



# COMM01: Public Speaking

(#35202) COMM-001.-02Y [9:30 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.] MW in L49

TBA hour is asynchronous on Canvas  
[Monday: 8:30 a.m.– 9:20 a.m.]

Office: F3-1H

[kaurshagun@fhda.edu](mailto:kaurshagun@fhda.edu)

(408) 864 - 8381

M - 11:30 pm to 12:20 pm [in F3-1H]

W - 5:30 pm to 6:20 pm [via Zoom]



Hello and welcome to the class,  
**I am here to help you.** If you have outside responsibilities or other potential barriers to completing the work for this course, please come and talk to me *as soon as possible*. **Please don't wait until it's too late to get help.**

If you have any disability, either temporary or permanent, which might affect your ability to participate fully in the course, please let me know immediately. We can figure out what accommodation will be necessary to provide equitable participation.

Don't be a stranger! I want to learn a little bit about all of you, including your names, and it would help enormously if you would feel comfortable enough to come up and introduce yourself to me before or after class; remember to state your name when you participate in class and visit me during my office hours.

Every single one of you can do well in this class. I expect you to try your best, to put as much into this class as you can and get as much out of this class as you can, to ask me for help when you need it, to ask for and offer support to your classmates, and to work with me to ensure your success.

Finally, I want to stress that ALL students are welcome in my class, regardless of national origin, religious affiliation, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical challenge, socioeconomic status, or cultural background. Let us work to make our classroom an environment of kindness and mutual respect. Even more than our similarities, our differences offer the wealthiest learning opportunities.

– *Shagun Kaur*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This skill-learning course covers the theory and techniques of public speaking in a democratic society and is designed to introduce a variety of perspectives and approaches used to research, assess, organize, present, and evaluate public presentations. Students will also develop and apply effective research strategies.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Organize, compose, present, and critically evaluate informative and persuasive presentations appropriate in content and style to the audience and situation.
2. Display increasing confidence in speaking extemporaneously.
3. Demonstrate effective listening skills in various public speaking contexts.
4. Identify, locate, evaluate, and use information technologies and information sources.

## ASSUMPTIONS OF THE COURSE:

1. We communicate in a meaningful, respectful, and inclusive manner - every day.
2. We can learn real things about the communication environments in which we participate.
3. We are social beings who both shape and are shaped by the social world in which we live.
4. Learning can be fun; we probably learn best when our minds and bodies are actively engaged in the learning process.

## What you need to be Successful in this Course

### Textbook & Readings

#### Required:

#### FREE BOOK:

#### [The Public Speaking Project](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Public_Speaking/Public_Speaking_(The_Public_Speaking_Project))

[[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Public\\_Speaking/Public\\_Speaking\\_\(The\\_Public\\_Speaking\\_Project\)](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Public_Speaking/Public_Speaking_(The_Public_Speaking_Project))]

#### Supplies:

One package of 3X5-inch index cards.

#### Access to the Internet:

Access to an active email address checked at least by 11 PM on the night before class.

#### Openness to Participating Fully in

### Class Activities:

I believe that students learn best when presented with various teaching strategies.

Not everyone will like every strategy; to paraphrase Lincoln, you can't always make everybody happy.

As much as possible, given the constraints of time and room setup, classroom activities will be organized with a hands-on approach, asking students to engage in discussion, video analysis, and speeches.

This creates a fun and engaging learning environment and helps you practice your communication skills in a low-stakes environment which hopefully helps reduce

anxiety.

You will also be asked to participate in various in and out-of-class activities and discussions to facilitate this. If you are usually a talker, your challenge will be listening more and talking less. If you are generally quiet or an observer, your challenge will be to take risks and speak up from time to time.

Students consistently have told me that when they consulted and worked with others in the class, their learning, confidence, enjoyment, and skills increased significantly beyond when they worked alone.

So, communicate with your class peers outside this room and time. Don't wait!! Approach them! Exchange emails/ phone

### Expectation Agreement

As a student in COMM01, you are expected to...

