

Course Overview: COM 230

Course title: Public Speaking
Pre-requisites: None
Number of credits: 3
Catalog course description: Original speeches; emphasis on rhetoric and audience psychology
Required instructor qualifications: Master's degree in Communication or any related field (including Education); An instructor may be appointed provided the candidate has credentials and/or experience substantially comparable to the listed standards for the department.
Course's audience and role in Eastern's curriculum: This course fulfills a major requirement for students completing any of the following concentrations within the Communications, Film, and Theatre major: Design and Performance Media; Film and Video Production; Multimedia Journalism: News and Sports; Performance, Acting, Choreography, and Playwriting. It also fulfills a requirement for students completing a minor in Leadership Communication.
Learning outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver a speech from beginning to end, based off an outline• Identify and integrate key nonverbal cues into their speeches• Research and distill a topic, identifying relevant points for their audience• Deliver a speech in several different styles
Primary modes of instruction: This course is discussion-based. Students deliver their speeches in class and also complete in-class exercises.
Primary modes of assessment: Students in all sections of this course complete 3-4 speeches, including an informative speech and a persuasive speech. The course grade is comprised primarily of these speeches. Instructors also assign credit for attendance and class participation (10-20%) and may give a multiple-choice final exam.
Other notes for instructors: Instructors on campus use J. Dan Rothwell's <i>Practically Speaking</i> or Gregory Hamilton's <i>Public Speaking for College and Career</i> . You may use either of these texts or another of your choosing, with the approval of your faculty liaison, or you may opt not to use a textbook and rely on OER and TED Talks as models.

Approved by the Department of Communication, Film, & Theatre on
05/12/2025

Signature of department chair or faculty liaison: Andrew Utterback

