

Welcome to CST 100 online, the crazy online Public Speaking Class! Here are some answers to FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions):

**1. How will this class work? Will I still need to give speeches?**

Yes, you will give speeches for this class! You will give three speeches: a demonstrative speech, an informative speech and a persuasive speech. How you give your speeches will be up to you. You have two choices: 1) Give your speech in a classroom session at the Norfolk Campus at a predetermined time and place that will be announced by me OR 2) Find your own audience of at least 10 people, videotape your speech and mail it to me to be graded. More information about both of these options can be found in the syllabus.

Except for the speeches, all of our other work will be done online, through Blackboard. You already need to be familiar with Blackboard and email in order to successfully complete this course.

**2. What's the deal with videotaping the speeches? Are the special requirements?**

The exact rules and requirements about giving your speeches independently and recording them can be found in the syllabus. Basically, the requirements are put in place to make the independent speech as much like a "real" public speaking setting as possible. That is why at least 10 audience members are required; if you only give a speech to 3-4 people, then it is not really public speaking! You are also required to not turn off the camera once it has been turned on – in a "real" public speaking setting there are no do-overs! So yes, there are requirements that must be followed, but they are put there for a reason.

**3. Who is Janie Crouch and who is Mittie Crouch and which is my instructor?**

They're both me! My full name is Mittie Jane Crouch – but I have gone by Janie since I was born. TCC has me listed as Janie Crouch, but SIS/Blackboard have me listed as Mittie Crouch – confusing for everyone. Most students just eliminate the problem and call me Dr. Crouch.

**4. What do you expect from students in this class?**

Here is my basic list of what I expect/require:

1. Although we are online, this is still a class. I consider myself a casual person, but that doesn't mean that we are text messaging each other – for most assignments you will need to use full sentences and proper grammar/spelling.

2. This is a public speaking course, so I require the completion of all three speeches in order to pass the class. If you do not complete all three speeches you will fail the class regardless of your total number of points in other assignments. Make sure you complete all three speeches!

3. When you email me, please include your name and class number/color in the subject line of the email. Your class number/color can be found on the announcements page as you enter Blackboard (whatever color the buttons are on the left side of the screen is your class color). I have over 100 online students in 4 different online public speaking classes, so please include this information in ALL emails.

4. I expect you to have reliable Internet service and access. You'll notice in the syllabus that Internet problems will not excuse late work. If you will have trouble accessing the Internet during the semester then you should not take this online course.

5. All late work is counted off five points per day late. In order to receive full credit for your work then it must be received by 11:59pm on the due date. Don't leave your work until the last minute!

**5. Are online classes easier than traditional classes?**

No, online classes are definitely NOT easier than traditional classes. In fact, because of the amount of reading required (textbook reading plus reading BlackBoard), online classes are usually more time consuming. The good thing about online classes are that you can do the work when it is convenient for you (even at 3am in your pajamas!). If you are not someone who can work independently and keep yourself motivated, an online class is probably not a good fit for you.

**6. What is the textbook that will be used for this course? Do I need any other materials?**

The textbook for CST 100 is: O'Brien, Liz. *A Speaker's Resource: Listener-Centered Public Speaking*, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2009