- Keep up with this class's assigned readings, videos, and handouts by following the class schedule.
- Read or re-read the assignments before coming to class. Your success in this class is dependent on reading and digesting the assignment.
- Check Canvas and your class schedule regularly.
- Stay focused and ready to participate in class.
- Participate in **civil & respectful** class discussions.
- Be an active, engaged, and respectful listener.
- Turn in assignments, speeches, and quizzes on time.
- Check your class site and emails regularly and respond to classmates on time.

## Speeches, Quizzes & Discussions

All measurable assignments will be given a point value listed below. Your final grade is based on a percentage; the scale corresponding to each percentage range is in the table below.

Attendance & Participation [In Class (30) + Online (30)]	60 Points
Plagiarism certificate	20 Points
Internet Search Project	20 Points
Exercises	60 Points
Syllabus Quiz	10 Points
Quizzes (8 @ 20 points each)	160 Points
Peer Responses (3 @ 10 Points each)	30 Points
Response Paper (3 @ 30 Points each)	90 Points
Small Stake Speeches	70 points
Soap Box Speech	30 points
AHA Speech	60 Points
Persuasive Speech	110 Points
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>720 Points</b>

Your final score is calculated as a percentage; the corresponding grade breakdown is below.

100% - A+	89%-88% - B+	79%-78% - C+	69%-68% - D+	59% or below – F
99%-93% - A	87%-83% - B	77%-70% - C	67%-63% - D	
92%-90% - A-	82%-80% - B-		62%-60% - D-	

**EXERCISES:** These low stake assignments are designed to help with important concepts in the class and encourage peer collaboration. **They are part of the weekly TBA hour requirement** and include:

- Communication Goals [10 pts.]
- Video Prompt #1, #2, and #3 [10 pts. each]
- AI Assignment [10 pts.]
- Shout Out [10 pts.]

**SMALL STAKE SPEECHES:** These are low-stakes speeches presented informally, individually, or in a group setting and are designed to reduce your communication apprehension and help you practice before significant speeches. These include:

- Introductions speech [20 pts.]
- 2 Truths/1 Lie **1 minute** [10 pts]
- Who's Story **3-4 minutes** [10 pts.]
- Impromptu Speech **2-3 minutes** [30 pts.]

**SPEECHES AND OUTLINES:** Your major graded speaking assignments will be as follows:

- Soap Box speech – **2 minutes** [requires outline submission and research]
- Artifact Hack App [AHA] speech – **5-6 minutes** [60 pts.] (requires preliminary research, audience analysis & multiple outline submission)
- Persuasive speech - **6-7 minutes** [110 pts.] (requires multiple outline submissions)

**QUIZZES:** You must do **eight** online quizzes worth 20 points each. Each quiz has 20 multiple-choice/true-false questions based on the week's assigned chapters/handouts/videos, etc. You will have unlimited attempts for each quiz, and the highest score from all attempts will be used. All quizzes will open at midnight on Wednesday of that week and will be due by 9:00 a.m. the following Monday.

## Note about participation.

### A. In Class

1. Participation is an integral part of this course. We cannot collaborate without a group or public speaking without a public. In addition, regular participation ensures you learn the skills and gain the confidence needed to tackle the big presentations. Participation means coming prepared with the readings and assignments, active listening, discussion, group conversation, and contribution to in-class activities.
2. Please know that lack of participation will result in a loss of points from your final grade up to the maximum of **30 participation points** for in-class participation. I know unique circumstances might become a barrier to achieving this goal. Please get in touch with me and communicate, and we will figure it out.
3. **Please do not disrupt a speech in progress if you are late.** Wait outside until the speaker has finished the speech and enter the class. The same rule applies to electronic devices.

### B. Online

1. All assignments will be turned in/ presented on the due date indicated in the schedule. **I do not accept late assignments unless you have negotiated with me in advance or there are extreme circumstances.** Makeup is decided on a case-by-case basis, and only partial credit is given for late work. It is also your responsibility to keep track of your absences and scores.
2. Online participation includes but is not limited to timely and meaningful participation in all discussions, timely submission of all assignments, responsible and active participation in group activities, courteous and responsive communication with all class members. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a loss of participation points from your final grade for a maximum of **30 participation points** for online participation.

