

## Speech Communication

### COMS-101

CG Section 8WK 11/08/2019 to 04/16/2020 Modified 11/09/2021

### Course Description

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Study and practice in communicating ideas competently in public speaking. Students are also given a foundation for development of communication skills in other human communication contexts, including dyadic and small group communication.

#### Requisites

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](https://catalog.liberty.edu/) (<https://catalog.liberty.edu/>).

### Rationale

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Communication skills are vital in nearly every career field, including education, business, politics, human services, Christian ministry, and the health professions. Learning these skills will also allow students to use their words to become even more effective agents for change and godly influence among their peers and others in our society. Students will understand and apply healthy and effective communication principles and practices to speaking before audiences, in small groups, and in conversations with others.

### Course Learning Outcomes

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#### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to more effectively:

1. Use foundational communication concepts and worldview principles to evaluate various communication texts.
2. Present verbal messages that display creative, critical and logical thinking.
3. Organize oral and written messages.
4. Use oral and written language that is clear, accurate, vivid, and appropriate to the rhetorical situation.
5. Utilize effective nonverbal communication.
6. Demonstrate critical listening skills.

#### GENERAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONAL SKILL LEARNING OUTCOMES

##### PRIMARY

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to more effectively:

1. *CIL 1:* Discover and evaluate information to accomplish a specific purpose.
2. *CIL 2:* Communicate information effectively in the English language, orally and/or through writing, for a variety of purposes, using technology when appropriate.
3. *CIL 3:* Analyze and assess various forms of information and expression to determine their meaning, employing technology when relevant.
4. *CIL 4:* Demonstrate a basic understanding of the role of research and scholarship in order to apply it in various contexts.
5. *CIL 5:* Relate communication and information literacy to participation in God's redemptive work.

##### SECONDARY

1. **CT 1:** Determine the validity and logical consistency of claims and/or positions, using reading comprehension strategies when relevant.
2. **CT 2:** Structure an argument or position using credible evidence and valid reasoning.
3. **CT 4:** Plan evidence-based courses of action to resolve problems.
4. **CGE 5:** Relate the human experience within various civic and global structures to participation in the redemptive work of God.
5. **CC 3:** Apply the biblical text and its principles to life in a manner that bridges various contexts and considers the implications for personal growth.
6. **CC 4:** Articulate how faith in Christ and the theological worldview of Scripture shape one's purpose for pursuing education, employment, relationships, and socio-cultural engagement, relating these pursuits to the redemptive work of God.

## Course Resources

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Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: [Liberty University Online Bookstore \(https://bncvirtual.com/liberty\)](https://bncvirtual.com/liberty).

### Additional Materials for Learning

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Canvas [recommended browsers \(https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66)
- D. Please note, technical skills for this course include:
  - Creating and submitting files in Microsoft Word
  - Basic Canvas navigation skills
- E. Media player software
- F. Digital video recorder or similar device.

## Course Assignments

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### Textbook readings and video presentations

### Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations \(https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/\)](https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/), the student will complete the related checklist found in the Course Overview.

### Discussions (3)

Discussions are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered communication concepts by creating and posting a critical, thoughtful thread in response to each of 3 Discussion prompts. For each new thread, the student must provide a substantive response to the prompt required by the specific Discussion instructions. Properly formatted replies of at least 75 words must be posted in response to 3 or more other students' threads.

*This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CIL 1, 2, and 3.*

### Speech Outline Assignments (2)

The student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered communication concepts by using the provided outline templates to compose a properly formatted outline for the informative speech presentation and the persuasive speech presentation that he/she will submit for credit in this course. The Speech Outline may be submitted, initially, as an optional rough draft and will then be submitted, by its designated due date, as a required final outline. Each speech outline must be composed in Microsoft Word. The Informative Speech Outline Assignment must cite at least 3 expert sources, and the Persuasive Speech Outline Assignment must cite at least 4 expert sources.

