

SPCH 207: Developing Professional Speaking Skills

3 credits, 3 hours lecture

This second-year communications course focuses on the development of students' skills in speaking to a variety of audiences. Students will apply principles of communication theory to plan effective presentations and to present technical information in a professional and polished manner. In addition, they will practice using current technology to support oral communication skills, and they will adapt presentation techniques for different listeners and situations.

Prerequisites: WRITE 103

Instructor

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Territorial Acknowledgement

Keyano College is located on Treaty 8 land, which was and continues to be home to the Cree, Dene, Dane-zaa, Densuline, and Métis people. We are all Treaty people with rights and obligations towards one another and towards the land.

Respectful Discourse

Everyone has the right to be treated with respect. Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, or other disrespectful or hateful comments will not be tolerated in this class or on assignments. I will call you by the name you choose to be known by and use the pronouns you prefer.

Office Hours

I am happy to meet virtually with students at mutually convenient times. Please e-mail me to set up an appointment.

Hours of Instruction

Monday	9:00-10:20 a.m.
Friday	9:00-10:20 a.m.

Required Resources

Course readings and videos will be linked on Moodle

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Adapt speeches and presentations to different audiences and genres, with an environmental emphasis.
- Develop a proposal, review scientific literature and participate in a group presentation to demonstrate an understanding of environmental research.
- Plan, draft, practice and present informative and persuasive speeches
- Demonstrate professional, ethical conduct in interview simulations
- Apply guidelines to critique student and professional presentations in order to facilitate continuous improvement and to increase analytical and critical skills.

Evaluation

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SPEECHES:

Introductory	<i>pass/fail</i>
Process analysis	10%
Advocacy	10%
Scientific explanation	10%
Interview	10%
Research project proposal	5%
Research project presentation	25%

CRITIQUES

Self-critiques	5%
Critiques of student work	5%

OTHER WORK

Resume and cover letter	10%
TED talk analysis assignment	10%

CLASS WORK

Participation, in-class work	5%
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100%

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Note that SPCH 207 has NO final exam. The final grade is based entirely upon course work. Your participation grade will depend upon several factors: being present in class and remaining for the full class session every week; making useful contributions to discussions, oral critiques, and in-class individual and group activities; and being a co-operative, engaged, and supportive member of the learning community.

Students who do not complete all the required work should not expect to pass the course.

Performance Requirements

Presentations and speeches will be assessed on content, clarity, organization, speaking skills, and effective use of technology and other visual aids. Students will also offer feedback to others and engage in self-evaluation after each speech or presentation. Rubrics for instructor, student, and self-assessment will be distributed with each assignment.

All written work will be due at 11:59 p.m. on the due date. Written work submitted the following day will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. with a 10% penalty for lateness; after 11:59 p.m. it will be REFUSED. All written work must be typed in 12-pt Times New Roman, double spaced, and submitted to the appropriate drop box on Moodle.

Students will be evaluated on the following speeches:

1. Introductory speech: *Describe your interest in science*
2. Process analysis speech: *Explain how to perform a technical or scientific task*
3. Advocacy speech: *Persuade or motivate listeners to act on an issue of environmental importance*
4. Scientific explanation speech: *Explain a scientific process or principle for a specific audience*
5. Interview presentation: *Develop and present your resume and job skills and respond extemporaneously to interview questions*
6. Research project presentation: *Develop and carry out a research project on an environmental issue and then present your findings in an interactive group presentation*

Throughout the course, we will watch videos of public speakers to critique the style, presentation techniques, and content of each speech. You will also select and watch some speeches on your own for analysis and discussion.

During the term, you will choose an online TED talk (at least 15 minutes) on a scientific topic to show to the class. You will sign up for one class to introduce, present, and lead a discussion about the talk, focusing on its style and content. You will also submit a two-page response paper to explain your choice and to summarize the relevance of the video as an example of good public speaking.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
Minimum Pass	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

DATE	TOPIC	SPEECHES	WRITTEN WORK	OTHER
January 8	Introduction to course; vocal delivery	Introductory speech		Process analysis speech assigned January 8
January 11-15	Audience and ethics in public speaking; how to write a critique			
January 18-22	Presenting online: techniques	Process analysis speech	Practice critique due January 18	
January 25-29	Analyzing the audience	Student TED talk analysis #1 January 25	Process analysis critiques due January 29	Scientific explanation speech assigned January 29
February 1-5	Developing supporting materials	Student TED talk analysis #2 February 1	Student #1 response paper due February 1	Research proposal and presentation assigned February 5
February 8-12	Scientific explanation speech	Scientific explanation speech	Student #2 response paper due February 8	
February 15	FAMILY	DAY	COLLEGE	CLOSED
February 16-19	READING	WEEK	NO	CLASSES
February 22-26	Listening skills	Student TED talk analysis #3 February 22	Scientific explanation critiques due February 22 Research proposal due February 26	Advocacy speech assigned February 22
March 1-5	Using persuasion in public speaking	Student TED talk analysis #4 March 1	Student #3 response paper due March 1	
March 8-12	Effective introductions and conclusions	Advocacy speeches	Student #4 response paper due March 8	Interview presentation, resume, and cover letter assigned March 12
March 15-19	Interview techniques	Student TED talk analysis #5 March 15	Advocacy critiques due March 15	

