



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter 2026	Instructor Name:	Patrick Kjellander
Course Title & #:	COMM C1000 Introduction to Public Speaking	Email:	patrick.kjellander@imperial.edu
CRN #:	15314, 15315	Webpage:	
Classroom:	N/A – Online Course	Office #:	https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/4710979225
Class Dates:	01/05/26 – 02/04/26	Office Hours:	Mon/Wed 1-3pm and/or via appointment
Class Days:	N/A	Office Phone #:	
Class Times:	N/A	Emergency Contact:	
Units:	3	Class Modality:	Online Asynchronous

Course Description

In this course, students learn and apply foundational rhetorical theories and techniques of public speaking in a multicultural democratic society. Students discover, develop, and critically analyze ideas in public discourse through research, reasoning, organization, composition, delivery to a live audience and evaluation of various types of speeches, including informative and persuasive speeches. (C-ID: COMM 110) (CSU/UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

N/A

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Prepare and present a visual aid that illustrates a specific point.
2. Use statistics, quotations, definitions and detailed illustrations as supporting materials.
3. Identify and demonstrate effective nonverbal and verbal delivery skills.

Textbook

Tucker, Barbara et al.. 2019. *Exploring Public Speaking*. 4th ed. Dalton State.
<https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/communication-textbooks/1/>.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a public speaking course. Therefore, completing the assigned speeches is **MANDATORY**. A total of three (3) speeches (Introductory Speech, Informative Speech, and Persuasive Speech) must be completed to pass the class. Failing to submit one or more of these speech assignments will result in failing the class, even if you have a passing grade. This class will also have a variety of lectures, quizzes, discussions, tests, and outline assignments delivered online via Canvas.



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Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply rhetorical theories to create and analyze public speeches in a variety of contexts including historical and/or contemporary.
2. Formulate and implement effective research strategies to gather information and ideas from primary and secondary sources, evaluating them for credibility, accuracy, and relevancy.
3. Employ sound reasoning and construct compelling arguments in support of a guiding thesis and organizational pattern appropriate for the audience, occasion, and purpose.
4. Demonstrate rhetorical sensitivity to diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and belonging and adhere to ethical communication practices which include truthfulness, accuracy, honesty, and reason.
5. Compose and deliver a variety of speeches, including informative and persuasive speeches, to a live audience (one or many) using effective delivery practices.
6. Employ effective listening practices.
7. Compose, organize, and present to a live peer audience speeches to introduce, inform, and persuade in the English language.
8. Define, identify, and apply the three Aristotelian appeals of ethos, pathos, and logos.
9. Recognize and demonstrate ethical practices in all phases of speech preparation.
10. Develop a clear, cohesive thesis and create a concise speech outline.
11. Recognize and demonstrate the characteristics of effective verbal and nonverbal delivery.
12. Design and incorporate effective visual aids.
13. Analyze and evaluate peer speeches with faculty guidance.
14. Recognize the elements of and demonstrate effective techniques for reducing communication apprehension.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Final Grades: Your final grade in class will be determined based on how many points you have earned on all the assignments combined. **However, if you do not complete the assigned mandatory speeches, you will not pass the class, even if you scored above a certain percentage.** The grade breakdown is as follows: A=90% - 100% B=80% - 89% C=70% - 79% D=60% - 69% F=below 60%

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence - AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism **unless** you have been instructed to use AI by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification. In my class, you will **NOT** be instructed to use AI. This means that you should **NOT** use it to write your speeches/discussions, and you should **NOT** use it to conduct research, as it is unreliable and does not demonstrate your research or critical thinking skills.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.



Attendance/Drop Policy: It is the student's responsibility to drop all classes which they are no longer attending. I may withdraw a student from the class after the add/drop deadline for excessive absences. Excessive absence is reached if you are absent for more than two consecutive weeks OR missing two consecutive modules and corresponding assignments within said modules, without communication. Students who remain enrolled in the class past the withdrawal deadline will receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F).

Late Work Policy: Any assignment submitted after the due date published on Canvas will be considered late. Should you submit an assignment late, your final grade on the assignment will be penalized by 10% per day. Late work will only be accepted up to 10 days from the day it is due. **Only emergencies are acceptable exceptions to this rule.**

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing accessible learning experiences for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance. We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! To continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you maintain a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

Class Schedule

Module	Topic	Assignments
1	Introductions	Discussion + Syllabus Quiz
2	Communication Process + Nonverbal Communication	Quiz
3	Language + Speech Anxiety	Discussion + Quiz
4	Speech Delivery	Quiz
5	Speech of Introduction	Outline + Speech + Peer Feedback
6	Listening	Quiz
7	Supporting Your Ideas	Quiz
8	Audience Analysis + Culture	Discussion + Quiz
9	Informative Speech	Outline + Speech + Peer Feedback
10	Ethics	Quiz
11	Persuasion + Visual Aids	Discussion
12	Persuasive Speech	Visual Aids + Speech + Peer Feedback
13	Self-Reflection	Discussion
14	Rhetorical Analysis	Discussion