*This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CIL 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; CT 2 and 4.*

### Speeches Assignments (2)

*This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CIL 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; CGE 5; CC 3 and 4.*

The student will demonstrate his/her understanding of covered public communication concepts by presenting an informative speech and a persuasive speech, respectively, before a visually documented live audience of 3 or more adults. The Informative Speech Outline Assignment must cite at least 3 expert sources, and the Persuasive Speech Outline Assignment must cite at least 4 expert sources. Each speech must be 4-6 minutes and satisfy the other criteria set forth in the assignment instructions. Once the speech is recorded, the student will upload the recording to YouTube as an unlisted video, and then post the video's link to the instructor.

## Quizzes (16)

*This assignment aligns with the following FSLOs: CIL 1, 3, and 5; and CT 1.*

Each quiz will cover a chapter of textbook readings for the assigned Module: Week. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain true/false and multiple-choice questions, and have a time limit of 30 minutes.

## ✓ Course Grading

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Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussions (1 at 50 pts, 2 at 60 pts ea)	170
Speech Outline Assignments (2 at 75 pts ea)	150
Speech Assignments (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Quizzes (16 at 30 pts ea)	480
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

## \* Course Policies

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### Instructor Feedback and Response Time

Responses to student emails will be provided within 48 hours and assignment feedback will be given within 1 week from the assignment due date.

## Policies

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### Late Assignment Policy

Course Assignments, including discussions, exams, and other graded assignments, should be submitted on time.

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week after the due date will receive up to a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week and less than 2 weeks late will receive up to a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by

the instructor.

4. Group projects, including group discussion threads and/or replies, and assignments will not be accepted after the due date outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the instructor.

## Disability Assistance

Students with a disability and those with medical conditions associated with pregnancy may contact Liberty University's Online Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) for accommodations. Such accommodations require appropriate documentation of your condition. For more information about ODAS and the accommodations process, including how to request an accommodation, please visit <https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/> (<https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/>). Requests for accommodations not related to disabilities or pregnancy must be directed to the Registrar's Office, which generally handles medical needs support.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at [equityandcompliance@liberty.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@liberty.edu). Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty_University_Discrimination_Harassment_and_Sexual_Misconduct_Policy.pdf) ([https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty\\_University\\_Discrimination\\_Harassment\\_and\\_Sexual\\_Misconduct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty_University_Discrimination_Harassment_and_Sexual_Misconduct_Policy.pdf)) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability_Grievance_Procedures.pdf) ([http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability\\_Grievance\\_Procedures.pdf](http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability_Grievance_Procedures.pdf)).

## Course Attendance

In an effort to comply with U.S. Department of Education policies, attendance is measured by physical class attendance or any submission of a required assignment within the enrollment dates of the course (such as examinations, written papers or projects, any discussion posts, etc.) or initiating any communication with one's professor regarding an academic subject. More information regarding the [attendance policy](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FOnline%2BAttendance%2Band%2BNon-Attendance&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613719138&sdata=%2BNBTsPOoXuHAPLfISQRugK7cRSuV6UyC7qD3agf3l2k%3D&reserved=0) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FOnline%2BAttendance%2Band%2BNon-Attendance&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613719138&sdata=%2BNBTsPOoXuHAPLfISQRugK7cRSuV6UyC7qD3agf3l2k%3D&reserved=0>) can be found in the [Academic Course Catalogs](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberty.edu%2Findex.cfm%3FPID%3D791&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=DjjhMiRBFnF%2B2ZJUC8eBd1OdNb26S9ADukODYsilXIA%3D&reserved=0) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberty.edu%2Findex.cfm%3FPID%3D791&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=DjjhMiRBFnF%2B2ZJUC8eBd1OdNb26S9ADukODYsilXIA%3D&reserved=0>). Regular attendance in online courses is expected throughout the length of the term. Students who do not attend within the first week of a sub-term by submitting a required academic assignment (such as the Course Requirements Checklist, an examination, written paper or project, discussion post, or other academic activity) will be dropped from the course. Students who wish to re-engage in the course are encouraged to contact Academic Advising to discuss their enrollment options. Students who begin an online course, but at some point in the semester cease attending, and do not provide official notification to withdraw, will be assigned a grade of "FN" ([Failure for Non-Attendance](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FUnofficial%2BWithdrawals&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=MoMvZdPfza69InuhVHMHAVgu59ZP0Fw45xJTU9PIBrU%3D&reserved=0) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FUnofficial%2BWithdrawals&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=MoMvZdPfza69InuhVHMHAVgu59ZP0Fw45xJTU9PIBrU%3D&reserved=0>)). Students wishing to withdraw from courses after the official start date should familiarize themselves with the [withdrawal policy](#).