## Additional Information

These are some suggestions to make this course **FUN** and **STRESS-FREE** for all of us:

1. **ALWAYS** keep a copy of your outlines, speeches, and assignments as backup in case the one submitted is somehow lost. **I expect you to show me your backup copy as proof of completion before I can give you credit for any work lost.** Please keep all graded assignments till the final grade is received as a safeguard measure.
2. When emailing the instructor, write COMM01 (class time) in all caps in the subject line and the subject. That way, you won't be confused with Spam. Schedule your time appropriately; I may take up to 2 working days to respond to queries and longer on weekends. **If I don't reply after two days, please nag me. Preferably use the inbox in Canvas to send me emails because, as students, your emails will have priority.**
3. Don't procrastinate and start work early in the week. Sometimes, the Internet may be down later in the week, or you may have another emergency at the eleventh hour. Plan especially for your significant speeches, which are lengthy and require exhaustive research.

## Plagiarism

**Don't cheat.** It is unethical and, frankly, disappointing. When you cheat, you cheapen what we are doing here in class; you deprive yourself of learning and growth; you sell yourself short and betray the time and effort I devote to teaching the class. Many of you do not fully understand plagiarism or how to cite reference materials properly. I am happy to go over this with you.

In short, plagiarism is when you use someone else's ideas without giving them credit or introduce information you learned from a specific source without credit. You must provide an in-text citation if you haven't made it

up. The De Anza Student Handbook specifies that students can be subject to college discipline (including suspension and expulsion) for plagiarism and cheating.

## Use of AI

AI tools, including ChatGPT, are permitted in this course for students who wish to use them. To adhere to our scholarly values, students must cite any AI-generated material that informed their work (this includes in-text citations and/or use of quotations and in your reference list). Using an AI tool to generate content without proper attribution qualifies as academic dishonesty.

## Important College Dates

January 19	Last day to add classes
January 19	Last day to drop classes without a W
January 20	MLK Holiday – no classes; offices closed
February 28	Last day to drop classes with a W
February 14-17	Presidents' holiday – no classes; offices closed
March 24-28	Final Exams

Our COMM01 class is now published on Canvas, De Anza's course management system. You can access this course by logging in with your **MyPortal** credentials.

1. Go to <https://deanza.instructure.com> (Link to Canvas is also available in **MyPortal** under your Student Tab)
2. Use your **MyPortal** credentials to log in.
3. You will be taken to the Canvas dashboard where you should see our course.

As a hybrid course, many components of our class (assignment submissions, quizzes, accessing guidelines and other materials) are conducted via Canvas. I will do my best to ease the transition for you and act quickly in resolving issues I control. **If you experience technical issues with Canvas, contact their technical support at 1-844-592-2207.**

The tentative schedule below details everything you need to know to stay on top of this class. I use the word "tentative" because this schedule might change; however, you will be informed of any changes in the schedule. Check the schedule before you come to every class to be prepared.

## Course Calendar

*All chapters are located on Canvas in the weeks assigned and can also be found on* the Public Speaking Project Book website. All Handouts are also located in the weeks posted on the class website on Canvas.

