

Fall 2015: NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY ENGLISH 111: Public Speaking



Instructors:

Off. Hours: TBA

Course Objectives: Verbal communication is becoming increasingly important in the modern world as a result of new technologies and changing social practices. In this course we will be understanding and practicing the basics of different types of public speaking, including persuasive, expository, demonstrative and impromptu speaking. We will also be studying the principles of rhetoric and communication, and examining examples of public communication past and present. Research on topics for speeches and practice on the use of visual and other aids will also be components of the course.

Requirements:

Examinations: There will be a Midterm and a Final Exam in writing on the basics of rhetoric and argument, and the different types of speech, as well as analysis of sample speeches/discourses.

Individual presentations: There will be four to five individual presentations of different types of speeches on different topics. These will require the submission of outlines.

Group presentation: There will be a 30-minute group presentation at the end of the semester on a topic previously approved by the instructor. This will include visual aids in the form of slides, and may also include videos, audio clips, costumes, role-playing, etc. It will also require a written report and a bibliography.

Class Activities: There will be occasional brief writing assignments and quizzes, including topic development and analyses, as well as other activities such as presentations or readings/performances.

Attendance and Participation: You will be required to attend all classes, and to participate fully in classroom discussions and activities. It is thus particularly important that you prepare for each class's readings and activities when announced beforehand.

Attendance Policy: According to NSU policy, if you have THREE consecutive absences, or FIVE absences over the course of the semester, you will be automatically dropped from the course. You should also come to class in time: every three late appearances will count as one absence.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism or copying/cheating of *any kind* is a very serious offense, and will be penalized accordingly. Remember that if you use the words (even just a few words) *and/or ideas* of another writer in your own work, including speeches, and do not cite or document it in the approved format, then you are plagiarizing.

Grading:

Your final grade will be decided as follows:

Midterm & Final Exams:	40%
Individual Presentations:	20%
Group presentation:	15%
Class Activities:	15%
Attendance & Participation:	10 %

Required Texts: An *English 111 Course Reader* for the current semester will be available at NSU photocopy center. - Additional texts/readings as well as other material will be given to you as handouts in class, and should be considered as part of the required texts of the course.

Official Grade Conversion Scale

This scale is used in English courses to convert numerical scores to letter grades.

90-100% = A	76-77% = C+
88-89% = A-	70-75% = C
86-87% = B+	68-69% = C-
80-85% = B	66-67% = D+
78-79% = B-	60-65% = D
	Below 60% = F

Cellphone Policies: All cellphones must be switched off or muted and *put away* during class as a matter of policy. After the first warning, any infractions WILL BE PENALIZED with reduced or negative marks, with NO EXCEPTIONS.

English 111 Course Schedule

We will generally follow this schedule, but keep in mind that it is provisional, and may be changed.

- Class 1 – Course introduction; Writing sample
- Class 2 – Speaking Situations, literacy and orality.
- Class 3 – Ethical issues (honesty and accuracy) and speech issues (anxiety etc.)
- Class 4 – Elements of rhetoric; Audience analysis
- Class 5 – Presentation elements: voice, appearance, body language, visual or other aids.
- Class 6 – Conducting research on speech topics
- Class 7 – Demonstration speech
- Class 8 – Demonstration speech
- Class 9 – Demonstration speech
- Class 10 – Expository speech
- Class 11 – Expository speech
- Class 12 – Expository speech
- Class 13 – Expository speech

Midterm Exam (written)

- Class 14 – Impromptu speech
- Class 15 – Impromptu speech
- Class 16 – Persuasive speech
- Class 17 – Persuasive speech
- Class 18 – Persuasive speech
- Class 19 – Persuasive speech
- Class 20 – Persuasive speech
- Class 21 – Persuasive speech
- Class 22 – Group presentations.
- Class 23 – Group presentations.
- Class 24 – Group presentations.

Final Exam (written)

Notes on tentative English 111 syllabus:

- Evaluation will be based on a combination of speaking and writing
- Exams may be common to all sections, or conducted independently by each instructor.
- Persuasive and expository speech are essential, but other types may be varied according to the selected textbook.
- For expository speech, parts of English 103 coverage of different modes may be reprised.
- For persuasive speech and research, parts of English 105 coverage/material on persuasion/argumentation and research may be reprised.
- Topic development, in exams and assignments/exercises, will be essentially essays, so might be termed as such.
- Exams will include set passages to be analyzed and explained, and topics which would be developed and explained for speeches.
- Rhetorical devices such as antithesis should get some attention.
- Work on the group presentation, at the end of the semester, should be started by mid-semester, with 4-5 students in each group, and they should be encouraged to be innovative in terms of topic and treatment (including use of visual and other aids) .