March 22-26	Interviews and interviewing	Interview presentations	Student #5 response paper due March 22 Resume and cover letter due March 22	
March 29	Presentations	Research presentations	Interview critiques due	
April 2, April 5	Good Friday Easter Monday	NO CLASSES		
April 9, 12	Presentations	Research presentations	Research presentation critiques due April 14	

Performance Requirements and Student Services

Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar. The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work may not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

The Student Services department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano College. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented differently this semester by being provided mostly virtually. In-person service can be requested as needed. All Alberta Health Services guidelines will be followed for in-person appointments—wear a mask, maintain two meters of physical distance, use hand sanitizer, and stay home if you are unwell.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30.

Accessibility Services: provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss

their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility services supports and to book a virtual appointment, please contact accessibility.services@keyano.ca.

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students, as well as technology training and supports to enhance learning. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes. Schedule an appointment with the Assistive Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing accessibility.services@keyano.ca

Wellness Services: offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. All individual appointments will continue virtually.

Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in any of the virtual group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual virtual appointments can be made by emailing wellness.services@keyano.ca.

Library Services: provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to support you both virtually and in person throughout the semester. For a detailed list of library supports and services, go to www.keyano.ca/library. For any inquiries, please email askthelibrary@keyano.ca.

Begin your research with the [Library's FIND page](#). Search for sources using OneSearch, the Library's Catalogue, or by searching in a specific database selected from the [A-Z Database List](#).

Individual support with the Information Librarian is available virtually. Appointments can be requested by using the [Book A Librarian online form](#).

Research and Subject Guides are helpful resources when beginning your research or addressing other information needs. To view a subject or course specific guide, go to the Subject Guide webpage [here](#).

To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the [Research Help Library page](#).

The Loanable Technology collection is available to support students in their online learning pursuits. Items available for borrowing include mobile projectors, webcams, noise cancelling headphones, Chromebooks, and laptops. For an up-to-date list of technology available for borrowing, go to the Library's [Loanable Technology webpage](#).

Skill Centre: Provides academic support services to students registered in credit programs at Keyano College in the form of tutoring, assignment/lab support, writing support groups, facilitated study groups, workshops, and study space. This service is free and is available for all Math, Sciences, Humanities and Trades courses offered at Keyano.

While most courses are being offered online, the Skill Centre will be offering mostly virtual services and in-person sessions as requested. Please email Skill@keyano.ca to get in contact with our Academic Content Specialists. The Skill Centre is located in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view the [Keyano Skill Centre homepage](#).

Academic Success Coaching: offers you support and access to resources for your academic success to help you to find the Keys to your Success. The Academic Success Coach will work with you to develop an academic success plan, develop your study and time management skills, and connect you with the right resources here at Keyano. Academic.success@keyano.ca is the best way to access resources during virtual service delivery. The Academic Success Coach is located in the Skill Centre in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

E-Learning

Technology and internet will impact your online learning experience. It's important that you are able to watch an online video and other course materials, take online quizzes, and participant in a live class with your instructor and other students.

Keyano College operates in a Windows based environment and having the correct tools for online learning is important. Here's a list of recommended system requirements.

Internet Speed

Minimum Internet speeds of 5 Mbps.
 Recommended Internet speeds of 25 Mbps (especially if you are sharing your internet at home).
 Check your internet speed with [Fast.com](#).

System requirements:

Microsoft Windows	Apple
<p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A Windows 10 computer/laptop · Minimum 4GB of RAM. · 10GB+ available hard drive storage. · Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. · Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. · System updates must be regularly installed. · Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software 	<p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A Macintosh (V10.14 and above) computer/laptop · Minimum 4GB of RAM. · 10GB+ available hard drive storage. · Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. · Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. · System updates must be regularly installed. · Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software.

<p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8GB of RAM A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free. 	<p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8GB of RAM A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.
<p>Chromebooks are not recommended as they are not compatible with testing lockdown browsers.</p> <p>A Microsoft Surface or iPad or iPad Pro may be possible alternatives in some program areas.</p>	

Specific Department Requirements:

Business and OA programs require Windows 10.
 Other programs may utilize Windows based tools as well.

Computer Software

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for free using Keyano credentials by [clicking here](#).

Recording of Lectures and Intellectual Property

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not share, distribute, or publish any of the lectures or lecture materials; this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus no student is allowed to share, distribute, publish or sell course related content (instructor, or students) without permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property. The [Academic Integrity Policy](#) provides additional information on Keyano College's expectations from students as members of the intellectual community.

ITS Helpdesk

If you are having issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing its.helpdesk@keyano.ca or calling 780-791-4965.