## Grading Scale

A	B	C	D	F
900-1010	800-899	700-799	600-699	0-599

For courses with a Pass/NP final grade, please refer to the Course Grading section of this syllabus for the assignment requirements and/or point value required to earn a Passing final grade.

## Add/Drop Policy

The full policy statement and procedures are published in the [Policy Directory](https://wiki.os.liberty.edu/display/IE/Dropping+and+Adding+Online+Classes) (<https://wiki.os.liberty.edu/display/IE/Dropping+and+Adding+Online+Classes>).

# Honor Code

Liberty University comprises a network of students, Alumni, faculty, staff and supporters that together form a Christian community based upon the truth of the Bible. This truth defines our foundational principles, from our Doctrinal Statement to the Code of Honor. These principles irrevocably align Liberty University's operational procedures with the long tradition of university culture, which remains distinctively Christian, designed to preserve and advance truth. Our desire is to create a safe, comfortable environment within our community of learning, and we extend our academic and spiritual resources to all of our students with the goal of fostering academic maturity, spiritual growth and character development.

Communities are predicated on shared values and goals. The Code of Honor, an expression of the values from which our Doctrinal Statement was born, defines the fundamental principles by which our community exists. At the core of this code lie two essential concepts: a belief in the significance of all individuals, and a reliance on the existence of objective truth.

While we acknowledge that some may disagree with various elements of the Code of Honor, we maintain the expectation that our students will commit to respect and uphold the Code while enrolled at Liberty University.

Adherence to the principles and concepts established within facilitates the success of our students and strengthens the Liberty community.

The Code of Honor can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155> (<http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155>).

## Schedule

When	Topic	Notes
<b>Course Overview</b>	Student Acknowledgements	Course Requirements Checklist
	Technology Integration Set-Up	Prepare: Cengage MindTap
<b>Module 1: Week 1</b>	Learn	Read: 3 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion: Self-Introduction Dialogue Quiz: Foundations of Public Speaking Quiz: Your First Speech Quiz: Determining an Appropriate Speech Goal
<b>Module 2: Week 2</b>	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Quiz: Informative Speaking Quiz: Persuasive Messages and Persuasive Speaking
<b>Module 3: Week 3</b>	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 4 items
	Apply	Discussion: Speech Planning Dialogue Quiz: Adapting to Audiences Quiz: Topic Development

When	Topic	Notes
<b>Module 4: Week 4</b>	Learn	Read: 3 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Informative Speech Outline Assignment Quiz: Organizing the Speech Body Quiz: The Introduction and Conclusion Quiz: Presentational Aids
<b>Module 5: Week 5</b>	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Speech Presentation: Informative Speech Assignment Quiz: Language and Oral Style Quiz: Delivery
<b>Module 6: Week 6</b>	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Persuasive Speech Outline Assignment Quiz: Communication: Why it Matters and a Biblically Redemptive Approach
<b>Module 7: Week 7</b>	Learn	Read: 1 item Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Speech Presentation: Persuasive Speech Assignment Quiz: Listening
<b>Module 8: Week 8</b>	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion: Speech Analysis Dialogue Quiz: Ceremonial Speaking Quiz: Group Communication and Presentations