

Comm 101, Sec. 201 Public Speaking & Critical Thinking
MWF 1:40-2:30pm SOC – Room 014

Dr. Mark Pollock

907 Lewis Towers

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Meetings by appointment

Objectives

This course is designed to increase confidence, competence, and awareness as a public speaker, speech writer and audience member. We will build presentation skills through practice in preparing, presenting and critically evaluating public presentations. We will explore and understand basic elements of rhetorical studies through the examination of foundational theories from both traditional and nontraditional theorists.

Class Attendance Policy

Your success in this course will heavily depend on your attendance and participation in the classroom.

You are expected to be present for every meeting of the course. **Should you miss more than three classes your final grade may be lowered one grade.** If you are unable to attend a class or will be late for a class, you must notify the instructor in advance of the absence. The instructor reserves the right to make judgment on accepting and/or making up assignments missed because of class absence.

Unexcused absences may result in failing the course. NO COMPUTERS, food, cell phones, or other electronic devices are permitted.

CRISIS PLAN: Please check your **LOYOLA** e-mail each day for updates about class. In the event of an emergency cancellation instructions will be e-mail to you and posted here under announcements. The following actions may take place:

- If the campus is closed students may be asked to record their presentations from home and send them to me to be graded.
- We may hold group discussions based on material posted by the instructor (videos, articles etc.). Discussions will take place in the Forums section. Students must participate during normal class time or risk a reduction in their grade of up to 5%.
- Should class be canceled in the first week we may add additional time to the beginning or end of classes later in the term.

Academic Dishonesty: (This comes from the SOC)

All Faculty are expected to require students to use legal and proper source attribution on assignments—whether written or media-driven.

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Plagiarism in your work will result in a minimum of a failing grade for that assignment. The case may carry further sanctions from the School of

Communication or the University, the most serious being permanent expulsion. Avoid turning in work that could be interpreted as plagiarism or academically dishonest (e.g., failing to properly credit a source or using someone else's ideas without clarifying that they are not yours). This is an academic community; being uninformed or naïve is not an acceptable excuse for not properly referencing your sources.

It is dishonest to:

- Turn in the same work for two classes;
- Turn in a paper you have not written yourself; or
- Copy from another student or use a "cheat sheet" during an exam.
- [This one is from me] Lie about an absence.

Text

The Speaker's Handbook 11th Edition by Jo Sprague, Douglas Stuart and David Boday.

Grading

EXAM 200PTS

CULTURAL ARTIFACT 150PTS

The cultural artifact speech asks students to speak about the significance of an artifact to a specific culture or sub-culture. An artifact may be a material object, a person, an event, a place, a concept, or a way of thinking. Students should strive to achieve several goals: contextualize the artifact within a culture, provide new and/or interesting insights into that artifact, and specify why the artifact is significant to the culture. Students should not denigrate the culture or attempt to persuade the audience one way or another about the culture.

Requirements

Length: 5 minutes Citations: 2 * Visual Aid **Topic must be approved**

TEXTUAL ANALYSIS 150PTS

Students will analyze the strategies/tactics used by the speaker in an assigned speech. Students will use the terms from the text and readings to analyze the speech. Students should provide evidence from the speech to support their analysis.

Requirements

Length: 5 minutes **Topic will be assigned**

INFORMATIVE 120PTS

Students will develop new and/or interesting information about a topic and present that information using the methods discussed in class and the text. Students should not attempt to persuade the audience to change their belief/actions.

Requirements

Length: 4-5 minutes Citations: 2 **Topic must be approved**

CIVIC ISSUES 200PTS

Students will select a problem dealing with social justice in the Chicagoland area. Students must demonstrate a need for action to their fellow classmates. The action proscribed must be something the students in the class could do.

Requirements

Length: 8 minutes Citations: 3 **Topic must be approved**

OUTLINES ([2PER@10](#)) 80PTS (This will be reflected in the total speech grade.)

SPEECH OF INTRODUCTION 50PTS

Students will deliver a 3 minute "elevator speech". Students should role play a conversation in which they pitch themselves to a potential employer.

LIBRARY HUNT 50 POINTS (You may not use the web unless directed)