

Writing 106
Public Speaking
Summer 2012

TuTh 6:00-9:30 p.m.

Instructor: James Wilson (jawilson@ucsc.edu)

Office: Cowell 209 (459-2627)

Hours: TuTh 4:45-5:45, & by appointment

"Public Speaking"

Course Description:

Liberation from "vocal imperialism"!

From stand-up comedy to political persuasion, you will learn strategies to write, analyze, and deliver effective speeches in various genres including impromptu and debate, as well as professional presentations (law, medicine, business, etc.) using "PowerPoint" and other visuals. You can expect frequent opportunities to practice your skills in front of an audience, to receive regular instructor and peer critiques, and to study the discipline from texts and other sources.

The course is divided into three main units: "FOUNDATIONS," "SKILLS," and "STYLE." (See **Syllabus**.)

In the "FOUNDATIONS" unit, you will begin with short (less than one minute) extemporaneous and impromptu exercises as a way to gain trust with your peers and to identify and practice features of successful public speaking. You will then give a 2-3 minute personal speech that receives informal evaluations from other students as well as a formal evaluation from me. This speech will also be submitted as a "key word" outline as well as a write-up.

In the "SKILLS" unit you will deepen your skills in two 4-6 minute speeches (analysis/social commentary and research/argument) that receive informal peer and formal instructor evaluations. Both of these speeches will also be submitted as "key word" outlines as well as write-ups. During this and all units, you will consider chapters or speeches from our texts that offer relevant suggestions for successful speech making.

In the "STYLE" unit, you will continue to build upon your work from previous weeks, concluding in a final 6-9 minute speech; this informative speech can employ a variety of visual aids, including but not limited to Microsoft PowerPoint. As before, you will receive informal peer and formal instructor evaluations, and submit your speech as a "key word" outline as well as a write-up. By our Finals Week meeting, any one of your four speeches and/or write-ups may be revised for an improved evaluation.

Course Texts:

Required:

In Our Own Words: Extraordinary Speeches of the American Century, Toricelli and Carroll (2000)

Easy Writer, Lunsford (4th ed.)

Recommended: tba

Course Work:

4 speeches = 40%

4 write-ups = 20%

3 critical reading logs = 15%

Participation = 25%

Speeches:

Speeches are spoken—not read, but also not memorized word for word! We will discuss methods of note taking in the preparation of speeches. You will be evaluated according to the following criteria: 1) eye contact and sense of audience; 2) coherence and organization; 3) preparation and knowledge; 4) poised, public diction; 5) demeanor and body language; 6) style and delivery. My evaluations will be ready for you by the next class meeting.

You must be prepared to speak on any day a speech is assigned. Postponed speeches will result in an automatic lower evaluation. Complete typed “key word” outlines as well as write-ups are due before all speeches.

Write-ups:

Write-ups will result from an organic process of thinking through the delivery process of your speeches. A good rule of thumb is to aim for the mid-way mark of your time limit (5 minutes for your second and third speeches, for example) and also allow some flexibility. Thus, your write-up does not have to exactly correspond to the speech you end up delivering. Write-ups should be accompanied by a “cover sheet” (provided by me) and draft/s and evaluations (if applicable), and submitted in a folder. They must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, and with pages numbered.

A late write-up receives an “NP” or “F.” In order to count as passing, it must be submitted within one week of the due date and then revised later in the quarter after receiving my comments. **A write-up submitted more than a week late may NOT be revised and will receive an “NP” or “F.”**

One write-up may be revised. Revisions must be rigorous: all corrections made, and with 500 words of new information and analysis.

Logs:

Write-ups will be evaluated (by me) and returned within one week.

250-500 word logs are typed, **analytic** responses to speeches from *In Our Own Words*.

Participation:

You are expected to attend every class meeting. More than one absence is sufficient for an "NP" or "D"; **more than two absences (or combination of late arrivals/early exits) will result in an automatic "NP" or "D/F."** Take responsibility. When class meets, don't be out of town on trips or athletic events; and don't schedule appointments. **This is a fair policy; don't ask for exceptions and thereby compromise the integrity of the class.**

Attendance aside, you should contribute fully to discussions. You will also be expected to listen respectfully and evaluate dozens of speeches given in the course, keeping a record of **your evaluations of your peers.**

Syllabus

(subject to change/ details tba)

WEEK 1

"FOUNDATIONS": physical confidence; voice and presence

Introductions; 2-3 minute exercises in extemporaneous speaking: anecdotes, etc.;
1st paper/write-up due

WEEKS 2-3

"SKILLS": audience, organization, development, research

4-6 minute analytic/social commentary speeches; argument/research speeches;
etc.; log/s and **2nd and 3rd papers/write-ups due**

WEEKS 4-5

"STYLE": delivering with technology

6-9 minute informative speeches with visual aids; **log/s and revision and 4th
paper/write-up due**

WEEK 6

Finals Week

TBA