

CMST 2060 Public Speaking Syllabus<sup>1</sup> Spring 2019  
M/W/F 9:30-10:20 am  
Coates 130: Section 9

Instructor: Katie Nelson  
Office: Coates 320  
Email: [knels45@lsu.edu](mailto:knels45@lsu.edu)  
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10:20-11:20 am

Text: Valenzano, et. al. *The Speaker's Primer: LSU Custom Edition*. Fountainhead Press, 2018.  
Other readings/videos to be posted on Moodle.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION/GOALS**

CMST 2060 is a *General Education Humanities Course* designed to familiarize students with the study of public speaking. The act of public speaking is the culmination (and often the beginning) of a long process of critical dialogue between oneself, language, and the imagined responses of the audience. In other words, it takes being confident in who you are, what you want to say, how you are going to say it, who you want to say it to, and why you should say anything at all. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of public speaking.

*As a General Education Humanities Course*, CMST 2060 will enable students to demonstrate an understanding of historical, cultural, and philosophical complexity that supports sophisticated discourse.

Please note that this course is not about influencing your personal politics, but this course will often ask you to engage in political concepts and current events. This being said, you will in no way be graded based on your political opinions. However, you may be graded on your organization of such opinions based on the speech rubrics.

As stated, we will encounter hot topics throughout this course. In order to maintain the *safe space* of our classroom, if you become uncomfortable during a peer's speech please feel free to quietly exit the room and return once the speech is over.

### **COURSE POLICIES**

**Attendance & Participation:** This is a highly interactive, in class activity-based course, so attendance at every class session is expected. Being a public speaking course, your participation and engagement with the material and one another is also expected. If you anticipate missing a lot of class, this is not the course or section for you. However, you are allowed **2** no-questions asked freebies for the semester. Once your freebies are used, absences will be counted against your Activity Speeches/In-Class Activity grade. Also, lateness is inexcusable and will be noted.

If you feel that you are struggling, have any questions, or want to run a topic idea by me please do not hesitate to attend my office hours. I am here to help!

**Technology Policy:** You will lose participation points for using unwarranted technology.

- Laptops/Tablets are not permitted in class unless explicitly told they are going to be a tool for collaborative learning. You should have paper and a writing utensil for this course.
- Phones are **NOT** permitted for use during class. Use in class will lead to deduction in points (5 per class day).
- In emergencies requiring cell phone access during class (which you have made me aware of prior to class) you should attempt to sit near the entrance to the classroom.

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<sup>1</sup> Thank you to Dr. Bonny McDonald as parts of this syllabus are borrowed

**Plagiarism:** You are to assume that all assignments in this course are individual assignments unless explicit instructions are provided for a group project. Any student found to have turned in material not their own (either downloaded from the internet or written by another student) in part or in whole will immediately be reported to the Dean of Students. The Internet has made plagiarism very easy and very tempting (although it has also made it rather easy to test for plagiarized work). Hundreds of sites offer papers, research, writing, and editing. The ease with which such material is available over the Internet does not lessen the seriousness of claiming material from the Internet as your own. See the LSU policies on plagiarism here: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/instruction/plagiarism2.html>. Your speech is considered as plagiarized in part or entirely if you do any of the following:

- Submit a paper or speech that was written by someone other than you.
- Submit a paper or speech in which you use the ideas, metaphors or reasoning style of another, but do not cite that source and/or place that source in your list of references. Simply rewording a sentence does not make work your own.
- Submit a paper or speech in which you “cut and paste” or use the exact words of a source and you do not put the words within quotation marks, use footnotes or in-text citations, and place the source in your list of references.

**Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states: “If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a coordinator in the Office of Disability Affairs (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations can be arranged.” After you receive the accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations.

**Grades:** Final grades will be determined based on points earned throughout the semester. This being said, all work must be done during the semester. I reserve the right to make minor adjustments in the points offered to maintain flexibility of our course schedule. Rubrics will be posted/handed out prior to each assignment.

“A” means you have **excelled** in your performance or written work, expending special time and energy to make something you well know is impressive.

“B” means you have completed all assignments **and** have gone the extra step beyond. “B” indicates that you have thoroughly prepared, followed the assignment requirements, and made the audience/reader interested in your work.

“C” means you have successfully accomplished the assignments and are able to construct and deliver a solid performance or written assignment, but have not put in the kind of extra time and energy that distinguishes your work from the average effort.

