

## THEA 2050 Self-Staging: Oral Communication in Daily Life

### Fall Semester 2017

Instructor: Dr. Amy Cuomo  
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Office Hours: M 12-3:30; T 12-2; W 2-3:30; TH 12-2; 5-6PM – Also by Appointment

**Texts:** *Speaking Your Way to the Top* by Marjorie Brody.  
Articles on Course Den

### Performances at the Townsend Center for the Performing Arts

*The Scarlet Letter* Nov 8-12 and 14-17 7:30 Weekdays, Sundays at 2:30

**Course Den:** You may log on to the State University of West Georgia's home page: [www.westga.edu](http://www.westga.edu) and follow the links to the library or Course Den.

**Library:** <http://www.westga.edu/~library/>

**Course Description:** Self-Staging is an introduction to the performative basis of oral communications and self-presentation. The focus of this course is the variety of means by which we present self in personal and professional venues. Self-Staging is by nature interdisciplinary; therefore, presentation and performance in media such as radio and television are also explored.

### Degree Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will have the ability to apply the skills they learned in courses to a variety of work and social environments.
- Students will express through performance, writing, speaking, and other modes of communication the results of research and critical judgement, indicated by a demonstrable ability to reach an audience effectively through at least one of the components of theatrical art (acting, directing, design, playwriting, etc.)

### Learner Outcomes:

- To become active listeners who critically evaluate what they hear
- To be able to effectively evaluate methods of persuasion
- To be able to recognize and evaluate performance and persuasion in presentations
- To develop the critical and analytical skills needed to construct a logical argument
- To develop the skills necessary to speak clearly and concisely on a variety of topics
- To gain a basic understanding of the art of both informal and formal presentations

### Student Responsibilities

- Please turn off your cell phone or pager at the beginning of class.
- Be on time for class and plan to stay for the entire period.
- Be a courteous listener and present your ideas in a way that shows respect for your colleagues.
- Read the assigned material and be prepared to give your speech on the assigned day.
- You are responsible for all the material presented in class. If you miss class, please make sure you get the notes.
- The syllabus is subject to change. Changes in the syllabus or schedule will be announced in class -- make sure you note these changes.

- **Keep copies of all your written work** and file your returned assignments in a safe place.
- If you have scheduling conflicts with the schedule or have a documented absence that prevents you from completing an assignment, please make arrangements with me as soon as possible to make arrangements for completing your work.
- If you have any special needs or if there is anything I can do to assist you in succeeding in this course do not hesitate to let me know.

**Attendance and Participation (10%)**

Students have (3) unexcused absences on days when they are NOT schedule to speak. Additional absences will result in penalty to your grade.

**Quizzes (10%)**

There are two online open book quizzes on Marjorie Brodie’s *Speaking Your Way to the Top*. There are also quizzes on several of the articles on Course Den.

**Paper (10%)**

Students will attend *The Scarlett Letter* and write a paper that evaluates the actor’s performances in terms of their presentation of the characters. (Approximately 1,000 words).

**Job Interviews (20%)**

Each student will participate in a mock interview. Before attending the interview, students must submit a carefully crafted resume as well as a cover letter. The grade will be an average of each of these three elements, the interview, the resume and the cover letter.

**Presentations (50%)**

You will be required to give different types of presentations as listed on the schedule. You must present ON THE DAY ASSIGNED. Failing to present on the due date will result 0 for that assignment.

Self-Introduction 5%	Academic Presentation 10%	Persuasive Presentation 10%	Group Presentation 10%	Special Occasion Presentation 10%
Impromptu Speech 5%				

**Grading Scale**

- A 100-92
- B 92-80
- C 79-70
- D 69-60
- F 59 and below

## SCHEDULE AND CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments listed are due at the beginning of each class period. Schedule is subject to change.

Date	In Class/Assignments Due	
TH 8/10	Introduction	Introduction to Self-Staging
M 8/14	OPTIONAL: Audition 6:30 TCPA - <i>Godspell</i>	
T 8/15	Speeches of Self Introduction	
TH 8/17	Speeches of Self Introduction	
T 8/22	Library Research Day - Meet Room TBA Online Quiz: <i>Speaking Your Way to the Top</i> – Chapters 1-4	Staging Your Academic Self
TH 8/24	Outline and Bibliography for Academic Presentation Online Quiz: <i>Speaking Your Way to the Top</i> – Chapters 10-17	
T 8/29	Academic Presentations Group One	
TH 8/31	Academic Presentations Group Two	
T 9/5	Academic Presentations Group Three	
TH 9/7	Resume Building Career Services	Staging Your Professional Self
T 9/12	Career Services Presentation	
TH 9/14	Interviewing Skills – Careers Services	
T 9/19	Mock Interviews	
TH 9/21	Mock Interviews	
T 9/26	Mock Interviews	The Art of Persuasion
TH 9/28	Course Den: Article Persuasion Online Quiz <i>Speaking Your Way to the Top</i> – Chapter 5	
T 10/3	Persuasive Speech Group One	
TH 10/5	Fall Break!	
T 10/10	Persuasive Speech Group Two	
TH 10/12	Persuasive Speech Group Three	Collaboration
T 10/17	Discuss Working in Groups Online Quiz: <i>Speaking Your Way to the Top</i> Chapters 6-7	
TH 10/19	Outlines and Bibliography due Team Presentation – Work in Class	
T 10/24	Work on Team Presentation –	
TH 10/26	TEAM PRESENTATIONS DUE	
T 10/31	TEAM PRESENTATIONS DUE	
TH 11/2	Discussion – Seeing <i>The Scarlet Letter</i>	
T 11/7	Discuss Special Occasion Speeches See <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> this week!	Special Occasions
TH 11/9	Work on Your Speeches	
T 11/14	Special Occasion Speech	
TH 11/16	Special Occasion Speech	
TH 11/20-24	<b>Holiday – No Class</b>	
T 11/28	Impromptu Speaking Paper Due: <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> (Play at UWG)	Impromptu Speaking
TH 11/30	Observations and Future Plans	