

Informative Speech Project Assignment

Theme: Student Choice With Professor Approval

Project Summary:

Research, develop, and present a quality informative speech that meets the expectations for college-level work. This process includes selecting a relevant topic that relates to the speech theme for the semester (see above, that is of interest to you, that is researchable, and is relative to your immediate audience. Your speech should have credible supporting materials found by using the NLC library databases, clear organization, and should be presented using the extemporaneous method of delivery.

Speech Requirements: (See also the “Informative Speech Rubric” for all of the graded criteria for the speech itself.)

- Orally present an **informative speech** (not a persuasive speech!) with 2 to 3 main points on a topic of your choice which is of significance and of interest to you **and** your audience; see the ["Informative Speech Rubric"](#) for details about speech organization and delivery criteria.
 - Use at least one visual aid that is
 - directly related to the speech
 - enhancing of, not distracting from, the main message
 - **If using PowerPoint or any other slide presentation software, use NO MORE than 4 slides with NO MORE than 5 words on each slide.** A title slide, black transition slides between content slides are optional and **DO NOT** count toward the 4 slide limit. However, a **bibliography slide for the images is required.**
 - Time limit is **5 to 6 minutes** in length.
 - **Use a minimum of 5 credible, vetted sources** (articles, books, websites, documentaries, etc.) **to support your claims made in the speech; All of the sources must be found using any of the NLC library databases!** You may use additional credible sources from your personal library or from additional quality and credible sources. Ask Dr. Menchaca about additional sources located outside of the library databases.
 - **AI Use:** Students are only allowed to work with ChatGPT, Claude AI, or Perplexity AI to brainstorm ideas for this project. If a student does consult AI, then it will need to be noted in the preparation outline that will be submitted in Step 4. **Consulting AI is not a substitute for locating 5 credible, vetted sources as noted above.**
 - **NO NOTE CARDS!** On the day you speak, you can use one (1) 8.5 x 11 inch sheet of paper with your speaking outline/notes. What this means for you is that you have to know your speech well by the day you present. This can only be achieved with practice!
-

Additional “Step” Requirements: (These are required “step” assignments that are part of a process approach to speech development. All of these requirements have assignment sheets on the Learning Materials Website linked in Canvas. **You must complete each of these step assignments in order to deliver your speech for credit!**)

- ☐ Step 1: Speech Studies--these are typically completed in class

- ☐ Step 2: Topic Approval --***Dr. Menchaca must approve your topic!***
- ☐ Step 3: Research Report Out
- ☐ Step 4: Preparation Outline
- ☐ Step 5: Presentation

Important Note:

*In order to deliver your speech for credit, **you must complete and turn in all the step assignments** (listed below) leading up to the speech presentation listed above; otherwise **you will not be scheduled to deliver your speech.***

In general, if you do not have an outline, then you do not have an organized, prepared message, which means you do not have a presentation to deliver. Since this is a prepared project and not an impromptu one, to stand before the class without a planned message does not meet the minimum requirements of the project and you will be removed from the speaker's list.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Oral plagiarism is just as unethical as written plagiarism. Neither will be tolerated for this assignment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating. See the course syllabus for consequences.

Check the [Class Preparation Calendar](#) for due dates for the following:

Dr. Menchaca approves topics on: _____

Your Research Report Out is due on: _____

Your preparation outline is due on: _____

Your presentation is: _____