“D” and “F” indicate you have not met the basic criteria of assignments and/or you have turned in or presented deficient work.

**Course Assignments:**

4 Major Speeches (50% of overall course grade):

Introductory Speech (5% - 50 points)

Informative Speech (15% - 150 points)

Persuasive Speech (20% - 200 points)

Commemorative Speech (10% - 100 points)

-As will be laid out in more detail in each rubric, writing such as outlines and self-assessments will be a portion of each speech grade.

Research Participation Requirement (2% - 20 points)

In-Class Activities (13% - 130 points)

Reading Assessments (15% - 150 points)

Exams (20% of overall course grade- 200 points):

Midterm Exam (10% - 100 points)

Final Exam (10% - 100 points)

Your final grade will be based on your total score at the end of the semester.

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

A+ = 970-1000 points

A = 930-969 points

A- = 900-929 points

B+ = 870-899 points

B = 830-869 points

B- = 800-829 points

C+ = 770-799 points

C = 730-769 points

C- = 700-729 points

D+ = 670-699 points

D = 630-669 points

D- = 600-629 points

F = 0-599 points

\*Please note your grade on Moodle might not match the point totals perfectly. Be advised your grade is determined by the number of points you earn throughout the semester. If you have any questions regarding grades come see me.

**Missed Speeches & Late-Work:** If a student is absent the day she/he/they are scheduled to speak and have not made prior arrangements with me, the presentation will suffer a 10% deduction (if two days missed 20% and so on). If a speaker knows well in advance that they cannot attend class the day of an assigned speech presentation, they can find a replacement without penalty. If the speaker is too sick to present then stay home, but a note from the health center is **required**.

Any short homework assignments/or assignments associate with speeches are to be completed prior to class and turned in at the beginning of class on the day that they are due. If you email asking to turn in late work due to a university excused absence, submit **documentation** of your excuse along with your inquiry about an extension.

## ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

### Major Speeches:

- 1) Introductory Speech: a 3-4 min narrative based speech addressing your own experiences. The specific topic is TBD.
- 2) Informative Speech: a 5 min informative speech on a predetermined broad theme. The specific topic is TBD.
- 3) Persuasive Speech: an 8 min persuasive speech. For this speech you will be divided into pairs and will each give a persuasive speech on the same topic but opposing sides (pro and con). This speech will be filmed.
- 4) Commemorative Speech: a 2-3 min commemorative or open topic speech. No notes allowed.

**In-Class Activities:** This grade will be determined based on in-class participation, and various in-class speaking exercises.

**Reading Assessments:** These assessments will be assigned and accessible via Moodle. You will read the assigned chapters and take the assigned quizzes. Don't forget to do these quizzes as they will influence your grade.

**Midterm and Final Exams:** The midterm exam will be a 3-4 page speech analysis paper. The final is TBD based on our class.

**Research Participation System (RPS):** A department requirement. You are responsible for completing this requirement, and the grading is out of my hands.

The material you will learn in this course is the product of research. The goal of the research learning requirement is to help you to gain knowledge about the process by which scholars attempt to understand human behavior. All students taking CMST 1061, 2010, 1150, and 2060 must complete a research learning requirement. **For each course in which a student is enrolled, he or she must complete 2 research credits.** You can fulfill your requirement by:

**1. Participating in research studies conducted in the Department of Communication Studies.** All studies that last between 0 and 30 minutes will count as one credit. Any study that lasts between 31 and 60 minutes will count as two credits. Each study will specify the number of credits a student can earn for completion. There will be several survey and experimental studies conducted throughout the semester. These studies are held on campus at various times and in various locations or are administered through online survey software. All available studies are approved by the Institutional Review Board at LSU.

**2. Participating in an organized departmental function such as debate or public speaking competition.** Only departmental sanctioned events will count toward a student's research learning requirement; thus, no credit will be given for a student attending an outside speaker or performance.

**3. Serving as a research assistant for a faculty member in the Department of Communication Studies.** The number of units and requirements for those units will be set by the researcher and either accepted or rejected by the student.

**The research learning requirement is worth 2% of your total grade;** you will receive your 2% if you accumulate 2 research credits during the given semester. Please note that all research learning credits must be completed and allocated by **Tuesday of the LAST WEEK of class at 11:55 PM (April 23<sup>rd</sup>)**. Your instructor will receive and upload your credit to Moodle once this deadline has passed.

