be dealt on a case-by-case basis. Obviously, if you are absent, you cannot participate, and the subsequent grades will suffer.
- **Audience Participation (15%):** I place a significant emphasis on the role of the audience/listener in public speaking. As such, you will be graded based on attentive listening, asking questions, and actively reinforcing your classmates when they are speaking. I will make note of audience listening behavior and questions/discussion during each speech.
- **Classroom Activities (5%):** There will be a number of light classroom activities, games, and discussions aimed at stimulating your learning. Your participation in these activities is essential to your participation.
- **Reading:** The reading load is not meant to be overwhelming. However, I've found that the more students push themselves to engage with the materials, the more robust their final projects are.

**Midterm (10%):** The midterm will cover concepts from the readings, lecture, and student speeches.

**Final (10%):** The format of the final is TBD.

### Technology in the Classroom

I would normally encourage the use of technology in the classroom, but given the nature of the course and its focus on audience participation, **computers are not needed and not to be used in the class.**

Phones are a slightly different story, however. There will be moments that I will take pictures of the activities and speeches in the classroom. You are welcome to join in and participate in the technology-based sharing and learning, but only to contribute to the course. Be smart about your phone usage in the class because it can either positively or negatively impact your participation grade. Active application of social media as relevant to the course can earn you 2% extra credit on your participation grade.

Twitter: @DavidJeong (Use hashtag #sayitwithyourchest17)

Instagram: @publicspeaking\_USC (#sayitwithyourchest17)

## Academic Integrity

The Annenberg School for Communication is committed to upholding the University's Academic Integrity code as detailed in the in the SCampus Guide. It is the policy of the School of Communication to report all violations of the code. Any serious violation or pattern of violations of the Academic Integrity Code will result in the student's expulsion from the Communication major or minor.

The School and the University is committed to the general principles of academic honesty that include and incorporate the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. By taking this course, students are expected to understand and abide by these principles.

All students are expected to read and understand the University Student Conduct Code, which can be found SCampus Section 11.00. Recommended sanctions can be found in Appendix A. <http://web-app.usc.edu/scampus/1100-behavior-violating-universitystandards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>.

All submitted work for this course may be subject to an originality review as performed by Turnitin technologies (<http://www.turnitin.com>) to find textual similarities with other Internet content or previously submitted student work. Students of this course retain the copyright of their own original work, and Turnitin is not permitted to use student-submitted work for any other purpose than (a) performing an originality review of the work, and (b) including that work in the database against which it checks other student-submitted work.

## Students with Disabilities

The Annenberg School for Communication strives to ensure the accessibility of programs, classes, and services to students with learning, emotional, or physical disabilities. If you need accommodations for this course, be sure to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) (213-740-0776) in Verna & Peter Dauterive Hall (VPD), and notify me as soon as possible so we can arrange for reasonable accommodations in a timely manner.

## Course Schedule

### **Week 1: Introductions**

*Tuesday, January 10*

Introductions

One Thing About You

Meet & Greet Appointments

Thursday, January 12

Two Things About You

Meet & Greet Appointments

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 1 Introduction to Public Speaking

**Week 2: Focusing on the listener**

Tuesday, January 17

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 5 Audience Analysis
- <http://www.extension.harvard.edu/professional-development/blog/make-your-speech-all-about-audience>
- PSP Chapter 4 Listening Effectively

Thursday, January 19

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 8 Organizing and Outlining
- PSP Chapter 12 Delivering Your Speech

**Week 3: Developing the speech**

Tuesday, January 24

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 9 Introductions and Conclusions
- PSP Chapter 7 Supporting Ideas

Thursday, January 26

**\*Speech 1 Group A\***

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 10 Using Language Well

**Week 4: Visual Aids**

Tuesday, January 31

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 13 Visual Aids

Thursday, February 2

**\*Speech 1 Group B\***

**Week 5: Persuasion**

Tuesday, February 7

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 16 Persuasive Speaking

Thursday, February 9

**\*Speech 2 Group A\***

**Week 6: Informative**

Tuesday, February 14

Readings:

- PSP Chapter 15 Informative Speaking

Thursday, February 16

**\*Speech 2 Group B\***

**Week 7: Midterm Week**

Tuesday, February 21

Midterm Review

Thursday, February 23

**\*Midterm Exam\***

**Week 8: Group Discussion Leading**

Tuesday, February 28

**\*Discussion Lead Group A1 \***

Thursday, March 2

**\*Discussion Lead Group A2 \***

**Week 9: Group Discussion Leading**

Tuesday, March 7

**\*Discussion Lead Group B1 \***

Thursday, March 9

**\*Discussion Lead Group B2 \***

**Spring Recess: March 12-19**

**Week 10: Implementing Psychology**

Tuesday, March 21

Reading: TBD

Thursday, March 23

**Week 11: Social Perception**

Tuesday, March 28

Reading: TBD

Thursday, March 30

**Speech 3 Group A**

**Week 12: Speaking Conversationally**

Tuesday, April 4

Thursday, April 6

**Speech 3 Group B**

**Week 13: Speech under Adversity**

Tuesday, April 11

**Wildcard Activity Group A**

*Thursday, April 13*

**Wildcard Activity Group B**

**Week 14: Personally Leading Discussion**

*Tuesday, April 18*

**Discussion Lead (Personal) #2**

*Thursday, April 20*

**Discussion Lead (Personal) #2**

**Week 15: Personally Leading Discussion**

*Tuesday, April 25*

**Discussion Lead (Personal) #2**

*Thursday, April 27*

**Discussion Lead (Personal) #2**

**Final Exam: Tuesday May 9, 2016, 8AM-10AM**