

COURSE NUMBER:	500
COURSE TITLE:	Speech
COURSE LENGTH:	Semester, One Credit
PREREQUISITE:	None
GRADE LEVEL:	9 and 10

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Speech is an introductory, required course which provides practical experience in researching, organizing and presenting speeches for an audience. Various types of communication skills are also explored, including group discussion and problem solving, interpersonal skills, and drama/oral interpretation. The course tries to provide students with many of the communication skills needed in today's world.

COURSE RATIONALE:

With the rapid pace of technological advancement in the area of communications, it is ever easier to communicate with the spoken word instead of the written word. Speech is required in most all post high school educational programs and oral communication skills are growing more and more important in the workplace.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Most of the emphasis of this course is on student presentations. Daily exercises and information presented by the teacher and from the textbook are used as preliminary preparations for each set of student presentations.

ASSESSMENT:

Approximately 50% of the grade is based on speeches and major oral presentations. 20% is based on tests and quizzes, 20% is evaluated on daily work and assignments, and the remaining 10% is based on class participation and written critiques of classmates' presentations.

CRITICAL OBJECTIVES:

1. to recognize the importance of speech communication in one's own life
2. to communicate effectively with oneself, between individuals and between oneself and an audience
3. to develop poise and self-confidence to the extent that the student would be able to speak successfully before a gathering of people
4. to explore how the body produces sounds and words
5. to organize and give an effective speech to an audience, with communication taking place between the two
6. to choose effective language to communicate interestingly and clearly
7. to work in groups utilizing group discussion skills
8. to develop the ability to work independently
9. to develop skill in locating and selecting resource material
10. to stimulate wide reading for subject matter and content of speeches
11. to develop methods of self and peer evaluation