On	What's due [points]	What's happening in class	Read <b>BEFORE</b> coming to class	TBA Hour	Homework
<b>WEEK 1</b>					
1/06	Hard copy of syllabus [extra credit]	Orientation to the class	The syllabus	1. Watch videos 1& 2 and answer prompt	1. Prep Introduction Speech 2. Complete Goals Sheet 3. Do Syllabus Quiz
1/08	Syllabus Quiz (online) [10 pts.]	Defining communication	Chapter 1 and 2		
<b>WEEK 2</b>					
1/13	Video Prompt #1 (online) [10 pts.] Goals sheet (online) [10 pts.]	Listening	Chapter 4	1. Get plagiarism cert 2. Watch video 3 & 4	1. Start Response Paper 1 2. Do Quiz 1 3. Start work on the Plagiarism Cert
1/15	<b>Introductions speech</b> [20 pts.]	Perception	Chapter 3 and 5		
<b>WEEK 3</b>					
1/20	<b>MLK Holiday – no classes</b>				
1/22	Quiz 1 (online) [20pts.] Plagiarism Cert (online) [20 pts.] Response Paper 1 (online) [30 pts.]	Information Literacy	Chapter 7	1. Watch videos 5 & 6 and do AI assignment. 2. Response Paper #1	1. Do Quiz 2 2. Prep Truth/Lie speech.
<b>WEEK 4</b>					
1/27	Quiz 2 (online) [20 pts.] AI Assignment [10 pts.] <b>2 Truths One Lie</b> [10 pts.]	Speech Anxiety	Chapter 11	1. Internet Search Project	1. Prep Soap Box speech 2. Do Quiz 3 3. Work on Soap Box Outline
1/29	Internet Search Project [20 pts.]	Organization	Chapters 8 and 9		
<b>WEEK 5</b>					
2/03	Quiz 3 (online) [20 pts.] Soap Box Outline [10 pts.] <b>Soap Box Speech – Round 1</b> [20 pts.]	Speeches		1. Work on AHA proposal	1. Do Quiz 4 2. Do Response Paper 2 3. Do Peer Response 1
2/05	Soap Box Speech – Round 2 [20 pts.]	Speeches			
<b>WEEK 6</b>					
2/10	Quiz 4(online) [20 pts.] Peer Response #1 [10 pts.] AHA speech topic proposal (online) [10 pts.]	AV Aids	Chapter 13	1. Prepare for Who's Story 2. Watch videos 7 & 8 and answer prompt	1. Do Quiz 5 2. Start working on the AHA Prelim Outline
2/12	Response Paper 2 (online) [30 pts.] <b>Who's Story</b> [10 pts.]	Delivery	Chapter 12		

On	What's due [points]	What's happening in class	Read & Watch this <b>BEFORE</b> coming to class.	TBA Hour	Homework
<b>WEEK 7</b>					
2/17	<b>Presidents' Holiday – no classes</b>				
2/19	Quiz 5 (online) [20 pts.] Video Prompt #2 (online) [10 pts.] AHA Prelim Outline (3 copies) [10 pts.]	Information Peer Review of Outlines	Chapter 6 & 15	1. Watch video 9 & 10 and answer prompt	1. Start working on the AHA Outline and Speech. 2. Do Quiz 6
<b>WEEK 8</b>					
2/24	Quiz 6 (online) [20 pts.] AHA Final Outline [10 pts.] AHA speech – Round 1 [30 pts.]	Speeches		1. Persuasive topic proposal	1. Read Persuasive speech instructions. 2. Do Quiz 7
2/26	Video Prompt #3 (online) [10 pts.] AHA speech – Round 2 [30 pts.]				
<b>WEEK 9</b>					
3/03	Quiz 7 (online) [20 pts.] AHA speech – Round 3 [30 pts.]	Speeches		1. Work on Peer Response #2	1. Do Quiz 8 2. Start working on the Persuasive Prelim Outline 3. Do Response Paper 3
3/05	Persuasive topic proposal (online) [10 pts.] Peer Response #2 [10 pts.]	Persuasion	Chapter 16		
<b>WEEK 10</b>					
3/10	Quiz 8 (online) [20 pts.] Persuasive Prelim Outline (3 copies) [20 pts.]	Peer review of outline		1. Shout out discussion	1. Prepare for your Persuasive final outline and speech.
3/12	Response Paper 3 (online) [30 pts.] Persuasive speech – Round 1 [80 pts.]	Speeches			
<b>WEEK 11</b>					
3/17	Shout out (online) [10 pts.] Persuasive speech – Round 2	Speeches		1. Work on Peer Response #2	1. Finish the extra credit
3/19	Persuasive speech – Round 3 Extra credit (online)	Speeches			
<b>WEEK 12:</b> Peer Response #3 [10 pts.] Impromptu Speeches [30 pts.]					
Finals are on <b>Monday, March 24th from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.</b>					