

## Speech Class Syllabus

**Teacher:** Mr. Arias

**Email:** daniel.arias@lexschools.org

**School:** Lexington High School

**Room:** 811

**Duration:** January – May 2026

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### Required Materials

- **Text:** *The Art of Public Speaking* by Stephen E. Lucas (12th Edition)
- **Supplies:** Pencil, 1-subject notebook, iPad

### Course Goals

This class focuses on improving public speaking skills and building confidence. Students will:

- Learn fundamentals of speech preparation and delivery
  - Develop listening and group discussion skills
  - Expand vocabulary related to speaking
  - Present various types of speeches (informative, persuasive, special occasion, etc.)
  - Gain an introduction to debate and mass media speaking
  - Improve interpersonal communication skills and poise
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### Grading Breakdown

- **Projects:** 15%
  - **Daily Work:** 35%
  - **Speech Performances:** 50%
  - **Semester Test:** 10% of the semester grade
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### Expectations

1. **Be on time:** Arrive and be seated before the bell.
2. **Complete sponge activities:** Finish warm-ups in the first 5 minutes of class.
3. **Participate and engage:** Stay prepared and focused.

4. **Turn in assignments on time:** Late work penalties apply.
    - 1 day late: Maximum 70% credit
    - 2+ days late: No credit
  5. **Show respect:** Respect classmates, the teacher, and classroom materials.
  6. **Follow classroom rules:** No unnecessary talking; remain seated until dismissed.
  7. **Use technology responsibly:** iPads are for classwork only. Misuse will result in consequences.
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### **Attendance Policy**

- Be present and prepared every day.
  - Absences follow the Lexington High School Student Handbook policy:
    - Pre-excused absences: Submit work before leaving.
    - Unforeseen absences: 2 days per missed day to complete work (max 5 days).
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### **Behavior Policy**

- First offense: Verbal warning
  - Continued misbehavior: 30-minute detention
  - Persistent issues: Removal from class
  - Misbehavior includes disrespect, vulgarity, or inappropriate technology use.
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### **Technology Use**

- iPads must be used as instructed (e.g., Apple Classroom app).
  - Classroom keyboards are available for checkout. Late or damaged returns will result in penalties.
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### **Detention Policy**

- Detentions are served the same day or the next morning (by 7:30 AM).
  - Failure to serve detention will result in increased time and possible office referral.
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## Contact and Support

- Available 7:15–7:50 AM or after school until 4:00 PM.
  - For concerns about speeches, speak to Mr. Arias at least 48 hours in advance.
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## Acknowledgment of Syllabus

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_