**ALL available options to earn credit are posted on an electronic bulletin board** located at <http://lsuhumanresearch.sona-systems.com/>. When you go to this website, you will first have to request an account. Once you have secured an account, you will be able to log in and see the options available to you for your various CMST courses. **All students will need to request a new account as of Fall 2018, as old accounts have been deleted.**

Please note that **various ways to fulfill your research learning requirement will appear on this bulletin board throughout the semester.** You are encouraged to check the system on a regular basis for current credit options that fit your interests as well as your schedule. **ONLY opportunities with CMST at the beginning will count toward your CMST classes.**

**When you create your account, it will be important to designate the CMST course you want to the credits assigned to.** Make sure you choose the correct Course, Section and Instructor. Failure to do this will keep the instructor from receiving your credits. For each CMST course participating in the RPS system, you will need to earn 2 credits for each course. For example, if you are enrolled in CMST 2010 and CMST 2060, you will need to earn 4 total credits.

It is very important when you sign-up for a credit option that you attend that option or cancel your sign up. **Failure to show up twice during one semester will result in your access to the system being restricted and you being unable to complete your research learning requirement.** Valid excuses for failing to cancel a sign up and missing a credit option are the same as those found in LSU Policy Statement 31.

Detailed instructions on how to request an account and to navigate the system once logged in can be found on the homepage of the Department of Communication Studies. Go to <http://www.lsu.edu/cmst>. Then click on RESEARCH and STUDIES. Scroll down to find the document titled "RPS – Instructions for Students."

You are encouraged to **create an account during the first week of classes** so that any problems that arise can be remedied before it is too late. If you have questions about this requirement or the online system that keeps track of credits, please email [researchadmin@lsu.edu](mailto:researchadmin@lsu.edu).

## **CLASS RESOURCES**

- 1) Moodle – everything will be posted here, please check the page daily.
- 2) LSU Library System
- 3) Studio 151

## **LSU COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY**

The LSU Commitment to Community provides a guiding ethos to the University community. Students are encouraged to exemplify the Commitment to Community in their daily lives.

Louisiana State University is an interactive community in which Students, faculty, and staff together strive to pursue truth, advance learning, and uphold the highest standards of performance in an academic and social environment. It is a community that fosters individual development and the creation of bonds that transcend the time spent within its gates.

To demonstrate my pride in LSU, as a member of its community, I will:

- accept responsibility for my actions;
- hold myself and others to the highest standards of academic, personal, and social integrity; • practice justice, equality, and compassion in human relations;
- respect the dignity of all persons and accept individual differences;
- respect the environment and the rights and property of others and the University;
- contribute positively to the life of the campus and surrounding community; and
- use my LSU experience to be an active citizen in an international and interdependent world.

The continued success of LSU depends on the faithful commitment by each community member to these, our basic principles. (Adopted May 1995)

## **TITLE IX & Sexual Misconduct Policy**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a comprehensive federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the gender of students and employees of educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance.

In accordance with Title IX and other applicable law, Louisiana State University (“LSU”) is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free of discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual misconduct which includes sex discrimination, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and retaliation. LSU prohibits sex discrimination and sexual misconduct. This policy applies to all persons without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.

Sex discrimination and sexual misconduct violate an individual’s fundamental rights and personal dignity. LSU considers sex discrimination and sexual misconduct in all of its forms to be serious offenses. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy establishes a mechanism for determining when rights have been violated in employment, student life, campus support services, LSU programs and/or an academic environment.

If you have concerns, you can contact:

### University Contacts

Jennie Stewart Maria Fuentes Martin Campus Title IX Coordinator Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students  
jstewart@lsu.edu [mari@lsu.edu](mailto:mari@lsu.edu)

LSU Office of Human Resource Management LSU Dean of Students 110 Thomas Boyd Hall 333 Student Union Baton Rouge, LA 70803 Baton Rouge, LA 70803 225-578-8200 225-578-9442

Departmental Contacts

Dr. Loretta Pecchioni, [lpecch1@lsu.edu](mailto:lpecch1@lsu.edu) Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication Studies

Dr. Bonny McDonald, [bmcd021@lsu.edu](mailto:bmcd021@lsu.edu) Director of Basic Courses, Department of Communication Studies

Katie Nelson CMST 2060 Section 035 Instructor of Record