

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: CST 110

Credits: 3

Course Title: Introduction to Speech Communication

Course Description: Examines the elements affecting speech communication at the individual, small group, and public communication levels with emphasis on practice of communication at each level. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: CST 110 develops skills in public speaking, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of oral communication among large groups, small groups, and individuals. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will have completed at least three projects involving interpersonal, small group, and large audience presentations.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Demonstrate an ability to assimilate, organize, develop, and present an idea formally and informally;
- b. Demonstrate appropriate verbal and non-verbal responses in interpersonal communication, group discussions, and presentations;
- c. Demonstrate effective application of group processes to achieve a defined class objective;
- d. Demonstrate understanding of the nature and practice of effective communication as applied to a variety of cultural contexts;
- e. Use critical thinking to understand and resolve communication issues;
- f. Demonstrate active listening skills; and
- g. Demonstrate the use of standard English.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. The principles, theories and practical skills related to effective communication
- b. The competencies needed to develop messages, decode nonverbal messages, provide appropriate feedback, manage barriers, and listen effectively
- c. The design and creation of various types of public presentations
- d. The management of effective group processes

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: February 13, 2009