**Course Description:** While the primary focus of our class will be on the practice of public speaking, we will also study and discuss the history and theory of rhetoric, the meaning and value of the liberal arts in relation to higher education and public discourse, the current state of public discourse, the relationship between technology and critical thinking, listening, and speaking; the identity, characteristics, and relationship of speaker (self) to audience (other), the importance of listening as an aspect of speaking, the role of gender, culture, and context in public discourse, and the common challenges and barriers humans face and overcome when engaged in public speaking.

**Readings:** Will be handed out in class and/or posted on Blackboard

**Grading:**
- Attendance, Preparation, Participation (APP) 10%
- Journal 10%
- Essay 20%
- Epideictic Speech 20%
- Judicial Speech 20%
- Deliberative Speech 20%

**Policies:**

**Attendance, Preparation, and Participation (APP) includes these expectations:**
- Come to class; arrive on time. (Note: I understand you may get sick or have emergencies that call you away from class once or twice during the term. You don't have to call or email me about these ordinary absences and one or two absences will not lower your grade. But more than that will. If you have an illness or emergency circumstance that will keep you out of class for an extended period, be sure to let me know. And please do inform me by email if you drop the course, so I won't worry about your absence.)
- Be prepared.
- Participate actively in class discussion.
- Be courteous, attentive, and responsive to others in class discussion.
- Turn off all electronics during our entire class session and refrain from texting, checking for texts, and leaving during our brief class session to engage in those activities.
- Finish each reading in the time allotted, have your journal reflection written before class, bring your journal to class, and be prepared to share it with us on the day of discussion.
- Take notes during theory lectures and during discussions to reinforce your understanding and memory of the terms and concepts covered.

**Meetings:** I am happy to meet with you during the term to discuss your ideas, speeches, writing, concerns, questions, confusions, problems, progress, or grades. Please come to my office hours or make an appointment if you can't make the office hours. Brief answers to simple questions can be given just before or after class, but meaningful discussions on the fly are not possible, so please come see me.

**Special Needs:** Please see me during the first week of the term if you have a documented disability, are involved in a school activity, or are in a situation that requires special accommodations, so we can discuss your needs.
Journal: Because this class focuses on your critical thinking, listening, and speaking, the journal is intended as an aid both for your personal reflections and for our class discussions. I want you to come to class having thought about the readings, theories, questions, or discussion materials ahead of time and written down your thoughts so you will be prepared to discuss them with the class. I will collect the journal on Friday of Week 5 and on Friday of Week 10 to grade. If you are absent, please find out about missed journal assignments and catch up right away by asking me or a classmate what you missed.

Essay: The essay will be based on your choice of one of the issues we discuss in class and may be turned in to me any time before week ten as a rough draft for my feedback. You must have a typed rough draft in class on Friday of week ten for participation in the peer rough draft workshop. This essay will be asking you to respond to a question-at-issue arising in the readings and discussions using strong rhetorical skills learned in the class, most especially critical thinking, reasoning, and listening, which demonstrate your awareness of your audience and its concerns. Due w drafts attached in my office (265 PLC) no later than Mon. 3/19 by noon.

Speeches: The requirements for each speech will be discussed in class.

Tentative Schedule:
1a Listening and Speaking
1b Listening and Speaking
1c Listening and Speaking
2a Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
2b Rhetorical Theory
2c Rhetorical Theory
3a Epideictic Speech
3b Epideictic Speech
3c Epideictic Speech
4a Education Unit - Reading (handout) and Discussion
4b Theory; Dialogue and Dialectic – Group Exercises
4c Theory; Dialogue and Dialectic – Group Exercises
5a Judicial Speech
5b Judicial Speech
5c Judicial Speech; Journals Due in Class – Turn in for Midterm Grading
6a Judicial Speech
6b Judicial Speech
6c Judicial Speech
7a Technology Unit – Reading (handout) and Discussion
7b Theory; Dialogue and Dialectic – Group Exercises
7c Theory; Dialogue and Dialectic – Group Exercises
8a Deliberative Speech
8b Deliberative Speech
8c Deliberative Speech
9a Deliberative Speech
9b Deliberative Speech
9c Deliberative Speech
10a Deliberative Speech
10b Deliberative Speech
10c Rough Draft Workshop – Bring 3-5 page typed draft of essay to class; Journals also due in class on this day. There will be no final exam.
Final Essay with rough draft(s) attached is due in my office (265 PLC) no later than Monday of Finals Week (March 19th) by noon. There will be no final exam for this class. You may stick your essay w/drafts under my office door (265 PLC) any time before noon on Monday, March 19th, but do make sure it is the right office door, or I may never receive it.