

We the People Speak!

Speech (SPC 1600) and U.S. Government (POS 2041)

Fall, 2007

Professors: Beth Perrell (SPC 1600) and Ann Farrell (POS 2041)

Success Coach: Dr. David Hosman

Access: It is important that you be able to easily contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have. We will make every effort to address them as quickly as possible.

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Required Textbooks:

Speech Text: Brydon, S.R. , and Scott, M.C. (2006). Between One and Many: The Art and Science of Public Speaking. (Nicholson edition or Valencia Community College edition.)

Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co.

U.S. Government Texts: Stephen J. Wayne, G. Calvin MacKenzie, Richard L. Cole, Conflict and Consensus in American Politics. 2006-2007 Election Update.

Brudney/Weber, Critical Thinking Workbook. Special Edition for Valencia Community College.

Course Descriptions

LinC: *We the People Speak!* bridges the concepts of U.S. government and oral communication, stressing critical thinking and listening as they apply to the individual citizen's role in the political process. Furthermore, a Success Coach will provide insight into study skills and life management strategies.

Speech: SPC 1600 presents principles of oral communication common to speaking and listening. Emphasis is on listening techniques and on preparation and delivery techniques for extemporaneous speaking.

- Understand the process of oral communication and the roles of sender and receiver.
- Refine abilities to prepare and deliver messages appropriate to the topic, purpose and audience addressed.
- Refine ability to listen with literal and critical comprehension.

U.S. Government: Theory, organization, principles and functions of national government, stressing relationships of the individual to all levels of government in the political system. This course includes learning activity designed to ensure competence in the basic use of computers.

General Information and Classroom Policies

Atlas

Students should check their Atlas email account on a daily basis, as we will use it to communicate important information to you. It is particularly important to check your email on non-class days.

Absences

You need to be in class; absences will negatively impact your ability to complete this LinC course. Though you will receive a separate attendance grade for each class, poor attendance in one class will limit your ability to do well in the other class. In order to keep you on track, the Success Coach will discuss excessive absences with you.

Neither professor will withdraw you from their course based on your attendance but poor attendance leads to poor grades.

Tardiness

The reality is that no clock on campus registers the same time. However, most are within five minutes of each other. Therefore, try to be five minutes early for class so you don't disturb everyone. However if you are late, don't slam the door and sit as close to the door as possible.

Keep in mind that there are penalties for being tardy.

Withdrawals

Before withdrawing from a LinC course, we strongly recommend that you speak to the instructors. We also strongly recommend that if you withdraw from one course, you withdraw from the other.

The withdrawal deadline is 3/14. You may withdraw with a “W” until that day. After that day, you will be assigned either a “WF” or “WP” based on your academic performance as of the last date of attendance. Also, it is college policy that you must be present during the final exam period or be assigned an “F.”

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offense and is a breach of educational ethics that violates VCC policy. To say you are plagiarizing means that you are presenting another person’s work as your own. For example, it is plagiarism to present a speech that another student researched or to not provide citations for a speech you researched. Failure to properly cite all sources when completing a written assignment is also plagiarism. Very simply, plagiarism is stealing and any student caught plagiarizing work will face serious academic repercussions. At a minimum, you will receive a failing grade for the assignment, and possibly for the course. You’re smart – prove it by doing your own work.

We reserve the right to change any of the above policies as needed, but in no case will we retroactively change a policy to punish an individual student.

Valencia Student Core Competencies

The Valencia Student Core Competencies (Think, Value, Act, Communicate) are an established component of the College’s curriculum development and review process. A detailed overview can be found in the current Valencia Catalog, pp. 13-14 or on the Valencia Website: <http://www.valenciacollege.edu/competencies/default.asp>. Developing these core competencies will be enhanced through critical thinking exercises, classroom discussions, speeches, and writing assignments.

College Academic Dishonesty Policy

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia Community College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the students’ individual thoughts, research and self-expression. Whenever a student uses ideas, wording, or organization from another source, the source shall be appropriately acknowledged...

Any student determined by the professor to have been guilty of engaging in an act of academic dishonesty shall be liable to a range of academic penalties as determined by the professor which may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following: loss of credit for an assignment, examination, or project; a reduction in the course grade; or a grade of “F” in the course....