STARS PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM SYLLABUS



"The worst speech you'll ever give will be far better than the one you never give." ~Fred Miller

<u>COURSE DESCRIPTION:</u> Students will be introduced to the basic principles of speech communication, such as anxiety reduction, selection of topics, audience analysis, research techniques, organization and presentation skills. In addition to attending in-person sessions weekly, assignments will include participation in weekly public speaking practice with a Stars Public Speaking Instructor via the Stars Circle online community. All participants will receive a link to join this online community. The focus of speeches will be on both informative speeches and persuasive speeches.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: None. All materials will be provided.

COURSE GOALS:

- 1. Develop confidence in your ability to communicate.
- 2. Recognize your strengths and weaknesses in oral communication.
- 3. Develop skills in organization and speech preparation.
- 4. Develop listening skills.
- 5. Develop vocal and nonverbal speech skills.
- 6. Develop skills in evaluating oral communication.
- 7. Develop an understanding of and respect for individuals and their ideas.

<u>SPEECH ASSIGNMENTS:</u> All speeches will require a prepared outline using note cards, either written legibly or typed. Students will be able to use these note cards during speech presentations.

EVALUATIONS: Topics will be presented each week which offer students a chance to take sides and defend their own opinions and arguments through logic, reasoning and speech. Each class students will perform self and peer speech evaluations of each other to help them learn from one another as well from the coach. During weekly Saturday online speech practice sessions with a Stars Public Speaking Coach, students will receive feedback for strengths as well as areas for continual improvement.

END OF PROGRAM CERTIFICATE GOALS: At the end of the program each student will be awarded a certificate with a certain amount of Stars on their certificate. The highest number of stars that can be received is **5**.

AWARDING OF STARS

First day introductory speech Attempted = STAR Not Attempted = No STAR

Persuasive Speech *Completed = STAR / Not Completed = No STAR

Informative Speech *Completed = STAR / Not Completed = No STAR

Entertainment Speech *Completed = STAR / Not Completed = No STAR

*Completed means students must follow their speech outline and speak for the required amount of time. Please email ______ or call _____ with questions. Thank you and welcome to the program! By signing below the student agrees to do their very best in participation and engagement in all Stars Public Speaking Program activities.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____