

## **FSP 125-01 (Rifkin): Language in Society**

### **Oral Presentation Assignment: Fall 2013**

You will give a speech arguing one or another side of a topic (see below) four times during the semester. The first two speeches are to be 3 minutes in length, while the final two speeches are to be 4 minutes in length.

The first and third times that you give this talk, you will not be graded on the presentation. The grades for the second and fourth presentations will be part of your midterm and final examinations, respectively.

While you give your presentation, you may use only one 3x5 index card. (Yes, you may use both sides of the card.) **You may *not* speak from a written text! Students who speak from a prepared text will be penalized 10 points on the rubric.**

Topic: The Board of Education in your school district in New Jersey has put forward a proposal to require that all new hires for any K-12 teaching position must speak Standard American English with no regional, class, or foreign accent. The Board has set aside one evening for public comment, but speakers only have 3 minutes each (for presentations 1-2) or 4 minutes each (for presentations 3-4). You must speak up to argue for or against this proposal. In your talk, you must clearly state an opinion (which could be really your actual opinion *or* an opinion you're arguing for the sake of this assignment), and provide three points supporting that opinion. For each of these points, you must cite expertise that you've discovered through our work in the course (only course readings may be used - no outside research is allowed). For presentation 3, you must cite one readings from the second half of the semester, and for presentation 4, you must cite two readings from the second half of the semester. Lastly, you must have a conclusion to remind the listeners what you have proven with the evidence you have brought forward.

Presentation #1: The video-recording of Presentation #1 is due on September 30. You must upload your video to the assignment in Canvas in .mp4, .mov, or .avi format by this deadline. You must also upload a document (in .doc, .docx, or .rtf format) with your self-reflection on the presentation, which will be reviewed by a group of your classmates. You will review several classmates' presentations as a graded homework assignment. (In other words, I will grade you on how thoroughly you review the presentations of your classmates, but I will not be grading the presentations.) Peer evaluations are due on October 14.

Presentation #2: Presentation #2 is due with the Midterm Exam on October 30. It must be uploaded into Canvas for the Midterm assignment by the Midterm Exam deadline in .mp4 or .mov format. You must also submit a paragraph description of how you improved your presentation based on the feedback from your classmates; this description must be in .doc, .docx or .pdf format. Your grade on this presentation will be part of the midterm exam grade.

Presentation #3: This presentation will be given in class in groups of 4-5 students on November 11. Each group will have a facilitator who is a member of TCNJ's Debate Team (Society for Parliamentary Debate). Presentation #3 *must* include reference to at least one reading assigned after the midterm exam. After each student gives his/her presentation, that student will leave the room while the Debate Team facilitator guides a discussion of the presentation and completes a peer evaluation form in 2 copies: one copy will be given to the student and the other to me. This presentation will not be graded.

Presentation #4: This presentation is recorded and submitted in .mp4, .mov, or .avi format through Canvas to the Final Exam assignment by the time of the final exam together with a paragraph description of how you have revised your presentation based on the feedback on Presentation #3. I will grade your presentation as part of the final exam. This presentation *must* include reference to at least 2 readings assigned after the midterm exam.

Presentations #2 and #4 will be graded on the basis of the rubric distributed with this assignment and posted to Canvas.

You will use this same rubric in peer evaluations for Presentations #1 and #3.

Your evaluation of your peers' presentations for Presentation #1 (through Canvas) will be graded in the homework assignment category for our class.

## Oral Presentation Rubric – FSP 125-01 (Rifkin): Fall 2013

	<b>3 points</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>1 point</b>	<b>0 points</b>
<b>Clarity of Thesis</b>	n/a	Thesis clearly stated; central message compelling and precise	Thesis stated but not clearly; central message somewhat clear	Thesis not stated; central message unclear
<b>Length of Talk</b>	n/a	Talk lasts within 10 seconds of assigned length	Talk is 10-19 seconds too short or too long	Talk is more than 20 seconds too short or too long
<b>Rhetorical Devices</b>	n/a	Rhetorical devices are used to structure the talk, making it easy for listener to understand	Some rhetorical devices are used, but not enough	No rhetorical devices are used, making the talk difficult to follow
<b>Points of Evidence</b>	One point of evidence from course readings to support each of 3 assertions	One point of evidence from course readings to support 2 of the 3 assertions	One point of evidence from course readings to support 1 of the 3 assertions	No points of evidence
<b>Clarity of Conclusion</b>	n/a	Conclusion is clearly and precisely stated	Conclusion is stated but not very clearly and/or not precisely	Conclusion is not stated, perhaps because time runs out
<b>Organization</b>	n/a	Organization pattern is clearly and consistently observable and skillful, makes presentation cohesive	Organization pattern is intermittently observable	Organization pattern is not observable
<b>Formal Tone</b>	n/a	Presentation is consistently formal in tone	Presentation is inconsistent in tone	Formal tone is not used
<b>Delivery</b>	No distracting features (e.g., posture, gesture, eye contact, etc.)	One distracting feature	Two distracting features	Three or more distracting features
<b>Bonus Points</b>	n/a	Possible bonus for images shown, extensive evidence cited, etc.	Possible bonus for some images or some extra evidence	n/a