

SMC Summer 2012 Student Feedback Public Speaking

Evaluate the amount of work

It was not too much to handle. The assignments were set up to help me complete my speeches on time. By pushing the students to do the outline ahead of time and extensively going over helped me to understand what was expected the day of the speech. Eric F.

Our class webpage has more information on it than any other class webpage I have had in college. It helps on each assignment and includes things for our everyday lives (i.e. healthy eating, suicide hotline etc.) Paloma L.

I believe the attendance is mandatory and without it what would be the point of attending class if the student does not show interest in their own education. I found that even missing one day of class means that you lose a lot of information. Claudia M.

Greatest progress since the first Self Analysis:

I progressed a great deal since the 1st class. The constructive criticism throughout the course truly helped me with my last speech. Jennifer R.

I no longer get nervous and doubt myself on my ability to speak. I found although the speeches were hard at first with practice it became easier. Classroom attendance is critical and I think everything we assignment inside and outside class was appropriate. Hannah H.

I used to have trouble speaking to a group of people whereas one on one was my greatest strength. Now, I have more knowledge of what I am trying to say, how to express it, and the importance of eye contact. Evelyn C.

I never expected to love to speak in front of a crowd so much that I felt comfortable and at ease when speaking to my classmates. Anna V.

I truly hated public speaking going into this class, my hands would sweat, my heart race and my voice would dry up, but I know I can now control it better. Berenice B.

Most valuable assignment:

There wasn't one assignment that was more valuable the whole class was new to me. I believe the biggest help was watching the video of myself allowed me to see what I was doing wrong. Eric.

The persuasive Speech was most valuable as we had a lot to do and I showed myself I can definitely do it. Evelyn

The outlines and in particular the persuasive speech were the most valuable. I had a hard time fitting in 7 resources without going overtime. It was a challenge but I learned how to differentiate between what was important and what was just ancillary. ... I felt my speech benefitted from this challenge. Elena P.

Define your Progress

Prior to this class I have had a lot of experience in public speaking: working in customer service for CA Science Center, testifying in court where these occasions did not require a structured talk. Now, I have taken this course I have found I am much more confident and in control than I was previously. I have made good progress. Jeanette P.

Changes I see making:

Eye contact is everything because when you give eye contact your audience remains engaged. Sahar S.

Languages Changes

Accuracy, directness and objectivity are key factors when communicating a message, factors I never paid attention previously to these things. Jeannette P.

Greatest Benefit

Confidence is the key to success, especially since I work with people. I have found in my job people who show confidence are seen as more valuable. Nathaniel G.

I found the different parts of the outline from the introduction, transitions to conclusion were a key. It helped me to remember a speech and what you were going to say next. Daniel B.

Greatest surprise

I always thought I was horrible at public speaking. Yet, I kept getting higher marks on all my speeches. This class gave me a huge boost in confidence. Sapir A.

Advice

If you have never taken a summer class makes this your one class and primary focus. This way you will gain the greatest benefit. Nathaniel G.

Before I started the class, I was so overwhelmed thinking, "this class is going to take up all my time". Now, it is all over it was well worth the time I spent. I am more confident, and I am motivated to take more classes in communication. Don't block your thoughts...just do it. Amber C.

Practice and prepare. The assignments given are only to ensure your success in the class. Andrea R.

One assignment most beneficial

Tribute was most beneficial as I had done extensive research which I hadn't done before. I am now knowledgeable on the many resources the library has and will use it in the fall. Andrea R.

The thing that gave the most value to my growth was the comments I gave to my classmates after each of their speeches. It helped me notice the mistakes and accuracies of each speech. It helped me to improve my speech. Alejandra

I no longer get panic attacks when I am speaking and I can make eye contact and maintain good posture. Albana C.

Vocal qualities

I have learned to speak much slower and more eloquently in order to keep my audience interested and the audience is able to follow what I am trying to teach them. Paloma L.

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This class is very time consuming, you should know you will spend at least 8 to 10 hours a week. The Prof. has a lot of information to share and limited amount of time. At the beginning it may see overwhelming, but it is all about adapting. Her expectations are high and she pushed you to reach those standards. This results in strict policies on attendance and tardies. She respects your time. You should respect hers as well in class. At the end of the class, your results will be connected with the effort you put into it. Jeanette P.

Students should be willing to put in the time for the research, it is not easy, but it is possible. If you are not willing to take the time, do not even bother taking the class. Claudia M.

Students need to push themselves in class and step out of their comfort zone. Do the outlines on time and read the book. Alejandra R.

I felt I came a long way as a speaker and know to never doubt a course and always push hard until the end. Thanks for being such an enthusiastic teacher every day, and coming to class early. I found watching how you spoke helped me try to practice my vocal range and expression. Anna V.

Get the book before class starts and start to read as many chapters as you can so that you will be familiar with the text and have time to read it at least twice. Berenice B

Classmates should share phone numbers and emails to get together to help each other out. Nicky C.

I am amazed how much this class benefitted me. I would definitely recommend this course to everyone. The directions are clear and easy to follow. The class helped me in public speaking and I am glad I took it. Ashley K.

Stay on top of everything and follow the guidelines to become a better public speaker. I would also recommend pretending the speech is just a simple conversation. Carina G.